



Muswellbrook High School

Newsletter 1

21st February 2012



Principal Report

It has been a very exciting start to the New Year with the school recording over 800 enrolments for the first time since 2004. We have now completed 63 new enrolment enquiry interviews with students arriving from all over the country, overseas, as well as a very healthy number from the Upper Hunter.

The school community went into the Christmas holidays buoyed by some fantastic HSC results, none more so than those of School Captain, Sam Hume, who achieved a Band 6 result in each of his HSC subjects and scoring 98.15 for his Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR).

Muswellbrook High School - In the news



www.muswellbrookchronicle.com.au/news/local/news/general/surge-in-enrolments/2442171.aspx

www.muswellbrookchronicle.com.au/news/local/news/general/a-educational-efforts/2395755.aspx

www.muswellbrookchronicle.com.au/news/local/news/general/mark-of-honour/2395281.aspx

Sam's peers also did amazingly well, with Ali Ward (93.55) and Sarah Rodham (91.70) joining him in the nineties, with Jessica Robb and Daniel Rivers scoring ATAR's in the eighties. It was pleasing that Muswellbrook students held the top ATAR result, and three of the top seven across all schools in the Upper Hunter. Matthew Alexander also covered himself in glory with a nomination for his major project and his Band 6 HSC score was amongst the top 15 in the state.

2012 HSC Honour Roll



Sam Hume
*Biology, Chemistry,
CAFS, Advanced English,
Mathematics*



Ali Ward
*CAFS, PDHPE,
Hospitality*



Sarah Rodham
Visual Arts



Matthew Alexander
Industrial Technology



Cassandra Pickham
Music 1



Jessica Robb
CAFS, Hospitality



Daniel Rivers
Visual Arts



William Moore
Music 1

Director General's Award - Congratulations Graham Whitehead



Whilst our HSC student achievements were the culmination of thirteen years of study and dedication, Muswellbrook High School Parents and Citizens Association member Graham Whitehead was recently acknowledged for his dedication to the school and public education for almost thirty years, receiving the Director General's Award for excellent service to public education. Mr Whitehead has been a tremendous advocate for Muswellbrook High School and has made an enormous effort to improve the quality of education delivered at the school and the standard of the facilities. Though not one to seek praise or publicity for his tireless work, preferring to shun the limelight, this is a most worthy acknowledgement, at the highest level, and the school will be eternally grateful for his support. Whenever Graham does decide to retire from the P&C, he can do so assured that he left it in a better place than he found it, with an air conditioner in every classroom.

New staff

Along with our new student enrolments, Muswellbrook High School has welcomed a number of new staff for 2012. Jason Foy joins the school as Head Teacher Creative and Performing Arts (CAPA) from Glendale Technology High School. Shelley Parsons will be relieving in music for Laura Martin, who is on maternity leave. Special Education has two new faces in Gabrielle Bertoss and Lisa Craig. Physics Teacher, Matthew Bellotti, has made the tree-change to the Upper Hunter with his family, relocating from Sydney to Denman. Kim Kemp has replaced Roy Lawson, who has moved to the Riverina, in the Support Teacher Learning Assistant (SLSO) role. John Shewan has been appointed to the school in the Technology and Applied Studies and Sally Reichel will be relieving for Mr Banks this year in Mathematics. Debbie Pitt and Emma Kavanagh will be working across a number of different faculty areas during 2012.





Matilda Miller

During the school holidays, Matilda Miller attended the National Santa Gertrudis Junior School and Show in Warwick, Queensland between 10-14 January, 2012. She performed extremely well earning a fifth place in the Judging Commercial Beef Cattle and first place for Novice Parader 17-18 years of age. In addition, the bull she was allocated, named Cree Govenor, won the Lead Bull Section, 13-14 months old, paraded by Matilda. Her recent success follows on from her outstanding achievements in 2011.

SRC Representatives

Year 7

Kobey Adam-Smith
Jake Bartush
Lily Heawood
Georgina Rowlands

Year 8

Joel Barner
Andrew Williams
Lara Cutrupi
Montana Gageler

Year 9

Jessy Besford
Allan Stevens
Taylah King
Elena Peteraitis

Year 10

Jayden Galvin
John Langley
Georgia Douglas
Amba Ward

Diamond Certificate

Year 11

Ashleigh Cantor
Jordan Day
Emma Dewhirst
Corey Filipowicz
Jeenie Fuiono
Jesse Legge
Joel Ray
Callan Sneddon
Joshua Upton
Joshua Whyburn

Year 9

Elena Peteraitis
Karly Stevenson
Marnes Swanepoel
Elizabeth Symington
Kate Symington

Sapphire Certificates

Year 11

Michaela Campbell

Year 9

Alexander Armstrong
Caitlin Daniel
Noa Durham
Thomas Hogan
Jaudyn Kavanaugh
Nicole Large
Caitlin Mackie
Cameron McDonald
Annie Miller
Shae Pemberton
Jacob Rawnsley
Alan Stevens
Chrystal Swan
Taylah Turnbull
Jamie-Lee White-McKay
Josie Whitten
Emma Wilkins
Cody Wright

Deputy Report

Firstly, welcome back to the entire school community for 2012. While we have a number of new students, both senior and junior to the school, it has been a great start to the year with students in uniform, happy to be back and ready to make this year the best ever.

Recently, Mr. Drewe and myself attended a conference in Newcastle where the guest speaker, Dr Ian Lillico, gave a very interesting account of the many variable effects, society and the environment has upon our teenage boys and their education.

In the next few newsletters we will be providing a number of articles about this topic. The following points will give you a taste of the information provided at the conference:

- Parents should be dictators to their children not best mates.
- The average attention span of a 14 year old boy is 17 minutes.
- Most boys are kinesthetic and visual learners.
- Both parents and teachers should be asking boys what they “think”, not what they “feel”.
- Boys find compliments difficult to accept. Praise should be honest and direct (not flowery) and this will increase their self-esteem.
- Girls are most affected by major events in their life around the age of 10, for boys, this age is around 12. This is the age parents will have the most impact on their relationship with their children.
- Avoid television in the mornings, prior to school. This may impact on a boy’s concentration up to 4 hours after and is often a cause of disruptive behaviour during the first few periods of the school day.

Punishment for boys should be short, quick and as close to the offending incident as possible. Praise is better.

I wish I had some of this information when my three boys were growing up. If you are interested in any more theories about boy’s education, a book highly recommended is “Real Boys” by Dr William Pollock. Good luck, and I hope you have a great year.

Mr Scott Copland
Deputy Principal

P & C Committee Report

The P & C would like to welcome back all staff, students and their families to another school year.

A special welcome is extended to all new staff, students and their families. We are sure you will enjoy your time at Muswellbrook High School.

At our first meeting in February we received a cheque for \$5000 from the school canteen.

All money raised by the canteen goes towards purchasing valuable teaching and learning resources and/or improving the learning environment for our staff and students.

Many thanks to our volunteers and welcome to the new volunteers this year. Without enough volunteers the canteen cannot remain open and provide such an important service to the school.

Anyone who has some spare time between 9am and 2pm is very welcome to come and help prepare food and/or serve. You can contact Stasia through the school office.

Our next meeting is the AGM and will be held at **7pm in the school library on Thursday, 15th March, 2012.**

Please come along and support your school through the P & C.

VIVA LA FRANCE

Yes that is right, France. I am calling for all parties interested in visiting gay Paris, the city of lights. We would be travelling to France during the term break, leaving approximately on Saturday 13th April and returning Tuesday 24th April 2013, these dates may vary slightly.

We would spend 4 days in Paris visiting the Louvre, climbing the Eiffel Tower, cruising the Seine River and enjoying Euro Disneyland. We would then spend 4 days touring the Western front, battlefields, cemeteries and the Palace of Versailles by coach.

The approximate cost of the trip will be \$5000. This will cover:

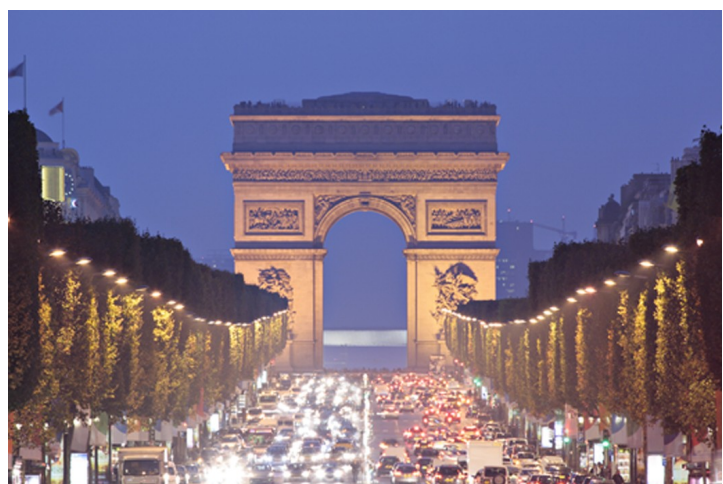
- 8 breakfasts and dinners (no drinks)
- Accommodation
- Return air travel
- Coach travel and travel to Versailles
- Entry to all museums etc. as per itinerary and any extras the group agrees to e.g. Euro Disney
- Travel insurance
- Visa

What is not included:

- Passport
- Lunches
- Drinks (non- alcoholic)
- Spending money (no more than \$50 per day)

I have factored in a buffer in case of airfare changes, taxes etc. If you think you may be interested please contact Mrs Duck for an information sheet. A deposit of \$700 MUST be paid to the front office by June 30th 2012. Parents and families are welcome to apply and the final decision on eligible travellers will be made by Mrs Duck and Mr Erskine.

Mrs Duck



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2011

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?



Matt Alexander
Bachelor of Science
Newcastle University



Nicole Bagley
Bachelor of Education Primary
Charles Sturt University
Bathurst



Brittany Baker
Business Admin Traineeship
MacGen



Justin Baker
Casual at Muswellbrook Race
Course



Courtney Betteridge
Open Universities
Primary Teaching Subjects



Zac Bradbury
University of Wollongong
Double degree Science and
Mechatronics Engineering



Dale Brands
Apprentice Plant Mechanic
Mt Arthur Coal



Dimiti Bridge
Muswellbrook TAFE
Childcare



Arli Bruns
B. Policing
CSU Bathurst



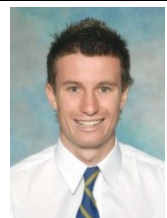
Julie-Anne Budden
Retail



Joanne Burns



Luke Carey
Strathern Scone
Parks and Maintenance
Trainee



Ryan Chillingworth
Bachelor of Policing
Charles Sturt University



Coedie Clark
Muswellbrook TAFE
Metals Course



Hannah Claydon



Lauren Cleary
Muswellbrook TAFE
Childcare



Anne Clendenning
CSU
Dubbo Primary and Early



Allison Cooke
Newstep
Newcastle Uni Program



Kaitlin Cornwell
Casual work at MVH
Distance Ed Childcare



Ashleigh Cox
Childcare
Muswellbrook TAFE



Lucy Darby
Application to Study Real
Estate
TAFE



Hayden Dolgan Fox
Apprentice
Brobuilt



Corey Dreyer



Peter Duck
Deferred Newcastle
University, Army Reserve



Kaylie Edwards
Casual Work and part time
TAFE and Distance Ed.



Kiera Lee Elphinstone
Integrated Living Program



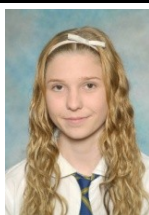
Jeremy Eustace
Casual work MbK Race Course
Arc Welding night course



Ebony Finch
Applied TAFE
Ourimbah



Gabrielle Fitzgerald
Short Courses in Media and
retail work. Relocating
Newcastle



Kirsten Folpp
Childcare Course



Shannon Gallimore
Childcare Course



Fiona Winsor
Distance Ed
& Casual Woolworths



Amber Gorton
Traineeship
Aged Care



Matthew Harris
Deferred Double Degree UOW
Commerce and Arts



Nicholas Howland
Integrated Living



Sam Hume
Medicine
Newcastle University



Jake Hunter
Kitchen
John Hunter
Motel



Lucas Jones
Technical Production
TAFE Newcastle



Jordyn Kennedy
Retail



Blake Lee
Applying for TAFE Distance Ed
Property Management



John Llewelyn
B. Arts Design for Theatre and
Television
Charles Sturt U. Wagga



Thomas Marshall
Apprentice Plant Mechanic
MAC



Naomi Lee Marskell
Forensic Biotech
Charles Sturt U. Wagga



Beau McFarlane
Casual at MbK Race Course



Jesse Mephram
Gap Year Casual Work
Newcastle



Eila Mills
Casual at
Artiste Cafe



Jack Mitchell
University Offer Newcastle



Kelsey Moffitt
Business Certificate
Fashion Institute



William Moore
Technical Production
Newcastle Tafe



Tyson Morgan
Apprenticeship
Mt Arthur Coal



Marina Muffett
Aberdeen Chinese



Diana Mutasa
B Business International
Hospitality Management



Liam Oakes
Casual at Coles
Applying for Apprenticeships



Cassandra Pickham
Bachelor of Social Work
Newcastle University



Daniel Rivers
Architecture
Newcastle University



Jessica Robb
B Nutrition and Dietetics
Newcastle Uni.



Jack Robinson
Casual Work



Sarah Rodham
B Psych/Arts
Newcastle University



Kylie Saunders
NSW Police Prep/alternative
entry program



Ashleigh Sawyer
Office Assistant
Mbk Race Club



Mitchell Scriven
Distance Education and casual
work at Coles



Sarah Shorter
B Art Theatre UNE



Leah Smith



Lindsey Smith
Apprenticeship Drayton Coal



Ra-Ule Standing
Integrated Living



Kurt Symington



Erin Thompson
B Agriculture
University of New England



Rebecca Tuckey
CDS employment



Ali Ward
B Primary Teach Barts
Newcastle Uni



Joel Whaley
Technical Production TAFE
Newcastle



Tanaiya Gill



Kirsty Day
Mbk TAFE
Childcare
Casual Mbk Chinese

Muswellbrook High School Swimming Carnival

The 2012 Muswellbrook High School Swimming Carnival was held on Wednesday the 8th of February at the Muswellbrook Aquatic Centre.

The day started with many of the newly elected House Captains and Vice Captains participating in a Year 12 Boat Relay.

Our Sporting Leadership team for 2012 is as follows-

Paterson

Boys' Captain: Sam Cox

Girls' Captain: Ellie Thompson

Boys' Vice-Captain: Callum Strachan

Girls' Vice-Captain: Brianna Waters

Page

Boys' Captain: Dylan Lacey

Girls' Captain: Molly Miller

Boys' Vice-Captain: Anthony Nougher

Girls' Vice-Captain: Tamara Peterson

Goulburn

Boys' Captain: Zachary Collett

Girls' Captain: Taylor Bowen

Boys' Vice-Captain: Andrew Anderson

Girls' Vice-Captain: Mikayla Callinan

Hunter

Boys' Captain: Liam King

Girls' Captain: Jeenie Fuiono

Boys' Vice-Captain: Brandon Parr

Girls' Vice-Captain: Ashley Frankland

Student participation on the day was impressive with many events requiring several heats. The Age Champions are as follows-

12 Years Girl- Ashlea Deller

12 Years Boy- Damon Boeckx

13 Years Girl-Georgia Lewis

13 Years Boy-Blake Shackleton

14 Years Girl- Caitlin Daniel

14 Years Boy- Anaru Komene

15 Years Girl-Emma Wilkins

15 Years Boy-Shawn Honeysett

16 Years Girl-Emma Thompson

16 Years Boy-John Langlely

17+ Years Girl- Mikaela Callinan

17+ Years Boy-James Medhurst and Matthew Merrett

Four long standing school records were broken on the day by 16 year old student John Langley.

They included-

- 50m Freestyle 27.09
- 100m Freestyle 59.40
- 50m Butterfly 29.60
- 100m Backstroke 1:11.24

Our Sporting Houses Hunter, Page, Paterson and Goulburn where all represented strongly in the relays as where our teachers with three very competitive teams.

The day ended with excitement as Mr Borg announced Paterson as the winning house. Unfortunately, he was unaware that there was one set of results which had not been tallied. Everyone the carnival was surprised when he re-announced the results of the day. This time, as a tie between Paterson and Page.

The total house points where-

- Paterson- 459
- Page- 459
- Goulburn- 305
- Hunter- 275

The first two students in every event are now invited to swim at the Zone Carnival which will be held at Scone on the 22nd February 2012.

Miss Murphy- Carnival Organiser



Year 11 Crossroads Course

On the 30th of November 2011 seventy Year 11 students travelled to Lake Keepit Sport and Recreation Centre, near Gunnedah, to participate in the first Muswellbrook High School Crossroads Camp.

On arrival the students were divided into three groups and informed of Camp rules. Students then followed three days of an extremely busy schedule which saw them participating in several traditional camp activities including the Giant Swing, Kayaking and Raft Making.

The students also participated in sessions of the Crossroads course which aims to help prepare senior students to lead, and contribute to, lives which are healthy and promote social justice. The sessions covered drug education, sexual health and relationships and helped students reflect on and share issues which were important to them.

All students involved thoroughly enjoyed the experience. The camp provided them with a great opportunity to increase knowledge and awareness but to also develop student belonging and connectedness before the HSC this year.

Miss Rachel Murphy
Year 11 Advisor

Uniform Shop Report

I would like to thank **Jenni Bullivant**, **Julie Elphinstone** and **Taya Elphinstone** for volunteering in the uniform shop over the several weeks leading up to the start of the new school year. These wonderful girls gave up their precious holiday time to help out and their generosity meant that waiting time was minimal.



Hours

Tuesday 7.30 – 11.30am

Thursday 12-4pm

Cash, EFT-POS or Cheques

(made out to Daylight Sportswear)

Mobile Phone: 0439 118 033

(only turned on during opening hours)

Vanessa

Upper Hunter Junior Rugby Union—2012 season

Registration and Training 15s, 16s, 17s, 18s

- Registration is 28th February & 1st March from 4pm to 6pm
- Training starts 28th February at scone rugby club
- Rego cost is \$80—Gear supplied (club shirt, socks, shorts, training top)
- Games played every Saturday with the Senior Club

Registration and Training 6s, 8s, 10s, 12s, 14s

- 29th March & 3rd April 4pm to 5pm at Muswellbrook & Scone Rugby clubs
- U6 years \$30 (touch)
- U8 years and above \$50 (tackle)
- Training 5pm to 7pm Friday evenings starting 20th April & alternates between Scone & Muswellbrook

Contact Michelle Edwards—Registrar on medwards@sgs.nsw.edu.au for further information if required

A big welcome to the new faces in Special Education!



Back row: Miss Lisa Craig (Bronze Class Teacher), Kieren Hill, Abigail Lyons, Nash Hodges.

Front row: Samantha Quinn, Sonya Squires, Caitlin Fraser, Miss Gabrielle Bertoss (Silver Class Teacher).

Unavailable: Thane Armstrong

It has been an excellent start to 2012 with the Special Education Team welcoming both new staff and new students. We have been joined by Miss Craig and Miss Bertoss. Miss Craig has moved here from Wollongong and will be teaching in the Bronze classroom. Miss Bertoss is from Newcastle and will be teaching in the Silver room. Both teachers are looking forward to a great year at Muswellbrook High School and are impressed with behaviour and positive attitude of the students. We have several new Year 7 students who are adjusting to High school with ease. The students have reported enjoying seeing a variety of teachers each day, meeting new people and eating the delicious food from the canteen.

Muswellbrook Football Club Inc.

Muswellbrook Football Club (soccer) will be taking registrations for the 2012 season during February and March, 2012. Detailed information including dates, times and prices is available on the clubs website.

www.muswellbrookfc.org.au



Dear Parents

We have several students at Muswellbrook High School who have anaphylaxis. Anaphylaxis is a potentially life threatening condition. It is a severe and sudden allergic reaction which occurs when a person is exposed to an allergen (such as a food or an insect bite). Reactions usually begin within minutes of exposure and can progress rapidly over a period of up to 2 hours or more. Anaphylaxis always requires an emergency response.

Common allergens for anaphylaxis include:

- foods (e.g. peanuts, kiwi fruit, fish and shellfish; eggs; milk; sesame; soy)
- insect bites (e.g. bees, wasps, jumper ants)
- medications (e.g. antibiotics, aspirin, penicillin)
- latex (e.g. rubber gloves, balloons, swimming caps).

Persons who are highly allergic to any substance including the above allergens are at risk of anaphylaxis if exposed. The severity of an anaphylactic reaction can be influenced by exercise, hot weather and (in the case of food allergens) the amount eaten. Those who have had a previous anaphylactic reaction are at increased risk. Fortunately, anaphylactic reactions are uncommon and usually preventable.

We have students at Muswellbrook High School who are anaphylactic to:

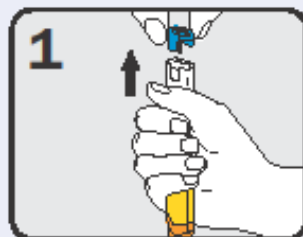
- Kiwi Fruit
- Peanuts and other nuts
- Bees
- Couch Grass
- Egg White
- Unknown substances.

All students with known anaphylaxis have detailed plans and the school is equipped with epi-pens. All staff have been trained in management of severe anaphylaxis. **Please note: Students have been advised not to bring Peanuts or Kiwi Fruit to school.**

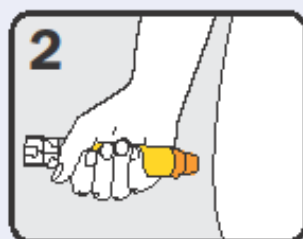


ACTION PLAN FOR Anaphylaxis

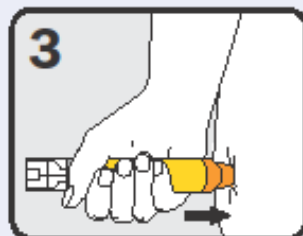
How to give EpiPen® or EpiPen® Jr



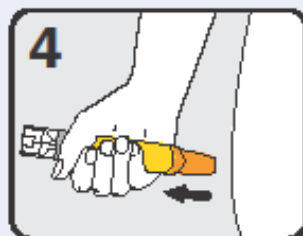
Form fist around EpiPen® and PULL OFF BLUE SAFETY RELEASE.



PLACE ORANGE END against outer mid-thigh (with or without clothing).



PUSH DOWN HARD until a click is heard or felt and hold in place for 10 seconds.



Remove EpiPen®. Massage injection site for 10 seconds.

© ASCIA 2011. This plan was developed by ASCIA

for use with EpiPen® or EpiPen® Jr adrenalline autoinjectors
(with **blue safety release** and **orange needle end**)

MILD TO MODERATE ALLERGIC REACTION

- swelling of lips, face, eyes
- hives or welts
- tingling mouth
- abdominal pain, vomiting (these are signs of a severe allergic reaction to insects)

ACTION

- **For insect allergy, flick out sting if visible.**
Do not remove ticks
- Stay with person and call for help
- Locate EpiPen® (or EpiPen® Jr if aged 1 - 5 years)
- Contact family/emergency contact



Watch for any one of the following signs of Anaphylaxis

ANAPHYLAXIS (SEVERE ALLERGIC REACTION)

- difficult/noisy breathing
- swelling of tongue
- swelling/tightness in throat
- difficulty talking and/or hoarse voice
- wheeze or persistent cough
- persistent dizziness or collapse
- pale and floppy (young children)

ACTION

- 1 Lay person flat, do not stand or walk. If breathing is difficult allow to sit**
- 2 Give EpiPen® (or EpiPen® Jr if aged 1 - 5 years)**
- 3 Phone ambulance* - 000 (AU), 111 (NZ), 112 (mobile)**
- 4 Contact family/emergency contact**
- 5 Further adrenalline doses may be given if no response after 5 minutes (if another adrenalline autoinjector is available)**

If in doubt, give EpiPen® or EpiPen® Jr

EpiPen® Jr is generally prescribed for children aged 1-5 years.

*Medical observation in hospital for at least 4 hours is recommended after anaphylaxis.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

MONDAY 27th February, 2012.

School photographs will be taken of all students in the Neate Theatre on **MONDAY 27th February, 2012**. A catch up session will be available for absent students on Thursday 1st March 2012.

All students are required to wear full school uniform and students who are not in school uniform will not be photographed or will be asked to change into a school uniform from the school uniform pool in the Library.

Muswellbrook High School's uniform is as follows:

Junior Girls (Years 7-10)

MHS polo shirt or woven shirt

Checked skirt or navy shorts

White socks or navy stockings

Black shoes

Senior Girls (Years 11-12)

MHS White collared button-up woven shirt & tie.**

Junior Boys (Years 7-10)

MHS Blue polo shirt

Grey shorts

White socks

Black shoes

Senior Boys (Years 11-12)

White collared button-up woven shirt & tie.**

****Note: (School ties will be available for those who don't own one on the day)**

Jewellery is to be kept to a minimum e.g. small stud/sleeper earrings and one plain chain. Excessive or inappropriate jewellery will be asked to be removed.

The style of photographs will be the same as last year with individual photos being taken of each student. These are then collated into a composite year group photo.

PHOTO PACKAGES

The style of photographs will involve individual photos being taken of each student.

- * **\$50.00- Supreme Pack A-** 16 x individual portrait plus a whole of year group composite class photo, 1-25x20cm, 3- 18x13cm, 4- 13x9cm, 4- 9x6.5cm, 4-wallet size.
- * **\$45.00-Delux Pack B-** 15 x individual portrait plus a whole of year group composite class photo, 3-18x13cm, 4- 13x9cm, 4- 9x6.5cm, 4-wallet size.
- * **\$34.00- Value Pack C-** 9 x individual portrait plus a whole of year group composite class photo, 1-18x13cm, 4- 13x9cm, 4- 9x6.5cm, 4-wallet size.
- * **\$22.00- Individual only Pack D-** 9 x individual Portrait only, 1- 18x13cm, 4- 9x6.5cm, 4-wallet size.
- * **\$25.00- Pack E-** Year group composite only
- * **\$15.00- Gift Pack F1, F2, F3,** F1-Year calendar & gift cards, F2-Calendar, F3-20 portraits
- * **Special group photos** i.e. Sporting Groups, SRC, Support classes & family photos -Range from. approx \$15.00 to \$35.00. These photo proofs will be returned to the school and displayed for students to order in approximately six to eight weeks.

Photo envelopes containing all details plus payment information and options will be received by students in roll call as soon as they arrive at the school in early 2012.

Students must return photo envelopes plus full payment on the day to Photographer-MONDAY 27th February, 2012.

Please be aware that no payments will be accepted by the school after the day.

PARENTS AND STUDENTS: Please be aware that having your photos taken by the photo company is a privilege and not a right. Any student misbehaving or acting inappropriately on the day will have the privilege revoked and their photo will not be taken.

Please do not hesitate to contact me regarding any queries you may have.

Kirralee Flood (Photo Coordinator) TAS DEPT

Vaccination Information

* Change of date due to Nursing Staff shortage

Each year NSW Health offers as part of the continuing Adolescent School based Vaccination program several vaccines to year 7 – 10 students, free of charge. This year students can be vaccinated for:

***Hepatitis B** – in a two dose schedule 4-6 months apart.

***Varicella** (Chicken pox vaccine) -1 dose only

***Giardasil** (Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine) in a three dose schedule with a 2 month gap between doses 1&2 and a 4 month gap between doses 2 & 3. **This will be available for GIRLS ONLY.**

Students who require vaccination will be issued with an information envelope and consent form for each vaccine in the coming weeks. Only students who have written consent from their parents will be vaccinated.

The dates for immunisation are as follows;

Thursday 22nd March - Year 7

Tuesday 22nd May - Year 7 and 10

Thursday 25th October – Year 7

Catch up Term 4 to be advised

Please do not hesitate to contact me at the school with any queries or concerns. Or alternatively you can contact Hunter New England Health on 49246499.

Narelle Smith
Girls Advisor



New Lenovo Laptops for year 9

Year 9 students are examining the grey LENOVO laptops that will be issued later this term. The laptops are fully featured with all the Microsoft and Adobe software, including iTunes. The laptops come with a soft carry bag for scratch protection. The laptops can be connected to broadband internet connection at home.

The students are Brady Tommerup, Jarret Schubert, Matt Richards and Drew Simpson.

Mr Hilton Ariel





Aboriginal Education Consultative Group

Muswellbrook Local AECG

Cordially invites you to our

1st AECG MEETING

On: Wednesday 29th February 2012

Time: 4pm

At: Muswellbrook South Public School in the library.

REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE COMMUNITY, PARENTS/CAREGIVERS, PRIMARY & HIGH SCHOOLS & RELEVANT ORGANISATIONS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND.

If you would like an item added to the agenda please RSVP to the secretary

The membership fee (\$2.00) for this year is due for payment at this meeting.

Tea, coffee & refreshment will be provided on arrival.

Please RSVP,

**Melisa Powell
Secretary**

**0409 692785
6542 5061 (work)**

Or

**Vince Cooper
President
0422 224069**



ENGAGING ADOLESCENTS

1st March 2012

FREE

9am-3pm

Lunch provided

Bookings Essential

Venue:

**Muswellbrook
High School**

This program is about helping parents to develop greater confidence in parenting their adolescents. Part of confidence is about increasing parents knowledge of “how” adolescents function, and part of it is about identifying a method for promoting socially appropriate behavior. We will also be giving parents the opportunity to practice skills for influencing and dealing with difficult behavior as it arises.

*Run by: Upper Hunter
Community Services*

To find out more or to
book please contact
Michelle

Phone: 02) 65423555
E-mail:
group@uhcs.org.au



ITALIA 2011



I was congratulating myself in the last days of the 2011 school year that I had pretty much completed everything that I had to do.....then I realized that I had not written a report for the school newsletter about our fantastic trip to Italia (Italy for the non-Italian speakers amongst you), so here I am in the holidays slaving over a hot laptop.

I have always had a fascination with Italy, having studied Rome in Ancient History (last century). I decided, therefore, to organise a tour for the students at Muswellbrook High School so that they could experience the sights, sounds and tastes of this country. Never having travelled to Italy, I begged Miss Smith to be my travel companion as she had been there before. We ended up with a large group of 4 families; the Murray-Mells, Hile's, the Connors and the Watts plus 6 unaccompanied teenagers, 21 in total plus the organisers.

9/4/11

What a week!!!! I have been waking up at 2am every morning worrying about things I have to remember for the trip. Everyone turned up relatively on time for the bus and gentleman Tom was our bus driver, so of course I received a huge hug before we set off for Sydney International Airport. We took a group photo before we checked in which was a breeze as all of our seats were already allocated, as we were a group.

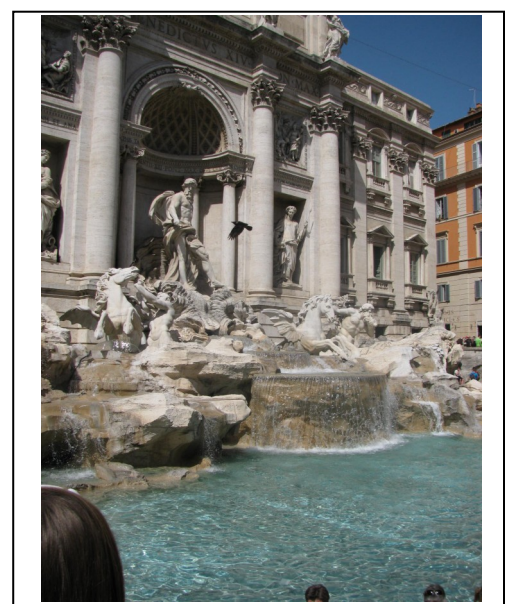
10/4/11

We arrived in Dubai very early in the morning and everyone's jaws dropped as Dubai International has 3 terminals, they are in the process of building a 4th and they are all huge. You can see probably every nationality pass you by and flights are called to a myriad of cities. We landed in Rome, found our bags on the carousel and even managed to find our coach outside (its so much fun leading a group in a country you have never been to before!) The drive into Roma was peaceful and our heads almost did 360's attempting to see everything. The Pensione (hotel) was basic but clean and we quickly found ourselves outside attempting to find the restaurant (hint: always let the children search as they seem to have a knack for finding food). Dinner was okay but definitely not haute cuisine.

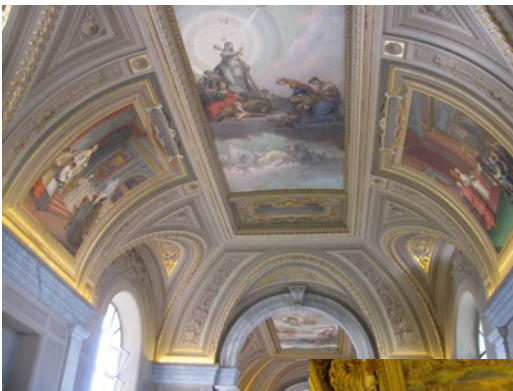


11/4/11

Sleep is good!! Breakfast was basic, bread, jam, butter, oj, croissants (Cashlan liked them) and coffee. Our crew were not filled on this. We decided to catch the Metro to the Colosseum and after a few false starts we discovered that you buy tram, train and bus tickets at the newsagents (as one does). It is easy in Rome; you either catch the red line or the blue line. We walked out of the subway and there in front of us was the Colosseum...WOW. After asking everyone who looked like a guide we found ours, Peter (British father, Italian mother and very informative and friendly in a British way). We did the tour with Jamie doing his toga thing. We then walked to the forum (Mitchell and others buying pizza and gelato along the way) and then onto the Temple of the Vestal Virgins and the Capital. We bid adieu to Peter until the morrow and decided we would walk to the Pantheon. Trusty map in hand we set out. One trick in Italy to remember is that you have to walk out onto a pedestrian crossing; they won't stop otherwise and always do it as a group!!! You walk along these little streets and alley ways and all of a sudden you turn a corner and there is a national icon. We all lunched in the square surrounding the Pantheon and then most of us set out for the Trevi Fountain which was only a few streets over. This square was much smaller but just as packed. We all threw an obligatory coin into the fountain...the myth being that this will guarantee your return to Rome one day. I met up with a group of teachers and students from St Catherine's Singleton...sure is a small world. We then moved onto the Spanish Steps where some of us bought sketches from artists. A big day but definitely worth all the sore feet.



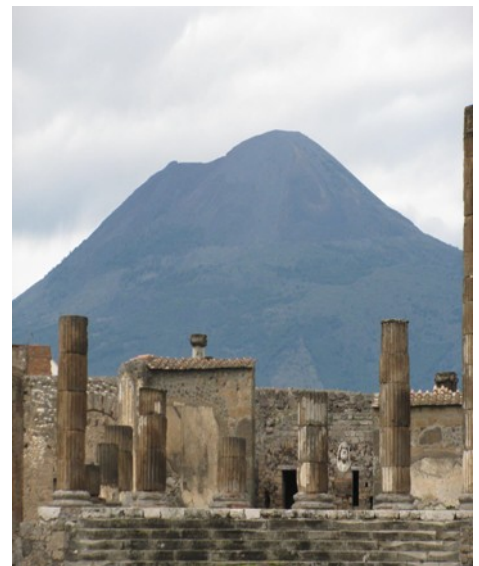
12/4/11



Rome is a beautiful city but it definitely never shuts down, very noisy. We experienced rush hour on the Metro as we squeezed on, every student had an adult with them and I had instructed everyone at which stop to get off at for the Vatican City. We met in St Paul's Square which is where the Pope gives his addresses at Easter and Christmas. The Vatican is beautiful, but huge. The tapestry room has 20 foot ceilings and tapestries that hang from ceiling to floor and the map room is 150m long!!! The Sistine Chapel was mind blowing (everyone was taking photos even though there were signs everywhere saying not to). You had to be very quiet but we had headsets so we could all hear what our guide Peter was telling us about the rooms and when to move on etc. Every part of the interior was painted, even the 'curtains' on the wall. We moved on to St Paul's Basilica which is a working church and features works by some of Italy's renowned artists and sculptures, including Michelangelo. The students sent postcards from the Vatican Post Office and we all met up again in St Paul's Square where we farewelled Peter. After lunch we bought sightseeing tickets for the big red double decker buses and got to give our feet a rest as we viewed Rome from on high.

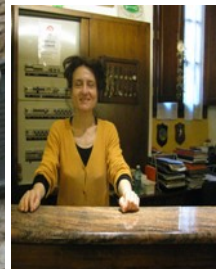
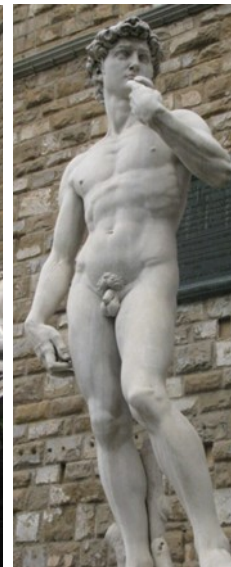
13/4/11

After a quick breakfast we met our coach driver and we were off to Pompeii. The weather was pretty bad, raining, grey and windy but the countryside was still very interesting. We were invited to a restaurant for lunch, for 8 euro we had the largest margarita pizza ever (see photo), cokes and French fries. We had a bit of a run around to find our guide...due to the wet weather everything had been delayed so we had to wait. This gave everyone the chance to shop (hee hee hee) at the stalls outside. (The secret to Italy I have discovered is to grin, laugh and shrug your shoulders and eventually everything will get sorted). Our tour only scratched the surface of Pompeii, I am sure you could spend hours there. We were shown the amphitheatre, the shops with sliding doors, the stepping stones and of course the brothel with frescos intact (the stone beds were different!!). We had a great view of Mt Vesuvius from the Forum and saw plaster casts of excavated bodies (originals are in a museum). After the tour we completed our tour with a tasting of lemon cello (well I did!!) and then back to the bus for our trip to Sorrento. But alas, due to the bad weather and hold up we did not have time and had to head back to Rome. Gives all of us a great excuse to return one day!!!



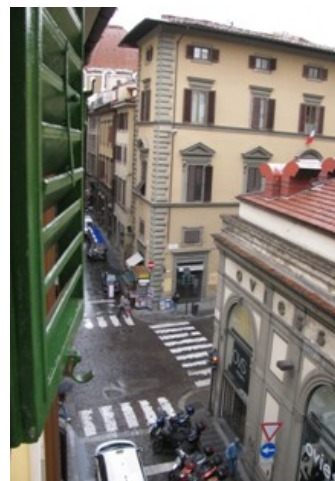
14/4/11

We are off to Firenze (Florence) by fast train. We arrived at the station to find no trains to Firenze but after asking some Polizie they explained that the train to Milan was the one we were after. (Smile!!) The train was sooo comfortable and the countryside exactly what one thinks of when you picture Italia. Firenze train Stazione was big and busy. With map in hand and wheels on our bags we set off to find our pensione and 5 minutes later we were there, it was not far from the Santa Maria Novella (church) and was just off the main street. The desk clerk was helpful and gave us some great maps and we found the Accademia easily. We spent an hour viewing the artworks (many were religious icons including the Madonna and Child) and of course 'David'. It is a flawless statue carved from a single block of marble. You are not allowed to take photos so had to buy a poster. We returned to the Cathedral di Santa Maria del Fiore (Mary flower Cathedral) and had lunch and found a large Lindt chocolate shop with Easter bunnies everywhere. Most of us had a great lunch but Brad ordered beef which turned out to be raw beef in a marinade not steak (rule 2: when in Italy read menu VERY carefully). After lunch we set off for the Ponte Vecchio Bridge with all the gold and jewellery shops on either side. On the way we entered the Piazza della Signoria which houses many large statues including a copy of 'David'. Also went into the Corte dei Medici (the Court of the Medici's) and past the Uffizi Gallery. Mitchell and Callan purchased leather jackets and some of us bought Firenze University hoodies as the weather had cooled off. On our way back to the hotel we passed Gucci, Armani and Prada shops. Our restaurant was gorgeous and the staff made us very welcome (a change from Rome!!). On the walk there we passed a wine bar that would have been large enough for no more than 10 people to stand in comfortably!! Our night porter Addy is a great person with the cheekiest sense of humour.



15/4/11

Awoke to a cool day. Watched workers arriving for the day on their mopeds and parking across from our hotel/pensione. Breakfast was much more to our liking with cereal, croissants, ham, cheese and juice. Met our guide Claudia (a Florentine) who showed us around. She recommended a nice restaurant for lunch. After lunch we headed to the Santa Croce Basilica but you had to pay to enter so we returned to the Boars Fountain markets where we bought leather goodies and souvenirs.



16/4/11

I think I have fallen in love with Firenze!!! We were up and off to the train station to catch a local train to Pisa and again no trains to where we wanted to go (we needed the train to Lorenzo, of course!!) After 45 minutes we were there. I purchased tram tickets to the Torre (Tower) for 1.10 euro, only to find ourselves at the airport!!! But some British tourists having the same problem as us had been taken pity on by a little old man who kept assuring us (in Italian) that everything was ok. When we could see the tower he pointed out the window and pointed and then placed his hand on a lean. We smiled and said gracias. The Torre was everything you can imagine and more and the weather was glorious. If we wanted to climb the tower the wait was over 2 hours and no one was that keen so we shopped (again) and returned to Firenze. We arranged to meet the families back at the hotel at 3pm and we headed off to the food markets just near the stazione. I had an antipasto platter, others had stuffed potatoes and the students found the gelato man who insisted on a photo with the professors. Dinner was glorious again and everyone is excited about Venice tomorrow.



17/4/11

The train to Venetia was packed with not a spare seat to be had. We arrived in Venetia and pulled our luggage up and down bridges for about 1.5km only to find after asking that our pensione was just outside the stazione!!!! Turns out the Google Earth map was wrong!!!! After lunch in a charming little restaurant we set off for St Mark's Square for our gondola ride. We arrived where we were meant to be and after 10 minutes of them saying no and me smiling and waving the booking letter I was told to turn around and there was a lady with a clipboard!! (we still rode in their gondolas!!!!) The ride was lovely and we waved at everyone. We headed back to the hotel after that as Mitchell had the flu (some said courteous of Samuel!!!) The families headed off whilst the unaccompanied students all had a rest or went with me to the chemist for medication for sore throats!!! Dinner was at a charming little restaurant just in front of our hotel and the waiters were comedians and the fish divine.



18/4/11

Ms Smith has caught someone's flu and stayed in bed whilst I collected our vaparetto passes (water ferry). We caught the vaparetto to St Mark's Square to meet our guide Sabine (a French women married to a Venetian – very cich). She educated us about Venice and the square (very busy, never seen so many people) and the weather was warm. We then viewed glass blowing (for which Venice is known for) and some of us bought some pieces. The families went off for free time and I took the 6 students (all coming down with the flu) back to the hotel for a nanna nap. After this we went for a stroll up the main street and bought some masks and (cheaper) glasswork. Dinner was lasagne and chicken which melted in the mouth. Off to Milan tomorrow and a few sick students to take along!!



19/4/11

Well, turned out I am now one of the sick ones. Have lost my voice and have a sore throat as well!!! Must soldier on, however, as we have a train to catch to Milan. Rounded everyone up and we caught our fast train. Bit sad to be leaving lovely Venetia and the water. We met our coach driver in Milan and found ourselves... eventually...in the suburbs. After some room rearranging we discovered Sam Tuckey had left his wallet on the coach!! Our contact Cinza has assured us we will have it before we leave for home. We caught the No. 4 tram to Cairoli and the Castello Sforzesco and had lunch. We then walked to the Leonardo de Vinci display only to discover that the tickets were at another venue!!! I power walked to the other place, collected the tickets and returned (who needs a gym??). We entered to view possibly some of the best artwork in the world!!! After we had finished everyone decided to catch a return tram and have a bit of a rest at the hotel before dinner. Our restaurant in Milan was lovely, a kind of Italian country pub with grapes growing over the trellis outside. We had an unsettled night as an Italian group of students decided to have a party in our section of the hotel after bed time. At 11pm I complained to the night clerk who had just about had it with this other group, they quietened for a while and then the clerk came down and demanded silencio!!!!



20/4/11

Still on the sick list but a breakfast of yogurt and Italian toast sparked me up (and a cup of Earl Grey helped). We trammed it back to the castle and met our guide Ellen who was Milanese but only first generation. (It makes a difference apparently!!) Our tour began at the castle and finished at the Duomo Cathedral. In between we viewed heritage apartments and she explained about the white flowers (monastery) and the dark flowers (brothel) situated across from each other centuries ago (hence the street names). After a lovely lunch al fresco the families went off to have free time and buy presents including a lovely pink Guess handbag (Emily!) and crystal pendant (Jamie!). We returned to the hotel seasoned tram catchers and packed our cases ready for our flight tomorrow. Another lovely dinner and I was very chuffed to receive a lovely glass duck the students had bought me as a present for organising the trip.



21/4/11

We all had a massive sleep as we did not have to check out until midday. Our last day in Italy, cannot believe the time has gone by so quickly. It has been a great trip with a fantastic bunch of people and the best behaved group of students ever (probably worried I will leave them in Italy if they are too cheeky!!!). Only a few hiccups with the wet weather in Pompeii preventing our visit to Sorrento, one cold day in Firenze and no decent red wine to be found. Most of us ended up a little sick but you can't control the weather or bugs!! After catching a tour bus to have one final look at Milan our coach deposited us at Milan airport in plenty of time for our flight. We were all seated in a block as we were on all our flights. Didn't get much sleep to Dubai as it was midnight Milan time by the time we finished dinner.

22/4/11

It was 27 °c when we arrived in Dubai at 6 in the morning. We farewelled the Murray-Mells and the Connor family as they had extended their trip in order to do some sightseeing here. We had breakfast before boarding our flight to Sydney; we only occupied 2 rows now!!

23/4/11

We arrived in Sydney tired and slightly smelly to a wet morning and a smiling Tom from Osborn's. It was lovely to be able to climb on board and be asleep before we hit Hornsby. By the time we reached Mussy High everyone had caught 40 winks and were a bit more human. All the parents arrived to claim children and some children even claimed parents!!

It was a privilege and an honour to arrange and accompany our group to Italy. We had a great time and it was a marvellous opportunity for the students at Muswellbrook High School to travel to another country and experience a different culture, language and food. The Italian people were friendly and very patient with us (a smile truly does go a long way)! This is the second trip I have organised and I hope I will have the opportunity to organise and accompany other trips overseas which gives our students the opportunity to broaden their horizons, in the future.

Mrs Leanne Duck

SRC Report

The SRC would like to welcome everyone back from holidays to what is sure to be an exciting and busy year. Already we have started on a positive note with a successful Valentine's Day fundraiser. SRC members enthusiastically organised the fundraiser which allowed students to send chocolates and flowers to a person of their choice.

We would like to welcome the newly elected Year 7 members to the SRC. Elections for our Year 7 representatives were held in Week 3. Thank you to all those students who nominated and congratulations to our new Year 7 members Kobey Adam-Smith, Jake Bartush, Lily Heawood and Georgina Rowlands. We look forward to working with you in the coming year!

Later this term the Annual General Meeting will be held. This is an important event for the SRC as it allows members to engage in team building activities and plan the year ahead. Activities will also focus on developing students' leadership and public speaking skills. Further details will be provided prior to week 8.

The SRC will also be holding fortnightly meetings. All students are welcome to attend if they have any issues or concerns that they would like to raise with the SRC. Meetings will be held in the Neate Theatre on Friday, Week A at 8.40am and are compulsory for SRC members.

Lastly, the SRC would like to thank Miss Dean for her excellent job as SRC Coordinator over the last two years.

We are all looking forward to another successful and positive year!

Samantha Lancaster

Canteen Summer Menu 2012

Hot Food

Chicken/Beef Burger	\$4.00
Chicken & Gravy Roll	\$3.50
Hot Dog	\$2.50
Chicken Wrap	\$3.00
BLT (Bacon, Lettuce, Tomato & Mayo)	\$1.00
Beef/Cheese Cruizer	\$3.00
Wedges	\$2.50
Sausage Roll	\$2.50
Chiko Roll	\$1.50
Chicken & Corn Roll	\$1.50
Nuggets (3)	\$1.00
Pizza HP/CB	\$2.00
Cheese & Bacon Bun	\$1.80
Chicken Sticks	\$2.00
Sauce (Tom, BBQ, SS or Thai Swt chilli)	\$0.30

Rolls

Ham Salad	\$4.00
Cheese Salad	\$4.00
Chicken Salad	\$4.00
Chicken, Lettuce, Mayo	\$3.50
Egg & Lettuce	\$3.50

Toasted Sandwich add 30c

Extra Fillings add 30c each

**By order only*

Snacks

Butter Menthol/Eucalyptus	50c
JJs	80c
Grain Waves	\$1.00
Chips	\$1.00
Oreos	80c
Fruit	80c
Finger Bun	\$2.50

Drinks

All Cans	\$2.20
Small Juice	\$1.80
Poppers	\$1.00
Water	\$2.00
Flavoured Water	\$2.20
Classic Flavoured Milk Small	\$2.00
Classic Flavoured Milk Large	\$3.00
Moove Milk Small	\$1.50
Dare Milk	\$3.00
Dare Milk Large	\$4.00
Custard	\$2.50

Iceblocks

TNT	50c
Juice Cup	60c
Quelch	40c
Calippo's	\$1.00
Icypole	\$1.00
Frozen Yoghurt	\$2.00
Paddle Pop(Rainbow, Choc, Ban)	\$1.20
Lifesavers	\$2.00
Skinny Cow	\$2.20

*Parents/Grandparents....
Have you been thinking
about volunteering?
Please give us a call or
come in for a day to try it out.
Phone Stasia on 65432699.*

Depending on the number of volunteer helpers in the canteen it may take a while to be served. Placing a lunch order is highly recommended to guarantee getting exactly what you want. Lunch order bags are available at the canteen from 8.30am and only take a minute to fill out. Those with lunch orders can come to the far right window and get your order without lining up.

*Please indicate on the bag whether your order is for recess or lunch.
(Icypoles cannot be included in lunch order).*

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

SMS text messaging – Daily attendance of your child is sent to your family mobile number. If only one adult has a mobile then this will be used. This can also be used for important information regarding parent teacher meetings, issue of reports etc. The school SMS number is: **19910010**. Please add this as a contact in your mobile phone. You CANNOT phone this number, please phone using 65431033. You may send a text message at any time to this number to explain your child's absences. Please let us know if you have any problems with this texting service.

Email – We are now sending the school newsletter to as many people as possible via email. If you have an email in the family that you use regularly, please contact the school.

Websites – The school website holds a great deal of information and is a useful place for you to find out what is happening at school.

Millennium - We also have started using a website that contains all of your child's school information. This includes attendance, school reports, assessment tasks, timetables, behaviour information.

Students have a separate login to this site and they will be sent an email to their portal email address outlining how to access this site.

Families are able to see the whole family at a glance and need a family login. This will be sent to you via an email if you have one already and in several weeks if you have just added one.



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"Striving for excellence in a school that cares"

