

# NEWSLETTER

# MACLEAN HIGH SCHOOL

# Dates to Remember

#### 17 September -

Last day of Term 3. Last day of school for Year 12 students.

20 September - 1 October - School Holidays.

#### 5 October (Tuesday) -Students and Staff return to school.

#### 27 October -

Year 6 Transition Day.

# 9 November -

HSC Exams start.







#### Year 8 Tech

Some Year 8 students have been happily making their wooden trucks in Technology classes this term.

Students had to measure and cut out their truck pieces using different types of tools in the workshops.

These projects allow students to become familiar with hand tools, machinery and safe practice in the workshop as demonstrated by Mr Patch and Mr Kelly.

# An Important Reminder to all Parents

When a student has a Covid Test, please send a copy of the result to the school before the student returns to school. maclean-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au



# From the Principal's Desk

The end of Term 3 has been a busy one for our school and others throughout the state. We're happy to say that together we made it through what has been a constantly changing and sometimes difficult term. We could not have done it without the commitment from all of our families who supported learning from home, and from our fantastic teaching and school staff. I want to thank you all for your efforts to continue to keep our school community safe. I know everyone has faced different challenges at different times throughout the Term.

I hope everyone enjoys a break over the holidays and is looking forward to the COVID-safe return to school sites that we are planning for in Term 4. Please read through the following updates before the start of the school holidays and don't hesitate to reach out for support or with any questions.

#### Return to face-to-face learning in many regional schools

This week we saw many schools across regional NSW, including Maclean High School, where there had not been recent transmissions of COVID-19, released from stay-at-home rules. This meant a return to school sites under our COVID-safe level 3 plan. Staff, students and parents/carers have been very excited to see a full return to on site learning and teaching at these schools and we will take the opportunity to learn from their experience in welcoming back staff and students as we plan for our own return.

The return to school roadmap is subject to change depending on new information expected through the Public Health Order and additional advice from NSW Health. You can stay up to date with the most recent advice on our Advice for Families page.

#### **HSC**

Congratulations to our HSC and Year 12 students! You've nearly made it to the end of a unique and very tough year. Your resilience and work ethic throughout this time are to be admired.

The official last day for Year 12 students is this Friday, 17 September 2021, however students will be supported up until their exams.

From the beginning of Term 4, Year 12/HSC students can continue to attend school for revision and learning and wellbeing support and to have access to their teachers.

HSC exams will proceed for all students from 9 November 2021 in a COVID-safe way, in line with NSW Health advice.

### Vaccinations for students aged 12 years and over

Young people aged 12 years and over are now also eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccination. You can book in your children for Pfizer now, or Moderna from Monday, 20 September.

Vaccination appointments are available at more than 3,000 locations across NSW, including GPs and pharmacies. More appointments will become available as supply increases, so keep checking for new appointments in coming weeks.

Thank you again for your understanding and support. We hope you and your family enjoy a safe and very well-deserved break over the holidays. Please take some time over the break to check out our wellbeing resources for students and families. You'll find useful tools for mental health and Term 4 preparation. Please do not hesitate to reach out if we can do anything to help you and your children to prepare for Term 4 or if you have any concerns about the return to school. I will be in touch again soon with further information and any updates for you and your children.

Greg Court, Principal.



#### The Benefits of Reading

Do you want your student to be a critical thinker or expand their vocabulary? READING IS THE ANSWER At Maclean High School we know the benefits of reading. We encourage all our students to read at home and at school.

Here're some benefits of reading regularly:

- 1. **Stress Reduction -** A well-written novel can transport you to other realms, while an engaging article will distract you and keep you in the present moment, letting tensions drain away and allowing you to relax.
- 2. **Knowledge** Everything you read fills your head with new information, and you never know when it might come in handy. The more knowledge you have, the better-equipped you are to tackle challenges.
- 3. **Vocabulary Expansion -** The more you read, the more words you gain exposure to, and they'll make their way into your everyday vocabulary.
- 4. **Memory Improvement -** When you read a book, you have to remember an assortment of characters, their backgrounds, ambitions, history, and nuances, as well as sub-plots that weave their way through every story. Recalling all these aspects helps 'to train the brain'.
- 5. **Stronger Analytical Thinking Skills -** Have you ever read an amazing mystery novel, and solved the mystery yourself before finishing the book or predicted the ending? If so, you were able to put critical and analytical thinking to work by taking note of all the details provided and sorting them out to determine an outcome.
- 6. Improved Focus and Concentration When you read a book, all your attention is focused on the story—the rest of the world just falls away, and you can immerse yourself in every detail. Try reading for 15-20 minutes before school or work (i.e. on the bus or in the car), and you'll be surprised at how much more focused you are once you get to your destination.
- 7. **Better Writing Skills -** Exposure to published, well-written work has a noted effect on one's own writing, as writing styles of other authors will influence your own work.
- 8. **Free Entertainment -** For low-budget entertainment, you can visit our school library and bask in the glory of the countless books available for free.

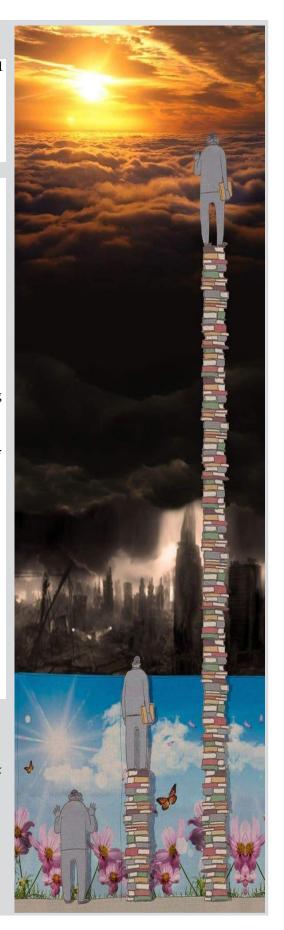
#### Reading is a simple act with profound results.

At Maclean High School we are interested to learn about our students' reading habits and experiences at home. If you are willing to provide us with some insight, please complete the following survey by clicking the link below.

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/H275CH8

Mrs Ryan

Head Teacher Curriculum and Engagement





## LS1 Update

The students of LS1 have been building Marble Runs as part of a STEM Program we are following. They had great fun drawing their designs and deciding which materials were going to be best for the job. Thank you to all the teachers who kindly donated their cardboard boxes so we could make the runs out of recycled materials.

Mrs Webber.







The students of LS1 have also completed an 'Egg Drop Challenge' for Science recently. They had to explore different materials and make a secure structure to protect a raw egg from being broken when dropped from the first floor. Although all the eggs got smashed and made a big mess, the students had a great time and learned that the eggs needed far more protection than they were given.

Mrs Webber.













# **EVERY DAY COUNTS....**

day here or there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just	that equals	which is	and therefore, from Kindy to Year 12, that is	This means that the best your child can achieve is
1 day each fortnight	20 days per year	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1 ½ a years of school	Equal to finishing Year 11
1 day a week	40 days per year	8 weeks per year	Over 2 ½ years of school	Equal to finishing Year 10
2 days a week	80 days per year	16 weeks per year	Over 5 years of learning	Equal to finishing Year 7
3 days a week	120 days per year	24 weeks per year	Nearly 8 years of learning	Equal to finishing Year 4

Give your child every chance to succeed...

every chance to Every day counts!





# **EVERY MINUTE COUNTS....**

When your child misses just	that equals	which is	and therefore, from Kindy to Year 12, that is
10 minutes a day	50 minutes of learning each week	Nearly 1½ weeks per year	Nearly ½ a year of school
20 minutes a day	1 hour and 40 minutes of learning each week	Nearly 2½ weeks per year	Nearly a year of school
½ hour a day	½ a day of learning a week	4 weeks a year	Nearly 1½ years of learning
1 hour each day	1 whole day of learning each week	8 weeks per year or nearly a term a year.	Over 2 ½ years of learning

Your Child's best learning time is at the beginning of the day...

# School starts at 9.05am DON'T BE LATE!







# **Helpline Numbers/Online Resources**

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

**Lifeline:** 13 1114 or <u>www.lifeline.org.au</u>

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

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

Reachout: <a href="http://au.reachout.com">http://au.reachout.com</a>

**Suicide Call Back Service:** 1300 659467

WayAhead Directory: <a href="http://directory.wayahead.org.au/">http://directory.wayahead.org.au/</a>

**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 Counsellors:** Mr Andrew Allen and Ms Tay Cone.