PRINCIPAL REPORT

Excellence in Education Awards

Model Farms High School has been awarded 2 Western Sydney Region Excellence in Education Awards and will be presented with these on the 30th of November at a prestigious ceremony.

Mitchell Hannah of Year 9 has been awarded the Excellence in Student Achievement award which recognises an individual student who demonstrates excellence in academic achievement. Mitchell is recognised as a very gifted and talented young student who has been following an alternative, accelerated study path here at Model Farms. During Year 7 Mitchell studied the year 9 and 10 syllabus in Mathematics, completing his School Certificate in Mathematics in 2009 and achieving 96% and a Band 6. In 2010 Mitchell successfully completed the preliminary 2 unit mathematics and Extension 1 courses, achieving first place in the cohort for both courses. In 2011 Mitchell will complete the HSC in 2 unit Mathematics and Extension 1 Mathematics and is ranked 1st in both subjects. In 2012 Mitchell will be in year 10 and will be completing extension 2 Mathematics as well as Preliminary Physics and Chemistry. This is academic excellence indeed.

The Model Farms hub of schools has also been awarded the Excellence in Education Award for School Achievement as a Learning Community. This award recognises the achievements of a group of schools that have worked together in providing quality learning environments and programs for students. Together with staff from Winston Hills Public, Winston Heights Public, Matthew Pearce Public, Jasper Road Public, and Macquarie University, Model Farms High School has achieved outstanding results in Mathematics.

The Enhancing Success in Mathematics, ESiM project involves stage 3 and 4 mathematics teachers working collectively to enhance the teaching and learning of mathematics across the stages in the learning community. Teachers gather to plan units of work that are stage appropriate and use locally generated data to determine the focus areas, strategies and evaluations in order to inform future directions.

School Prefects

I had great pleasure this week announcing the result of the prefect elections. Some 29 candidates nominated for the 16 positions and they were hotly contested with only a small number of votes determining the
final few spots. The students were excited when told the results and have already been fitted for their blazers. They have impressed me as a wonderful bunch of young people who are committed to upholding the good name of Model farms and will be worthy ambassadors in our community.

The new prefects for 20112 are Jacquelyn Barudzija, Alex C, Hannah Candelario, Naomi De Bruine, Mary Daroy, Laura Donohoe, Sam Donohoo, Emilee Durie, Mitchell Harrold, David Marlow, Stephanie Murphy, Taneal Norman, Lucas Overton, Manraj Sidhu, Meagan Van Aswegen and Hannah Willars. Congratulations to all.

School Certificate exams
All Year 10 students received information this week about arrangements for their exams and until the end of the year. It is important that parents know what is being expected from our student. We have a full program of events planned for the weeks after the end of the SC exams and much planning has gone in to make this a valuable and engaging experience for the students. Not only will staff be presenting workshops but we have external providers coming in to deliver workshops and lectures that will provide some resonance for Year 10.

21st century education
Today’s educators have the daunting task of preparing students for a future in the global 21st century. In order to do this we must look at our teaching practice to ensure that it is appropriate for the 21st century learner. Some interesting work that can be found at http://www.eschoolnews.com/2011/09/09/five-characteristics-of-an-effective-21st-century-educator/ reveals that 21st century educators should be lifelong learners who are willing to learn from the students as well as from the peers. To be effective in developing the necessary skills in students, teachers need to be future focused; foster peer relationships; and be able to discern between effective and non-effective technologies.

One of our main focuses for 2012 will be to enhance our technology and the technology skills of our staff so that we can prepare students for the world in which they live and work, not the current world in which the teachers have to navigate and dwell. Teaching for the future is a big ask and we can’t always promise we will get everything right, but we’re trying.

Christina Bennet
Principal

Deputy Report
Recognition assemblies: Please be aware that there are numerous recognition assemblies coming up as the year draws to a close. We will endeavour to give all parents as much notice as we can of the dates and times. As students are still being assessed almost right to the end of the term there is often a very short turn-around between us working out who is being recognised and the end of the last task. For early reference please note the following days and times. All assemblies are scheduled to begin at 8:45am and should be completed before 10am.

Year 11: Tuesday 22 November
Year 8: Tuesday 6 December
Year 9: Thursday 8 December
Year 10: Friday 9 December
Year 7: Monday 12 December

Pre-loved Winter Ties: For parents of Year 12 who are now doing the spring clean on their son’s wardrobe please keep in mind that if there is a tie or knitted jumper stashed away, I would love to have them.
Year 10 Parents: You should have received a note home on Thursday of last week outlining what is happening with year 10 from the School Certificate Examinations onward. This note outlines key dates and expectations for attendance. With the compulsory attendance age now being 17 the only students who are able to leave before the 16th of December will be those leaving school permanently as they have gained employment. While some Year 10’s may attempt to convince you that they can leave before this time, for temporary work, this is not the case. Students will be participating in a 4 week program designed to assist them with further study and living skills for young adults. Students will be permitted to organise work experience for this time if they complete the mandatory paperwork. Students will be required to find their own placements but the school documentation needs to be completed to ensure that they are covered for work related injury protection. Please contact the Careers Adviser if you think this is what your child should do during this time.

Mark Anderson
Deputy Principal

CALENDAR

TERM 4
WEEK 5
Mon 7/11  HSC
School Certificate Exams
Tue 8/11  HSC
School Certificate Exams
Wed 9/11  HSC
School Certificate Exams
Thur 10/11  HSC
School Certificate Exams
Fri 11/11  HSC finishes
Primary Links
School Certificate Exams finish

WEEK 6
Mon 14/11
Tue 15/11
Wed 16/11

Thur 17/11  Yr 10 RYDA Drivers Ed U Turn the Wheel
Primary Links
Fri 18/11  Yr 7 Vaccinations
Yr 12 Sign Out Morning 8:30 to 10:30am

WEEK 7
Mon 21/11  Yr 7 Swim School
WOW Pilot
Yr 12 Formal
Tue 22/11  Yr 7 Swim School
Yr 11 Presentation Assembly
WOW Pilot
Wed 23/11  Yr 7 Swim School
WOW Pilot
Thur 24/11  Yr 7 Swim School
WOW Pilot
Primary Links BBQ
Fri 25/11  Yr 7 Swim School
WOW Pilot
Yr 11 Source Analysis Core Assessment

MERIT AWARDS
Bronze Awards
Year 7
Lachlan Chok
Dylan Rasmusen
Year 8
Krystal McGuigan
Mitchell Smith
Year 10
Grace Scott
Ashleigh Lane
Isabella Astorri

Silver
Year 10
Ashleigh Lane
Hannah Willars

Gold
Year 10
Ashleigh Lane

Are you learning to drive?
Then allow us to teach you…

We are a family owned business based in the Hills District. Your instructor, Peter, is a former police officer with over 25 years experience. Peter holds a Certificate IV in Driving Instruction and a Certificate IV in Training & Assessment. We have single lessons, multi lesson packages and gift certificates available.

www.allthingsdriving.com.au
Student Planner Focus

**Junior** – Number Skills
**Middle** – Effective Reading
**Senior** – Effective Reading

**Specific Aims and Objectives - at the end of this week students should:**

- An understanding that there are different reading techniques available depending on their purpose for reading.
- A willingness to practise their literacy and numeracy skills every week to build their learning power.
- A preparedness to use a variety of reading strategies and being able to identify which one best suits their purpose for reading.
- A raised self awareness of the Parts of Speech, Spelling Rules and Mathematics Rules and Formulae to enhance their learning capabilities.

**Weekly Focus:**
The ability to convert information into knowledge and thus understand how it relates to their world, requires students to possess effective reading skills. As students progress through their secondary education it is important for their reading and comprehension capabilities to continuously develop. Also, the volume of reading increases with each year level and as such it makes sense for students to read smarter, not necessarily longer.

There are a variety of reading strategies available that we need to explicitly teach students to improve the way they absorb knowledge and store it in their memories; they won’t just pick them up implicitly along the way. Building these strategies into their learning habits will enable them to retrieve from their memories the knowledge they need more accurately and easily.

There are also several different types of reading that can be used depending on the students’ purpose for reading, for example, locating information, memorising, summarising, and so on. Effective reading is choosing the most appropriate type of reading for their purpose and a resourceful skill to cultivate in our students.

To maximise their opportunities in today’s society, students must possess competent numeracy and literacy skills. In all three planners, sections addressing both of these areas have been included to build the students’ learning skills and abilities. In the Junior, Middle and Senior planners there is a weekly “Vocabulary Builder”, “Parts of Speech” and “Spelling Rules” to enhance the students’ vocabulary and spelling.

The best approach is for the students to look up the meaning of the word, use it in a sentence and then spell it to one of the family. Numeracy is catered for in both the Junior and Middle planners. In the Junior planner there are essential basic number skills that are set weekly and followed up by a monthly problem solving exercise. There are also “Multiplication Tables” and “Record and Graphing of Results”. In the Middle planner there are weekly problem solving exercises to extend and enhance the students’ ability to think logically through a series of steps.

The family is encouraged to become involved in the completion of these numeracy skills, spelling and problem solving exercises.

“Difficulties are stepping stones to success.”
Anon

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**Fame DVD’s can be picked up from Mr Montgomery in the English Staffroom**

WWW.MODELFARMS-H.SCHOOLS.NSW.EDU.AU
FROM THE FACULTY THAT COUNTS!

Congratulations to the following Maths merit recipients:

**Year 7**
Koray Bugdayli, Andrew Han, Rachael Logozzo, Tim Martin, Remziye Mustafa, Jesse Robinson, Hayley Rodgers.

**Year 8**
Andrew McMenemy x 2, Lucy Rayner, Nick West

**Year 9**
Holly Dymond, Adam Evans x 2, Vi Ngo

**Year 11**
Belynda Tay

This week’s news
We wish all of our Year 10 students well for the School Certificate Examinations this week. Remember to bring your Board of Studies approved scientific calculators to the Mathematics examination. If in doubt if yours is an approved calculator, please bring it to the Mathematics Faculty to be checked. Year 10 students must also bring geometry sets to the School Certificate examinations. A reminder, there is NO borrowing in the School Certificate Examinations.

Fun with Maths
Eight men and two boys want to cross a river using a small canoe. The canoe can carry two boys or one man. How many times must the canoe cross the river to get everyone to the other side?

**Answer to last week’s problem:** A farmer wishes to plant six trees in four rows so that each row contains three trees. How can this be done?

Have a Mathematical week,
From Jackie Dalton and the Maths Faculty Staff

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**UNIFORM SHOP**

Trading Days and Hours
Monday, Wednesday and Friday
8.10 am until 9.00 am

Payment Options
Cash - Cheque - Visa - Mastercard

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**YEAR 10 STUDENTS**

A reminder to **ALL YEAR 10** students

Please purchase your **SENIOR** uniforms as soon as possible

**Prices:**

- Shirts - White $30 each
- Blouse - Lemon $30 each
- Skirt - Grey $55 each
- Shorts - Grey $34 pair

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**VOLUNTEERS**

The Uniform Shop is operated on a Volunteer basis.

We are extremely fortunate to have amazing parents who volunteer an hour to suit their schedule to assist in the uniform shop - if you would like to volunteer please come in and see me or ring the office and leave your details.

Thank you
Roz Noel
Uniform Shop Co-ordinator

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**Year 12 Formal**

Final payment for the Year 12 Formal is 7th November 2011. If you have not paid by this date you will not be able to attend.
Northmead Uniting Netball Club
Northmead Uniting Netball Club is a member of the Gooden Reserve Netball Association. This is a local community competition held on Saturday afternoons at Gooden Reserve in Winston Hills. We are committed to maintaining a low cost competition that has a friendly, safe and welcoming environment where girls of all skill levels can participate.

2012 Fees
These fees are a one-off payment which covers the entire season.

- **Fun Net:** $30
- **Under 16’s:** $65
- **Over 16’s:** $70

Register now for 2012 season at
[www.goodenreservenetball.com](http://www.goodenreservenetball.com)
or call 0422 547 258
or email grnetball@gmail.com

Fun Net
For ages 5 – 7 we have Fun Net, which teaches ball skills, the rules of the game and teamwork. Fun net is held every Saturday at 12.30.

Junior Competition
Our junior competition is open to everyone, including those who have not played previously. Games are held every Saturday at 12.40pm or 2.00pm.

Adults Competition
Our adults division is a social competition with a fun, friendly atmosphere. We have players who join after not having played for years and even those who have never played. This is the perfect competition to join with a group of friends for some exercise and fun! We are also happy to receive individual registrations to join existing teams. Games are held every Saturday at 12.40pm or 2.00pm.
SPORT BUS PASSES CAN NOT BE PURCHASED ON WEDNESDAYS

Sports Bus
052-001

Please indicate preferred pass:
- A 5 trip pass for $37.50  No. of passes _____  Total $_______
- A 10 trip pass for $75.00  No. of passes _____  Total $_______

Name of Student/s ____________________________ Year/s ______________

Payment by:  CASH [ ]  CHEQUE [ ]

PAYMENT BY MASTERCARD OR VISA SLIP
Please circle the appropriate card
- Please debit my Mastercard / Visa Account No: / / / / 4 digits 4 digits 4 digits 4 digits

Amount in figures _____________________________ Expiry Date: ______________

Name of Credit Card Holder (as shown on card) _______________________________
Signature of Credit Card Holder: ____________________________________________
# Model Farms High School

### Grade vs JR

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<td>Rock Climbing</td>
<td>The Edge Castle Hill</td>
<td>701</td>
<td>12:15 - 2:40</td>
<td>Georgopolos, Easthorpe</td>
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<td>Ten Pin Wondabowl</td>
<td>Wonderbowl Castle Hill</td>
<td>1C1</td>
<td>12:15 - 2:40</td>
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<td>Gym $8 + bus</td>
<td>Waves</td>
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<td>12:15 - 2:40</td>
<td>Cooper</td>
<td>EL</td>
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<td>Swimming $4.00 + bus</td>
<td>Blacktown Leisure</td>
<td>505</td>
<td>12:15 - 2:40</td>
<td>Vince, Frost, Fornaiser</td>
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<td>Ice Skating</td>
<td>Sydney Ice Arena</td>
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<td>Squash $5</td>
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<td>Tennis Olympus</td>
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<td>Gardening</td>
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<td>Touch Football</td>
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<td>Blacktown Indoor</td>
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<td>Letherbarrow, Archer</td>
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<td>Rugby League Clinic</td>
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