



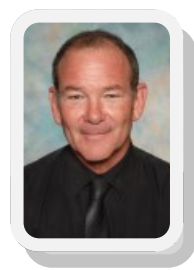
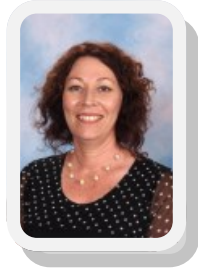
# Muswellbrook High School



*"Striving for excellence in a school that cares"*

**NEWSLETTER 5**

**6th May 2016**



## Principal Report

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### Welcome back to Term 2

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I am excited to commence another Term of learning and discovery at MHS. Our school's vision statement declares what we are about at MHS:

*'As a progressive educational community, we are committed to inspire and challenge students to achieve individual success in preparation for effective participation in a changing world'.*

We have had some staff changes for Term 2. Mr Duncan McKinlay accepted a secondment position with Newcastle Office. Welcome to Miss Rikki Moore and Mr Mitchell Calder, who join the PD/H/PE team.

Our Yr. 12 students are true student leaders in every sense of the word. For the first time in my career, I can proudly acknowledge the efforts of our Yr. 12 students in that there have been NO N warning letters issued in Term 1! In other words, students have been successful in submitting their assessment tasks on time and have earned marks towards their assessment rank as a result. Congratulations Yr. 12. It demonstrates to me that you are taking responsibility for your learning! Also, recorded behaviour incidents are at an all-time low. Well done Yr. 12.

### Staff Development Day

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The staff enjoyed an informative day of professional learning on Tuesday 26th. One of our Leadership Teams, trained in the Newcastle University's quality teaching rounds, delivered a condensed version of the process to all teaching staff. Teachers developed an understanding of the process and coded a lesson against the Engagement criteria.

Another Leadership Team, Technology, introduced Google Classrooms. Teachers were able to set up their own Google Classroom and learnt how to post announcements and attach an assignment to students.

Through our Leadership Teams, all staff are investigating current professional trends in education, adjusting their findings to suit the particular needs of MHS and sharing their knowledge with the wider school body. I am proud of the ability and the willingness of our staff to continually develop their craft in order to attain excellence in teaching. When staff are engaged in learning, our students benefit.

## Japan tour returns

It is wonderful to hear the many fabulous stories being shared by the students and staff who travelled to Japan in the holidays to visit our sister school, Sayama Seiryō School. It was even sweeter to know that they all arrived safely back to their families, in spite of the news about the most recent devastating earthquake to hit Japan. Thank you to Mrs Fiona Bailey and Mrs Bronwyn Tier for their impeccable organisation of the tour and to our wonderful students who were amazing ambassadors for their county, town and school.



I received an email from a tourist last week, who took the time to say that he had noticed the peace cranes that had been proudly displayed at the Hiroshima Peace Park. You just never know by whom, when and where Muswellbrook High School is being noticed!

## Anzac day march

It is always a proud yet sobering privilege to walk alongside our students at the town ANZAC March. Thank you to the many students who proudly donned their school uniform and marched behind the school banner and our school leaders. Thank you to Mrs Katrina Brynes for her organisation of the SRC students.



## Tell them from me (TTFM) student survey

Thank you to the 405 students who took part in the TTFM student survey at the end of Term 1, coordinated by Mr Drewe. The responses to survey questions measures 38 indicators based on the most recent research on school and classroom effectiveness. They have been collated externally and our school responses have been matched to NSW Government norms. This information will be shared with all staff and students and families, and no doubt form much discussion. The information will be used to celebrate all things positive, review and implement processes or programs to address areas of deficit, all in the attempt of making MHS an even better place for our young people to learn.

Some interesting data from the survey:

### **Advocacy outside of school**

Students feel they have someone at home or in their community who consistently provides encouragement and can be turned to for advice.

Muswellbrook HS students rated Advocacy outside as 5.8/10. The NSW Gov. norm for these years is only 5.2/10.

### **Advocacy at school**

Students feel they have someone at school who consistently provides encouragement and can be turned to for advice.

Muswellbrook HS students rated advocacy at school 7.2/10.

Of concern, however, are the responses relating to *drivers of student outcomes*.

### **Students planning to finish Year 12**

69% of students at MHS had aspirations for finishing High School; the NSW Gov. norm for these years is 85%.

### **Students planning to go to university**

Students who plan to pursue a post-secondary education.

47% of students in Muswellbrook HS had aspirations for pursuing a post-secondary education, compared with 67% NSW Gov. norm.

## School Musical

By the time this newsletter is distributed, we will have commenced Popstars, the musical. I do hope that you have been a part of the audience and have been impressed by the outstanding talents of our students. Of course, to put on a musical is a massive undertaking and I would like to thank the many gifted staff and parent volunteers, on behalf of MHS, for the countless hours spent getting props, costumes and cast to and from the many rehearsals. A huge thank you to the partners of staff who have generously enabled our staff members to devote so much time to the musical.

This is indeed a community event! To our talented students - you are amazing! I hope that you have enjoyed the journey just as much as the final destination and that the skills and discipline you have shown throughout the musical will provide outstanding memories for you.



## SRC Report

On ANZAC Day our senior SRC leaders proudly led the school marches at Muswellbrook and Denman. At the Muswellbrook ceremony, there were approximately 50 students marching to represent our school. Afterwards, Lara Cutrupi (School Captain) and Stephen Davis (Vice Captain) delivered moving speeches.

At Denman we had a smaller group of students marching proudly to represent our school. We would like to thank the students that participated in both marches, and their families for bringing them along. Your support is very much appreciated for this important community event. We would also like to thank Ms Bate and school staff that participated.

**Mrs Byrnes**  
SRC Coordinator



*ANZAC DAY*



*Muswellbrook*

*&*

*Denman*



## Muswellbrook High Careers Day

Every student in Year 10, 11 and 12 attended the careers day run by Muswellbrook High School on Tuesday March 22. Students attended three small group work shop presentations that they selected from over thirty information booths covering over three hundred careers, prior to the event.

The Muswellbrook High Careers Day which has grown in to a valuable part of the curriculum runs thanks to the amazing and generous support of the following universities, TAFE, training providers, scholarship providers and employers as well as the Maths and English teachers who attend with their class groups, thank you.



## Work Experience



*Pictured L-R: Joel Hartin, Brodie Betteridge, Jack Clare, Ty Watson, Marcus Morris, Liam Barnes, Gracie Alderson who participated in the Bengalla Mining work experience program introduced for the first time in 2015 and expanded thanks to the work of Debbie Day from Bengalla in 2016.*

For the past two years work experience has been divided in to four rotations which means students have been assigned a work experience week in either term one, two, three or four. The approach aims to spread out the demand for host workplaces, designate clear weeks on the school calendar and encourage students to take the opportunity of completing work experience as assigned rather than postpone the opportunity.

Students complete a series of lessons early in the term regarding work experience expectations and requirements as well as several basic safety tests, once complete students are eligible for work experience.

The term one rotation from work experience was April 4 to 8 and students completed a wide range of learning opportunities including surveying, education, child care, hair dressing, geology, mechanics, business administration, retail, wholesale, metals and engineering, agriculture and vet science.

## Unicrawl 2016

Unicrawl 2016 ran on the second last day of term and involved thirty Year 12, Year 11 and Year 10 students from Muswellbrook High touring: the University of New South Wales, University of Sydney and the University of Macquarie as well as two colleges of accommodation.

*Making Maths Cool Again* was part of a promotion by famous University of Sydney Alumni such as triple J's Adam Spencer and caught the interest of Caleb Jones and Ben Henry.



The iconic clock tower of the University of Sydney was a focal point on an excellent tour which included lunch at one of the Colleges of Accommodation, International House, thank you.



## Upcoming career events for Term Two:

- May 6 University of New England Open Day-School Excursion
- Work Experience Year 10 Group Two, June 20-24
- Newcastle University Schools Open Day 30 June-School excursion
- Parent information-*have you signed up to [www.jobjump.com.au](http://www.jobjump.com.au) a great career service that will send you and or your child updates up to one year post school on jobs, scholarships and training providers. Watch the three minute parent video and see Mr Borg.*

Mr Borg  
Careers Adviser

## Bangarra Dance

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Bangarra Dance Company's program, ReKINDling, visited Muswellbrook to conduct a 3 day workshop that culminated in a performance for community members on Friday the 29<sup>th</sup> of April 2016. 20 of Muswellbrook High School's Aboriginal students were involved in the program which told the story of Tiddalick the frog through dance. The staff who watched the performance thought the students performed exceptionally well and Leonie and I are extremely proud of the MHS students involved.

April Bott  
Program Coordinator  
Polly Farmer Foundation

## The *Tempest* Excursion

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At the end of last term, a group of enthusiastic Year 11 and Year 12 Advanced English students travelled to Tamworth's Capitol Theatre to view a production of their HSC text, *The Tempest* by William Shakespeare. It was an excellent opportunity for students to experience a dramatic production of a play they have, or will read, in class as they complete the HSC English course.

The performance was very entertaining and one of the highlights for students was the intermission where characters from the play interacted with the audience. The cast and director also made themselves available at the end of the performance to answer student questions and discuss

production decisions, including the interpretation of the play and portrayal of characters. This gave students valuable insight into the production process and improved their knowledge of the play.



Thank you to Angela Westbury and Tony Borg for their assistance in the organisation of the excursion and their attendance on the day. The students' response was very positive and it was wonderful to share this experience with them.

**Mrs Wass**  
English Faculty

## Australian Mathematics Competition 2016

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The Australian Mathematics Competition (AMC) will be held on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> July.

This competition is one of the world's largest and gives students the opportunity to compete not only with students across Australia but also with students from 30 other countries.

The paper focuses on problem solving skills. There are 30 problems to solve in 75 minutes. The first few are very easy and the last few are quite difficult. Students of all standards will make progress and find a point of challenge.

The AMC gives students external recognition of their level of achievements with all students receiving a certificate showing their level of achievement and a detailed report showing how they went on each problem.

The cost of entry is \$5 and is payable at the front office by Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> May.

**Mr Cummings**  
Head Teacher Mathematics



**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**



**Upper Hunter Youth Services Inc - Youth Centre**

**MAY CALENDAR 2016**

Open Wed-Fri 3pm –6pm Age: 10-18 yrs Free Bus run provided  
School Holidays Wed – Fri 11am-3pm Focus of the month: Saying **NO** to violence

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
			4 PHYSICAL ACTIVITY Touch football on the lawn	5 COMMUNITY AWARENESS Skip rope for heart wcek activity	6 MEAL PLANNING Choosing a meal to cook	
			11 ART/CRAFT Photography	12 PHYSICAL ACTIVITY Afternoon sport activity on the Lawn.	13 MEAL PLANNING Budget and costings	
			18 TEAM WORK Volley Ball	19 LIFE SKILLS Looking at our time management skills.	20 MEAL PLANNING Recipe reading and cooking	
			25 COMMUNITY AWARENESS Saying no to relationship violence	26 TEAM WORK Soccer on the lawn	27 MEAL PLANNING Meal cooking review	
			31 ART/CRAFT Painting			

## Essentials for Mental Health Caring

“Essentials for Mental Health Caring” is a group of Assisting Families workshops designed to help families, friends and carers of people with mental illness to build on their knowledge, skills and give the most up to date information relevant to carers. These workshops value the experience of carers & families, are delivered in a relaxed atmosphere and can be a great place to enjoy support from others in similar situations.

**Carer Assist invites you to our four week “Essentials for Mental Health Caring” program in Muswellbrook, which will include workshops on:**

- **Mental Illness:** This module looks at the concepts of mental health and mental illness, some indicators of mental illness, the key differences between someone who displays poor mental health and someone with a diagnosed mental illness, factors in the development of a mental illness and information regarding brain chemicals (neurotransmitters) and the structure and function of the brain and their role in mental illness.
- **Meaningful Communication:** This module will provide an opportunity to become familiar with certain models of communication, practice skills and explore how these might apply to the relationship between people living with mental health problems and their carers.
- **Recovery:** The National Framework for Recovery-Oriented Mental Health Services (Australian Health Ministers’ Advisory Council, 2013) identifies the importance of supporting families to understand the experience of the person living with mental illness and their recovery process. The Framework also focuses on how carers can assist and how they can put into place the supports and strategies to enhance their own wellbeing.
- **Caring for Yourself:** This module explores the importance of self-care for families and carers. It aims to help identify aspects of life which may get in the way of self-care and to assist participants to develop ideas and strategies for nurturing that can inform their personal self-care journey.

**Where:** Muswellbrook

**When:** Consecutive Wednesdays from 18<sup>th</sup> May – 8<sup>th</sup> June 2016. 9.30 am – 12.30 am

Free light morning tea provided. The session on 6<sup>th</sup> June will include a small survey and free lunch provided. Please allow until 1.30 for this session.

Please contact Kirsten Noack at Carer Assist Muswellbrook on 0466453078 or email [kirsten.noack@carerassist.org.au](mailto:kirsten.noack@carerassist.org.au) for more information or to make a booking. Numbers are limited and bookings are essential.



Carer Assist is a service of the Schizophrenia Fellowship of NSW Inc.



**SUPERHERO STRIDE**

**SUNDAY 22 MAY 2016  
NEWCASTLE FORESHORE**

A 3KM SUPERHERO WALK SUPPORTING THE WESTPAC RESCUE HELICOPTER SERVICE

**JUMPING CASTLE  
FACE PAINTING  
BALLOON TWISTING  
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT  
SUPERHEROES GALORE!**

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DRESS AS YOUR FAVOURITE SUPERHERO AND BE IN THE RUNNING TO WIN GREAT PRIZES!

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MUSWELLBROOK DISTRICT JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE CLUB

**LIP SYNC NIGHT**

**SATURDAY MAY 14th 2016**

COME ALONG TO A NIGHT OF LAUGHTER, GOOD COMPANY, GREAT MUSIC & ENTERTAINMENT

6-9 PM MUSWELLBROOK RSL CLUB  
LUCKY DOOR PRIZES+ BEST GROUP + SOLO PERFORMANCE PRIZES + GAMES + GUESSING COMPETITION+ KIDS ACTIVITIES

\$5 per family OR \$2 for a single entry.

AN EVENT FOR THE WHOLE COMMUNITY - Meals may be bought downstairs in the bistro - BAR AVAILABLE ON THE NIGHT -



**Health**  
Hunter New England  
Local Health District

## Does your child receive regular, high quality dental care?

Hunter New England Oral Health provides comprehensive dental care for all children, at no cost. We are a non-profit government organisation dedicated to providing the best care for your child.

**Make a dental appointment today!**

**Call 1300 651 625**

**Our clinic locations:**

- Armidale • Beresfield • Cessnock • Forster • Glen Innes • Gunnedah • Inverell • Maitland • Moree • Muswellbrook • Narrabri • Nelson Bay • Newcastle • Raymond Terrace • Scone • Singleton • Tamworth • Taree • Toronto • Wallsend • Windale

## FREE OUTDOOR FITNESS & ACTIVITY CAMPS

STARTS TUESDAY 5TH APRIL 2016  
VICTORIA PARK,  
OFF HILL STREET, MUSWELLBROOK

Time	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri
6.30am	X X-TRAINING	BOXING	X X-TRAINING	BOXING	
12.15pm					YOGA

EACH CLASS RUNS FOR 45 MINS.  
FREE FOR EVERYONE 18 - 99!

LIVE LIFE

YOU'LL MEET  
NEW FRIENDS

GREAT ADVICE

EASY, DELICIOUS  
NUTRITION PLANS

GET ACTIVE

REGISTER TODAY TO BOOK YOUR SESSIONS  
AND GET A FREE TAILORED NUTRITION PLAN!  
[www.livelifeggetactive.com](http://www.livelifeggetactive.com)

PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY

Live Life Get Active is a community initiative that is facilitated and funded by Corporate Australia and Local Government.  
Live Life Get Active Pty Ltd ABN 63 152 823 023

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](http://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 PM  
WANNABE TOO SEXY  
My Heart (EVERYBODY)  
Will Go On BACKSTREET'S  
ACHY BREAKY HEART STOP  
END OF THE ROAD BACK ALRIGHT  
STEP BY STEP  
LET'S GET TOGETHER HERO  
MOVING ON UP IT'S ALRIGHT  
BYE BYE BYE  
CAN'T FIGHT THE FEELING  
WATERFALLS MMM  
HERO ALL STAR BOP  
ALWAYS Believe  
YOU OUGHTTA KNOW  
GENIE IN A BOTTLE

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

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

# Upcoming Events

5th–7th May	School Musical
9th May	Education Week
9th May	Wingham Beef Week
10th-12th May	Yr 7 & 9 Naplan
12th May	P & C Meeting 7pm in the Library
16th May	Yr 7–10 Exams commence
17th-18th May	Yr 11 Biology/Science Excursion
20th-21st May	MUNA
25th May	Athletics Carnival

## 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](http://www.facebook.com/mbkhigh)

### Muswellbrook High School—IMPORTANT INFORMATION

**Facebook**— [facebook.com/mbkhigh](http://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](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.