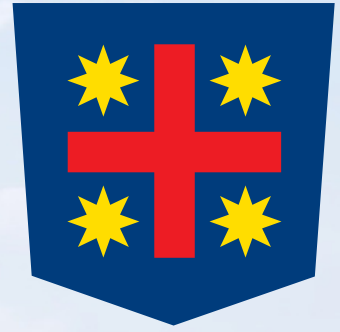




Term 3, Week 3

MACQUARIE

Messenger

From the *Principal*

Exciting News: Construction due to begin on our new Covered Outdoor Learning Area

I am delighted to share some exciting news with our Macquarie school community. After much anticipation, we are in the final stages of approval to commence construction of our new Covered Outdoor Learning Area (COLA). Site construction will be erected in the week of August 10 with works commencing with the relocation of services including electrical, fire hydrant, water and data.

This significant project represents a major investment in our school and will create a vibrant, versatile space that will benefit students, staff and the wider community for many years to come.

The new facility will feature two multipurpose courts with line markings for Netball, Basketball and Volleyball, providing enhanced opportunities for sport, physical activity and school programs. In addition, the space will include a purpose-built stage, a large LED screen, professional sound and lighting systems, and attractive sandstone seating surrounding the northern and western perimeter. Together, these features will create an outstanding venue for assemblies, performances, presentations, celebrations and community events.

Following a competitive tender process, we are pleased to announce that Greenline has been awarded the contract for the project. Greenline are specialists in the design and construction of large-scale waterproof fabric structures and bring extensive expertise to a project of this scale and importance.

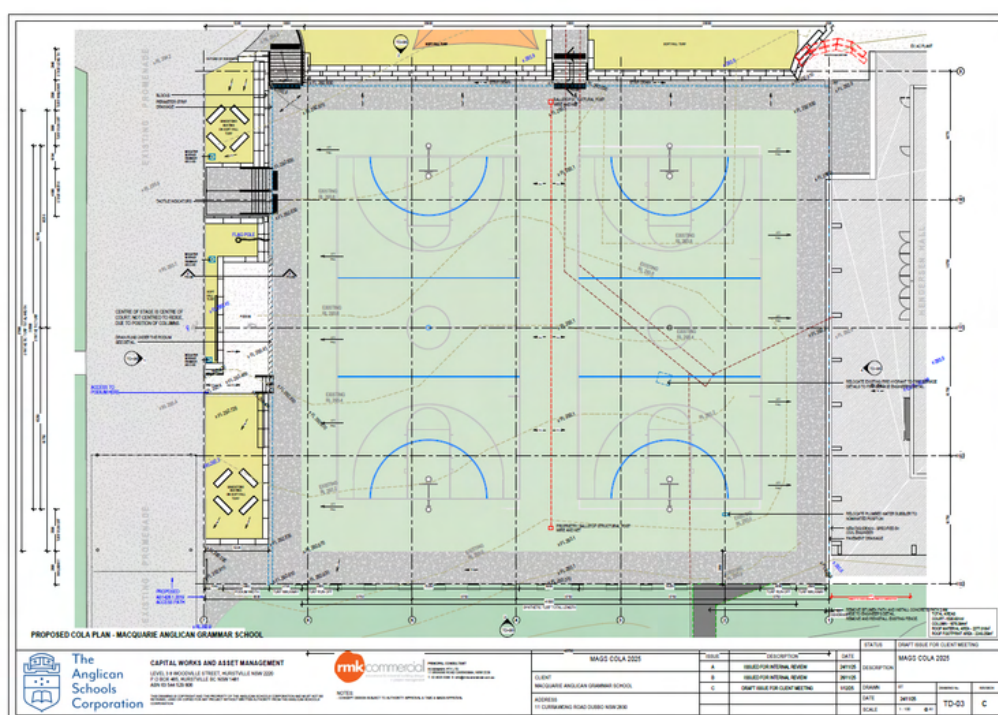
The new COLA will deliver far more than improved sporting facilities. It will provide a weatherproof gathering space where students can play, learn, meet and connect throughout the year, regardless of the conditions. Whether it is hosting whole-school assemblies, showcasing student performances, conducting special events or simply providing sheltered recreational space during breaks, this facility will become a central hub of school life.

As construction gets underway, sections of the site will be securely fenced and designated as a construction zone to ensure the safety of all students, staff and visitors. We understand that there may be some temporary impacts on movement around the school, and we will keep our community informed with regular updates and communications regarding any changes to access arrangements as the project progresses.

This is a truly exciting milestone for Macquarie. The vision for this facility has been many years in the making, and it is wonderful to see it becoming a reality. I know our students, families and staff will be eagerly watching its progress over the coming months.

Construction is currently projected for completion by the end of Term 1, 2027, and I look forward to sharing regular updates and celebrating key information with our school community along the way.

It is an exciting time for Macquarie, and I cannot wait to see the many opportunities this outstanding new facility will create for our students, both now and into the future.



Mrs Alison Mitchell
PRINCIPAL

From the Chaplain

Introduction to Jesus & Anglican Confirmation Classes

We love creating opportunities for students to explore faith, ask questions, and grow in their understanding of who Jesus is.

This term, we will be offering Introduction to Jesus & Anglican Confirmation Classes for students who would like to learn more about the Christian faith and explore what it means to follow Jesus. These sessions will provide students with the opportunity to investigate the teachings of Jesus, understand the beliefs of the Anglican Church, and consider what it means to make their own personal commitment to faith.

The course will be run by myself and Andrew Thornhill of Dubbo Anglican Church.

Confirmation is an important step for those who want to publicly affirm their faith and their place within the Anglican Church. However, this is a decision that belongs to each individual student. We encourage families to have conversations about faith, but we also believe that students should choose to take this step because they personally want to explore and grow in their relationship with God.

Students who are interested are encouraged to speak with Rev. Tom Owen or complete the Google Form available through Student Announcements.

We look forward to supporting students as they ask questions, explore Christianity, and consider the claims that Jesus makes about himself.

“Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.”

Matthew 7:7-8

Rev. Tom Owen
CHAPLAIN



From the *Deputy*

Building Character

Character is built in the everyday. It is shaped through the small choices our students make each day. As young people move through school, they naturally seek greater independence, responsibility and trust. As a P-12 community, we want to nurture this growth.

However, responsibility is not granted simply because it is requested. It is earned through consistent habits, respectful relationships and the willingness to do the right thing. This sits at the heart of our School expectations.

What Character Looks Like in Daily School Life

Character is reflected in the everyday decisions students make that demonstrate they are ready for greater independence. These include:

Treating peers and staff with respect, listening well and resolving conflict constructively.

Using shared spaces, including classrooms, bathrooms and outdoor areas, responsibly.

Following teacher instructions promptly and cooperatively.

Completing classwork, even when motivation is low, showing commitment and perseverance.

Understanding that school is a place of learning, growth and shared responsibility.

These behaviours may seem small, but they are powerful indicators of readiness for leadership, trust and autonomy.

Why This Matters

As students progress through school, they often seek greater freedom, increased privileges and more ownership of their learning. We want to support this, but these opportunities must be underpinned by responsible behaviour.

When students consistently demonstrate respect, integrity and responsibility, they show they are ready for greater independence. Character is not defined by a single decision but by the patterns of behaviour students demonstrate over time.

Character formation is a shared partnership between school and home.

Conversations about responsibility, respect and integrity help reinforce these values and remind our young people that character matters in every aspect of life.



Mrs Marina Simcox

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

Head of Junior School

Welcome Back to Term 3: Learning, Community and Opportunity

Thank you to the parents who joined us earlier this week for our Semester 2 Parent Teacher Interviews. We value the opportunity to share insights into your child's progress and discuss their academic and personal development.

Many discussions focused on ways parents can support learning at home and continue to encourage a love of learning. Regular reading using a range of interest and skill-based texts, along with consistent homework each week, can reinforce the skills learnt in the classroom.

Here are some tips for encouraging reading and establishing positive homework routines at home:

Establish a homework routine. Set aside a consistent time and place each week for homework. If afternoons don't work, try mornings before school.

Create a homework station. Set up a dedicated space with necessary supplies, such as pencils and erasers. Involving your child in keeping it organised gives them ownership and reduces distractions.

Read together regularly. Set aside time each day to read together. Take turns reading aloud, or let younger children listen to you. Discuss the story and ask questions about the characters and plot.

Support reading decoding. Help your child practise breaking words into individual sounds and blending them together. For example, /b/ /oo/ /k/ becomes "book".

Practise segmenting sounds. Play games that involve breaking words into individual sounds. For example, /d/ /o/ /g/. Ask your child to think of rhyming words or change "dog" to "log".

Practise comprehension skills. Ask questions about the story, such as: Who are the characters? What is happening? Why do you think the character did that?

Review High Frequency Words. Also known as Sight Words, Tricky Words or Heart Words, these frequently appear in texts and may not follow regular sound patterns. Recognising them by sight can improve reading fluency.

Be patient and encouraging.

We also acknowledge the parents who, due to unavoidable circumstances, could not attend the interviews. We understand that life can be hectic and are always happy to arrange alternative ways to communicate about your child's progress.

We encourage all parents to maintain open communication with us throughout the year. Whether you have questions, concerns or simply want to celebrate your child's achievements, we are here to listen and support you.

Mrs Keera Job

HEAD OF JUNIOR SCHOOL



Acting Head of Senior School

Pride in Presentation and Belonging

This week, I wish to begin a series of mini-focus examinations on the Student Code of Conduct.

Let us begin with first principles. What is a Code?

The word “code” comes from a Latin word, meaning the trunk of a tree. If one thinks of a trunk symbolically, it is the core from which everything branches.

Lots of jobs have Codes of Conduct: Nurses, doctors, police officers, lawyers and accountants. There is a big difference between a set of Rules and a Code. Rules imply compliance because one must. A Code encompasses a set of beliefs and practices which one follows because it is part of belonging to something that is worthwhile and understood.

Macquarie students also have a Code of Conduct. It is written in the Student Diary and is very important. It governs how they dress, behave, relate to others, learn, keep themselves safe, look after property, and express loyalty to the school through living out its values.

There is an inherent difficulty here. A wonderful code that lives in a Diary but is not explained, examined and internalised is not a living idea. So, Assembly by Assembly in terms 3 and 4 we will look at these ideas and see what the simple things are that we can do together, day by day, to bind us together as a school family.

The first idea is Showing respect and courtesy to all members of the school community. Our students are all good at welcoming visitors, helping Grandparents and Parents on special days and rescuing little kids when they are in trouble. BUT everyone needs to think about the words “all members” and “School community”. That means cleaners and teachers and grounds staff and bus drivers and visiting performers and peripatetic music staff and the whole array of chess pieces that make up a school. Sometimes ‘all members of the School Community’ may challenge us in ways we do not like, or inconvenience us, or bore us or slow us down or look different. It does not matter. They are part of our community, serving us and helping us to go forward to lives of purpose. The key is in those words “respect and courtesy” not sometimes but all the time.



Mrs Lynne Fleming

ACTING HEAD OF SENIOR SCHOOL

Head of *Wellbeing*

Proudly supporting Bullying No Way: National Week of Action

This year Macquarie will again be participating in the Bullying No Way: National week of action, 17 to 21 August 2026.

Bullying No Way Week is a commitment being made by thousands of schools and supporters across the country. It provides an opportunity to demonstrate our commitment to bullying prevention. It gives us an opportunity to connect with students, staff and school communities to implement workable solutions to prevent bullying.

The theme for this year's campaign is Small Acts, Big Impact.

It takes a community to address bullying behaviours, within and beyond the school gate.

Students can make a big impact through small acts of kindness and support for others being bullied. Trusted adults are there to guide children and young people as they learn how small, thoughtful actions can create a positive difference and encourage reporting of bullying.

This Bullying No Way Week, we're encouraging you to embrace the theme Small Acts, Big Impact. Show kindness, support others and take meaningful steps to stand up against bullying.

For more information about Bullying No Way Week and bullying prevention, [visit the Bullying No Way website](#).

During the week, we will engage students in meaningful discussions and activities that highlight how small actions can create a big impact. We encourage families to use this time to have open and supportive conversations with their children about recognising bullying, its effects, and ways they can make a positive difference.

You can visit the Bullying No Way website for [tips around how to have this discussion](#). You can access the school's bullying prevention policy via our [website](#) to learn more about our process for preventing and responding to bullying.

If you have concerns that your child is being bullied, please contact the child's classroom teacher, Stage Leader or Year Patron in the first instance.

If you believe the behaviour constitutes a crime, or is a serious incident of cyberbullying, please also refer to the Bullying No Way website for information on [how to report](#) to other authorities and [access wellbeing help](#).

Mr Wade Richardson

HEAD OF WELLBEING



Acting Head of *Boarding*

Why Students Travel from Across Australia to Board at Macquarie

When people think of boarding schools, they often picture large metropolitan institutions. Our boarding story looks a little different – and we think that is something worth celebrating.

Our boarding community includes students from across Central New South Wales and beyond. This year, we have even welcomed a student from Far North Queensland – a reminder that what Macquarie offers is worth travelling considerable distances for.

So, what draws students and families to Macquarie Boarding?

It starts with access. Many of our boarders come from towns and properties where the nearest school cannot offer the breadth of opportunities available here.

This was recently highlighted when a not-for-profit organisation visited our campus to explore a potential partnership connecting students from across Australia with schools like ours. Their mission is to ensure geography does not determine opportunity – something we feel strongly about in the boarding house.

Their representatives were impressed by our agricultural space, plans for the new COLA and the care taken to ensure students can participate in every co-curricular commitment. From Saturday sport to music lessons and everything in between, our staff work hard to make sure no boarder misses out – provided those leave passes are in by midday the day before!

They were also impressed by our boarding facilities. Most boarders share a room and bathroom with just one other student, while larger configurations include a shared kitchen and lounge, creating a genuine home away from home. At Macquarie, we believe where a student lives matters just as much as where they learn.

Even the small details matter. Every boarder sits down to a hot breakfast each weekday morning, reflecting the standard of care we aim to provide. We are proud of what Macquarie Boarding offers and excited about the future as we continue to grow our community and reach more students who deserve the same opportunities.

If you know a family who might benefit from Macquarie Boarding, we would love to hear from them.

Mr Patrick Connors

ACTING HEAD OF BOARDING



Prayer & Praise

Praise God For:

Parents who guide, nurture and support their children with wisdom and care, especially during busy seasons of school life.

Teachers who go above and beyond, providing meaningful feedback, encouragement and steadfast commitment to student wellbeing.

The strong and connected community of Macquarie, where students, staff and families contribute generously to one another.

Please Pray For:

Our Year 12 students, who have commenced their Trial HSC this week. May they experience calm minds, steady focus and confidence in their preparation.

Year 9 students heading out on camp, that they would grow in resilience, independence and connection, and that staff would be sustained as they lead and support them.

Members of our community facing health challenges, that they would know God's comfort, healing and peace.

Term Dates

TERM 3

7 August

Year 12 Trial HSC Exams
St Laurence's Soccer
Gala Day

10 August

Year 9 Camp

17 August

Kindergarten Zoo
Excursion

18 August

Stage 3 Exams

20 August

Early Years Open Day

24 August

Year 5 Camp
Group Tour
Book Week - Character
Parade and Book Fair

26 August

Kindergarten Pizza
Lunch

27 August

Year 3 Camp Zoo
Snooze
CAPA Night

31 August

The Trinity Shield
HICES Gifted and
Talented Camp

4 September

Student For A Day

9 September

Girls Rugby 7s Tour

24 September

Valedictory Chapel
Service

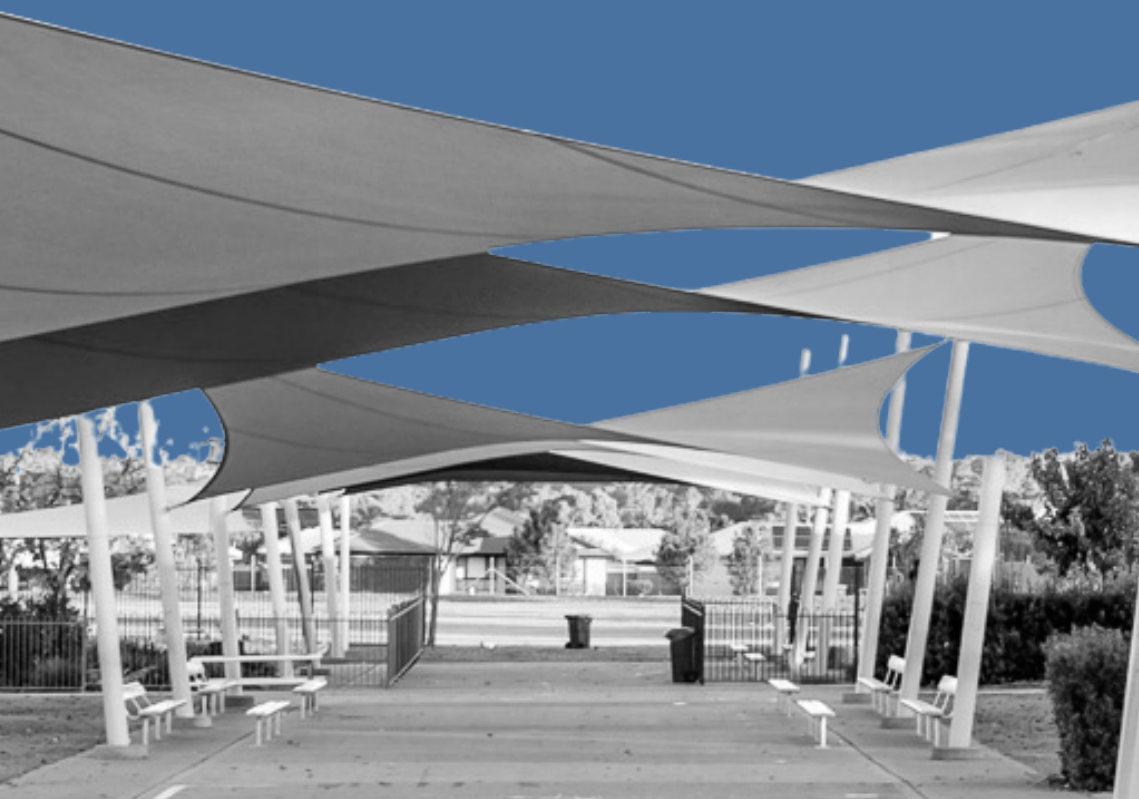
25 September

Valedictory Breakfast
Valedictory Assembly
Valedictory Dinner

TERM 4

21 October

Year 4 Camp Lake
Burrendong



Announcements & Updates

Music Lessons

Did you know students can access instrumental music lessons right here on campus?

If your child is interested in learning a musical instrument at Macquarie, please use the following contacts:

Lyndal Elder Piano, Violin
Phone: 0429 040 503

Macquarie Conservatorium Woodwind, Brass, Strings, Piano, Guitar, Bass, Drums
Phone: [6884 6686](tel:68846686)
Website: <https://www.macqcon.org.au/>

Vocal Please email Mrs Jodie Barber regarding voice lessons
jodie.barber@mags.nsw.edu.au

Rotary Public Speaking Competition – Get Involved!

Students in Years 9, 10 and 11 are invited to participate in the Rotary District 9660 Public Speaking Competition, proudly supported by the Dubbo West Rotary Club. This is a fantastic opportunity for students to develop confidence, improve communication skills, and challenge themselves in a supportive and engaging environment.

The competition involves two speaking tasks:

- A prepared speech of up to 5 minutes, on a topic of the student's choice linked to the Rotary Four-Way Test
- A 2-minute impromptu speech, where students will be given a topic shortly before presenting

The Rotary Four-Way Test encourages students to reflect on important values in their speech:

1. Is it the truth?
2. Is it fair to all concerned?
3. Will it build goodwill and better friendships?
4. Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

The first round will be held in August, so now is the perfect time to start preparing. This is a great opportunity to represent the school and gain valuable experience in public speaking. Students who are interested in participating, or would like more information, should see Ms Downey.

P&F AGM and Term 3 Meeting

You are warmly invited to attend the Macquarie Parents & Friends Association (P&F) Annual General Meeting (AGM), Tuesday 11 August at 6.00pm.

The AGM will be followed immediately by the Term 3 P&F Meeting, providing an opportunity to hear what is happening across our school community, share ideas and get involved.

The meeting will be held in person in A Block at the school or online via Zoom, so you can join us in whichever way is most convenient for you.

Join via Zoom: <https://tascmeet.zoom.us/j/88408574302?pwd=bOfOwSvnObSpTPnCaZgZb3lW36aCA9.1>

Meeting ID: 884 0857 4302
Password: 374489

Please find the AGM Agenda here: <https://www.mags.nsw.edu.au/assets/PF-AGM-2026-002.pdf>

Become a Member

We are still seeking nominations for the P&F Executive Committee and General Committee members.

We particularly need nominations for President and Secretary to ensure the P&F can continue operating. We strongly encourage members of our school community to consider putting their hand up and getting involved.

How to nominate

Already a financial P&F member?

- Simply email pandf@mags.nsw.edu.au with the position you would like to nominate for.

Not currently a financial P&F member?

- Complete the P&F Membership Application Form and email it to pandf@mags.nsw.edu.au.
- Please note: The membership application form asks for a proposer and seconder. You do not need to arrange these yourself – the P&F can assist with this once your nomination has been received.
- If you would like to nominate for President or Secretary, please clearly state this in your email.

Thank you to everyone who gives their time and support to the P&F. Your contribution plays an important role in strengthening our school community and supporting our students and families. We encourage anyone who would like to get involved to consider putting their hand up.

Latest News

JUNIOR SCHOOL PEER SUPPORT

A highlight of Term 3 in the Junior School is the launch of our Peer Support Program, with Year 6 leaders working alongside students from Kindergarten to Year 5 in small, cross-age groups.

Following their training earlier this term, our Year 6 students are looking forward to building relationships, leading activities and encouraging a strong sense of community. The program also helps develop students' social skills, resilience, empathy, teamwork and leadership.

We look forward to seeing the positive impact this program has on student wellbeing, belonging and leadership throughout the remainder of the year.



COOK 4 GOOD: STUDENTS SERVING UP CARE FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Each week, student volunteers roll up their sleeves for Cook 4 Good, preparing nutritious, home-style meals for members of our local community experiencing hardship.

The meals are donated to Orana Support Service, who distribute them through their food van in the main street each Wednesday evening, providing practical support and a warm meal to those in need.

More than just a cooking program, Cook 4 Good gives students the opportunity to develop practical life skills, work together as a team, and experience the joy of serving others. Through these simple acts of kindness, they are learning the importance of compassion, generosity, and making a positive difference in their community.

We thank God for the impact of this initiative and pray that it continues to bless both those who receive the meals and the students who so generously give their time to serve.



100 DAYS OF KINDERGARTEN



STUDENT SUCCESS: JIMMY P. AWARDED PRESTIGIOUS PERFORMING ARTS SCHOLARSHIP

Congratulations to Jimmy P., Year 9, who has been recognised for his outstanding talent and dedication in the performing arts.

Following a workshop held in Dubbo in April, Jimmy was selected from all participating students to attend the prestigious Brent Street Winter School on scholarship. This is an incredible achievement, with only one scholarship awarded.

During the holidays, Jimmy attended the five-day intensive training program, gaining valuable experience, developing his skills and working alongside other passionate young performers.

We congratulate Jimmy on this wonderful opportunity and look forward to seeing where his talent and commitment take him next.



STUDENT SUCCESS: NETBALL TALENT RECOGNITION FOR YEAR 10 AND YEAR 8 STUDENTS

Congratulations to Lucy D., Year 10, and Violet B., Year 8, who have been recognised as two of only 250 Talent Identified Netballers selected from more than 1,300 athletes.

This recognition highlights their skill, dedication and potential for future development within the sport. Lucy and Violet have been identified as athletes to watch and are encouraged to continue working hard, developing their skills and pursuing their netball goals.

We congratulate Lucy and Violet on this fantastic achievement and look forward to seeing their continued growth and success on the court.



STUDENT SUCCESS: RECOGNISED FOR TENNIS SUCCESS

Congratulations to Samara F., Year 8, on her outstanding achievements in tennis.

Samara recently competed in the NSW Country Closed Junior Championships Tennis Competition, where she won the 13/Under Consolation Match Play Final. Following her strong performance, Samara was selected to represent the Southern Aces in the Regional State League.

Throughout the competition, Samara demonstrated exceptional skill, commitment and sportsmanship, and was recognised with the Tennis Country Excellence in Teamwork and Sportsmanship Award.



STUDENT SUCCESS: CENTRAL WEST RUDGY REPRESENTATION

Congratulations to Dougal K., Year 5, and Xavier P., Alistair B. and Paddy B., Year 6, who represented Central West Rugby during the school holidays.

The students had the opportunity to compete alongside talented young rugby players from across the region, showcasing their skills and teamwork.

We congratulate Dougal, Xavier, Alistair and Paddy on this fantastic achievement and commend them for representing both Central West Rugby and our school community with pride.



STUDENTS SHINE IN SOCCER COMPETITIONS

Congratulations to our students who represented the Dubbo Devils Football Academy in soccer competitions during the school holidays.

Ritson K., Year 3, represented the Dubbo Devils Football Academy Under 9 Boys at the Kanga Cup, gaining valuable experience competing in a major junior soccer tournament.

Churchill B. and Noah S., Year 5, represented the Dubbo Devils Football Academy Under 11 Boys at the Kanga Cup. The team performed strongly throughout the tournament, making it through to the quarter-finals.

Quade M., Year 8, Drew M., Year 8, and Toby E., Year 9, represented the Dubbo Devils Football Academy Under 14 Boys in representative soccer. The team competed in the Deploy Association Championships in Mudgee during the second week of the holidays, taking on numerous metropolitan teams.

The team also competed at the Kanga Cup in Canberra, where they went undefeated throughout the tournament and were crowned Open Plate Under 14 Boys Champions.

We congratulate all of our students on their fantastic achievements and commend them for their commitment, teamwork and passion for soccer.



STUDENTS ACHIEVE SUCCESS IN EQUESTRIAN EVENTS

Congratulations to Charlotte S., Year 6, and Virginia M., Year 3, on their outstanding achievements at the Wellington Pony Club Gymkhana.

Charlotte achieved fantastic results, placing 1st in D Grade Show Jumping and being awarded Reserve Champion in the Under 12 age category. She also secured 1st place in the 65cm Show Jumping event at the Boree Equine Show.

Virginia was named Champion in the 8 – Under 11 age category.

We congratulate Charlotte and Virginia on their dedication, skill and commitment to equestrian sport, and celebrate their success in the arena.



STUDENTS REPRESENT AT JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE TAG CARNIVAL

Congratulations to Holly F., Bella H. and Scarlett M., Year 9, who represented our school at the Dubbo District Junior Rugby League Tag Carnival held in Bathurst.





MACQUARIE
ANGLICAN GRAMMAR SCHOOL



MACQUARIE'S GOT TALENT *showcase*

featuring

Junior & Senior School

Thursday

10th

September

6pm, Henderson Hall



NATURE SPOTTERS

ENVIRONMENTAL FUN

FOR YOUNG SCIENTISTS Aged 8 -14.

Our after-school youth program will be back in Dubbo for Term 3. Whether you're a seasoned nature enthusiast or want to start exploring and learning, this program is perfect for kids and teens to get outside and experience the natural world in our backyard!

Our engaging sessions range from kayaking to bushwalks to tree planting to learning about our native wildlife. We will deliver 6 unique sessions throughout the term to satisfy curious minds.

Cost: \$25 per child

Register your interest to participate by scanning the QR code. Email info@mml.org.au or call 0457 115 525 for more information about the program

