Dear Parents, Staff and Students

Presentation Day
Our Annual Presentation Day in the School Hall will take place at 10.00 am on Friday 11 December 2015. Parents, family and friends are warmly invited to this significant event where the Mackellar community is able to showcase its many areas of excellence. Students are to be dressed immaculately in full school uniform.

At the conclusion of the Presentation Day Ceremony, Years 7 – 9 Yearly Reports will be distributed.

Our wonderful School Administrative Support Staff (SASS)
This newsletter regularly records the triumphs and achievements of the students and teaching staff. Here I would like to impress on our community the significant contribution our school administrative support staff makes to our successful school. The long list of innumerable key jobs that are carried out so professionally and graciously, and with such patience, are integral to the functioning of our school.

HSC examinations
Year 12 has now finished the HSC. Ms Susan Van Gils, the Presiding Officer in charge of the examinations, reported that she was delighted with the most exemplary manner in which the students applied themselves to their work with due diligence and behaved impeccably. Our students should feel proud of themselves and their commitment to their studies.

RYDA
Year 11 was sponsored by Rotary to attend the Rotary Youth Driver Awareness program. It is a marvellous program that presents students with information about driving, from car maintenance to braking distances, the effect of alcohol and drugs on driving and first-hand stories of severe injuries resulting from dangerous driving.

Our students impressed the coordinators of the program with their manners and mature approach to the day.

The school continues to be most grateful for the wonderful work that Rotary does, the productive relationship between Balgowlah Rotary and us, and the generosity and support we receive.

School Spectacular
Each year I look forward with great anticipation to attending the Schools Spectacular at the Qantas Credit Union Arena. It is one of the most outstanding displays of public education at its best, involving over 1 000 students from secondary and primary schools in NSW. It is very exciting that our students are involved as part of the choir, band and as featured and ensemble dancers.

Tickets for Friday and Saturday nights, 27-28 November, are available from TicketMaster.
World Vision
Mackellar girls are extremely community minded and often display their humanity in giving generously to charities. Each year, World Vision is one of the charities that the girls embrace. This year, Mackellar Girls has raised the remarkable amount of $16,000 for World Vision. This mammoth donation will certainly facilitate many worthwhile projects in villages and communities to assist people fight hunger.

Early Leave for Students
Important learning for students in the classroom continues until the end of the school year, as students continue towards finishing the year’s teaching curriculum. The year’s syllabuses are not finished when yearly examinations are held; they must be completed after the examinations.

It, therefore, is important that parents organise their family holidays in holiday time, not school time. If students are taken out of school early, as some parents have expected, for family holidays it greatly disrupts students’ learning. I am not able to approve lengthy leave of absence for early holidaymakers. All students in Years 7-11 are expected to continue their education until the end of term, 16 December.

School Fees
All outstanding school fees should be paid by the end of the school year. A number of students urgently need to get things up-to-date in their elective subjects – these fees cover the cost of the materials that students have used this year.

Parents and students should be aware that most elective subjects carry additional fees. They may only be chosen to be studied by students if the associated fees are paid, unless discussed with the Principal.

Congratulations for high achievement to:

- **Imogen, Paris, Claudia and Ellie (Y12)** for their HSC Visual Arts works being nominated for ArtExpress, the exhibition of best HSC work
- **Rebekah (Y12)** for her Early Entry offer at UNE for Bachelor of Education
- **Stella (Y7)** for her selection in the U15 NSW Cricket team
- **Sophia (Y7)** for her 4th in the All Schools Athletics 13yr High Jump
- **Natasha (Y10)** for her Highly Commended in the 2015 NSW Textile Art Piece Challenge
- **Brittney, Pihuka and Alyssa (Y9)** and **Mya and Heather (Y8)** for their selection in the U15 Metropolitan Softball team
- **Brielle, Amber, Bethany and Ashleigh (Y11), Cassi, Sally, Ena, Clare, Nancy, Olivia and Briann (Y10), Jacqueline and Jamison (Y9), Poppy, Maya and Chelsea (Y8)** for their performances in the dance ensembles at School Spectacular
- **Alyssah (Y12)** for her Regional Blue in Trampoline Sports
- **Zoe, Brigette, Susan, Sophie (Y10)** for their selection in the NSW Public Schools Senior Combined Schools Band Program, and **Katerina (Y9), Nikita, Kayleen and Ashley (Y7)** in the Junior Band
- **Brianna and Freya (Y10)** for their selection to compere the Sydney North Dance Festival
- **Sian (Y7)** for her High Distinction Senior Grade One in the Australian Speech Communication Association competition
- **Alyssse (Y10), Olivia, Casey (Y9) and Zoe (Y8)** who were finalists in the NSW ACT AFL youth Girls Cup
- the following Year 9 students who will be sponsored by Rotary to nominate for the RYPEN Student Leadership Camp: **Charlotte, Geita, Taylah, Natalie and Jemma**
Report – 13 NOVEMBER 2015

Prefect Report -

The annual Mabobah’s Breakfast charity event last term was a monumental success, with Year 11 girls banding together to raise over $1300 for the Mabobah’s Promise Foundation. This organisation aims to empower and educate women in Afghanistan, and was founded by Mabobah, an Afghan refugee who shared her incredible and inspirational story on the day and touched the hearts of all who attended.

On October 15th the Mackellar Prefects attended a leadership seminar day at Dee Why RSL along with leaders from Balgowlah Boys Campus, Manly Selective Campus, Freshwater Senior Campus and Cromer Campus. It was a fantastic experience to meet the other college leaders and hear about some of the initiatives they plan to implement within their schools.

On October 28th, the Captains and Vice Captains were invited to observe Question Time at NSW Parliament and attend afternoon tea with Premier Mike Baird, along with other leaders from schools in the Manly Electorate. This enriching experience gave us insight into some of the issues faced by other schools along the Northern Beaches, and the actions their leadership teams are taking to develop a more connected and aware school community.

The Prefects are currently busy organising Multicultural Day in Week 9 on November 30th. Twenty-four culture groups have expressed interest in contributing food and drinks to a cultural stall, performing a national song or dance, or showcasing their traditional dress in a parade. We are incredibly excited for Multicultural Day to arrive, as it is a fantastic opportunity for students to meet new people, try new things, and most importantly, learn to embrace and celebrate the wonderful diversity within our school.

P&C NEWS -

On Wednesday 28 October the P&C held an Information Evening to encourage new members for next year. The event was so successful it was agreed to hold a similar evening for new Year 7 parents at the start of 2016. The final P&C meeting for the year was held on Wednesday 4 November. Included in the night’s business was the approval to purchase a new commercial upright 2-door freezer for the Canteen.

To date this year the P&C has provided the school with an additional $170,000 in funds, the amount of the final P&C donation for the year will be known shortly and will be announced in the last school newsletter of the year.

For those of you who volunteer time to support the school whether it be working in the canteen or uniform shop, contributing to the P&C or school committees, you are invited to attend the Volunteers Thank You Evening on 24 November from 6pm. Come and enjoy this pleasant evening with like-minded parents from the school community. Please see the full details in the flyer in this newsletter.

Jenny Thompson, P&C President
president@mackellar-pandc.com

NORTHERN BEACHES SECONDARY COLLEGE Website -

The college website - http://www.nbsc.schools.nsw.edu.au - contains the latest news, great stories and photo galleries celebrating our recent achievements: the Science Techno Museum Expo, Jazz Impro Band performances, the Duke of Edinburgh Awards, the Foreign Language Film Festival, Project Penguin Expo and more. The college website also has important information and documentation about upcoming events.
IMPORTANT DATES TO ADD TO YOUR 2016 DIARY
HOW TO SUPPORT YOUR CHILD THROUGH THE HSC
WITHOUT BECOMING THE ENEMY
SPECIAL FREE SEMINAR FOR YEAR 11 AND 12 PARENTS

Have you ever asked yourself the following questions?
How do I help motivate my child?
How do I help my child manage her time?
What are reasonable expectations?
Elevate Education, Australia’s most trusted provider of study skills programs, will answer the questions that all parents are asking.

When: Thursday 4th February 2016
Time: 6.30pm – 8.00pm
Where: Mackellar Girls Campus Performance Space
Cost: Free

What to bring: Something to write on and a pen
This 90 minute session will ensure you have all the tools you need to effectively support your child through the HSC without becoming the enemy.

Elevate Education has being running study skills seminars for Mackellar’s Year 11 girls for over five years; 2014 saw the introduction of a study skills session for Year 7 and year 9 in 2015.

DRAMA NEWS -
Emma (Year 12) was selected to perform in OnStage 2016, a showcase of the best HSC Drama major works.
Skye Campbell, Drama Teacher

MindMatters beyondblue

Parent-Family survey
Mindmatters is a mental health initiative designed for secondary schools.
http://www.mindmatters.edu.au/about-mindmatters/what-is-mindmatters
You're invited to take part in a survey about your child’s school’s approach to mental health and wellbeing.
This survey has been issued by the school leadership team which is gathering parent and family opinions as part of the school’s involvement with MindMatters, a mental health initiative for secondary schools. Your responses will help inform the school’s future work on mental health.
This survey contains 28 questions and will take about 10 minutes to complete. Your responses won't identify you and will be confidential.
Got more questions? The MindMatters website has more information about this survey, or you can speak to the school leadership team.
Thank you for clicking on the link below to complete the Mindmatters survey.
2015. www.mindmatters.edu.au
It's expedition season! So much has been happening.

The **GOLD URBAN ODYSSEY** Qualifying Expedition took place in the holidays. Congratulations to the following participants: **Grace, Ella, Olivia, Kaitlyn, Georgia, Annika** and **Amy**.

The final Gold hike for the year is **December 12-15** at the Royal National Park. A briefing will be held for the students attending on **November 20th 1:30** at the College Administration Centre, Freshwater Campus.

The **SILVER QUALIFYING PACK AND PADDLE** Expedition took place October 9-11 at Broken Bay Sport and Recreation Centre. What a fun and challenging weekend it was! Thank you to Ms Newton for attending. Congratulations to the following participants: **Isabella, Caitlin, Lauren, Marija, Kenna, Rose, Bianca, Erin, Lauren** and **Natasha**.

The **BRONZE PRACTICE (catch up)** Training Day and Expedition was at Broken Bay Sport and Recreation Centre October 9-11. Students completed a high ropes course, learnt about camp craft, navigation and survival in the bush before hiking for 2 days. They did an amazing job working together to navigate their way to a beautiful beach campsite, cooked their own meals on camp stoves, made a fire for toasting marshmallows and hiking in the heat! Well done **Rachel, Indiana, Alannah** and **Grace**.

The **Bronze Qualifying Expeditions** took place over two weekends in October. Congratulations to the 36 Year 9 girls who completed their final hike in hot conditions to complete their Bronze award. Well done!

**SIGNING OFF YOUR DUKE OF ED AWARD** - The Duke of Edinburgh Award can be completed at any time, there is no real ‘due date’ besides your 25th Birthday! However, I encourage all students to finalise their award before the end of the year so you can commence your next level next year. To help you in this I will meet with each student in small groups in the library Seminar room on Friday 20th November (Years 10 and 11) and Thursday 26th November (Year 9). Please bring any paperwork, award plans and questions you may have to that meeting.

**INTERSTED IN STARTING DUKE OF EDINBURGH IN 2016?**
An information evening will take place in week 2 and 3 of Term 1, 2016 for Years 9-11. Stay tuned for details.

Please ‘like’ our ‘Northern Beaches Secondary College Duke of Ed’ Facebook page! This has been set up to help communicate Duke of Edinburgh messages to students and to celebrate our achievements with photos!
UNIFORM SHOP NEWS -
Please see below the roster for volunteers for the remainder of November and December 2015:

- Monday 16 November   Barbara Harris, Nicki Fox
- Wednesday 18 November Mini Kutty, Dzung Gibson
- Monday 23 November   Harley - HELP REQUIRED 9am-11am and 1.15pm-2.15pm
- Saturday 28 November Mini Kutty - HELP REQUIRED 9am-1pm
- Monday 30 November   Maxine Bronier, Candi Wallis, Jo McNeil, HELP REQUIRED 9am-11am and 1.15pm-2.15pm
- Thursday 3 December  ORIENTATION DAY - Maxine Bronier, Tracy Wardman, Nerida Harrison, Sam Milton, Jo McNeil, Mini Kutty - HELP REQUIRED 8am-12pm or 12pm-3pm, lunch will be provided
- Saturday 5 December  Mini Kutty, Julie Morris - HELP REQUIRED 9am-1pm
- Monday 7 December    HELP REQUIRED - 9am-11am and 1.15pm-2.15pm
- Wednesday 9 December Sandra de Lange, Gladys Withers, Mini Kutty - HELP REQUIRED 9am-11.30am and 11.30am-2pm
- Monday 14 December   HELP REQUIRED 9am-12pm and 12pm-3pm
- Wednesday 16 December Mini Kutty - HELP REQUIRED 9am-12pm and 12pm-3pm

Please let me know if you are unable to make your rostered day. Please contact me if you can help on any of the above days/times.

Leigh McPherson, Uniform Shop Manager, uniformshop@mackellar-pandc.com

TERM DATES - 2015/2016

2015 - Term 4
Staff & Students return - Tuesday 6 October
Last day for students - Wednesday 16 December
Last day staff - Friday 18 December

2016 - Term 1
Staff Development Day - Wednesday 27 January (no students)
Yrs 7, 11, & 12 return - Thursday 28 January
Yrs 8, 9, & 10 return - Friday 29 January
Last day for students & staff - Friday 8 April

2016 - Term 2
Staff Development Day - Tuesday 26 April (no students)
Students return - Wednesday 27 April
Last day for students & staff - Friday 1 July

2016 - Term 3
Staff Development Day – Monday 18 July (no students)
Students return – Tuesday 19 July
Last day for students and staff – Friday 23 September

2016 - Term 4
Staff & Students Return - Tuesday 11 October
Last day for students - Friday 16 December
Last Day for staff - Tuesday 20 December
Need a Xmas tree? Buy yours from Beacon Hill Guides & Scouts this year!

All monies raised goes directly to the Guides & Scouts

Where: Beacon Hill Reserve Soccer Fields, cnr Warringah & Willandra Rd, opp. McDonalds

When: Weekend 12 & 13 December from 7.30am
Drive in – plenty of parking. Get in early, great choice, pick your own.

Hope to see you there.

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NORTHERN BEACHES

Lifeline

GIANT BOOK FAIR
FRIDAY 20 November to SUNDAY 22 November 2015
Balgowlah Boys Campus
Cnr Sydney Road & Maretimo Street, Balgowlah

Friday 20 November - 4pm to 9pm
Saturday 21 November - 9am to 5pm
Sunday 22 November - 9am to 2pm

Please note we accept Visa and Mastercard and also have EFTPOS facility available - entry by gold coin donation very much appreciated.
Find Your Voice!
Call Today For Your Free Trial Lesson
Angela Galea's Vocal Studio
0402 122 105

Angela's Singing Lessons
Whether you want to sing as a hobby or professionally, I aim to help you find your own unique voice.
All ages & abilities welcomed. Call today for a FREE trial.

Dee Why Florist Corsage’s for formal $35 (down from $45) for students only.
Please call us on 9971 2882 to order and reference your school.
Shop 2
Cnr Redman & Fisher Road
Dee Why NSW 2099
T: 02 9971 8216/9971 2882
www.deewhyflorist.com.au
Supplying fresh flowers & designer arrangements to the Northern Beaches of Sydney for over 60 years.

If you email us at nbscmgirls-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au we can email the school newsletter directly to you. It can also be accessed online at www.mackellargirls.nsw.edu.au

Director General’s Award for Turning Potential into Performance
Director General’s Award for Excellence in Girls Education
Director General’s Award for Excellence in Gifted and Talented Education
Director General’s Award for Excellence in Aboriginal Programs
Secretary’s School Achievement Award for Pacific Islander Programs

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