

December 2016



MAITLAND GROSSMANN HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

"Providing Quality Education in a Caring Learning Community"

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PRINCIPAL

Maitland Grossmann High has had a very successful year once again. Our HSC results for this year maintain our standard as one of the highest performing schools in the region. Lucas Lambert attained an ATAR of 99.3 and moves on to study a double degree in Engineering and Business. Congratulations to Olivia Cowie and to Mrs Heather Williams, for Olivia's placement of first in the State in HSC Entertainment. Year 12 achieved 40 band 6, and Maitland Grossmann HSC results placed us third in comprehensive high schools in the region. Congratulation to Year 12 and their teachers for such an outstanding achievement.

Mr Andrew Watt has received a transfer and Dr Robb Dennis has moved to take up a relieving Head Teacher CAPA position.

School numbers have fallen by forty five students with the imposition of the ruling that only students who live within the zone are able to enrol. This has resulted in the loss of three teachers and some SASS staffing, however we remain very positive about providing the very best opportunities for all our students in 2017.

During 2016 we moved to appoint a Business Manager. Mrs Jennette Hardy has become an integral part of the senior executive, providing more opportunities for me to be involved in best practice and leadership in teaching and learning.

The school uniform shop continues to provide outstanding services for the provision of uniforms for all students and will be open in the school holidays. Opening times are on page 8.

Have an enjoyable Christmas break and I look forward to working with you and your children during the upcoming year.

Dr Di Soltau,
Principal

**Merry Christmas
and
a Happy New Year!**

December 2016

CURRENT SPONSORS

WESTPAC BANK (Green Hills)

Take out a loan and mention Maitland Grossmann High School. The school will receive a monetary contribution from the Westpac Bank.

ATHLETE'S FOOT (Green Hills & Charlestown) Become a Club Fit Member and the school will receive a monetary contribution from Athlete's Foot.



PHOTOS

Occasionally photographs are taken of individual students or classes at school.

Please notify the school in writing if you do not want your student photographed.

REMINDER TO PARENTS

When parking/stopping outside the school please be mindful of the residents living in the area. Could you please ensure that there is adequate room for residents to enter and exit their premises at all times during the day.

Thank you.

BYOD

Bring Your Own Device

At Maitland Grossmann High School students have the opportunity to use a BYOD computer or tablet in their classes to enhance their learning experiences. BYOD provides students enhanced collaboration and communication, 21st century skills and the chance to extend learning opportunities to times and places outside the classroom. To assist students and parents with selecting an appropriate BYOD computer, a guide to the selection and purchase of a BYOD device can be found on the school website.

Get more information: <http://bit.ly/byodmghs>

December 2016

FROM MRS OSBORNE

After being cheekily told that I was "too old" to take what I was calling my Gap Year, I am admitting that I have thoroughly enjoyed my experience.

I am also admitting that I have missed the students, my colleagues and the sense of belonging that Maitland Grossmann High School/Maitland Girls' High School has always given me.

However, I have made the decision to extend my leave and continue my "Gap Year". This has taken much soul searching!!

I would like to thank Mrs Sellers-Fogarty and Mr Harris for their Careers Adviser roles, and the many staff who have continued my programs and community involvement.

Congratulations to our newly elected Captains, Emmelia Skinner and Tomas Brown, and their Vice Captains, Senior Prefect and Prefects. I know that they are great representatives of our school.

Thank you to the staff, parents and employers who have always supported the Careers Department.

To my students, present and past, remember our school motto, Labor Omnia Vincit-work conquers all. Always do your best, be kind and think of others.

Best wishes and Merry Christmas

Lee Osborne

Careers Adviser (enjoying her Gap Year)

FROM THE BUSINESS MANAGER'S DESK

My name is Jennette Hardy and I was officially appointed to the position of Business Manager on 1st July 2016.

It has been quite an exciting year with many major works projects taking place across the school. Some of these included:

- Block A has been completely painted
- Block C Ground Floor has been painted
- Doors in all blocks have been painted. The reason behind this is so that students can easily identify where they are. To a Year 7 student, high school can be a daunting place and we're hoping that this assists them with their transition. The colours are as follows:
 - A Block – Orange
 - B Block – Green
 - C Block – Yellow
 - D Block – Red
 - E Block – Blue
- Blinds were replaced across many areas of the school. This has improved the aesthetic appeal of the classrooms for both staff and students.
- Science Staffroom refurbishment.
- Cleaning of Air-conditioning units by HydroKleen.
- Building of the Stone Sign Wall – this project was managed by Caterina Poggi. Thanks to Caterina for her ingenuity and dedication on this project.

In 2017/2018 we are hoping to receive extra funds for painting, carpets and roof replacement across the school.

We have also been advised that we are in contention to receive funding for a refurbishment of the School Canteen. Lisa and her team do an excellent job under very trying conditions at times. This refurbishment would be greatly appreciated for volunteers and workers in this area.

2016 has been an exciting year and I look forward to the future changes and improvements for our school environment.

December 2016

INDUSTRIAL ARTS

Maitland Grossmann High School was again well represented and highly successful at this year's Wollongong University Faculty of Engineering and Information Sciences competition.

The major awards went to:

Isaac Bower, Bailey Phillpotts and Jacob Leonard in Industrial Technology.
 Kayla Crow had an excellent day, receiving Winner of the Telecommunications Engineering Module , runner up of the Product Award and overall runner up. Fantastic effort Kayla!
 Ashlee French, winner of the Design and Technology Indigenous Category.
 Michael Wade, winner in Design and Technology and Engineering categories.
 Cody Carey, winner in Engineering Report.
 Jade Bassett, winner in Design and Technology and Engineering projects.
 Connor Morley, winner for best Product design.
 Ali Al-Mudafer, winner of best Product innovation.
 Jacob Fellowes, best Design and Technology recycled materials product.
 Andrew Lange, best Design and Technology recycled material product.
 Maitland Grossmann High, overall winning school in NSW for the Preliminary Design and Technology category.

Congratulations to all students on a great effort this year.

Mark Bayada.
 Industrial Arts

ENGLISH

ANNUAL PRIZES AND CLASS ORGANISATION IN THE ENGLISH FACULTY

We would like to send our best wishes to Mrs Pascoe and her family as they await the arrival of their baby. Mrs Pascoe will return to Maitland Grossmann High School, late Term 3 in 2017.

I thought it timely to remind parents and students about how academic prizes and class placements are decided in the English Faculty at Maitland Grossmann.

Students are awarded prizes and placed in classes based upon their performance in English across the entire previous year, not just Semester 2.

Classes in Stages 4 and 5 (Years 7-10) are streamed- an A stream (2 classes), and AB stream (3 classes) and a B stream (usually 3 classes), where students of similar ability are to be grouped together. There is no difference between classes within each stream (for example, 8B1 is equal to 8B3).

I hope this clarifies any confusion for you and yours.

Sara Bissett

English-Head Teacher Relieving



SPORT

Our final sports report for 2016 – and what a year it has been.

Premier Sporting Challenge is up and running again, a Pierre de Coubertin recipient and Mr Stephen Ross being honoured with the Award for Excellent Service to School Sport.

We also had a large number of students represent Hunter Region teams this year, as well as, sending 157 students to Coalfields Zone carnivals, 77 students to Hunter Regions carnivals and 21 students to the NSW CHS championships.

I would like to thank all staff for their efforts in supporting our students and providing them with the opportunity to participate in sporting events and CHS Knockouts. Thank you also to the community facilities that support our school sport program.

A reminder for School Sport – Term 1, 2017

Students in Years 8, 9 and 10 return to school on Tuesday 31st January. This day will run as a **regular school sport day**.

All students have now selected their sport and should know of their sport choice. Students on sport requiring payment at venue, please remember to **bring your money**.


All students will need new **waiver notes** for the following sports: Flipout, swimming, badminton, weights/pump/circuit. Students will need these waiver notes for the first week of sport – notes are available on the school website.

Early leavers – school sport is a compulsory component of the curriculum. It is advised parents/carers try not to arrange appointments at this time. If students are required to leave early, correct procedure must be followed (ie. signing out with written permission, on the morning of the appointment, through the attendance office).

Have a great holiday!

Mr P Anderson – Sports Organiser.





Compulsory School Attendance

Information for parents

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

What are my legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age. The *Education Act 1990* requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards for homeschooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

The importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:

- Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
- Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
- Give students time to greet their friends before class
- Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral)

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child's school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child's absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why.

Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to illness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the principal can record the absences as unjustified.

Travel

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child's school principal. An *Application for Extended Leave* may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child's total absences for the year.

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child's school principal.



My child won't go to school. What should I do?

You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school's learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?

It is important to understand that the Department of Education and Communities may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school.

Some of the following actions may be undertaken:

- Compulsory Schooling Conferences

You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the supports your child may need to have in place so they attend school regularly. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as Undertakings) to support your child's attendance at school.

- Application to the Children's Court – Compulsory Schooling Order

If your child's attendance at school remains unsatisfactory the Department

may apply to the Children's Court for a *Compulsory Schooling Order*. The Children's Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.

- Prosecution in the Local Court

School and Department staff remain committed to working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child's full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsory schooling orders occurs further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

What age can my child leave school?

All New South Wales students must complete Year 10 or its equivalent. After Year 10, and up until they reach 17 years of age, there are a range of flexible options for students to [complete their schooling](#).

Working in Partnership

The Department of Education and Communities recognises that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child to fulfil their life opportunities.

If a student misses as little as 8 days in a school term, by the end of primary school they'll have missed over a year of school.

Further information regarding school attendance can be obtained from the following websites:

Policy, information and brochures:

<http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/studentsupport/programs/attendance.php>

The school leaving age:

<http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/leaving-school/index.php>

Do you need an interpreter?

Interpreting services are available on request, including for the hearing impaired. The Telephone Interpreter Service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week on 131 450. You will not be charged for this service.

For further advice and questions contact your educational services team

T 131 536

Learning and Engagement

Student Engagement & Interagency Partnerships

T 9244 5129

www.dec.nsw.gov.au

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NSW Department of Education and Communities



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December 2016

Maitland Grossmann High School

Uniform Shop Special Opening Hours

December 2016 - January 2017



December 2016

Tuesday	13th. December	08:00am - 12:00pm
Wednesday	14th. December	01:00pm - 05:00pm
Thursday	15th. December	01:00pm - 05:00pm
Monday	19th. December	09:00am - 01:00pm

January 2017

Wednesday	18th. January	09:00am - 03:00pm
Thursday	19th. January	09:00am - 03:00pm
Friday	20th. January	09:00am - 03:00pm
Monday	23rd. January	09:00am - 03:00pm
Tuesday	24th. January	09:00am - 03:00pm
Wednesday	25th. January	09:00am - 03:00pm
Friday	27th. January	09:00am - 03:00pm
Monday	30th. January	08:00am - 04:00pm
Tuesday	31st. January	08:00am - 04:00pm

THEN EVERY TUESDAY: 08:00am - 12:00pm

THURSDAY: 01:00pm - 05:00pm

Purchase Online: daylightsportswear.com/maitlandgrossmann

MASTERCARD VISA EFTPOS NOW AVAILABLE, CHEQUES NOT ACCEPTED.



Maitland Grossman High School UNIFORM SHOP Price List

ITEM	PRICE
Girls	
JNR Short Sleeve White/navy Blouse	34.00
SNR Short Sleeve Sky/navy Blouse	34.00
Summer Dress	60.00
Tartan Skirt	50.00
Navy Stretch Slacks	41.00
Boys	
JNR Short Sleeve White Button Shirt	32.00
SNR Short Sleeve Sky Button Shirt	32.00
JNR/SNR Navy Boys Shorts	35.00
SNR Trousers	41.00
Junior Navy Trousers - Beltloop	41.00
Jumpers	
Woolen Jumper	72.00
Sports	
Sports Shorts Std	26.00
Sports Shorts Sup	26.00
Trackpant	38.50
Sports Polo	28.00
Others	
School Tuffpack	70.00
Seeker Cap Navy/sky/white	12.50
Junior White Socks	05.00
Senior Sky Socks	05.00
Sky School Socks x 5	20.00
Cable Scarf	20.00
School Tie	20.00

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Summer Holiday School

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Year 12 students, with HSC specialist teachers
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Year 10 - 12 students, with Dr Rob Reil


Creative Writing Workshop
Year 9 - 11 students, with Jason Newell

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DATE: 16/01/17-27/01/17 **DAYS:** Monday – Friday **TIME:** 8:30-11am
COST: \$25/day \$100/week **EXPERIENCE:** no experience required
WHERE: Lambton Pool, Durham Road Lambton **AGES:** 8+

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charlotte.moore@huda.org.au
0404168689
<https://www.revolutionise.com.au/huda/>




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The Athlete's Foot stock a range of school shoes to ensure that there are options for everyone. \$5 from every shoe purchased is donated back to our school. Even better, this applies to the whole family across their fantastic range of school, sports, work and casual shoes.

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