



# Muswellbrook High School

## Newsletter 6

11th November 2014



### *Principal Report*

What a productive five weeks we have had this Term! I am sure you will be impressed by the wonderful opportunities that have been offered to our students as you read your way through our Newsletter.

I would like to make special mention this Term, of some especially dedicated staff: Mr Grant Taylor (Agriculture teacher) for your consistent work in upskilling our students and preparing our steers for the Beef Bonanza. Well done to all involved and congratulations on your accolades!

Mr Foy (Head Teacher CAPA) and the staff mentors for your organisation of the Gifted and Talented Showcase evening. I enjoyed very much the great community atmosphere of the night, as students, staff and family proudly displayed their fabulous projects and the learnings that occurred whilst completing those projects. Congratulations to all who were involved and completed their projects. A special mention of Kate Rowlands, winner of the Primary School division and Brady Cavanagh, winner of the High School division.

Ms Leanne Ward (School Learning Support Officer) for her brilliant creative talents. Leanne has hand crafted unique lettering that will replace the painted letters identifying each block.

Ms Tracy Henderson (English teacher, Yr. 10 Year Adviser), Mrs Kay Sokulsky (HT English) and Mrs Sharon Young (HT Literacy) for their innovative and clever work deconstructing the NAPLAN results, individualising the results and aligning results with the Literacy Continuum in a user friendly format. This work will form the basis for teachers to plan their teaching units in a more meaningful and relevant format.

Mrs Tracey Pengally (HSC exam Supervisor) and the team of supervisors for your excellent co-ordination of the HSC exams. Thank you all for your diligence and commitment to making the exams smooth and stress free, in order to give our students the best possible opportunity to achieve their best.

Ms Rachel Murphy (HT Welfare) and the Muswellbrook Community Team for your time and expertise in delivering the LoveBites program to Yr. 10.

I hope you have had the opportunity to check out our Muswellbrook High School Official Facebook site. It is definitely worth a look to see what is happening in our school, for more information refer to the advertisement further on in this newsletter. I enjoyed very much the relaxed, open atmosphere one lunchtime as a talented group of current and former Muswellbrook High School students played their live music and provided fabulous lunchtime entertainment. Thank you to Mr Mulvihill and Mr Drewe for your passion in keeping our Facebook site current and relevant.

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I am proud of our newly inducted Yr. 12 SRC leaders. I am enjoying getting to know our student leaders better as we spend a lunchtime each fortnight together to discuss ways of making our school an even better place to be. I intend to 'interview' students in upcoming Newsletters, so that we get to know them a little better:



**Taylah King**

***Favourite Subject?*** Senior Science.

***Best memory of 2014 (so far)?*** Being elected as MHS Captain and attending the Yr. 12 formal.

***What are your 12 month goals?*** To have reached some personal goals and whole school goals, such as making MHS a better school than it already is.

***What are three words you could use to describe yourself?*** Caring, happy, helpful.

***Best computer app?*** Ooh this is a hard one but I would have to say 'shazam' ha ha!



**Bayley Carter**

***Favourite Subject?*** Sports, Lifestyle and Recreation.

***Best memory of 2014 (so far)?*** Definitely it would be being elected MHS Captain and going to the Yr. 12 formal.

***What are your 12 month goals?*** To have better grades. To achieve some personal goals I have set myself as well as whole school improvement goals.

***What are three words you could use to describe yourself?*** Role model, happy, helpful.

***Best computer app?*** Tough choice but I would have to say 'Itube'.

Continue to work diligently and consistently as we approach the end of the year.

**Ms Elizabeth Bate**  
**Principal**

## *Deputy Report*

The end of the year might seem to be very close, however, there are many great learning opportunities yet to come.

The biggest of which is in week 8 when Year 11 head off to Lake Keepit, near Tamworth, for their big camp. This is a team building, goal setting and decision making excursion that also includes the compulsory Crossroads component of their HSC.

Years 8, 9 and 10 will be completing their Lifesaving courses, where all students attempt to complete many activities to show their abilities in and out of the water.

Year 7 move between Scone Washpools for some Science and HSIE outdoor education, Newcastle on the train to experience the Japanese restaurant and the Regional Museum and finally a day at school for some Personal Development delivered by teachers and midwives from Hunter New England Health.

These three days form a major component of our school life and all students enjoy the days and are able to look back on them very positively. Please help your child be prepared for these days, so they can make the most of the opportunities given to them.

### **Assessments**

Year 12 have begun their HSC courses and will be completing the first of their assessable tasks shortly. Please go to our website so that you can have the dates for these tasks in your home to help your child through these tasks in the best manner possible.

<http://www.muswellbro-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/curriculum-activities/assessment-schedules>

**Mr Brian Drewe**  
**Deputy Principal**

## *gats@mhs 2014*



The beginning of Term 4 has seen two major events take place for our gats@mhs 2014 participants.

The first of these events was the **Assesment Day**. On this day, participants presented their projects to a panel of selected Muswellbrook High School staff and student leaders, as well as volunteers from Mt Arthur Coal. During the assessment, participants had to present their finished product, as well as explain and demonstrate their process and what they have learned.

The second of these events was the **Presentation Evening**, which was a celebration of a range of achievements from Year 6 students from Denman, Muswellbrook South and Muswellbrook Public Schools, as well as students from Years 7, 8 & 9 from Muswellbrook High School. All projects were set up in the library for friends, family and staff members from all schools involved, to see and share in the achievements of our amazing GAT students.

In order to acknowledge those projects that demonstrated a standard of excellence in a particular area, special awards were given to the following students:



### **Primary School Special Award Reciepients:**

**Best Presentation:** Ainsleigh Duffy & Lydia Hume (MPS) – Fitness Video

**Most Diligent:** Kaylee O'Hara (MdPS) - Children's Novel

**Best Process:** Alex Thompson (MdPS) - Soap Making

**Most Original:** Nicholas Walsh (MPS) - Bird Feeder

**Most Academic:** Riley Edwards & Torquil Prior (MPS) - Adventure Novel

**Best Overall Primary School Project** - Kate Rowlands (MSPS), for her Card and Calendar Business.



### **High School Special Award Reciepients:**

**Best Presentation:** Owen Barry (Yr 7) - Food Lovers Guide to Yarraawa

**Most Diligent:** Lara Collins (Yr 9) - Papercraft Business

**Best Process:** Meg Rankin (Yr 7) - Cupcake Business

**Most Creative:** Sophie Scriven (Yr 8) – Record and Publish Song

**Most Original:** Amy McCamley (Yr 7) - Aerial Photography Business

**Most Academic:** Bradley Woodeson (Yr 8) - Design & Build a Computer

**Best Overall High School Project:** Brady Cavanagh (Yr 7) – for his Album of Original Songs.





**gats@mhs 2014** Best Overall Primary School Project Award recipient **Kate Rowlands** from Muswellbrook South Public School with Muswellbrook High School's Deputy Principal, Mr Brian Drewe



**gats@mhs 2014** Best Overall High School Project award recipient **Brady Cavanagh** from Year 7 Muswellbrook High School's Principal, Ms Elizabeth Bate



## PASS Camp 2014

After a very busy day 1 of term 4, 39 students from Year 9 + 10 PASS classes, as well as Mr Herbert and Miss Hope, decided that another holiday was required. We set sail in a luxurious Cowan's coach early on Wednesday morning (after a few sleepy heads finally decided to arrive) heading towards Tea Gardens 'Great Aussie Bush Camp'.

Upon arrival, the greatest fear from 15/16 year olds was realised....they would be sleeping in tents without lights or power points to charge their phones! Luckily, the students would be involved in a series of challenging and heart racing activities and had no need to use modern technology.

The first unscheduled activity involved a new high ropes course. The result of this was the first injury due to a collision between two year 9 students. Whilst this was occurring, Miss Hope and Mr Herbert had to struggle through a seafood platter and an overview of the camp.

The group was split into two and then proceeded to take on a variety of activities which included:

- High ropes team challenge
- Giant swing (14m above the ground)
- Lost Island mud challenge
- Sea kayaking
- Beach activities
- Leap of faith
- Vertical challenge
- Archery
- Dual flying fox
- Challenge/trivia night

Each activity was focused around the concepts of team work and trust, challenging one's mindset and overcoming adversity/fear. In each of the activities, students demonstrated enthusiasm and motivation and displayed qualities of proud Muswellbrook High students. When asked to get up and help with the equipment, without hassle, the students just did what was asked.

Along the way, there were a few tears of fear, however, the smiles and sense of accomplishment far outweighed the resistance of completing activities.

On behalf of Miss Hope and myself, I would like to congratulate all students for their effort, application and completion of activities. It is truly a great excursion that tests student's resilience and provides them with confidence.

The school has already booked the 2015 dates for any PASS student. The dates are Term 4, week 1 - Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> October to Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October.

**Mr Grant Herbert**  
HT PDHPE









## Mo Day

As part of 7P's PDHPE class project, the class will be holding a 'Mo Day' supporting the health promotion cause of 'Movember'. On this day, the school will hold a bake sale at lunch time with a variety of moustache inspired cupcakes and slices being sold. Any proceeds will go directly to the Movember foundation.

On Muswellbrook High's Mo Day, each student and staff member will be provided with a **moustache on a straw** to parade for the day, as well as, being able to purchase and apply a **temporary moustache tattoo**, to promote the notion of **Men's health** and to encourage men to see a doctor and get checked out. The other idea is for guys to realise that talking about their problems and seeking assistance (in any form) is important and a normal thing to do. By promoting this cause, it is hoped to reduce the incidence and prevalence of **prostate cancer** and **mental illness** for males.

Muswellbrook High has a mospace where any donation is appreciated. The site is <http://moteam.co/mbk-high>

The Movember information is as follows:

At the start of Movember, guys take action by signing up with a clean-shaven face and for the 30 days of November commit to growing a moustache. These selfless and generous men known as Mo Bros, groom, trim and wax their way into the annals of fine moustachery. Mo Bros are supported by the women in their lives, affectionately known as Mo Sistas - together, our Mo Community raise money and awareness to change the face of men's health.

With the sprouting of a new moustache, Mo Bros effectively become walking, talking billboards for the month, and like a run or walk for charity they use their hairy ribbon to spark conversations around the often ignored issue of men's health and seek funds to support the work of the Movember Foundation.

### The annual Movember campaign - Results we seek to achieve

Movember will get men to grow moustaches and the community to support them by creating an innovative, fun and engaging annual Movember campaign, that results in:

- Funding for the Movember Foundation's men's health programs
- Conversations about men's health that lead to:
  - Awareness and understanding of the health risks men face
  - Men taking action to remain well

### Prostate and Testicular Cancer - Results we seek to achieve

Men living with prostate or testicular cancer have the treatment and care needed to be physically and mentally well.

### Mental Health - Results we seek to achieve

- Men and boys are mentally healthy and take action to remain so
  - When men and boys experience mental health problems they take action early
- Men and boys with mental health problems are not discriminated against

Muswellbrook High's 'Mo Day' will be held on **Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> November**, just before the annual lifesaving, Crossroads and year 7 development days.

Mr Grant Herbert



## *Music: Count Us In*

On Thursday October 30<sup>th</sup>, our Vocal Ensemble accompanied by Mrs Martin and Mr Foy travelled by train to Newcastle to be part of the 'Music: Count Us In' celebrations.

'Music: Count Us In' is Australia's biggest school initiative, with more than 500,000 participating students from over 2,100 schools nationwide. It brings teachers, parents, students and the music industry together in celebration, as more than half a million people unite to sing the same song at the same time, right across the country.

We met with other participating schools at Lambton High School, where we did warm up games, sang through the song, watched the live telecast, watched other schools perform and also performed a song we had worked on "Stay With Me" by Sam Smith before we all joined together to sing "Let Me Paint You a Song".

We had a great day performing with students from other schools and had a lot of fun at the shops in Newcastle and visiting Nobbys Beach.

It was an awesome experience and we look forward to going again in 2015!

**Mr Jason Foy**  
**Head Teacher CAPA**







Nobbys Beach  
Newcastle

Newcastle  
Nobbys Beach



## Year 7 Drug Forum

The Year 7 Drug Forum was held on the 16th October. To prepare for this there was a committee of hard working Year 7 students who put in a lot of time and effort. The MCs on the night were Meg Rankin and Boston Gageler. The other committee members were Aiden Powell, Charlotte Fahey, Isobelle Wilks, Kodie Woodeson, Gemma O'Leary, Brady Cavanagh, Owen Barry and Jaide Cutrupi.

The night started with a display which included drunk goggles, smoker's breath, projects and a lot of helpful information. After everyone had a look at the class projects Marc Glanville from Good Sports talked to us about playing sport and the effects of drugs.

Two special guests from the local police Senior Constable Sheree Gray and Senior Constable Keli Bastick shared their information with us which involved drugs around our town. Four students from Year 7 then entertained us with a little skit about the impact alcohol has on our life. Those Year 7 students were Shaun-Patrick O'Donnell, Gemma O'Leary, Annan Snewin and Kodie Woodeson. After the skit we had yet another really good talent in Year 7 perform "Pompeii" for us. A big thanks to Brady Cavanagh.

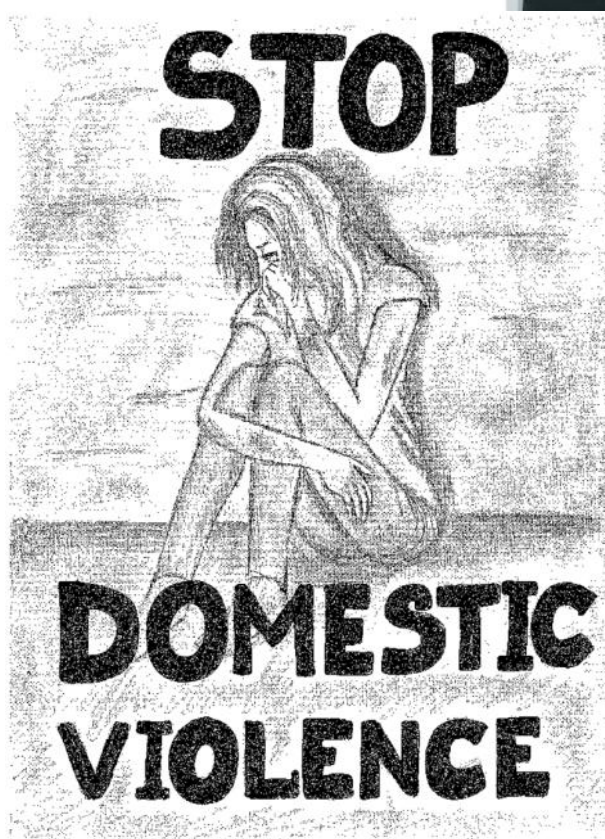
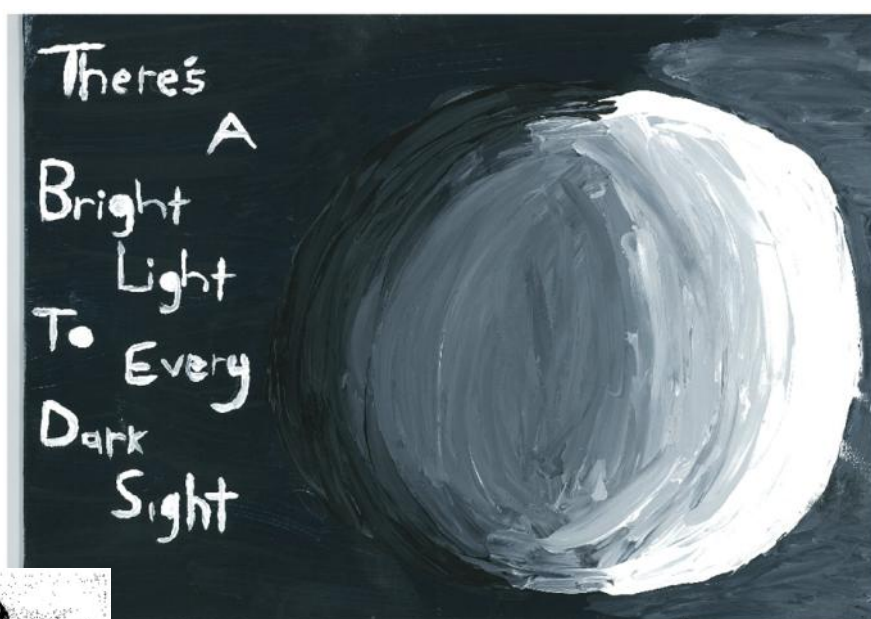
Mr Drewe and Ms Bate then talked about where drug and alcohol usage stood in our school. After the night ran well, the committee held a BBQ outside for everyone who came to the night. Miss Murphy was a massive help with getting this done and if it was not for her none of this would have happened. A very big THANK YOU to Miss Murphy.

By Boston Gageler  
Year 7 Student





Miss Murphy  
Head Teacher Welfare



## *Singleton Show 2014 - Beef Cattle and Dairy Cattle Judging*

During the September school holidays on Friday 26th September nine dedicated and enthusiastic students Skye Pittman, Yasmin Zahrooni, Amber Collard, Kieren Hill, Haylee Matts, Shai-lee Graham, Ashley Rossow, Ashleigh Farrell and Kaitlin Roberts-Batty accompanied by Mr. T. travelled to Singleton Show to represent our school in cattle judging. Their mission was to compete in the 2014 ASC Group 3 Finals of the Beef Cattle and Dairy Cattle Junior Judging Competitions. These are open cattle judging competitions for Beef and Dairy Cattle held annually at Singleton Show. This competition is the zone final where the top 2 placegetters are invited to compete in the state finals at the Royal Easter Show in Sydney in April 2015. The third placegetter will act as a reserve if one of the top placegetters is unable to compete.

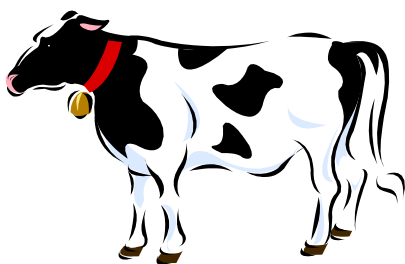
Last year we experienced great success with Kaitlin Roberts-Batty being placed 1st, Ryan Symington 2nd and Brook Said 3rd in the ASC Zone 3 Finals of the Dairy Cattle Judging. We were all very proud of Kaitlin's fantastic 4th placing at this year's State Final of the ASC Dairy Cattle Junior Judging Competition at the 2013 Royal Easter Show in Sydney. This is a fantastic achievement, following Amy Pickersgill's successful participation and 5th placing at the 2012 Royal Easter Show Dairy Cattle Judging Competition. Our students faced strong competition from other competitors and to their credit four students, Skye Pittman and Ashley Rossow in the Open Beef Cattle and Ashleigh Farrell and Ashley Rossow in the Open Dairy Cattle were amongst the six finalists in their competitions. All girls were given an opportunity to gain additional points by giving and oral explanation, as to their selections and placing's in one of the classes of cattle, both to the Chief Judges and the spectators watching the cattle judging. These points are added to the students judging scores and the final placegetters in the competition are announced.

Skye and Ashley spoke very well and unfortunately weren't amongst the top three placegetters in the Beef Cattle Section. Ashley Rossow was placed 2nd and Ashleigh Farrell 3rd in the Open Dairy Cattle competition. Ashley proving her versatility in cattle judging and showing she has superior judging eye when it comes to assessing cattle. Ashley will represent our school and ASC Zone 3 in the State Junior Dairy Cattle Judging Competition Finals held at the 2015 Royal Easter Show. Ashleigh Farrell will now be keenly waiting as a reserve in the State Junior Dairy Cattle Judging Competition. That's three years in a row a Muswellbrook High School student will compete in the State Dairy Cattle Judging Finals at the Royal Easter Show in Sydney. Congratulations to both young ladies on their achievements. Our students should be proud of their involvement and achievements at this year's Singleton Show, and especially for their dedication to represent their school and compete during their school holidays.

### **Striving for Agricultural Excellence Grant "T-Bone" Taylor**









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**ABOUT**

- Striving for Excellence in a School That Cares
- <http://www.muswellbrookhighschool.com.au/>

**PHOTOS**



**Muswellbrook High School Official** shared a link.  
55 minutes ago · 1h

Just when you thought your year was finishing up, Year 11 are moving into their HSC year. For all those parents who would like to know when to help their students the most, here is a list of all assessments. Precise dates within the weeks m... See More

**Muswellbrook High School | Assessment Schedules**  
[www.muswellbrookhighschool.com.au](http://www.muswellbrookhighschool.com.au)

Each course has its own Assessment Schedule. All of these have been put together into an Assessment Booklet. Please upload a copy so that you know about all of your child's major assignments and when they are due:

Like · Comment · Share

**Muswellbrook High School Official**  
November 6 · 1h

So close ... After an exciting day in Western Sydney, our Year 9 & 10 Girls Touch team were knocked out of the NSW All Schools Carnival in the Semi-Final by three time, defending champions, The Hills Sports High School. The lopsided 1-5 sco... See More



# **MUSWELLBROOK HIGH SCHOOL FACULTY OF CREATIVE & PERFORMING ARTS PRESENTS**



**WHAT:  
ONLY THE BEST CAPA PERFORMANCES & ARTWORKS OF  
2014 FROM DANCE, DRAMA, FILMMAKING, MUSIC,  
PHOTOGRAPHY, THEATRESPORTS & VISUAL ARTS STUDENTS  
FROM YEARS 7 TO 12**

**WHEN:  
5:30PM MONDAY 24TH NOVEMBER**

**WHERE:  
MUSWELLBROOK HIGH SCHOOL MPC  
\$2 ENTRY  
BBQ & CANTEEN AVAILABLE**



# Muswellbrook High School

# Uniform Shop

## ONLINE SHOP

Muswellbrook High School and Daylight Schoolwear is pleased to announce the launch of their optional online ordering system. Simply create an account profile, place your order, pay and select 'walk in' to pick up your order from the School Uniform Shop on the next open day.

(Tuesday 7.30am -11.30am, Thursday 12.00pm – 4.00pm)

PayPal or Credit Card Accepted

[daylightsportswear.com/muswellbrook/](http://daylightsportswear.com/muswellbrook/)

or go to the school Facebook page or Website

and follow the links from there.



## 2015 School Photos

Dear Parents/ Guardians,

In 2015, our school has decided to change photography companies. We will be using **"MSP Photography"**.



We have chosen to go with a local company based in the Hunter. MSP Photography is a family operated business that has been servicing the region for over 22 years.

MSP photography is known for its innovative world class products and comes with a 100% customer satisfaction guarantee.



The style of the photos will change from the previous "A3 Composite Class Group" style photos, to a *"Master Year Gallery Presentation"* style. This means, that students will still have their individual portrait photo taken, and these will be collated into their Year Group in an "A4 glossy printed booklet" which is individualised for our school. It will contain stylised shots from in and around the school, as well as some information about the school.

You will still be able to purchase a variety of "Packs" which will contain different sizes of your student's portrait photos / gifts packs and family photos etc... Prices and package deals will be available early in 2015.

As a new innovation, MSP, also supplies a "FREE downloadable image" for portraits and family photographs by using a personalised **QR code** for each child that purchases photographs. This is a great way for parents & students to share their photos via email- to all their family & friends.



For more information about MSP Photography, you can go onto their website at [\*\*www.msp.com.au\*\*](http://www.msp.com.au).

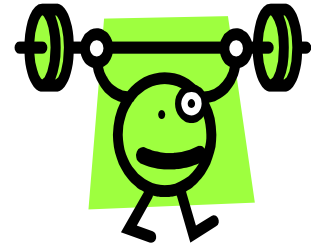
For further information, please contact the school at your convenience.

**K. Flood/Green (Photo Coordinator-TAS DEPT)**

## Healthy Schools, Healthy Futures: Empowering Young People

To empower others means to **help them become stronger and more confident**, especially in controlling aspects of their lives.

The process of youth empowerment is not something that can be altered or enhanced overnight. It is a long journey that requires cultural change and processes, rather than a one-off event. **Research suggests that young people need structured, on-going opportunities that aim to enhance their confidence and empower them in a supportive environment.** This supportive environment may be the school and school community or the home<sup>1</sup>.



Ways in which adults can help young people enhance their confidence and become more empowered include:

- **Engaging Youth:** encourage young people to take an active role in the things that are happening in their lives. This can be simple initiatives such as involving them in decision-making processes or by constantly emphasising the important role that they play at school or around the home
- **Encouraging youth to be involved in change:** This could include speaking up for something they believe strongly about or negotiating change with adults to include youth perspectives
- **Involving students in leadership opportunities:** to support other students. This may enable student to student connections develop as well as interpersonal skills and self-confidence<sup>2</sup>

If you would like more reading on ways to empower young people please see the links below:

1: [https://www.healthiergeneration.org/take\\_action/empower\\_young\\_people/](https://www.healthiergeneration.org/take_action/empower_young_people/)

2: <http://www.mindmatters.edu.au/docs/default-source/resources-archive/creating-connections---student-to-student.pdf?sfvrsn=4>

3: <http://wellbeingaustralia.com.au/wba/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/Empowering-young-people-ECP-Editorial.pdf>

## HEALTHY SCHOOLS, HEALTHY FUTURES RESILIENCE - IN - SCHOOLS



### Healthy Schools, Healthy Futures Program Concludes

As we approach the end of the schooling year we are also approaching the end of the **Healthy Schools Healthy Futures Program (HSHF)** that has been running at the school since 2011.

Term 3 was a very busy term with student surveys completed by many Year 9 and Year 10 students and the last few initiatives to develop student resilience being put into place.

Assembly presentations, guest speakers and mini lessons have taught students and staff how to become more resilient and schools involved in the HSHF program are continuing to report some fantastic outcomes resulting from HSHF.



We are now entering the sustainability phase of HSHF. The HSHF Team will be working with our school to ensure all the hard work to enhance student resilience development over the last three years remains in place for many years to come.

I would like to thank all of the people that have been involved in collaborating, developing and implementing strategies to ensure that HSHF was successful. This includes Teachers, Support Staff, Health Workers, Deputy Principals, Principals, Community Members, Local AECG members, Parents and of course, Students, just to name a few. All of this hard work has resulted in wonderful resilience strategies that will ultimately have a positive impact on the health and wellbeing of our young people.

Dr Megan Freund

The University of Newcastle  
Healthy Schools Healthy Futures  
Program Manager, Population Health



<http://mcgrathfoundation.gofundraise.com.au/page/chloesbigshave>

1

## *Rock'n Through The Ages Family Disco and Chloe's Big Shave*



### *A Family Charity Event for the McGrath Foundation*

To donate directly to the McGrath Foundation, go to the following link:  
<http://mcgrathfoundation.gofundraise.com.au/page/chloesbigshave>

*November*

**29th, 2014**

*Scone High School Multiple Purpose Unit 7-11pm*

*Ticket Prices: Family \$30 (Maximum two adults and four children)*

*Extra Child \$5*

*Single \$15*

*Ring 0455843446 to purchase your tickets*

**This event is ALCOHOL FREE**

**Ticket Sales end Thursday, November 20th. Limited tickets are available**



## Our School Discrimination, Harassment and Vilification Policy

Following on from some research conducted in our school last year we have a new Discrimination, Harassment and Vilification Policy to replace our old bullying policy.

### Statement of purpose

At Muswellbrook High School everyone has the right to feel safe, to be treated fairly, to participate in school activities and to speak out and receive support where required.

***We are “Striving for Excellence in a School that Cares”***

### Protection

At Muswellbrook High School we refer to bullying in our Discrimination, Harassment and Vilification (DHV) Policy because we know that bullying can involve discrimination, harassment including that based on sex, race, disability, homosexuality or transgender and vilification.

- Discrimination: Treating someone unfairly because they happen to belong to a particular group or have a particular characteristic.
- Harassment: Targeting an individual or group and offending, humiliating, intimidating them or creating a hostile environment because they belong to a particular group or have a particular characteristic.
- Vilification: Refers to a public act that encourages or incites others to hate people because they belong to a particular group or have a particular characteristic.

DHV behaviour can be:

- Verbal eg name calling, teasing, abuse, putdowns, sarcasm, insults, threats
- Physical eg hitting, punching, kicking, scratching, tripping, spitting
- Social eg ignoring, excluding, ostracizing, alienating
- Psychological eg spreading rumours, dirty looks, SMS and email messages

DHV of any form or for any reason can have long-term negative effects on those involved including bystanders.

Muswellbrook High School acknowledges that the DHV Policy is a shared responsibility of students, parents, caregivers and teachers in preventing and responding to bullying behaviour.

### Prevention

Muswellbrook High School engages in positive strategies that promote respect, tolerance, patience and the celebration of diversity amongst the school community.

It highlights the negative impacts of DHV throughout its programs including Year 7 and 8 Welfare lessons, Peer Support, Year 7 Development days, Reach Program, Motivational Speakers, Healthy



Schools Healthy Futures program, Seasons for Growth, Love Bites, CrossRoads and through teaching and learning in all areas of the curriculum.

## Early Intervention

The school implements a number of strategies and programs for students who are identified as being at risk of DHV including the SARS program and the Peer Support program for students making the transition to high school. The Welfare team also works tirelessly to identify either new enrolments or current students who may need extra assistance and make appropriate referrals for support to our Year Advisors, Girl's Advisor, Head Teacher Welfare, Counsellors and accessible outside agencies.

## Muswellbrook High

The Muswellbrook High School DHV policy is a five step process with the goal of supporting the target and developing the aggressor's understanding of their behaviour so that they can make positive changes.

### Step 1

- Student, Parent or Peer reports DHV to a Staff Member
- Staff Member interviews the Aggressor and Target involved in the incident and completes DHV Report
- Staff Member explains DHV process to the students
- The Staff Member records incident on Millennium under the DHV Category with a referral to the Year Advisor

### Step 2

- If the DHV behaviour continues the Target should approach the initial Staff Member and complete another DHV Report

### Step 3

- Target is interviewed by the Year Advisor during Home Group within two weeks to see if DHV has ceased
- If the DHV behaviour has continued- the Aggressor is to be placed on an Agreement, Notification Letter sent to parents and a Millennium Action is recorded by the Head Teacher Welfare
- The target is to be supported by the Year Advisor, Head Teacher Welfare and School Counsellor as required

### Step 4

- If DHV behaviour has continued the Aggressor will attend Time Out Room and complete Anti-DHV Training and an interview with Head Teacher Welfare
- Suspension Warning issued to the Aggressor by Deputy Principal
- The target is to be supported by the Year Advisor, Head Teacher Welfare and School Counsellor as required

### Step 5

- If DHV behaviour continues a Suspension will be considered for the Aggressor as decided by the Senior Executive
- The target is to be supported by the Year Advisor, Head Teacher Welfare and School Counsellor as required

The DHV Policy will be displayed around the school in poster form for students. It will also be published inside our school diaries.

The DHV Policy will be reviewed regularly to assess its efficiency in supporting students.

If you have any questions or concerns about the new policy please call me on 65431033.

Miss Rachel Murphy- Head Teacher Welfare

## Exchange Students



Enrich your home with a WEP exchange student arriving in January 2015!

World Education Program (WEP) is looking for caring families who wish to experience another culture in their own home by becoming a volunteer host family. Browse through student profiles, and select a student who you think will fit best into your family and lifestyle!

**Alessandro S (17) from Italy** lives in a small town with only 11 students in his class. His favourite pastime is swimming and playing water polo. He also enjoys playing tennis and soccer and became referee two years ago. His hobbies include playing cards, going to the cinema and collecting things such as coins. He is looking forward to discovering a new country and making new friends in Australia. He can't wait to hear about his host family!

**Marika (17) from Italy** enjoys dance, art, theatre and music. She tells us that her real passion is cooking and that she loves to prepare sweets, cakes and cookies & cream puffs! It is Marika's dream to come to Australia to live as a high school student, and she can't wait to meet her host family, who is making this dream possible.

**Giulio (17) from Italy** loves music, he plays both the electric and acoustic guitar. He is extremely athletic and enjoys many sports and previously played basketball, soccer and volleyball. He currently enjoys going to the gym and also does acrobatic gymnastics. His parent say the he is a warm and caring boy who has a great sense of humour and loves to make people laugh. Giulio is very excited to meet his Aussie host family.

For further information, please contact Sylvia Kelly (WEP Inbound Manager) on 1300 884 733, by email on [info@wep.org.au](mailto:info@wep.org.au) or by visiting our website [www.wep.org.au](http://www.wep.org.au).



### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

**Facebook—** [facebook.com/muswellbrookhigh](https://facebook.com/muswellbrookhigh) (Our Official Facebook Page)

**SMS text messaging** – Daily attendance of your child is sent to your family mobile number. This can also be used for important information regarding parent teacher meetings, issue of reports etc. The school SMS number is: **0427 016 460**. 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** – The school newsletter is distributed via email to as many families as possible, approximately twice a term. If you have an email address that you use regularly, please contact the school.

**Websites** – [www.muswellbro-h.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.muswellbro-h.schools.nsw.edu.au). 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** - The Millennium website contains all of your child's school information. This includes attendance, school reports, assessment tasks, timetables, behaviour information.

Families are able to see the whole family at a glance with your private login. This will be sent to you via an email if you have one listed with us, if not please phone the office with a current email address.

Students can also access this site through a separate login.

