An Awesome Achievement for Our Photography Students

The Visual Arts and ‘Photography and Digital Imaging’ students of Manilla Central School have been hard at work during the year, developing the skills of their craft in Digital SLR photography. This year several students have entered the highly prestigious Moran Contemporary Photographic Prize (secondary level).

For Year 11 to 12 – The Moran Photographic Prize winner is awarded $5,000 and their school is awarded $5,000 for the development of arts at the school. The good news is of the 3 senior students who entered the competition all have made the cut to become semi-finalists.

Epic congratulations to Rebekah Beaton, Lauren McNeill and Katie Sweeney (Katie is a Barraba Central student who studies HSC Art/Photography with Mr Galloway at Manilla Central).

If you would like to check out these students’ work in the competition, go to moranprizes.com.au then under the ‘galleries’ heading click on ‘student’ then under 2015-Semi-Finalists click on ‘Secondary Years 11-12’ NB. Works are in alphabetical order by first name of entrant.

Or enter the following web address: moranprizes.com.au/student-gallery/2015/secondary-years-11-12/semi-finalists

Further to this, we have just been informed that Rebekah Beaton has been listed in the Final eight of judging. This is an enormous achievement and we’d like to congratulate Rebekah and wish her the very best in the final judging.

I encourage you to investigate their website and take a look at the quality of photographic work on display. Big prize money too! In the mean-time best of luck and fingers crossed for our students.

James Galloway
Visual Arts/Photography, Video & Digital Imaging
MCS
Uniform Award

Congratulations to Charlotte Good for being the winner of the uniform award in the primary for Week 2.

Horse Sports

On Friday, 9th October, Sullivan Butler from our school attended the Calrossy Anglican School Primary and Secondary Interschool Horse Sports Day. Congratulations to Sully on his outstanding results: 2nd – Age Hack, 1st – Boy rider, 4th – Under 13 team penning, 1st – Sporting events. These fantastic results saw Sully being awarded 8 yrs Boy Champion. A big thank you to Kathy De Jong for organising such a great horse sports day.

Prep Class

On Monday, 12th October, our school welcomed many excited students who came along for their first Prep class. Children who are commencing Kindergarten in 2016 are able to come along to Prep on Monday’s from 9.30-1.30 for the next 5 weeks. This is a wonderful opportunity for students to prepare for big school by becoming familiar with the school environment, meet their buddy for next year and engage in some fun classroom activities.
Our infants’ students are enjoying the new furniture that has been recently set up in their classrooms. Not only does it brighten up their learning environment, but it is much more practical for the nature of learning tasks for students. Pictured is Miss Sevil and students from K/1 S at some of their new desks.

Year 6 Orientation/transition

Last Wednesday, year 6 had their first orientation/transition day at the high school. They were introduced to their year advisor Mr Craig Drew, shown around the high school and participated in cooking activities with Mrs Wilkinson. Year 6 had a wonderful time, and are very much looking forward to their next transition days when they will have the opportunity to participate in some science and woodwork activities.
Mark Stewart – “Drum Beat” and “Beating around the Bush”

Last Friday Students from our school had an opportunity to attend a performance by Mark Stewart. Mark ran two shows: “Drum beat” which Kindergarten attended at the preschool with the preschool children; and “Beating around the Bush” which students from years 1-6 attended at the high school along with some high school students. Kindergarten enjoyed a wonderful morning of entertainment at “Drumbeat”. All the children were given the opportunity to perform using various percussion instruments which originated from different countries of the world, ranging from cowbells of Switzerland to the drums of Africa and South America. The children applauded their peers and joined in clapping and moving to the rhythm of Mark’s lively and entertaining show.

Similarly, all the students who attended “Beating around the Bush” had a fantastic time learning about and listening to the variety of different drums and percussion instruments. Instruments featured included: the modern drum kit, electronic drum equipment plus drums from Cuba (Bata), Dominican Republic (Tambora), Brazil (Surdo), Middle East (Doumbek), Africa (Djembe), and India (Kanjira). A huge selection of percussion instruments from around the world were demonstrated including congas, bongos, cow-bells, timbales, cymbals, gongs, shakers, timpani, castanets, chimes, whistles, and bells.

Rugby League Skills

Last Tuseday, Zac Russ came to our school to teach our students some Rugby League skills. It was great to see all the students participating and having lots of fun whilst learning new skills or extending upon their current skills.

Photos: Yr 2 students learning to grubber kick and chase the ball.
**Professional Learning**

Miss O’Brien and Mrs Goodman from the Primary and Mrs Maloy and Mrs Taylor from the Secondary, attended a two day institute workshop based on Formative Assessment last week. Our school has been targeting Formative Assessment techniques since last year as this form of assessment drives quality teaching and guarantees student academic progress by informing the teachers of what students know and what the teacher needs to teach on a daily basis.

We have had Miss O’Brien and Mrs Wasson leading our Teacher Learning Communities over the past 18 months, where Formative Assessment and Visible Learning techniques have been their main focus. Now we have a few more staff that can assist Miss O’Brien and Mrs Wasson lead the professional learning via the Teacher Learning Communities.

We also have some staff out marking HSC papers. This is so important for many reasons, however the main reason is for our staff to see first-hand the standard of other students across the state, attain an understanding of the standards required to achieve good marks and what to teach our students. Mrs Maloy will be marking the English exams this week. Later in the term, Mrs Taylor, Mrs Davies and Mr Connors will be marking HSC examination papers as well.

Later this week we have Mrs Cox and Mrs Fielding attending the Art and Science of Teaching conference. This conference will provide them with loads of knowledge to share with our staff about best practice in teaching in order to produce successful self-sufficient learners.

**Year 6 to Year 7 Transition Meeting**

We had many parents and students attend our annual Year 6 to Year 7 Transition information night last Tuesday. Our parents received information about making a successful transition into secondary school and were shown around the school by four very informative guides. We’d like to thank Carrigan Jones, Matthew Ferrett, Laura Stackman and Adam Stackman for modelling the summer and sports uniforms, plus giving up their evening in order to show parents around the school.

**HSC Exams**

Our Year 12 students commenced their exams last week. We wish them all the very best for great success during their exam period.
Year 11 Crossroads Camp

What do sandwiches, ropes and mates have in common? They all help you get down a vertical cliff face! It’s definitely a formula for future leaders. And if the courage and teamwork shown by Year 11 last week is anything to go by, our school will be in excellent hands as these students take their place as Year 12 leaders.

The annual Crossroads Camp is a compulsory program for all senior students in the State. It is designed to help senior students address issues of health, safety and wellbeing at a time when they face significant changes and challenges in their lives. Crossroads aims to prepare and support these students as they encounter situations related to identity, independence and their changing responsibilities.

Our school has run the course successfully for many years with our own challenging program designed by Mrs Taylor and Mr Hanson. This year the Camp was held in the first week of Term 4 at Mount Kaputar. The Year 11 students were joined by Mrs Heywood as Year Adviser, as well as veterans of the course Ms Hayden, Hanso and Mrs Taylor. The weather was extremely kind to us and made the camping, abseiling, cooking and hiking all the more enjoyable.

The four-day, three-night camp saw the kids planning and preparing meals for themselves, setting up camp and participating in a number of activities designed to build up their sense of empowerment. And, while the small group activities were incredible at developing students’ awareness of their strengths, assertiveness and mutual respect, nothing else really does this quite like abseiling off a 70m cliff!

The students are to be commended for their commitment and positive attitude. The first day was for setting up camp and small group sessions, but also included a long hike which all participated in. The abseils began on the second day with a 15m rock face. Once safety was explained at the top the fear really set in, but this quickly turned to fun. Most students repeatedly abseiled down the face, gaining confidence and skill each time. Towards the second half of the day the challenge became climbing the rock face, which was no easy feat. A few students still managed to earn a free lunch at Maccas, courtesy of Mr Hanson!

On the third day, students abseiled down a 30m cliff. It was great to hear them all encouraging each other from both the top and while belaying at the bottom. Just when confidence seemed at its highest among the group, we shifted abseiling point to a giant, exposed cliff of 70m... Those who had a go and managed to go all the way past their fears found it crazily exhilarating. Hanso may have converted a few to pursue extreme sports. The humour that fear generates is certainly infectious and the whole group – both those who attempted the cliff and those who didn’t – were together in their enthusiasm for the challenge.

The day was capped off with a night hike to the top of Mount Kaputar where special assistant abseiling instructor and friend of Mr Hanson’s, Terry, gave us a wonderful talk about the stars and constellations. His telescope enabled us to see the rings of Saturn and we trust his laser pointer didn’t put any passing planes off course. The camp was a great success. There is no doubt of its value in cementing friendships, establishing a positive rapport among the group, and showing the students their own capacity for leadership and adventure.
Phone Etiquette

Open communication with parents is vital to the success of each student at our school. It is of the utmost importance that we work in partnership to ensure that your child receives the best education possible.

It does sadden me though, that on rare occasions our office staff are not spoken to in a nice manner by parents when they phone the school. This isn’t fair.

If a parent does have an issue that needs clarification, it is very important to make an appointment with Mrs Cox in the Primary or Mrs Ferguson in the Secondary. I will always make myself available for these meetings.

We love working with our parents, however will not tolerate rudeness or aggressive talk. This never solves any situation. Working in partnership does.
2016 Captains

Congratulations to our 2016 School Captains: Matthew Pryce, Ashley Arnold and Vice Captains – Maree Coomer and Harrison O'Neill.

PBL RESPECT AWARDS- Secondary

It has been a pleasant start to a busy term. Congratulations to the following students who have received a respect award as nominated and voted by their peers. Keep up the good work.

Zac McNeill- Respecting his elders.
Ben Grant- showing respect for self by working hard in English.
Moesha Clarke- For being welcoming to new students.
Maddy Ransley- Being nice and positive.
Nikkita Coomer- Being Friendly and a good role model.
Public Schools of the New England Proudly Present

"out of the box"

CAPERS 2015

Creative Arts in Public Education Regional Spectacular

7pm Friday 6 and Saturday 7 November 2015
Tamworth Regional Entertainment Centre

Booking Details
3 Easy Ways To Book
Phone 02 6767 5300
Online www.entertainmentvenues.com.au
In Person Capitol Theatre Tamworth, The Big Golden Guitar or Ray Walsh House
**Junior Touch**

Junior Touch will commence Monday, 19th October, 2015
Registration from 5.00pm to play at 5.30pm
Cost: $10.00
Ages: 5 to 13 years
Children will be placed in teams

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**Tamworth Marsupial Park**

**ADVENTURE playground**

**Gala Opening**
Sunday 1 November
10am – Cutting of the Ribbon

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**Year 7 Entry to Selective High School – 2017**

Information regarding applying for Year 7 entry to selective high school in 2017 is now available online at
www.schools.nsw.edu.au/shsplacement
Kindy Prep
COMING EVENTS - WEEK 3

Mon, 19th Oct  Kindy Prep 9.30am – 1.30pm
Tue, 20th Oct  Year 11 into Year 12 meeting – 5.30pm
Wed, 21st Oct  Pink Day
Thu, 22nd Oct  -
Fri, 23rd Oct  1P Assembly – 10.40am

Manilla Central School, as a service to the school community, may publicise non-school events which may be of interest. Manilla Central School does not endorse or sponsor these events and accepts no responsibility for the service provided.