



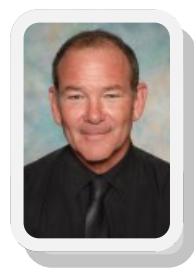
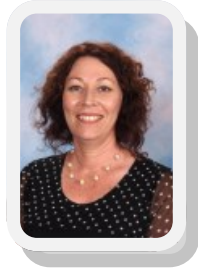
Muswellbrook High School



"Striving for excellence in a school that cares"

NEWSLETTER 4

6TH APRIL 2016



Principal Report

Japan Trip



On Sunday 3rd April an excited group of staff and students departed MHS headed for Japan.

They will tour Japan on route to visit our sister school Sayama Seiryō School. Their itinerary looks amazing - they visit Tokyo, Kyoto, Mt Fuji, and the Hiroshima Peace Dome and even manage to fit in some time at Disneyland! No doubt, a highlight will be the formation of a lovely friendship between our students and their host families.

What an amazing opportunity for our students to travel and to learn first-hand about another culture. No doubt their lives will be forever enhanced as a result of their experiences.

We wish them safe travel and look forward to hearing about their adventures upon return!

Parent / Teacher Evenings

It was great to see so many parents and caregivers attend the Semester 1 parent / teachers interviews. It was positive to see a 28% increase in the number of interviews booked in the recent Semester 1 interviews when compared to the number of interviews booked Semester 1 last year.

The interview evenings are a great opportunity for parents to speak with specific teachers in an organised and relaxed way. If you were unable to attend or if you did not catch up with a teacher on the night, please contact the school and either speak with the teacher over the phone or arrange to come into school for a meeting. Your child's progress is our business and we value the opportunity to work together to maximise success.

ANZAC Day Town March

I would be honoured to have staff and students march together on ANZAC Day. Students should dress in their uniform and meet at the railway station at 9.45 am ready to commence the March down the Main Street at 10.00am.

Happy and Safe Holidays

Finally, I wish all students and their families a safe and happy holiday. We have worked consistently hard this Term and a break from routine is always appreciated. Thank you to the positive way in which our families encourage and support our school.

All students resume school on Wednesday 27th April.

The Staff Development Day, to be held on Tuesday 26th April, will focus on Quality Teaching and how we can further improve our craft to ensure we engage and cater for all learners.

Ms E Bate
Principal

Deputy Report

We have arrived at the end of Term One with a great record of school uniform. Students have looked excellent throughout the summer months and I would like to thank parents for supporting our efforts to keep students in uniform.

Term Two always causes a few concerns at the commencement as the temperature cools and students look for jumpers, which they may have outgrown. If you are purchasing a new jumper for your son or daughter, could I please remind you that we have a well-stocked uniform shop here at school. The shop is open on Tuesdays, 7:30am to 11:30 am and Thursdays, 12pm to 4pm throughout the year. Hoods are not part of the uniform and students will be asked to remove these items of clothing and replace them with a school jumper borrowed from the library. Beanies have been introduced into the school stock and we ask, if your child wishes to wear a beanie they purchase the dark blue school item.

I would like to remind any parents who changed their address or contact details in the past few months to please contact the school and complete a change of address form. On occasions we have been trying to contact a parent and phone numbers have been altered without our knowledge. This can be serious in the case of an emergency.

Have a great holiday. Year 12, study hard!

Mr Scott Copland
Deputy Principal

Photography Lighting Workshop

Muswellbrook High Photography Students were treated to a Lighting workshop with Award winning photographer Chris Pavlich. Chris has over twenty years of professional experience in print journalism and is currently working as a Photographer with the Telegraph.

Passionate about Photography he engaged students in a hands-on workshop exploring lighting techniques using professional equipment and simple techniques using their mobile phones to light people and objects.

Students shared their work with Chris and he was able to offer encouragement. He advised students to work hard and follow their passions.

Liam Johns sitting whilst students practiced different techniques and camera angles

Mrs McGeechan
CAPA Teacher



Senior Boys Touch Football

The Senior Boys Touch Football Team competed in the first round of the CHS competition on Thursday 10th March 2016 – Maitland. Thank you to the parents who drove the boys and came to support the team on the day!

The boys had a lot of success, with the first game allowing them to find their feet with the introduction of a few new players that were not in last year's team. The results of the games are as follows:

Game 1 – 5-3 v Singleton

Game 2 – 8-0 v Cessnock

Game 3 – 7-2 v Mount View

Final – 5-0 v Rutherford

With the heat of the day coming on strong, Rutherford decided they only needed to play one half in the final, acknowledging that the MHS team was 'too good'!

The boys all played well and are now looking forward to the next round which should be early Term 2. Congratulations to the team for their first round wins and making it through to the next stage!

TEAM:

Joel BARNER (Year 12)
Dylan HOWARD (Year 12)
Jason MCKAY (Year 12)
Jake BARTUSH (Year 11)
Thomas BIANCO (Year 11)
Kane CUBILLO (Year 11)
Paul DENGATE (Year 11)
Blake SHACKLETON (Year 11)
Bailey TAYLOR (Year 11)
Jarrod WATTS (Year 11)
Jacob BUTTON (Year 10)
Steven DENGATE (Year 10)
John PAGE (Year 9)
Zaine STEWART (Year 9)



Miss French
Coach

PBL Winners

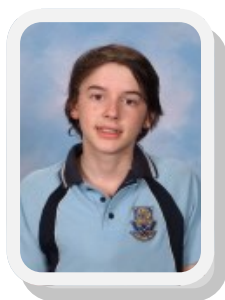
Congratulations to the following students who were lucky enough to have had their "Gotcha" drawn out of the weekly barrel draw and won a \$50 Big W gift voucher this term.

All "Gotcha" docketts that the students had received over the term, of which there were hundreds and hundreds were reentered back into the barrel for their chance to win a \$500 Ipad, including protective screen cover and Ipad cover. The lucky recipient of that was year 7 student Maddison Apthorpe.

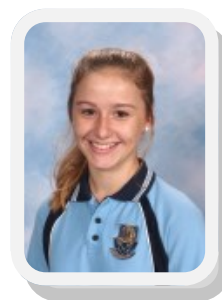
Term 2 **will** see PBL rewards link up with our current reward program VIVO. Congratulations to both students and staff who have embarked on the PBL journey.

Miss Smith
PBL Co-ordinator

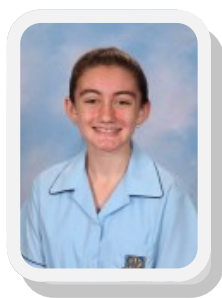
Week 5 – Hunter Orth



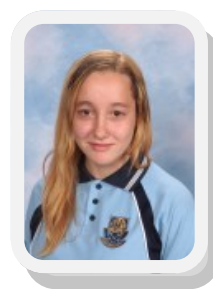
Week 6 – Emily Whitney



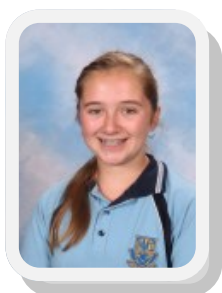
Week 7 - Corinna Brown



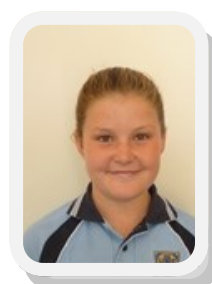
Week 8 – Layla Price



Week 9 – Samantha Baas



Week 10 – Maddison Apthorpe



Support Report

The students and teachers of the Support Unit at Muswellbrook High School have been very busy lately. We have been on numerous excursions, including to the Muswellbrook Show, the Muswellbrook Pool and are looking forward to rewards excursions next week. Students cleaned up with lots of awards at the Muswellbrook Show and enjoyed the obstacle course in the Muswellbrook Pool at the unveiling of the hoist for individuals in wheelchairs; a community initiative to support students like Jason Madden. Most recently, students were treated to a visit from Amy Mills, an Olympic Gold Medalist, who has two cochlear implants.

Amy spoke about how she had competed in the Deaf Olympics in Melbourne and overseas. She showed students her gold medals and encouraged them to train hard. The message was clear though – work hard and you can achieve anything! She was accompanied by Rachel Baker, a Hearing Itinerant Teacher, who helped to teach the Bronze and Gold classes more signs such as: ‘whatever’, ‘teacher’, ‘independent’ and ‘awesome’. All students thoroughly enjoyed the visit and learnt new ways to communicate in sign language.

Here are a few pictures of what’s been happening lately!

Ms Alex Skales
Support Teacher



Cross Country Report

On the 16th of March the Annual School Cross Country was held at Olympic Park. The carnival was split into a junior (3km) and senior (6km) race. This allowed students to watch and cheer on their siblings and friends from the grandstand whilst listening to some “pump up music” put on over the PA by Mr Jason Foy and his tech crew. There were some outstanding individual performances with Walter Pankhurst taking out the junior race and Jason McKay the victor in the senior race. Be it our competitive runners, our fun runners or our walkers, everybody had a smile on their face and participated with eagerness and enjoyment. The top 6 in each age group will qualify for the Zone carnival to be held at Rosepoint Park in Singleton on April 6th.

Mr Dust Carnival Organiser



Open Boys Rugby League Team

The Open Boys Rugby League team had their first game of the year at the Group 21 Rugby League Competition, at Scone Park on Sunday. Teams from around the Upper Hunter and Farrer Agricultural School contested a preseason competition based on fun and improving skill. The Muswellbrook High School team enjoyed an easy victory in the first round of competition versus an undermanned Scone High School, 34-4. The win set up a traditional grudge match against St. Joseph's Aberdeen. After some exciting action in the first half the boys trailed 10-4, with a great individual try to Paul Dengate. In the second half the teams went back and forth and a very confrontational game threatened to spill over at times. The second half resulted in two penalties to St. Joseph's and at full time final score was 14-4. It was a hard fought game but great sportsmanship was displayed by both teams after the game. The boys now look forward to the University Shield Competition at the end of the term.

Mr Duncan McKinlay



U13's Rugby League Team

The U13's Rugby league team participated in their first rugby league competition for the year at Valentine on the 16th of March. It was a 7-a-side competition run by the Newcastle Knights and the NRL. The team was met with monsoon like conditions but started off strong with a resounding win against Rutherford 5 tries to 0 in their first match. Their second game was a seesawing contest against St. Paul's Booragul that resulted in a 3 tries to 3 draw, with Muswellbrook being denied a winning score at the end of the game. In the last match of the round robin the boys needed to win their last game against St. Mary's Gateshead 2's to reach the semi-finals.

After a closely fought contest, Muswellbrook High School won 3 tries to 2 and went into the finals full of confidence. In the semi-finals the boys started well with a try a piece but a few injuries and increased pressure from St. Mary's Gateshead 1 resulted in a 5 to 1 defeat. It was a great effort by the team and parents to brave the wintery conditions. The team now looks forward to the Knights Knockout in Term 2.

Mr Duncan McKinlay



Rewards System

Please see below an up to date list of our highest earners in Vivo!!

Well done to these students!!

Ella Murray 955
Lana Wilson 867
Lydia Hume 845
Justine Beldad 833
Kaito Suzuki 756
Jessica Xia 753
Nicole Boeckx 708
Nadia Owen 672
Jacinta Ballard 650
Lara Collins 648
Olivia Bray 640
Atticus Sinclair 615
Montana Gageler 610





Harmony Day, 21 March, celebrates Australia's cultural diversity. It's 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 Australians.



This year Muswellbrook High School celebrated Harmony Week with a series of events designed to promote awareness and acceptance of our cultural diversity. During Week 9 students have had the opportunity to taste flavours of the world at a lunchtime food stall, learn greetings in a number of languages, attend a whole school celebration ceremony showcasing the cultures that are represented at MHS and finally on Thursday Year 8 students will attend an African Drumming workshop during period 4. With over 30 different cultures represented in our student body at MHS we are definitely a school rich in diversity!

There are some fascinating statistics about Australia's diversity. Did you know:

- around 45 per cent of Australians were born overseas or have at least one parent who was
- 85 per cent of Australians agree multiculturalism has been good for Australia
- apart from English the most common languages spoken in Australia are Mandarin, Italian, Arabic, Cantonese, Greek, Vietnamese, Tagalog/Filipino, Spanish and Hindi
- more than 60 Indigenous languages are spoken in Australia
- 92 per cent of Australians feel a great sense of belonging to our country.

These facts are taken from ABS 2011 Census Data.

We look forward to celebrating Harmony Week again in 2017!

Mrs Kable
HT Welfare



Harmony Day



CARBON CRUSADERS (Robotics Team)

Our robotics team, Carbon Crusaders 6061 (look for us below in the vibrant orange and blue shirts far left) had the most inspiring and fun time at FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) held in Sydney at Olympic Park from 18-19 March. International students from China, Taiwan, Chicago competed with 40 Australian, many rural and regional first time (rookie) teams, to compete in the robotic “Stronghold” medieval themed tournament.



The FRC medieval ‘Stronghold’ arena above



Carbon Crusaders team in our pit area

To make it into the finals, teams of three were chosen by the top 8 qualifying team captains to form an alliance. We were very fortunate to be chosen by the Roboroos, a South Australian team (white shirts to the left) to form Alliance Team 7 with The Drop Bears (grey shirts to the right) from Sydney.



The twenty remaining teams were immediately eliminated from the competition when they were not chosen in the alliance selection.



Nathaniel Sharp is commended for his dedication to working on the robot to overcome the mechanical damage and faults we had with motors and electrical wiring. James Straney consistently helped Nathaniel with making adjustments and where would we have been without Charane keeping our pit area tidy and safe? Every day we walked into our pit area and found notes from judges commending us on our high level of safety. With the robot glitching out due to one motor driving in one direction and the second going the other way, the team's decision to drive backwards when the robot wouldn't turn gave us much needed points in the last qualifying rounds. Nathaniel, James and Richard did some great driving considering the problems we encountered.



The camaraderie from the FIRST community rallying to help us as a rookie team with our robot problems was very humbling. We were amazed with the cooperation and support we were offered and provided by Roboroos from S.A and Curtain University from W.A that were having their own robot issues. We found the FIRST judges and inspectors very supportive to get our robot inspection checked and working for the tournament. At the end of the qualifying rounds we discovered we were the only team out of 43 that had built a simple, dedicated defense arm to prevent the bigger robots from scoring goals at the top of the castle. We drove two rounds with the defense arm to get noticed by other teams for alliance selection. It paid off with other teams talking about us and the Roboroos selecting us to join them with the Drop Bears in the quarter finals.

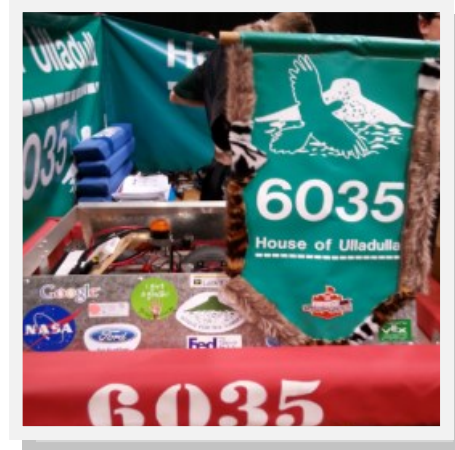
Overall the FRC experience was amazing. It was not just learning about robots, teamwork, sportsmanship and cooperation, it was about leadership, marketing, business planning, public speaking and above all, having lots of fun meeting people enjoying the world of robotics.





The all girls team..... Robocats were another first year rookie team

I must thank Cameron Usher and Charane Custora for stepping up to be Ambassadors for FIRST and our school, taking many visiting school student groups the behind the scene areas of the tournament and talking to them about their FRC experiences while VIPs Julie Bishop and Malcolm Turnbull visited the arena. There were only a few teams selected to do this role on short notice and both Cameron and Charane did an outstanding job.



Richard Schultz, James Straney and Jacob Lye were instrumental in getting the robot and equipment ready for each match. Our team worked hard and made an impact in the FRC community as they now know who we were and where we are from.

We congratulate Barker Redbacks (Barker College), Thunder Down Under (Macquarie Uni) and House of Ulladulla (DoE NSW school) They are the winning alliance team that won the Finals and are off to St Louis in a few weeks to compete in the International tournament. We wish them best of luck and hope they will be victorious in their Stronghold battles overseas!

Our next FRC robotic event is the Sydney Duel Down Under in June and we need your support. Please visit our facebook page and tag some 'likes' to follow us in our robotic crusades.

www.facebook.com/CarbonCrusaders6061

Katrina Byrnes
Team Coach/Mentor



MUSWELLBROOK HIGH SCHOOL GOES TO GERMANY 2017!



In The April school holidays, Muswellbrook High School is planning a 10 – 11 day trip to see the highlights of Germany.

We will be visiting Berlin, Dresden, Munich, Nuremburg, Dachau, Munich And Frankfurt.

The estimated cost for this trip will be \$5800 per person.

This will include airfare, touring costs, tips, breakfasts and dinners and accommodation.

Visas, passports, lunches, travel insurance and souvenirs are not included. The trip is open to all students of Muswellbrook High School, their parents, families and staff.

If you think you may be interested then please see Mrs Duck for an application form or phone her on 65431033.

Please remember that this is a school excursion and that an appropriate level of behaviour and dress is expected.

Mrs Leanne Duck



WOMEN IN ARMS



Supporting Each Other



Domestic/Family Violence Support Group

Come along to our Women's support group, talk with other women who have lived or are living with Domestic/Family Violence

SUPPORTED PLAYGROUP FOR CHILDREN UNDER 6 YEARS

(Limited spaces so booking essential)

Parents/Carers please provide your child/children with healthy snacks (no nuts) and drinks



Where: PCYC Muswellbrook Corner Carl St & Market Lane

When: 2nd Wednesday of the Month

Time: 10 am to 12 pm (Tea/Coffee provided)

For more information or to make a booking for the playgroup call Michele Bowes on 65422725
Krista Turner 65425051 or Ashleigh Hamilton on 65427714



Muswellbrook High School presents

POPSTARS

THE 90's MUSICAL

Written by Neil Gooding and Nicholas Christo
By arrangement with David Spicer Productions www.davidspicer.com.au

HIT ME BABY ONE MORE TIME
U CAN'T You Get What You Give
TOUCH LARGER THAN LIFE
THIS WHO LET THE DOGS OUT I'M
WANNABE TOO SEXY
My Heart (EVERYBODY)
Will Go On BACKSTREET'S
AGHY BREAKY HEART BACK ALRIGHT
END OF THE ROAD STOP
STEP BY STEP
LET'S GET LOUD HERO
MOVING ON UP
IT'S ALRIGHT
BYE
BYE
BYE
CAN'T FIGHT THE MOONLIGHT
WATERFALLS MMM
HEAD ALL STAR BOP
ALWAYS Believe
YOU OUGHTTA KNOW
GENIE IN A BOTTLE

Muswellbrook High School Multi-purpose Centre
Thursday 5th May – 7:00pm Friday 6th May – 7:00pm
Saturday 7th May 7:00pm Sunday 8th May 1:00pm

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



Upper Hunter Youth Services Inc - Youth Centre APRIL CALENDAR 2016

Open Wed-Fri 3pm – 6pm Free Bus run provided
School Holidays Wed – Fri 11am-3pm Focus of the month: 'It Starts With Us'

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



LEST WE FORGET

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					Health/Well Being Which fruit/food is in season?	
		5	6 Self Esteem Media messages?	7 Health/Well Being Did you know? Alarming statistics.	8 School Holidays holiday fun	
		12 Y.C open	13 MOVIES DAY	14 Lunch date at Maccas	15 YOUTH WEEK EVENT	
		19 Y.C open	20 Visit to the pool.	21 EXCURSION	22 Free Pizza Day	
			27 Craft Afternoon	28 Life Skills How to open a bank Account? What do I need?	29 Group Activity Afternoon tea Menu planning for June.	



2015-2016
NSW Family Energy Rebate



\$150*
TOWARDS
ENERGY
BILLS

Do you have
dependent
children
in your
household?

**APPLY
ONLINE
NOW!**

FOR MORE INFORMATION & ASSISTANCE
PHONE - Service NSW 13 77 88
EMAIL - fer.program@trade.nsw.gov.au
WEB - www.resourcesandenergy.nsw.gov.au/info/familyenergyrebate



Department
of Industry
Resources & Energy



**TWO MINUTES TO
FILL IN A FORM**
[https://applications.fer.
trade.nsw.gov.au/](https://applications.fer.trade.nsw.gov.au/)
* eligibility criteria apply

**Apply before
11pm
16 June 2016**

Upcoming Events

3rd—22nd April	Japan Trip
5th April	Anzac Assembly
6th April	Zone Cross Country
7th April	Uni Crawl
9th—25th April	School Holidays
26th April	Staff Development Day (Only Staff Return)
27th April	Students Return Term 2 (Full Assembly)
29th April	Tocal Field Day
2nd—7th April	School Musical

School Bell Times 2016

Normal Day		Whole School Assembly Day (Tues WEEK B)	
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



www.facebook.com/mbkhigh

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.