



MUSWELLBROOK HIGH SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER 1

12TH FEBRUARY 2016



Principal Report

Welcome to 2016

We have had a great start to 2016, welcoming over 50 new enrolments to Muswellbrook HS. I would like to extend a warm welcome to the new families who have joined us and I look forward to getting to know you better as the year progresses. A special welcome to our Yr. 7 students who have generally made a very smooth transition to high school, under the watchful eyes of Ms. Alex Skailles, Year Advisor and Ms. Jamie Sturtridge, Assistant Year Advisor.

Please Keep Us Updated

A gentle reminder to our families, to please ensure that you keep us updated on any address or phone changes that have occurred in the new year. Either call in to the front office or phone through the change/s. It has been wonderful to hear news from some of our 2015 Yr. 12s. Most have taken on employment and study opportunities this year - best wishes to you all.

New Staff

It is with great pleasure that I introduce the new staff to our experienced, dedicated teaching team: *English* faculty welcomes Ms. Samantha Turnbull as a permanent English faculty member, formerly from Warialda HS. Welcome back to our longstanding casual teacher, Mr. Michael McCallum, into a temporary position. Mrs. Leanne Duck is Acting HSIE HT (Semester 1) and the *HSIE* faculty welcomes Ms. Rebecca McNeil, formerly from Parkes HS, into a temporary position. Mrs. Kylie Kelly is relieving HT Administration. Ms. Aimee French, formerly from Blacktown HS leads the *PD/H/PE* faculty and is working alongside Ms Sally Bowe from Scone HS and Mr. Robert Bain. Rob has taught most recently at Great Lakes College, Tuncurry Junior Campus and has taught also in England. A special welcome back to MHS to Ms. Tahlia Gageler, *TAS* faculty and Ms. Heidi Mainey, *Support* faculty. Both ladies are former students and it is wonderful to welcome them back as a part of our teaching staff. *CAPA* is excited to have Ms. Samantha Fragar working with us in a temporary position. Sam has worked at Singleton HS. *Science* faculty welcomes Ms. Jin-Kyung Jung who will be with us in a temporary capacity. Jin has recently taught at Trundle Central School.

Support For Senior Students

We have two innovative new programs to support our senior students achieve their personal best: The Senior Prep program and the Accredited Compressed Education (ACE). Mrs. Rachel Kable has done a wonderful job in establishing the Senior Prep program. All senior students are required to attend B 21 whenever they have a study period on their timetable. The Prep room is designed to create an inviting space for seniors to study, provide guidance for 'preparing' themselves for whatever task it is that they are facing – HSC, apprenticeships, employment... The ACE program is a unique opportunity for students to complete their HSC, non ATAR, within one year. The course comprises several VET courses and English Studies. Already we have attracted students from neighbouring high schools, who have enrolled at Muswellbrook HS to take advantage of this unique program.

Current Happenings

To keep the news to you more current, our Newsletter will be a smaller version but published more frequently. Please also 'like' us on FaceBook. We aim to provide snippets of news that happen throughout the day to encourage a positive conversation with your child about school.

Brydie Parker



Brydie is an important and valuable member of the Muswellbrook High School community. She is a committed, hardworking and enthusiastic student, who has demonstrated leadership qualities both inside and outside the classroom. Brydie is an active and integral member of the MHS SRC and demonstrates a high level of dedication to her passion, which is sport.

Brydie displays high levels of skill and abilities in a range of sporting contexts including Touch Football, League Tag, Rugby Union and Athletics. She has represented her school, region and state in many of these sports several times over the last few years. 2015 was an amazing year for Brydie. She has represented her school, the Hunter and NSW in Touch Football and has also gone on to represent her town, the Newcastle region and the state in several competitions external to school sport, including women's Rugby sevens. Brydie's NSW CHS team were semi-finalists at the National Championships, held in September at the Sunshine Coast. She was also the leading try scorer in Group 21 women's league tag, in 2015.

Brydie has proven herself to be a talented, confident and accomplished sportsperson. Her energy and passion for the sports that she loves, transfers to her commitment towards coaching and supporting both her teammates and younger students at MHS. She demonstrates enormous amounts of leadership and sportsmanship and consistently contributes in a positive manner, to any activity she undertakes and is fantastic role model for her peers.

Brydie was one of only 70 students to receive a sporting excellence award, from over 34000 who competed in Hunter CHS sport in 2015. This achievement is a fantastic acknowledgement of her dedication and skill!

BB-8 Robot Raffle

The winning ticket for the BB-8 robot was drawn on 8th December when Team Carbon reunited for a final get together. Mrs J Morgan won this awesome prize that was donated by Harvey Norman in Muswellbrook. Thanks to the generosity of students, staff and members of our community, we raised \$340.00 that is going towards team registration of \$500 for a new team to compete in the robotics FIRST Lego League for 2016. Thank you to all Team Carbon members and school staff who helped sell tickets.

Ms Bate
Principal

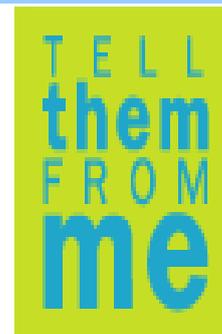


Relieving Deputy Principal

I have had a very interesting start to the year, relieving in the Deputy's chair for Mr Drewe while he enjoys some well-earned long service leave. I've learned a lot in my three weeks in E-Block, but I am looking forward to heading back up to CAPA in week 4, to meet my new classes.

Tell Them From Me

This year, I will be working with Mr Drewe to coordinate the *Tell Them From Me* surveys. *Tell Them From Me* is an online survey system that helps schools capture the views of students, teachers and parents. I look forward to engaging with all of our partners in learning, to obtain feedback that will help us to plan and implement new ideas as we strive for continued improvement throughout the year.



Mr Foy
Relieving Deputy Principal

Muswellbrook High School Senior Prep Room

*'Before anything else, **preparation** is the key to success'*

The Muswellbrook High School Senior Prep Room has been established with the goal of assisting our Senior students in developing crucial skills for the HSC and for life. The room operates on the premise that for students to be successful they must be **prepared!**

Senior students **MUST** attend this room (B21) during any study periods that they are at school. A teacher is always available to assist with any problems and set meaningful and relevant tasks, to ensure that every student's time is being used productively.

Our Senior students have been happy to find that the Prep room has a number of resources which are available to them including computers, printers, Ipads, a microwave, a kettle, stationary and syllabus documents.

We will also be scheduling one Prep Lesson fortnightly for each senior student to ensure they are up to date with organisation, paperwork and also to participate on the fortnightly tutorials covering things such as time management, referencing, study skills etc. These lessons will be delivered by Mrs Kable.

Many students have already made some positive comments about the establishment of this program at MHS.

'It is great to have a space for us to come and get some help' Lara Cutrupi

'The Prep Room is such a nice and relaxing place for us to learn' Abbey Farley

'It is great to have Mrs Kable available to help us do our best at all times' Montana Rose

We look forward to the continued evolution of our Senior Prep Room!

Mrs Kable
Senior Prep Room Coordinator



MHS HUB

Facilities

Helpful, Friendly Staff

- ♦ **Printing**
 - Black and White—20c
 - Colour—Depending on size \$2 for A4
- ♦ **Independent study areas on request**
- ♦ **Meeting Rooms**
- ♦ **Video Conference Room**
- ♦ **Long and short term lending**
- ♦ **Reference Library**
- ♦ **E-Library**
- ♦ **DVD Library**
- ♦ **Copying**
- ♦ **Laminating**
- ♦ **Conference Facilities**
- ♦ **Touch Screen Monitor**
- ♦ **Large Screen Data Projector**
- ♦ **Computer Bank**
- ♦ **Ipads for Loan**

MHS HUB

Opening Hours

Monday to Friday—8.30—3.30 Closed Recess Friday

Variations to hours will be displayed on the front door

Staff

Mrs Cullen—Resource Management
(trish.cullen@det.nsw.edu.au)
Mrs Scholz - Admin Assistant
Mrs Mcleod— Admin Assistant

Online - World Book Encyclopedia
Online Catalogue— Oliver from DoE Homepage
E-Library— <https://muswellbro-h.wheelers.co/>



Contact Information:
Phone: 6543 1033
Ext: 134
E-mail: muswellbro-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

**Muswellbrook High School
Resource Center**



**Information Brochure
Term 1 2016**



HUB NEWS

Exciting Times : [The Library has changed its name.](#)

We are now the **MHS Resource Centre**. We are called the **HUB** as we are now the **Centre of Connectivity at Muswellbrook High School**
Why the Change: Moving into the 21st Century the function of the Library has changed. The definition of a Library is : a building or room containing collections of books, periodicals, and sometimes films and



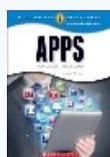
NEW INFO



More to the Story looks beyond negative media reports, political speeches and fear-mongering statistics to tell human stories of refugees and asylum seekers in Australia. Together, they tell stories of



persecution, violence and starvation; families separated for a time, or forever; the desperation of thousands in refugee camps, awaiting relocation under humanitarian programs; the perilous journeys by boat of those for whom waiting would have meant death; life in mandatory detention; and the challenges of starting over in Australia. None of



these people chose to be refugees; all of them chose survival. A

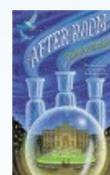
NEW FICTION



A collector of computer games, a knitting needle ninja, a violin that comes to life, a cat with many names, a love that cannot be bought, a prince who finds a friend, an alien invasion..



LIQUIDATOR! The brand-new, delicious and wildly popular energy drink. "For those who wanna win!"



The company that makes it is set to earn a fortune, with its global launch climaxing at an international rock concert

Disability Provisions for Higher School Certificate Examinations 2016

Practical Support for Higher School Certificate Examinations

Information for Students and Parents

Disability Provisions for HSC Examinations

Disability Provisions (previously called Special Provisions) are available to students who require support in the Higher School Certificate Examinations because of one or more of the following:

- Learning difficulties
- Medical problems
- Hearing difficulties
- Vision problems

If the student's need is related to a physical condition, visual impairment, hearing loss, reading difficulty or trouble expressing ideas in writing, then the student should consider applying for Disability Provisions.

BOSTES (Board of Studies Teaching and Educational Standards NSW) has a program to help students with practical support in their Higher School Certificate Examinations. This practical support, known as *Disability Provisions*, can assist students to read examination questions, and to write their answers. Provisions can include rest breaks and extra time, a reader and or writer, separate supervision, enlarged print, appropriate furniture. The use of any provision is not written on the student's results.

Students may need provisions for:

- A permanent condition, such as diabetes or reading difficulty
- A temporary condition, such as a broken arm, or
- An intermittent condition, such as back pain when sitting for long periods.

It is not embarrassing to apply for or use provisions. More than 5000 HSC students apply for provisions each year. Provisions help students to show the markers what they know and can do. To apply for provisions, the school submits an online application to BOSTES. This application indicates the provisions the student is requesting with current supportive evidence. Evidence may include medical reports, reading results, spelling results, writing samples and teacher comments.

The school can collect much of the evidence, but parents' input is welcome and often essential. Parents may help by talking with the school, describing their student's needs, and providing the school with current medical or related reports.

Visit - <http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/disability-provisions/> for further information.

Applications for provisions must be submitted, by the school, to BOSTES by the last day of Term 1

Late applications may be accepted for an emergency, such as a broken arm, mental health disorders, until the time of the examinations.

The school will provide the student with a copy of the BOSTES decision letter as soon as it is made available.

If you think your child may require support in completing the 2016 Higher School Certificate, please discuss the matter with your child and contact the school as soon as possible, on 6543 1033.

Enquires can be made to:

Ms Cheryl Ham or Mrs Sharon Young
Learning Support Teachers
Muswellbrook High School

Deputy Report—School Bell Times 2016

Normal Day		Whole School Assembly Day	
9.06-9.10	Home Group	9.06-9.20	Home Group
9.10-9.20	Home Group Reading	9.20-9.50	Whole School Assembly
9.20-10.10	Period 1	9.50-10.35	Period 1
10.10-11.00	Period 2	10.35-11.20	Period 2
11.00-11.30	Recess	11.20-11.50	Recess
11.30-12.20	Period 3	11.50-12.35	Period 3
12.20-1.10	Period 4	12.35-1.20	Period 4
1.10-1.40	Lunch	1.20-1.50	Lunch
1.40-2.30	Period 5	1.50-2.35	Period 5
2.30-3.20	Period 6	2.35-3.20	Period 6

Swimming Carnival

The 2016 Muswellbrook High School Swimming Carnival was held on Wednesday the 3rd of February at the Muswellbrook Aquatic Centre. Student attendance was excellent and it was pleasing to see so many students engaging in House Spirit, wearing clothing and costumes to support their house. The day started with many of the senior students participating in a Year 12 Boat Relay, requiring them to swim 50m as a team on a flotation device. The weather was steamy so it was pleasing to see many students accepting sunscreen from supervising staff to protect their skin, and rehydrating all day with water. The Year 12 Biology class ran a football throwing challenge and bake stall outside of the water, so students could replenish their energy for their next race with some delicious treats, whilst raising money.

Congratulations to our newly elected Sporting Leadership team for 2016:

Paterson

Captains: Simeon Ross & Mikayla Upton

Vice-Captains: Peyton Wilks & Montana Rose

Page

Captains: Brodie Merrett & Jason McKay

Vice-Captains: Lauren Mitchell & Madison Swan

Goulburn

Captains: Riley Collins & Rachel Cooper

Vice-Captains: Bailey Cavanagh & Amber Collard

Hunter

Captains: Katie Mann & Caitlyn Henderson

Vice-Captains: Shai-Lee Graham & Hayley Matts

Many students participated on the day in a range of swimming events. Congratulations in particular to the Age Champions, who are as follows:

12 Years: Mitchell Kemp & Shyanne Irwin

13 Years: Zane Hartin & Monique Duncan

14 Years: Alex Thompson & Nadia Owen

15 Years: Damon Boeckx & Jacinta Ballard

16 Years: Joel Hartin & Hannah Hill

17+ Years: Blake Shackleton & Rachel Thompson

Our sporting houses were represented strongly in the relays, as were our female staff team, who took out a win in the senior age group. You just can't beat experience! This year saw the introduction of a brand new event aimed at increasing carnival participation – "The Hot Lap Lanes". The Hot Lap Lanes occurred over two time periods through the day, in the morning and last thing in the afternoon, this unique event saw the highest number of students participating in an event (and in the pool at one time) that I'm sure we ever seen in a carnival. Each house group was given two lanes of the pool – an up lane and a down lane, In a ten minute time period the aim was to get as many house members swimming laps as they could. One length of the pool equalled one point and our House Captains did an outstanding job of leading their teams through this event.

From a staff perspective it was FANTASTIC to see nearly every single student who attended the carnival, lining up to enter the hot laps, and swimming multiple laps without stopping. Footage of this event can be viewed on the Muswellbrook High School Official Facebook page. The event saw each house gain hundreds of points for their house. Well done to everyone who participated in this new event. The Hot Laps have definitely cemented their place in future swimming carnivals!

The results at the end of the day were as follows:

- Hunter – 607 points
- Paterson – 587 points
- Page – 544 points
- Goulburn – 436 points

Big congratulations to Hunter house, for their first Swimming Carnival win in at least 4 years! Congratulations to all students who raced in events, the first two students in every event have been invited to swim at the Zone Carnival which will be held at Muswellbrook Aquatic centre on the 17th February 2016. Good luck to those students.

Debbie Pitt
Carnival Organiser



Muswellbrook National Apology Day 2016

So proud to see our school captain, Brock Matthews, dancing with the Wakagetti Cultural Dance Group on Friday 12th February at Simpson Park. The Dance Group performed as part of the celebrations organised to 'Heal our past, Build our future, Celebrate our heroes'.

Mr Waylon Boney is a member of Wakagetti and is our Aboriginal Education Worker. He is available to assist all Aboriginal families with matters related to schooling and to work with our students achieve their personal best.

Ms Bate
Principal



Muswellbrook High P & C AGM



Date: Thursday 10th March

Time: 7pm

Venue: School Library

Muswellbrook Australian Football JUNIOR CLUB

Weeraman Field, Theiss Crescent, Muswellbrook

Juniors - U11's, U13s, U15s, U17s & U16s Youth Girls

\$90 (team jumper provided)

***** NO WEEKLY FEES *****

NAB Auskick - 5 Years to 9 Years

\$70 (includes AFL Auskick Pack)

2016 Registration

Attend Club Open Day at Weeraman Field
on Friday 19th Feb 6.00pm-8.00pm or visit club website

http://www.foxsportspulse.com/club_info.cgi?c=1-916-0-0-0&clubID=149404

*For further information please contact
Annette (Auskick) on 0422 248 770
or Tracey (Juniors & Youth Girls) on 0427 400 303*



2016 WITH MUSWELLBROOK FOOTBALL CLUB

Online registrations now open and will close for travelling teams on 28th Feb.

Registration and Info day at Muswellbrook Market place and Muswellbrook Fair Feb 13th 9-11 am

Trials for travelling junior teams on 3rd/8th and 10th March at Victoria Park



www.facebook.com/mbkhigh



Upper Hunter Youth Services Inc - Youth Centre

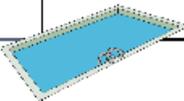
FEBRUARY 2016

Open Wednesday-Fri 3pm –6pm
School Holidays Wed– Fri 11am-3pm

Bus run provided every
afternoon

Located at
**The Showground,
Maitland Street
PO Box 628
Muswellbrook NSW
2333**
Phone: (02) 65434841
Fax:(02) 65425443
Email: kholman@uhys.org.au



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	School Returns Term 1		3 LIFE SKILLS Copying and Laminating school class timetables.	4 COMMUNITY AWARENESS Chinese New Year (8th February) Year of the monkey	5 GROUP ACTIVITY Frisbee Throwing	
			10 LIFE SKILLS Web Searching school assessment schedule.	11 SELF ESTEEM What are our per- sonal goals in 2016?	12 CREATIVE ARTS Valentine's Day February 14th	
			17 SELF ESTEEM Healthy Body Image.	18 GROUP ACTIVITY Making Tacos and Milkshakes.	19 COMMUNITY AWARENESS Heart Awareness Month	
			24 CREATIVE ARTS Painting mini canvases	25 GROUP ACTIVITY Visit to the Pool 	26 HEALTH /WELL BEING Ideas for Yummy food treats for school	
29 Leap Year						

Muswellbrook High School—IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Facebook— [facebook.com/mbkhigh](https://www.facebook.com/mbkhigh) (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. 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.