

# Menai High School



## Parent Newsletter Issue 6—2023

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Welcome to Menai High School.

We are a proud comprehensive high school with a tradition of outstanding academic results. Our school values are based around **Care and Commitment** where we create a learning environment driven by student wellbeing. Our school vision encompasses the development of **Skilled Learners, Skilled Citizens** who are **Skilled for Life**. Our wide ranging curriculum caters for the diverse learning needs of all students, with opportunities to succeed academically, creatively, socially and emotionally. We develop students who are equipped to thrive living in the twenty first century, willing and able to make valuable contributions to our society.

### Coming Up

**Term 4 Students Return -9th of October**

**Year 11 Camp– 9th-11th October**

**HSC exams 11th October–3rd November**

**Year 11 First Aid Course-17th October**

**White Card Course –6th November**

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## Relieving Principal's Message



- **HSC Class of 2023** At this time of the year, a huge well done and thank you must go to HSC students and teachers. This term is the culmination of major work projects, practical exams, HSC trials and the finalising of school assessment marks and rankings. The class of 2023 have endured pre, during and post covid schooling and have been an absolute credit to themselves, their families, and the school. The HSC teachers have gone above and beyond to ensure the students are provided with the best teaching to maximise their learning outcomes. We wish all our HSC students the very best for the HSC exams next term and the post-school journey they are about to embark upon. We extend our well wishes to them having a well-deserved celebration at the formal after the exams. A special thank you to Mr Ferraro, Mr Cole and Ms Ready who have guided and supported this cohort with great care and commitment. As Deputy Principal and Year Advisors, they have led the students with passion and I know the students appreciate all that they have done for them as do I.
- **School Captains 2024** As we say thank you and farewell to our outgoing School Captain Leadership Team (Kaia Dennis, Noah Mariani, Savannah Archer, Amber Soo, Ethan Butcher and Tom Straker), we welcomed in our newly appointed school leaders.

Girl Captain – Lily Thompson  
Boy Captain – Nathan Maddock  
Girl Vice Captain – Jessica Giannaklis  
Girl Vice Captain – Allegra Montoya  
Boy Vice Captain – Michael Habkouk  
Boy Vice Captain – Pearce O'Gradey

The baton has been passed and the SET team look forward to working with them to lead the school over the next twelve months. Thank you to Ms Ayad and Ms Perkins for leading and managing the full election process during term 3.

### School Improvement and Project Update

- **Front Bus Shelter** – we are currently working with the DoE assets unit to secure a construction timeline. We are hopeful that this project will be completed over the Christmas/New Year break so to provide minimal impact to school functioning.
- **School Bus Shelter** – the construction of this shelter has been in progress over the last few weekends. The timeline for completion is on track and should be ready to use at the beginning of term 4. This shelter will provide cover for our two school mini buses.
- **ICT Expansion** – we are currently sourcing tender quotes for internet connectivity to the school farm. This is an increasingly high use area by students and staff, so a technology upgrade is due. This project will allow the farm to continue to grow as an important curriculum and non-curriculum teaching and learning space of the school.

# Relieving Principal's Message

## Positive Media Coverage

Menai HS has received some very positive publicity in recent weeks.

**HSC results** - The Sydney Morning Herald newspaper will be writing a story on our consistent HSC results over the past few years. Our English and Maths Advanced results have been particularly impressive and we have been listed as a top 20 comprehensive high school. In these courses, our average student marks have been significantly above state averages since 2020 with a score of 83.

Maths - MHS 80 v state average 77

English - MHS 88 v state average 80.

The Article will be published in the lead up to HSC exams.

**Baby lambs and award winning chickens** - Our local paper ran an article in late August which lead into TV exposure (Studio 10 live crosses) occurring on Wednesday 13th September. Thank you to our student farm crew, Ms Ready, Ms Blackburn, Mr Bean, and Mr Meagher for working on these events.

**DE International** - filming of a promotional video took place onsite on Thursday 7th September. Menai was selected due to our long term positive involvement in supporting international students. Thank to Ms Ferraro, Ms Harrison and Ms Hassan for their large contribution to this project.

- **Japanese Tour (Sunday 26th August to Saturday 9th September)**

**Kansai International HS Study Tour** - 'Konnichiwa' (meaning hello). We welcomed a small group of students and staff to Menai from Japan at the start of week 7. Thank you to Mr Meagher and Ms Ferraro for coordinating this trip. Staff and students ensured our visitors had a wonderful stay with us and that they returned home knowing Menai is the place to be. Arigatou gozai-masu' (meaning thank you) also to supporting staff who oversaw activities (Ms Ready, Ms Robinson, Ms Basford, Ms Harrison, Ms Hasan and Mr Monger).

At the end of the week 8 we said goodbye to our Japanese friends. They enjoyed a wonderful week 1 including our formal assembly and fully engaged in week apprecia8 and other activities that were planned for them during week 2. Their tour concluded with a farewell ceremony on Friday afternoon which included the host families. 'Sayonara' (meaning goodbye)

- **Subject Selections Update**

The school is tracking well with regards to Year 9 and 11 subject selections and timetable for 2024. In week 10, year meetings were held to inform current year 8 and 10 students of the courses that they have been offered and the lines structures. We are very pleased to report that almost all courses offered will run with the vast majority of students accommodated in the line structures. Those subjects not running and/or line structure issues only impacts a very small number of students. DPs are currently following up with these students as required. There will be limited opportunities to change courses during term 4 and early 2024. Again, DPs will inform students of when and how this can occur. Any student studying a subject with a mandatory fee attached needs to be financial by mid-way through Term 1 2024. Any delay could result in the student having to select another non-fee-paying course. Student assistance is also available if needed which must be communicated to the DP overseeing that year group. 2024 school fee payments options will open early in term 1 next year

# Relieving Principal's Message

- **Mobile Phones and Golden Rule...first time every time**

Menai HS has had a long and strong reputation on behaviour and discipline. I would like to remind our school community of the high expectations we uphold with the support of the parent body with regards to our Golden Rule – First time, Every Time. This applies to all aspects including uniform, attendance, punctuality, respect, behaviour, and being an engaged learner.

Next term, the NSW DoE policy banning mobile phones in secondary schools commences. This policy is being implemented to increase focus in classrooms, remove distractions, and promote positive social interactions in the playground. As Menai HS has had a mobile phone policy for a few years, these benefits have already been seen. While this change will have minimal impact at Menai due to our current 'no phones' stance at school, I do want to announce that the school will no longer engage in a partnership with Yondr pouches from 2024. Students will now need to ensure phones are in their bags during the school day in line with the new statewide policy. Yondr pouches can continue to be used until the end of the year before we will no longer have magnets to open/close them. We are currently working on the process of students using their phones to pay at the canteen. Failure to comply with this policy will result in the current consequences imposed which will include phones being kept by DPs and parent contact. The current DoE Student Behaviour Policy is under review and will be relaunched in term 1 2024. Among the raft of changes to be implemented will be the use of suspension for continued disobedience. Multiple mobile phone breaches can fall under continued disobedience. The school appreciates your ongoing support and cooperation with regards to behaviour, attendance and uniform compliance together with the updated mobile phone policy strategy. If you feel there is a special reason why your child may need access and use of their mobile phone during the school day, please communicate with their DP to discuss this. All decisions will be made on a case-by-case basis.

- **Principal Position 2024**

On Friday 1st September, Mr Barney Ellevsen relinquished his position as Principal of Menai HS and has retired from the Department of Education. Mr Ellevsen served the Menai High School community as Principal since 2016. He has had a distinguished career in public education and on behalf of the school I would like to thank him for his strategic and collaborative leadership of the school. As a passionate educational leader, Menai benefited greatly from his instructional leadership and insight into how to grow the school. His focus on the students' needs and supporting staff were huge strengths in his time at Menai. I am sure you will join me in wishing Mr Ellevsen all the best in his post Menai life.

The timeline for the recruitment of the new Principal will take place during term 4. An announcement of the successful candidate will be made at the completion of the process with commencement date being start of 2024. I will be expressing my interest in this permanent position. For term 4 however, I will be taking personal leave each Wednesday and on some other days as needed for family reasons. Mr Meagher will be relieving as Principal and Ms Mazoudier will be stepping up as DP during these times.

- **School Highlights Term 3**

-BStreetsmart Year 11 excursion – (Mr Staines in charge).

-Year 10 Jewish Museum – (Ms Fenemore in charge).

-Week Appreci8 including RUOK Day and Colour Run organised by SRC and wellbeing team (Ms Ayad, Ms Perkins, Ms Stone and Ms Liley in charge).

## Relieving Principal's Message

- Year 12 Graduation Assembly (Ms Kasper in charge).
- Year 12 Production and Picnic Day (Ms Ready and Mr Cole in charge).
- Ambassadors program Art project - School mural showcasing and celebrating our cultural diversity and working together as a community. (Mr Laris in charge).
- Ski Trip – 53 students from Yr10/11 PE courses (Mr Phease, Ms Lehane, Ms Ryan, Mr Carpenter and Ms Perkins).
- Yr7 swim school, (Ms Rae in charge supported by PE staff).
- Project wellbeing – positive psychology program between Yr 11 mentors and Yr 8 mentees. Outstanding impact and engagement to support and promote wellbeing (School Counsellors IC).
- Girls U/15s Basketball v Rose Bay College – Regional quarter final winners, but defeated in semi final v Endeavour Sports High School (Mr Stewart).
- Girls Open Netball– CHS finals series in Wollongong winning 4 games (Ms Kasper).
- Girls Open Hockey – CHS round of 16 v Orange HS week 7. Overnight trip. the team were not victorious but enjoyed the country trip(Ms Lehane and Ms Perkins)
- Girls Open Softball – CHS Finals series in Newcastle. Overnight trip and top 12 finish (Ms Walters and Ms Perkins).
- Open Girls Basketball - we had 4 girls teams this year make it through to the top 16 in the state.
- Yr10 Music Trio (Tahlia, Liam and Sam) performed yesterday at the Metro South and West School Directorate Awards Evening. This is a big occasion and Menai was chosen from over 100 public high schools (Mr Middleton in charge).
- GEM girls Oztag Gala Day (Ms Liley in charge).
- Yr11 Life Ready Day (PE Staff).
- Year 9 Oceans Alive excursion (Science Staff).

### What's coming up in the weeks ahead...

- Yr11 camp
- HSC exams
- School Spectacular rehearsals for Dance Ensemble.
- Wicked Musical excursion for CAPA faculty.

In closing, what makes Menai the place to be: wonderful staff, fantastic students, supportive parents and community.

Regards,

Mr J Stanley  
Relieving Principal

## Deputy Principals



**Ms E Sayed-Rich—Years 8 and 11**

It has been a rewarding term with many great student achievements across the school. I would like to take this opportunity to wish year 12 the very best in their final preparations and the HSC exams. We know you are very well prepared and will do yourselves and your school proud. I enjoyed our special event—the Year 12 Graduation on Thursday 21st September and especially acknowledging our graduating Year 12 students and sharing this event with parents, carers, family, and friends. Thank you to Mr Cole and Ms Ready for their fantastic leadership and support of Year 12 and to our Year 12 teachers for all their hard work this year.

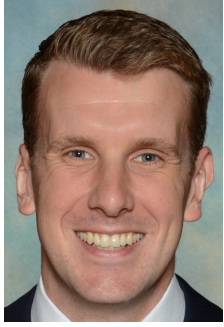
Alfred Mercier once said, “What we learn with pleasure, we never forget.” Congratulations to the Year 8 and 11 award recipients for the Academic Excellence assembly held this term. It is wonderful to see a wide range of students recognised for their commitment to their studies.

First Name	Surname	Year
Piper	Bennet	Year 8
Sally	Boyd	Year 8
Grace	Butler	Year 8
Francoise	Closuit	Year 8
Heidi	Collins	Year 8
Hadlee	James	Year 8
Lily	Khuu	Year 8
Sophie	Krause	Year 8
Riva	Shrestha	Year 8
Nathan	Walker	Year 8
Todd	Wardman	Year 8
Charlise	Webb	Year 8
Jaxon	Willis	Year 8
Jasmine	Derwent	Year 8
Jake	Grinham	Year 8
Austin	Tyler	Year 8
Cyrus	Nikora	Year 8

First Name	Surname	Year
Latifa	Abbas	Year 11
Adam	Arjah	Year 11
Dylan	Atie	Year 11
Matthew	Bertolissio	Year 11
Emily	Boyd	Year 11
Kyan	Cameron	Year 11
Arielle	Chau	Year 11
Gemma	Clark	Year 11
Mischa	Davies	Year 11
Summer	Dexter	Year 11
Rhys	Evans	Year 11
Charlie	Fernandez	Year 11
Jessica	Giannaklis	Year 11
James	Harlow	Year 11
Ray	Jiang	Year 11
Cooper	Jones	Year 11
Dalia	Libman	Year 11
Ruby	Lindsay	Year 11
Matthew	Ly	Year 11
Thomas	Marshall	Year 11
Adam	Martignago	Year 11
Joshua	Martin	Year 11
Liliana	Monte	Year 11
Laney	Mulianas	Year 11
Pearce	O'Grady	Year 11
Maria-Zoe	Panagis	Year 11
Kevin	Pham	Year 11
Ben	Phillips	Year 11
Lachlan	Reid	Year 11
Jemma	Richardson	Year 11
Zali	Rossiter	Year 11
Nikita	Stojanovski	Year 11
Kayla	Tapp	Year 11
Lily	Thompson	Year 11
Kallie	Thompson	Year 11
Kayla	Tran	Year 11
Issac	Warwar	Year 11
Ella-Rose	Wight	Year 11
Ashlee	Wood	Year 11
Zoe	Young	Year 11
Rhiana	Zriek	Year 11

Have a wonderful spring break.

## Deputy Principals



**Mr L Meagher—Years 7 and 10**

### **Year 7**

Year 7 have come to the end of another term and continue to impress with their focus, strong work ethic, and compassion. It seems like only a short time ago when they first came here, and it is so rewarding to see them all start to find their feet and run at their passions. Whether it is seeing students excel academically, perform in musical or dance ensembles, or interact with the media recently at the farm.

Year 7 have a busy final term ahead of them, with exams, excursions, and a final rewards excursion at Jamberoo. I am so proud of every Year 7 student and hope they are enjoying their journey at Menai High School.

### **Year 10**

Parents/carers of Year 10, as you read this you should already have seen your child's subject selections for Year 11. We have tried several different combinations over the past few months and have found a line pattern that is the overall best structure for all students.

Term 4 is a very busy time for Year 10 with a fortnight of normal classes, followed by exams, work experience, excursions, and the formal to see the term out. I strongly urge all Year 10 to be studying hard for their upcoming exams and check with their teachers as to what else they can do to optimise their study.

**A final message for Year 7 and Year 10 parents;** it is essential that family holidays are not booked during the school term; this disrupts learning and assessment tasks. If families do book holidays during school terms, then students will inevitably be behind their peers upon return and any assessment tasks may be scored as a zero.



## Deputy Principals

**Mrs L Ferraro—Years 9 and 12**

### Year 12

Thank you to the Year 12 year advisers Mr Cole and Ms Ready for all their efforts in coordinating the Year 12 production on Friday of Week 9. It was a fun, feel good afternoon which kickstarted the final week of schooling for Year 12 2023. The week began with Crazy Socks Monday, and finished with a student vs teacher game and a graduation rehearsal on the Wednesday. Combined with the beautiful weather, Year 12 will have had a wonderful week before they knuckled down again for their final HSC preparations.

In the lead up to the HSC, students have been encouraged to check their personalised HSC Exam Timetable on 'students online' to see their exam start times, approved equipment lists and NESA exam rules and procedures. Finally, the Year 12 Graduation Ceremony was on Thursday starting at 10:30am. We enjoyed celebrating this milestone with Year 12 students and their families.

Congratulations to yr12 student, Arwen McGloin who presented her HSC Science Extension Research at Macquarie University on Monday to an illustrious audience including Australia's Chief Scientist Dr Cathy Foley.

Arwen was selected as one of only thirteen students statewide to present her work at the Explore Science Extension Conference and did a magnificent job speaking on "Melanin: A Natural Sunscreen", in what is surely the first of many academic presentations. It was exciting that Arwen got to present in the same lecture theatre that Dr Foley had given her first academic presentation in the 1980s and was the first student to present on the day immediately after Dr Foley's inspiring keynote address. We are so proud of you Arwen and look forward to hearing what you get up to in the future!



# Deputy Principals

## Mrs L Ferraro—Years 9 and 12

### Year 9

Congratulations to all of the Year 9 and Year 12 students who received Academic Excellence awards in our recent formal assembly. Their hard work and dedication to achieving their best was recognised and celebrated on this occasion.

First Name	Surname	Year
Harry	Ambler	Year 9
Daniel	Aros	Year 9
Sophie	Cale	Year 9
Ethan	Camp	Year 9
Caleb	Chen	Year 9
Maree	Clutsom	Year 9
Leila	Connor	Year 9
Olivia	Daley	Year 9
Bethany	Domrow	Year 9
Isabel	Dunne	Year 9
Elise	Elkins	Year 9
Luke	Ferguson	Year 9
Tyler	Goldsmith	Year 9
Vicky	Huang	Year 9
Kenzy	Kheder	Year 9
Gurleen	Kur	Year 9
Cameron	Loughlin	Year 9
Paul	Nesbitt	Year 9
Jonny	Parsons	Year 9
Martin	Priestley	Year 9
Elyssa	Quach	Year 9
Gemma	Raven	Year 9
Isaac	Sest	Year 9
Ezara	Smith	Year 9
Olivia	Stojanovski	Year 9
Jonas	Van Den Dolder	Year 9

First Name	Surname	Year
Laura	Akman	Year 12
Brendan	Allport	Year 12
Savannah	Archer	Year 12
Madelyn	Asaly	Year 12
Damien	Barber	Year 12
Allen	Bolina	Year 12
Lachlan	Cameron	Year 12
Alysha	Cannon	Year 12
Bree	Clark	Year 12
Aaron	Crawley	Year 12
Ruby	Dao	Year 12
Ruby	Dao	Year 12
Amelia	Domrow	Year 12
Connor	Doran	Year 12
Sahar	EL-ALI	Year 12
Cayden	Graham	Year 12
Joshua	Hewitt	Year 12
Tony	Hu	Year 12
Lily	Johnston	Year 12
Jessica	Jones	Year 12
Halle	Lum	Year 12
Tanaya	Mani	Year 12
Taya	Margetts	Year 12
Noah	Mariani	Year 12
Arwen	McGloin	Year 12
Demi	McLoughlin	Year 12
Sophie	Morrison	Year 12
Jake	Murison	Year 12
Jacob	Nguyen	Year 12
YiFei	Pan	Year 12
Madison	Rutherford	Year 12
Abigail	Rutherford	Year 12
Ayushi	Sharma Kharel	Year 12
Bella	Smith	Year 12
Logan	Smith	Year 12
Amber	Soo	Year 12
Hannah	Soper	Year 12
Tom	Straker	Year 12
Zoe	Tambimuttu	Year 12
Liam	Taylor	Year 12
Cooper	Tran	Year 12
Jay	Turner	Year 12
Isabella	Urrita	Year 12
Lillian	Williams	Year 12
Brieanna	Yardley	Year 12

## Kansai International High School Stud Tour

In weeks 7 and 8, Menai High School hosted its first study tour since Covid. Seven Japanese students from Kansai International High School were hosted by Menai High School families, attended classes, and participated in various activities over the fortnight. On their final day, they were farewelled in a special ceremony where the students reflected on their Australian homestay with many of them pinpointing it was their experience of the more relaxed Australian family lifestyle that was most enjoyable and surprising. They also enjoyed our recess break at school as this is not part of the Japanese school day!

I would like to extend a huge thank you to the Mestre, Grinham, Chau, Meffan, Hocking, Oehlman and Thompson families for welcoming these students into their homes and giving them a memory that will last a lifetime.



## Student News

### Good News Reports

Pearce O'Gradey and Benjamin Phillips in Year 11 have been accepted into the UBS Finance Academy, from Tuesday 26 September – Thursday 28 September 2023.

(Mr Staines)

Our incredible school netball team just wrapped up an intense and exhilarating two days at the NSW Combined High School Netball Finals held in Wollongong where they played against the top high schools from all over the state. Our talented team gave it their all and showcased their unwavering determination, teamwork, and sportsmanship throughout the tournament. We're excited to announce that out of the ten hard-fought games, our team emerged victorious in four of them!

Their dedication, teamwork, and skill on the court have truly paid off. They not only showcased their skills but also demonstrated the true spirit of sportsmanship and camaraderie.

A huge shoutout to the parents, and supporters who have been there every step of the way, cheering on our team and helping score and manage the team across the two day tournament. Your encouragement from the sidelines truly made a difference!

Let's take a moment to celebrate this achievement and recognize the resilience our team demonstrated throughout the tournament. Winning isn't just about the final score; it's about the friendships made, the lessons learned, and the memories created. We couldn't be prouder of these girls and we're excited to see what the future holds for them.

(Ms Kasper.)



## Student News

Menai High School would like to congratulate the following students who competed at the State Athletics Carnival in Week 8 at Sydney Olympic Park Athletic Centre:

Kwanita Olney  
Ben Pittman  
Max Farrugia  
Dylan Atie  
Kyan Cameron  
Eric Barounis  
Kostas Saisanas  
Maximos Papacostantinou

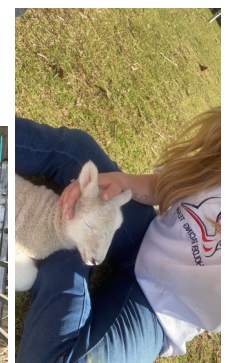
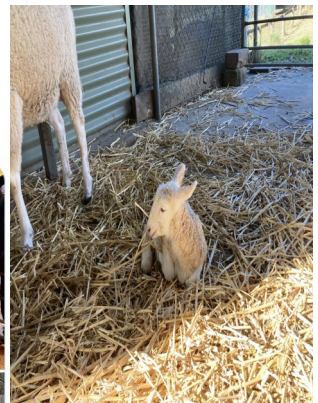


## The Menai High Lambs– Peppa, Penny, Juliet, King Fergus and Honey



Spring has sprung at Menai HS with 5 lambs born in the past 3 weeks! Peppa, Penny, Juliet, King Fergus & Honey are a huge hit with the high school students & primary students who watch closely from Tharawal PS. I can see why Menai HS win ribbons at shows!

[education.nsw.gov.au/news/latest-ne...](http://education.nsw.gov.au/news/latest-ne...)



## Student News

### **12 History Extension** - Outstanding Result in History Extension Trial HSC Exam

Bree Clark

### **12 History Extension** – Amazing History Extension Project (Major Work)

Bree Clark

### **12 Society and Culture** - Outstanding Result in Society and Culture Trial HSC Exam

Savannah Archer

Jessica Jones

Ayushi Sharma-Kharel

### **12 Society and Culture** — Consistent work on their Personal Interest Projects (PIPs – major Works)

Savannah Archer

Jessica Jones

Kaeley Kosonen

Phoebe Miller

Alicia Stojcevski

Tatiana Toseski

### **11 Society and Culture** – Outstanding Media File 2

Eidah Bahsa

Charlotte Buchly

Taylah Cale

Hayley Griffith

Ruby Lindsay

Kayla Tapp

Stephanie Taylor-Tyler

Stephanie Toseski

Kayla Tran

Ashlee Wood

Mischa Davies

### **11 Society and Culture** – Outstanding Mini Personal Interest Projects Assessment Tasks

Rhiana Zreik

Stephanie Taylor-Tyler

Kayla Tapp

Ruby Lindsay

### **10H7 History**- Exemplary History Class Work

Amielle Bolina

Liam Ovington

### **10H7 – Outstanding Preparation for History Assessment Task 2**

Abbey Gielissen

Liam Ovington

### **7H History**- Exemplary History Class Work

Dennis Astakhov

Chris Castle

Kyle Eastick

Julian Lee

Olivia Schmidt

Patrick Richards

Tyson Watt

(Ms Wearing)

## Student News

On Friday 1st of September, all Year 10 commerce classes participated in our annual Commerce Business Day! They had the opportunity to create their own small business and sell their goods to the entire school during lunchtime. This allowed them to create a personalised stall with their choice of products while giving them a practical approach to learning the fundamentals of running a business. Throughout the term, all the Commerce classes created a plan for purchasing items with specific budgets, advertising throughout the school, and planning the stall's physical aspect. Ultimately, this day was a huge success as each business ran smoothly with only a few hiccups along the way which were quickly resolved by the students. Stalls provided a diverse range of products such as brownies, crepes, soft drinks, lollies and savoury options like cheese toasties, sausage sandwiches, and manoosh as well as the chance to play some games. Overall, we made a profit of \$1724, which has been donated to the Sydney Children's Hospital. A big thanks to Ms Hamilton, Ms Prince, and Mrs Walters, without whom we would not have been able to have such a fun and successful experience.



# Student News

## Week Appreci8

During week 8 of this term, Menai High School introduced an exciting new initiative called “Week Appreci8”. This initiative was thoughtfully designed to express our school community’s deep appreciation for both students and staff whilst also emphasising the important “R U OK” message in alignment with the National Day of Action, which serves as a yearly reminder to check in on one another.

Week Appreci8 encompassed a wide range of activities and acts of kindness aimed at both our students and staff including:

1. Bake Stall for students: donated cakes for sale at lunch time.
  2. BBQ for both staff and students.
  3. Staff coffee van: a mobile coffee van was set up to ensure our dedicated staff could enjoy a coffee before school.
  4. R U OK Student Conversation Starters in roll call: prompts and discussions were integrated into roll calls to encourage students to check in on each other.
  5. Kind notes in staff pigeonholes: meaningful notes were placed by students to show staff how much they’re appreciated.
  6. Colour run with inflatables: enjoyed by both staff and over 500 students.
  7. Face painting
  8. Staff v Student games: Lunch time event with many students taking on staff in a game of dodge ball.
  9. Wearing R U OK Day Yellow Shirts: the wellbeing team and SRC representatives proudly promoted and supported the R U OK day message.
- Week Appreci8 was met with an overwhelming positive feedback from staff and students. It was truly amazing to see the positive impact that Week Appreci8 had on our school community.



## Student News

### CHS GIRLS SOFTBALL COMPETITION

Our girls' softball team recently represented the school at the NSW State Tournament in Mayfield West, Newcastle across two days and had a great time both on and off the field. Hosted by the NSW Combined High Schools Sports Association at the Strikers Softball Club venue in Newcastle, day one started with a tight match against Wagga Wagga High who had to change pitchers to win the game as our batting took them by surprise.

Our second match was a local derby against Port Hacking High where runs came thick and fast from both teams. Although we had home runs and great fielding, including a magnificent catch from Sophie in the outfield, Port got the better of us and took the win.

Due to changes in the draw, we had to back up for a third game on the day against Mullumbimby High. This game saw solid play from both teams, but our smart base running and strong batting saw us victorious.

For our final game of the tournament, the team faced Callaghan College and put on another impressive performance with big hits from all players. Unfortunately, a very controversial umpiring decision meant our opposition scored and we ran out of time to get those runs back.

Overall, the team placed 12th in the state which is a massive achievement. Congratulations to all girls involved who represented our school with pride, enthusiasm, and great sportsmanship. Special mention to our Year 12 players who have been the backbone of this team for the last few years – ladies you will be missed!

The team included:

Year 12 - Mariah Chamorro, Brianna Yardley, Bella Smith, Jenna Tsakirakis, Maddi Rutherford, Chloe Robertson, Sophie Morrison

Year 11 – Racquel Roberts, Lily Thompson

Year 10 – Lily Green, Cara Roberts, Aleisha Rutherford

Year 7 – Kira Close

Ms Perkins and Mrs Walters



## Student News

The Year 9 Japanese students enjoyed welcoming our Japanese visitors from Kansai International High School into their class.

After introductions in Japanese, the Japanese students did calligraphy with them, teaching them how they can write their names in kanji and the meanings behind the characters. Students also practiced writing their names in Katakana.

It was a wonderful lesson that finished way too quickly!



## Wellbeing Team News:

During Term 3, students from all year groups participated in the Tell Them From Me (TTFM) survey. The TTFM is a set of surveys used for measuring student engagement and wellbeing. This data is used to assist in identifying strengths and areas for improvement. In 2023, 923 MHS students completed the survey (85 %). Some sample questions and results from our student survey are as follows:

**Students with positive relationships:** Students have friends at school they can trust and who encourage them to make positive choices. School Mean 79% v NSW Gov Norm 78%

**Positive teacher student relations:** Students feel teachers are responsive to their needs and encourage independence with a democratic approach. School Mean 5.8% v NSW Gov Norm 5.7%

**Students with positive homework behaviours:** students do homework for their classes with a positive attitude and in a timely manner. School Mean 45% v NSW Gov Norm 54%.

**Students with positive behaviour at school:** students that do not get in trouble at school for disruptive or inappropriate behaviour. School Mean 91% v NSW Gov Norm 87%.

**Advocacy Outside of School:** Students have someone at home or in the community who consistently provides encouragement and can be turned to for advice. School Mean 5.8% v NSW Gov Norm 4.5%

The TTFM parent survey is now live using the following link:  
<http://nsw.tellthemfromme.com/mhsparent23>

Please go to this site to have your say regarding the strengths and areas of improvement for our school.



This Term, our school will be participating in the *Partners in Learning* parent survey, another part of the *Tell Them From Me* suite of surveys (student, teacher and parent surveys) on student engagement. The survey asks parents and carers questions about different factors that are known to impact on student wellbeing and engagement.

Running this survey will help our school understand parents' and carers' perspectives on their child's experience at school. These include: communication between parents/carers and staff, activities and practices at home and parent/carer views on the school's support of learning and behaviour. This valuable feedback will help our school make practical improvements.

The survey is conducted entirely online on smartphones, iPads, tablets, laptops or computers. The survey will typically take 15 minutes or less to complete and is completely confidential. The parent survey will be conducted over Term 3 and early Term 4, closing on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of November. Although participating in the survey is entirely voluntary, your responses are very much appreciated.

More information about the survey is available at: [education.nsw.gov.au/ttfm](http://education.nsw.gov.au/ttfm). To access the survey for our school go to:  
<http://nsw.tellthemfromme.com/mhsparent23>

Zoe Liley  
Rel. HT Welfare

## Events and Organisation

### Administration

#### Year 12



#### 2023 HSC Rules and Procedures

In week 3, Year 12 2023 students were issued with the MHS Assessment booklet and the NESA 2023 HSC Rules and Procedures Guide. The main rules and requirements for the HSC are set out in this guide and I encourage both students and parents to read it thoroughly. It is also available online

<https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/11-12/hsc/rules-and-processes/2023-rules-and-procedures-guide>

On page 4 of the booklet there is a term-by-term checklist which is a valuable tool for students to use to ensure they don't miss any key dates or information. At this stage students are encouraged to

- Read the Rules and Procedures Guide
- Go to their students online account and check their personal and course details are correct especially if they have recently dropped a subject or changed their level of Maths/ English. If they believe there is an error they should notify me immediately.
- Familiarize themselves with their course and assessment requirements
- Organise disability provisions if they are eligible. Disability provision applications are due to be submitted to NESA at the end of Term 1. Students will need to see Mrs La Rosa in the library to access the necessary paperwork ASAP.
- Check their ATAR eligibility (this information is printed on their Confirmation of Entry which they can access on their students online account).

Students online accounts are accessed at <https://studentsonline.nesa.nsw.edu.au/>

I will also take this opportunity to remind students about two of the rules and procedures brought up by the invigilators of the examination.

- 1) Students are not allowed to borrow materials from the invigilators. This includes pens and calculators. Students must come prepared with their own materials.
- 2) Students are not to use erasable pens in the exam. The heat of scanning the HSC papers for marking will potentially remove these answers. Ensure a proper biro pen is used so there is no risk of responses disappearing "under pressure".

## 2023 HSC Written Exam Timetable • Week 1

	Monday 9 October	Tuesday 10 October	Wednesday 11 October	Thursday 12 October	Friday 13 October
	No exams	No exams	HSC Day 1	HSC Day 2	HSC Day 3
AM			English Advanced Paper 1 – Texts and Human Experiences 9:30am – 11:30am English Standard Paper 1 – Texts and Human Experiences 9:30am – 11:30am English Studies 9:30am – 11:30am English EALD Paper 1 – Module A and Foundation Writing 9:30am – 11:30am	English Advanced Paper 2 – Modules 9:25am – 11:30am English Standard Paper 2 – Modules 9:25am – 11:30am English EALD Paper 2 – Module B and Module C 9:25am – 11:30am Listening Paper 10:40am – 11:15am*	Investigating Science 9:25am – 12:30pm French Beginners 9:30am – 12:10pm French Continuers 9:30am – 12:30pm Japanese Extension 9:30am – 11:30am
PM			Classical History Continuers 1:50pm – 5:00pm Societies, Systems and Events (VET) 1:50pm – 4:00pm Japanese Beginners 2:00pm – 4:40pm Japanese Continuers 2:00pm – 5:00pm Japanese in Context 2:00pm – 4:40pm	Music 1 Jural Skills 1:50pm – 3:00pm* Music 2 Musicology and Jural Skills 2:25pm – 5:00pm*	Modern History 1:30pm – 5:00pm

## 2023 HSC Written Exam Timetable • Week 2

	Monday 16 October	Tuesday 17 October	Wednesday 18 October	Thursday 19 October	Friday 20 October
	HSC Day 4	HSC Day 5	HSC Day 6	HSC Day 7	HSC Day 8
AM	Mathematics Advanced 9:25am – 12:30pm Mathematics Standard 1 9:20am – 11:30am Mathematics Standard 2 9:20am – 12 noon	Agriculture 9:25am – 12:30pm Software Design and Development 9:25am – 12:30pm Chinese Extension 9:30am – 11:30am French Beginners 9:30am – 12:10pm German Beginners 9:30am – 12:10pm Korean Continuers 9:30am – 12:30pm	Legal Studies 9:25am – 12:30pm	Economics 9:25am – 12:30pm Entertainment Industry (VET) 9:25am – 11:30am Human Services (VET) 9:25am – 11:30am	Ancient History 9:25am – 12:30pm Chinese and Literature 9:30am – 12:30pm Chinese Beginners 9:30am – 12:10pm Classical Greek Extension 9:30am – 11:30am
PM	Mathematics Extension 2 1:50pm – 5:00pm	Visual Arts Art Criticism and Art History 1:50pm – 3:30pm Classical History Extension 2:00pm – 4:00pm	Aboriginal Studies 1:50pm – 5:00pm Electrotechnology (VET) 1:50pm – 4:00pm Information and Digital Technology (VET) 1:50pm – 4:00pm Latin Continuers 1:50pm – 5:00pm Chinese in Context 2:00pm – 4:40pm German Continuers 2:00pm – 5:00pm Korean and Literature 2:00pm – 5:00pm Korean in Context 2:00pm – 4:40pm American Continuers † 2:00pm – 4:40pm Creative Continuers † 2:00pm – 4:40pm Biblical Continuers † 2:00pm – 4:40pm Filipino Continuers † 2:00pm – 4:40pm Hindi Continuers † 2:00pm – 4:40pm Hungarian Continuers † 2:00pm – 4:40pm Korean Continuers † 2:00pm – 4:40pm Mandarin Continuers † 2:00pm – 4:40pm Persian Continuers † 2:00pm – 4:40pm Polish Continuers † 2:00pm – 4:40pm Portuguese Continuers † 2:00pm – 4:40pm Punjabi Continuers † 2:00pm – 4:40pm Russian Continuers † 2:00pm – 4:40pm Sinhala Continuers † 2:00pm – 4:40pm Swedish Continuers † 2:00pm – 4:40pm Tamil Continuers † 2:00pm – 4:40pm Turkish Continuers † 2:00pm – 4:40pm	Society and Culture 1:50pm – 4:00pm Chinese Continuers 2:00pm – 5:00pm Modern Greek Extension 2:00pm – 4:00pm	Mathematics Extension 1 1:50pm – 4:00pm Primary Industries (VET) 1:50pm – 4:00pm

## 2023 HSC Written Exam Timetable • Week 3

	Monday 23 October	Tuesday 24 October	Wednesday 25 October	Thursday 26 October	Friday 27 October
	HSC Day 9	HSC Day 10	HSC Day 11	HSC Day 12	HSC Day 13
AM	Biology 9:25am – 12:30pm	Business Studies 9:25am – 12:30pm Latin Extension 9:30am – 11:40am	Retail Services (VET) 9:25am – 11:30am Indonesian Beginners 9:30am – 12:10pm Indonesian Continuers 9:30am – 12:30pm Italian Extension 9:30am – 11:30am Modern Greek Beginners 9:30am – 12:10pm Science Extension 9:30am – 11:40am	Studies of Religion I (VET) 9:25am – 11:00am Studies of Religion II 9:25am – 12:30pm	Chemistry 9:25am – 12:30pm
PM	Classical Greek Continuers 1:50pm – 5:00pm Drama 1:50pm – 3:30pm German Extension 2:00pm – 4:00pm Modern History Continuers 2:00pm – 5:00pm Spanish Continuers 2:00pm – 5:00pm	English Extension 1 Autobio (VET) 1:50pm – 4:30pm Welshman Continuers 2:00pm – 5:00pm	History Extension 1:50pm – 4:00pm Construction (VET) 1:50pm – 4:00pm Modern Greek Continuers 2:00pm – 5:00pm Spanish Beginners 2:00pm – 4:40pm	Resilience (VET) 1:50pm – 4:00pm Kitchen Operations and Catering 2:00pm – 5:00pm Indonesian and Literature 2:00pm – 5:00pm	Industrial Technology Automotive Technology Electronic Technology Graphic Technology Metal and Engineering Technology Multimedia Technology Textile and Furniture Technology 1:50pm – 3:30pm Indonesian Extension 2:00pm – 4:40pm Spanish Extension 2:00pm – 4:40pm

## 2023 HSC Written Exam Timetable • Week 4

	Monday 30 October	Tuesday 31 October	Wednesday 1 November	Thursday 2 November	Friday 3 November
	HSC Day 14	HSC Day 15	HSC Day 16	HSC Day 17	HSC Day 18
AM	Personal Development, Health and Physical Education 9:25am – 12:30pm	Community and Family Studies 9:25am – 12:30pm	Geography 9:25am – 12:30pm Arabic Continuers 9:30am – 12:30pm	Physics 9:25am – 12:30pm Dance Section I 9:25am – 10:30am Dance Section II 9:25am – 10:30am Major Study Appreciation 10:40am – 12 noon	Food Technology 9:25am – 12:30pm
PM	Earth and Environmental Science 1:50pm – 5:00pm Financial Services (VET) 1:50pm – 4:00pm Arabic Extension 2:00pm – 4:40pm Italian Beginners 2:00pm – 4:40pm Italian Continuers 2:00pm – 5:00pm	Business Services (VET) 1:50pm – 4:00pm Engineering Studies 1:50pm – 5:00pm	Design and Technology 1:50pm – 5:00pm	Information Processes and Technology 1:50pm – 5:00pm Textiles and Design 1:50pm – 3:30pm	

## Year 11

### 2023 Textbooks

A reminder email was sent out to all Year 11 families regarding ordering of Year 12 textbooks ready for the beginning of term 4. Paper copies were also distributed in roll calls earlier this term. Please visit [www.endeavoureducation.com.au](http://www.endeavoureducation.com.au) to finalise your orders if you have not already done so.

## Year 10

### Students Online 2023

In Term 1 during the alternative program, Mrs Ferraro, Mr Meagher and Ms Masi went through the steps involved in activating your Students Online account. If you were absent, or have not been able to activate your account, please see the instructions below. It is essential that students complete every point on the check list, and check that their details are correct.

**STUDENTS ONLINE**  
for NSW students in years 10 to 12

### Welcome to Students Online

- ✓ **Activate your Account!**  
Make sure your school has added an email to your NESA record or else you cannot activate your account.
  - Go to <https://studentsonline.nesa.nsw.edu.au/>
  - Click on – 'activate your account now'
  - Write down your NESA number – you will need it to log on
- ✓ **PERSONAL DETAILS** - Check your name, address and contact details  
You can add/change your address, email and phone number  
ONLY your school can update your name. Your name in Students Online MUST be the same as your legal documentation (for example, birth certificate or passport).
- ✓ **ENROLMENTS/RESULTS** - Check your courses  
Are you in the right courses? If not, go to your school and get that fixed.  
Check the messages down the bottom of the page – Are there any errors in red? Check with your school.
- ✓ **MESSAGES** – Where all your PDF results will go that you order through Results Services AND your Minimum Standard Results can be viewed here.
- ✓ **CERTIFICATES/eRecord** – Click here if you want to get a free PDF of your eRecord/RoSA/VET certificates or HSC package when you are eligible

**Final tips:**

- Get your NESA student number from your school (it is on your Confirmation of Entry) and save it somewhere you can access any time (e.g. phone)
- If it says it does not recognise the number – You may need to Activate your Account
- Once you activate your account save your NESA 6-digit PIN in a secure place
- As soon as you activate – log in – go to Personal details – fix your email to your personal email

## Examinations

Year 10 Examinations will occur in weeks 3 and 4 of term 4 (October 23rd to November 3rd, 2023). Students are expected to attend their examinations in full school uniform and follow all school rules during this period. Students are only required to attend school for their scheduled examination or to attend testing sessions for the Minimum Standards.

### Minimum Standards Tests

Each student needs to meet the minimum standard for Literacy and Numeracy. Any students who have not met this standard will have the opportunity to complete their exams again during the Year 10 Yearly Exam period in Term 4. For more information on Minimum Standards Online Tests please go to: <https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/11-12/hsc/hsc-minimum-standard/onlinetests>

## Thank you

I will be taking a period of leave from Menai High School. Ms Lehane will be taking over the relieving head teacher role during term 4. Please do not hesitate to contact her regarding Sentral access, examinations, and school reports moving forward. It has been an absolute privilege to serve this community for the last seven years.

Ms Atalya Masi

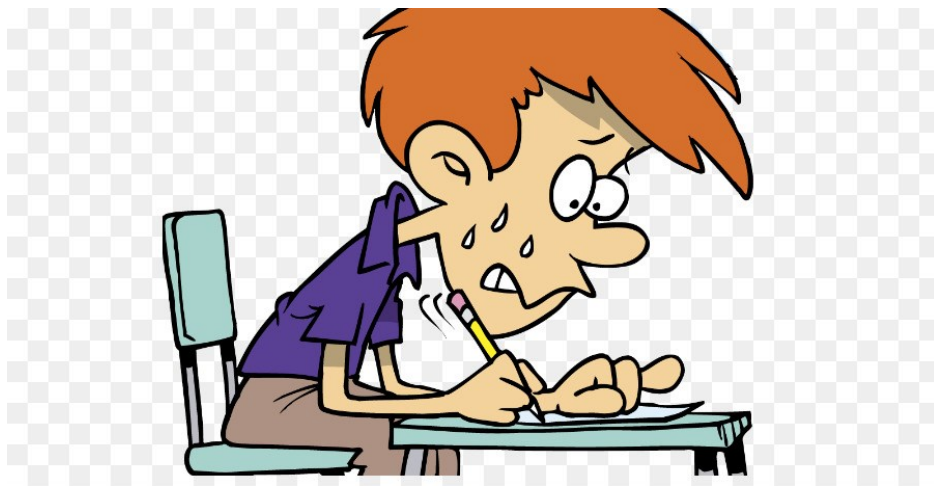
Relieving Head Teacher Administration

## Extra Curricular Events

# Thursday Senior Study in the Library

The library is open for **Year 11 and 12 students only** every Thursday afternoon from the start of lunch until 2.30pm. This is offered specifically for our senior students to access extra support, tuition and study time.

**Don't let this be you the night before assessments are due or near exam time!**



We are very fortunate to be able to offer the assistance of a number of teachers during this time such as **Mr. Redman**, a former MHS Maths head teacher; **Mrs Summerfield**, a Business Studies, Economics and Geography teacher; **Mrs Dounas**, an English, History and Learning Support teacher; and **Mr. Bean** to assist in Chemistry and other sciences.

So effectively, **FREE TUTORING!!**

We also offer help with organisational planning and summarising of your syllabus dot points.

To make the study time more welcoming, we offer **light refreshments** such as tea, coffee, Milo and biscuits.

We strongly urge all our Year 11 and 12 students to make use of this wonderful opportunity on **Thursday afternoons**.

# SPRING SCHOOL HOLIDAYS FOR TEENS

BOOKINGS OPEN 4 SEPTEMBER

Visit [bit.ly/SchoolHolidays2023](https://bit.ly/SchoolHolidays2023)

P 02 9710 0351  
[sutherlandshire.nsw.gov.au/library](https://sutherlandshire.nsw.gov.au/library)

SUTHERLANDSHIRE  
LIBRARIES

## COMIC-MAKING WORKSHOP

WITH  
LOUIE  
JOYCE



Have you dreamt of building your own fictional comic book universe?

Find out how at this hands-on comic-making workshop. You'll learn the basics of visual storytelling, world building, and drawing techniques so you can design and create your own comic books. Suitable for ages 13 to 18.

**Thursday 28 September** | 2pm to 4pm  
**Sutherland Library** | Book today  
**\$15 per person**

P 02 9710 0351  
[sutherlandshire.nsw.gov.au/library](https://sutherlandshire.nsw.gov.au/library)



SUTHERLANDSHIRE  
LIBRARIES

## School Leadership Team—2023

### Captains

Kaia Dennis  
Noah Mariani

### Vice Captains

Savannah Archer  
Amber Soo  
Ethan Butcher  
Tom Straker





**EXTENDED  
ONLINE ONLY**

**Sale Extended  
Expires midnight Friday  
29th September 2023**

**\*\* 20% OFF** Sale applies to  
**IN STOCK ITEMS ONLY & ONLINE STORE**

Some **EXCLUSIONS** apply, see your  
Uniform Shop Coordinator or view  
online

**NO** Refunds or Exchanges  
(Unless garment is faulty)

**NO** Rainchecks

**20%  
OFF**

