

## MUSWELLBROOK HIGH SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER 3 18 MARCH 2016





### **Principal Report**

### **Open** Day

We had a great day when our Yr. 5/6 students visited the High School for a day on 2nd March.

Thanks to our talented staff, the Primary students were treated to a day in the life of a High School student. The evening saw many parents also visit the school, do a tour of the grounds and treated to supper made by our Yr. 12 Hospitality students.

We value the connections between our partner schools. Thank you to Mr. Jason Foy for his work in coordinating these transition activities.

### Yr. 7 SRC Representatives

It is with great pleasure that I announce the Yr. 7 representatives for 2016:

Captain: Taya McIntyre Vice: Melody Datson Captain: Mitchell Kemp Vice: Braeden Van Vliet



### Parent / Teacher Interviews

Each student was issued with an interim report last Friday. It is designed to provide some constructive feedback to parents and students about how their child is performing in their subjects to date. It is always worthwhile for parents to book in a time to speak with teachers about what is being taught and how improvements can be made.

### **Staff Development Afternoon**

Staff have agreed to undertake professional learning on Wednesday Week 7 of each Term from 4pm to 7pm in lieu of the last two days of the year. On Wednesday the 9th March staff spent valuable time investigating the wealth of data that is available to us about student achievement: NAPLAN, PLAN transition data, the Literacy Continuum and SMART data. The importance of differentiating the curriculum and how we can achieve this every day in the classroom was also explored. This will translate to teachers knowing and better understanding about each student's learning and tailoring the teaching material to target particular student needs.

### **Robotics**

We wish our carbon crusaders all the best as they compete in their first tournament for 2016. The team, expertly guided by Mrs Katrina Byrnes, will travel to Sydney on Wednesday to compete against other teams in NSW.

The FRC is sponsored by Macquarie University and enables students from rural areas exposure to STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) in practise. Our robot has been bagged and tagged for a couple of weeks now, so it will be great for our students to finally get the opportunity to see how well their design will go against many challenging tasks.

### **Harmony Week**

MHS will be celebrating Harmony Week from 21<sup>st</sup> to the 25<sup>th</sup> March.



Harmony Day, 21 March, celebrates Australia's cultural diversity. It is about inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone.

It is a day for all Australians to embrace cultural diversity and to share what we have in common. The central message for Harmony Day is that 'everyone belongs', reinforcing the importance of inclusiveness to all Australian.

We will celebrate by participating in a myriad of activities throughout the week. A special Harmony Day assembly will be held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> March and a 'wear it orange' on the 'top half' will take place on Friday 18th March. Thank you to Mrs Bronwyn Tier and Mrs Rachel Kable for their organisation of these events.

### **Support For Students**

We have welcomed Mr. Tony March to our NORTA NORTA team this year. Tony is a retired HT English, from Merriwa Central School. He is working with our Yr. 7 and 9 students to assist them with their literacy and numeracy and is guiding select students through the QuickSmart Literacy program. Mrs Lyn Gowing continues to work with our Senior Aboriginal students on a Tuesday.

If you would like your child to access this support, please contact the school. Aspiring students are also able to apply to the Polly Farmer Foundation (PFF), operating out of the TAFE premises Monday to Thursday. Miss April Bott coordinates the tutors and would also be happy to assist any Aboriginal student to achieve their goals.

Mr Waylon Boney from the Wakagetti Dance Troupe is our Aboriginal Education Worker. If you think that your child requires some additional support, please contact someone from the Aboriginal Education team, who will be more than happy to assist students realise their dreams.

Ms E Bate Principal

# General Permission to Publish and disclose information

Dear Parent/ Caregiver,

I am seeking your permission to allow the school/Department of Education and Communities to publish and/or disclose information about your child for the purposes of sharing his/her experiences with other students, informing the school and broader community about school and student activities and recording student participation in noteworthy projects or community service.

This information may include your child's name, age, class and information collected at school such as photographs, sound and visual recordings of your child, your child's work and expressions of opinion such as in interactive media.

The communications in which your child's information may be published or disclosed include but are not limited to:

Public websites of the Department of Education and Communities including the school website, the Department of Education and Communities intranet (staff only), blogs and wikis

Department of Education and Communities publications including the school newsletter, annual school magazine and school report, promotional material published in print and electronically including on the Department's websites

Official Department and school social media accounts on networks such as YouTube, Facebook and Twitter

Local and metropolitan newspapers and magazines and other media outlets

Parents should be aware that when information is published on public websites and social media channels, it can be discoverable online for a number of years, if not permanently. Search engines may also cache or retain copies of published information. Published information can also be linked to by third parties.

Please contact the school if you wish for your child to NOT be published

Yours sincerely

Elizabeth Bate Principal Muswellbrook High School

### MHS hosts and wins Sydney Academy of Chess Local Heat

Muswellbrook High School hosted our local heat of the Sydney Academy of Chess Tournament with participants from 5 local primary schools and 4 high schools. The participants included; Muswellbrook PS, South Muswellbrook PS, Scone Grammar School, Singleton Heights PS, Mount Pleasant PS, Kurri Kurri HS and St Joseph's HS. Nearly 70 students admirably played 7 intense rounds of chess with the maximum of 30 min per game. All members of the MHS team played to their best ability and came out winning the overall tournament with Kai Suzuki placing 2<sup>nd</sup>, Bradley Woodeson placing 3<sup>rd</sup> and Nathaniel Sharp placing 5<sup>th</sup>.







### **Open Day & Open Night 2016**

This year's Open Day saw approximately 160 Year 6 students visit our school to take part in a range of demonstration lessons and team building activities.

Throughout the day, students were escorted by our SRC students to four elective sessions that they had chosen, as they worked their way through a mini timetable for the day. On that timetable were sessions of Japanese, Science, PE, HSIE, Visual Arts, English and Food Technology. Students were also able to take part in Laser Tag with their 2017 Year Advisor, which was a lot of fun.

This year, Muswellbrook High School trialled an 'Open Night', which took place during the same evening. Prospective parents and students of Year 7 2017 & 2018 took part in school tours, which were led by P&C members, school leaders and Senior Executive staff.

They also attended an information forum, which was followed by a visit to the Hub to see displays and to speak with representatives of the wide and varied programs that are offered at Muswellbrook High School. A spread of hot food was provided by Mr Glase and his Hospitality students.

I would like to give sincere thanks to all of the students and staff that assisted on the day and night, including the Primary School teachers who supported on the day.

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### **Special Education**

Students in the special education unit were counting down the sleeps until the Upper Hunter Show. They had been working hard this term on creating masterpieces to enter into the annual Upper Hunter Show. Students entered work into a range of categories including art, photography and handicrafts. They have a lot of talent and are so proud of their work. This is the first year the show has provided a disability section in the pavilion and the students were keen to produce more beautiful artwork. It was a wonderful opportunity for the students to be able to participate in this community event and showcase their skills and ability to members of the community. Students won a range of prizes including certificates, ribbons and prize money. They are already thinking of ideas they can enter in next year's show.

Mrs Sarah Doyle Teacher



### **Open Girls touch Football**

On Tuesday 15th March, a group of Muswellbrook High School students participated in the annual CHS Zone Open Girls Touch Football competition held at Olympic Park in Muswellbrook. The girls played against Scone in their first game and recorded a win of 16-1. This game gave the girls plenty of confidence going into our second game against singleton. The girls started the second game a bit slow and found themselves behind on the scoreboard. They showed a lot of determination and enthusiasm and came back to win 7-4. The team will now travel to Newcastle in term 2, to participate in the regional championships. We would also like to thank Paddy and Finlay McTaggart for being our referees for the day. The boys have an outstanding talent when refereeing and we are very proud to have this talent here at Muswellbrook High School.

#### **Mrs Sarah Doyle**

Teacher





### **Career Education Report**

#### Congratulations to the Class of 2015



Alexander Armstrong Apprentice Plant Mechanic



Holly Arvidson Newcastle University Languages double major



Bronte Baker Working in clothing retail



Kayla Behsman Newsagent assistant



Jaidan Billing Working in the Food industry



Taylor Brosnan Working Bakery and Chemist



Aaron Carey Working in the retail of fine menswear



Stacey Carr Deferred Nursing working for 2016



Bayley Carter Bridging course for university



Jaudyn Cavanagh Apprentice Chef



Tahila Ciello Working in the horse industry



Dominic Cooper Applications pending



Jordon Curran Working in the groceries industry



Taylah Dale TAFE animal care course

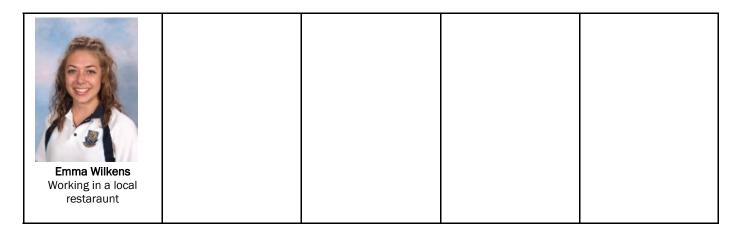


**Caitlin Daniel** UNE Armidale History Teaching









#### **Other Upcoming Career Events**

Work Experience Year Ten

Group One, April 4-8

Group Two, June 20-24

Group Three, September 5-10

Group Four, December 5-9

Muswellbrook High Careers Day, March 22-Year 10, 11 and 12

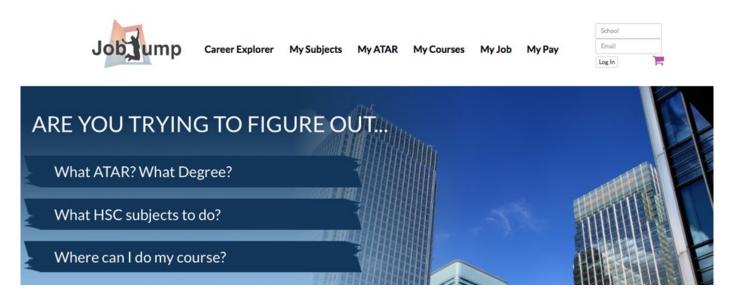
University of New England Schools Open Day, May 6- Year 11 and 12

Newcastle University Schools Visit Day-June 30, Year 11 and 12

### HOW CAN PARENTS HELP STUDENTS WITH CAREERS???

An excellent resource that the school has subscribed to in recent years is <u>www.jobjump.com.au</u>. It is well worth going to the website and watching the parent video which takes less than three minutes.

The website can even email you regular updates in the latest information on any career area of your interest. The password for Muswellbrook High students only is 'cattledogs'.



Mr Borg Careers Advisor

### SCHOOL PHOTOS Monday 21st March, 2016.

This year, our school photos will occur on **Monday 21st March, 2016.** School photographs will be taken of all students in the Neate Theatre. This day is to be followed by the "Catch up" photo day on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> March, 2016.

All students are required to present for photos respectably dressed in **full school uniform** and of acceptable appearance. Students who are <u>not</u> in school uniform will <u>not</u> be photographed. Muswellbrook High School's uniform is as follows:

Junior Girls (Years 7-10) Blue MHS polo shirt Checked skirt or MHS navy shorts White socks or navy stockings Black shoes Senior Girls (Years 11-12) White MHS polo shirt Checked skirt or MHS navy shorts White socks or navy stockings Black shoes Junior Boys (Years 7-10) Blue MHS polo shirt MHS navy shorts White socks Black shoes Senior Boys (Years 11-12) White MHS polo shirt MHS navy shorts White socks Black shoes

<u>Note</u>: Jewellery for all students is to be kept to a minimum e.g.; small stud/sleeper earrings and one plain chain only. Students wearing excessive jewellery will be requested to remove it on the day.

#### PHOTO PACKS

The School photos will be taken by "MSP Photos" and the style of photographs will involve individual photos being taken of each student. These individual photos are then compiled into a "booklet" for all years. The photo packages available include:

Premium Pack= \$46 Classic Pack = \$44 Value Pack= \$42 Essential Pack = \$41 Basic Pack = \$39 Group Only = \$29 Portrait Only = \$22 (online only) Gift pack = \$15 (online only- with a pack purchase) Family Photos = \$29-\$20 (various packs available)

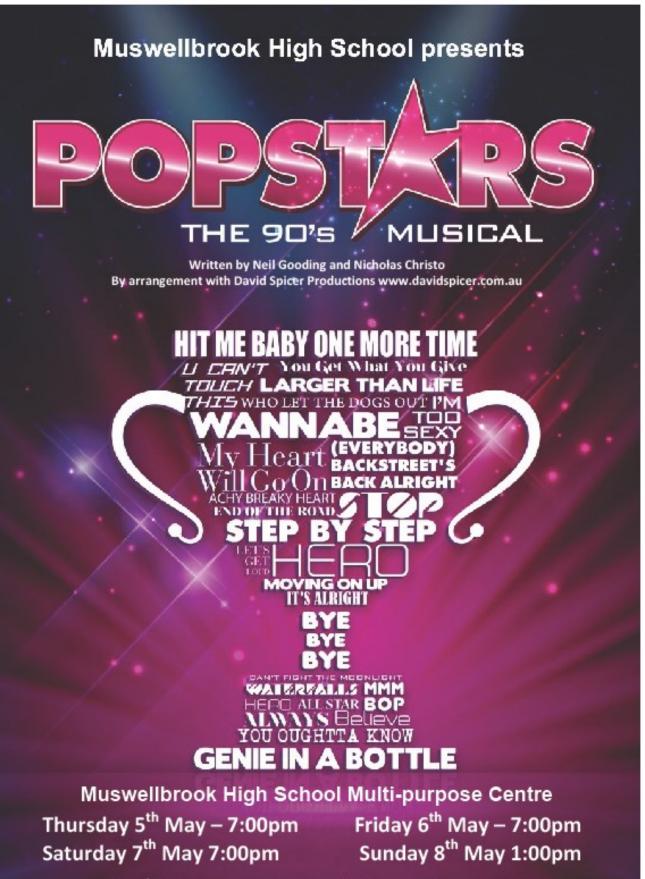
Photo envelopes, containing all details plus payment information, will be received by all students in Home Groups in the next couple of weeks. Spare envelopes and Family Photo envelopes can be obtained from the MHS Front Office (A Block).

Students must return photo envelopes, plus full payment (correct money or credit card details, on the day of photographs or order online at <u>www.msp.com.au</u> PLEASE NOTE: No payments are ac-cepted by the School.

For more information about MSP Photography, you can go onto their website at **www.msp.com.au** or please contact the school at your convenience.



K.Green (Photo Coordinator-TAS DEPT)



Tickets \$13.00 – Reserve seating. Group bookings and discounts available. Available online: **www.trybooking.com/KNME** and at Muswellbrook High School office during school <u>hours. Enquiries: 6543 1033</u>



### **Upcoming Events**

16th-19th March	First Robotics Competition 2016–Sydney Olympic Park		
17th March	Royal Easter Show Excursion		
21st March	School Photos		
22nd March	Part 2 Parent/Teacher Interviews 3.45pm-6pm		
22nd March	MHS Careers Day		
25th March	Good Friday		
28th March	Easter Monday		



World Education Program (WEP) Australia, a non-profit student exchange organisation is looking for volunteer host families to host an overseas exchange student!

Our students are arriving in July 2016 and are looking forward to learning about Australia!

#### To request a free information pack for your family, contact us today!

1300 884 733 info@wep.org.au w

www.wep.org.au

World Education Program Australia Limited – WEP Australia ABN 82 098 289 897

A NON-PROFIT STUDENT EXCHANGE ORGANISATION REGISTERED/APPROVED BY THE EDUCATION DEPART-MENTS/REGULATORY AUTHORITIES IN NEW SOUTH WALES, QUEENSLAND AND VICTORIA.





### 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





### Muswellbrook High School—IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Facebook— 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.