



Muswellbrook High School



"Striving for excellence in a school that cares"

Newsletter

May 2018



Principals Report

Welcome back to Term 2!

Disco Inferno – 10 – 12 May – Have you got your tickets yet?

The MPC looks set for an outstanding Musical!

If you haven't treated yourself, family and friends to a seat – hurry before they sell out!

Congratulations, in advance to all staff and students involved – the many, many hours of preparation and rehearsals + props making has been phenomenal. I am always in awe of the vision and patience in the beginning of such a large undertaking and I am always amazed at how it all comes together in the end... all to showcase our student's skill and talent!

To our CAPA staff - thank you for providing a stage for many of our students to discover new abilities and passions.

SDD – Visible Learning

Our staff attended a combined schools staff development day on 29 April at the Muswellbrook RSL alongside Scone PS and Scone HS to undertake our third training day based on John Hattie's research; Visible Learning. Visible Learning is a professional development program for teachers that explores how evidence can be used to create innovation in the learning environment. Our professional learning focussed on what is effective feedback and how we can get the greatest impact from the feedback that we give to students.

Staff Changes

Congratulations to Mr. Greg Morris who was promoted permanently as the Head Teacher Maths and Miss Tahia Gageler, was appointed as permanent TAS teacher. These are well deserved positions and great news for Muswellbrook HS.

Congratulations to Rebecca McNeil on her appointment as permanent HSIE teacher to Scone HS. This is a well-deserved position for Rebecca and I am grateful for her hard work and commitment to the students and staff at Muswellbrook HS. Mrs Jessica Bielby will step into the HSIE position for the remainder of the year.

Muswellbrook HS also welcomes Mrs Laura Tonkin as a permanent English teacher.

Mr Duncan McKinlay will take on a permanent Support teacher position, effective this week, at Cessnock HS. Mr McKinlay has been a permanent staff member since 2009 – he will be greatly missed! Thank you Mr McKinlay for ALL of the hard work and passion you have provided for our staff and students at Muswellbrook HS. Best wishes!

Due to increased student numbers, Muswellbrook HS will also have a number of classroom teacher positions that will be filled this Term.

ANZAC March

Thank you to the staff and students who marched at both the Muswellbrook and Denman ANZAC marches. Thank you in particular to Miss Jin Jung and Mr Rod Glase for your organisation of our SRC students and to Mr Jason Foy and Mrs Laura Martin for your hard work and organisation of the students who performed at the Service and did our school very proud!

PESA (Positive Education Schools Association) 2018 National Conference

Thank you to Mrs Samantha Fragar, Ms Josie Mullington and Mrs Lauren Gallagher for your enthusiasm and your engagement at the conference at Geelong Grammar School at the end of Term 1. This was an extraordinary learning, sharing and connecting event, which will assist our school to drive the Visible Wellbeing strategic direction of our school's strategic plan.

Over the course of the conference, we were inspired by the tremendous work being done by governments, universities, researchers, parents, health professionals, school leaders and educators who each share a common goal – to improve the wellbeing of our young people and the wider community, to build character, and to teach optimism, compassion, gratitude and resilience.

Building works

It is a desired position to be in to have capital works in a school - it means that the much needed upgrades to our buildings are taking place.

Approval was given by the Department of Education for the planned upgrades to replace the roofs on J, E and C Blocks and the Farm classroom as well.

Scaffolding has been erected around C Block ready for roof replacement as early as this week. They will do a section at a time to minimize classroom and staffroom disruption.

There will also be some painting to the top corridor of B Block and A Block ceilings.

The renovations to the J Block staffroom is nearly complete. This will accommodate the PD/H/PE from week 2 onwards. The Girls Academy have been temporarily relocated to The Hub, awaiting a new location.

The new COLA over the basketball courts is progressing as planned. It is hoped to be completed by the end of Term 2 holidays.

Science Labs

The refurbishment of two science labs commenced in the holidays and they will be ready for use Term 3.

Athletics Carnival – Friday

Thank you to the PD/H/PE staff, in particular Miss Sally Bowe for her organisation of the 2018 Athletics Carnival. It was a most enjoyable day for all involved. Unfortunately, student numbers were at an all-time low. It is an urgent plea for parents to support this event and encourage your child to attend the carnival in 2019.

Upper Hunter Network

Muswellbrook HS has undergone a change and we are now a part of the new Upper Hunter Network. Our new Director is Mr Sean Andrews, whom is located in Maitland. Mr Andrews will be at our school musical and will visit the school on Friday 11 May. The schools involved in this Network are: Muswellbrook PS, Muswellbrook South PS, Muswellbrook HS, Martindale PS, Denman PS, Sandy Hollow PS, Aberdeen PS, Scone PS, Scone HS, Belltrees PS, Ellerston PS, Blandford PS and Murrurundi PS.

Medications

Please – if your child is on medication, please let the school know and follow the Department of Education's guidelines. When a medical practitioner has prescribed medication that must be administered during the

the school day, parents/carers must: notify the school, provide up to date information as required and supply the medication and any 'consumables' necessary for its administration in a timely way.

The administration of such medication forms part of the department's common law duty of care to take reasonable steps to keep students safe while they attend school.

The common law duty of care does not extend to administering prescribed medication to students who are reasonably able to self-administer. However, the department must take reasonable steps to ensure that the self-administration is carried out safely.

Deputy Principals Report—Scott Copland

As you may be aware the school is currently undergoing major building and construction. With this, comes a number of safety issues regarding movement around the school, including the dropping off of students in the morning and collection in the afternoon. If your child does not have a disability we ask that you do not drive on to the school grounds due to the congestion of staff and building vehicles. In saying this there is also the concern of students running across roads in front of vehicles when arriving and leaving the school grounds. While the school makes every effort to educate students on the traffic conditions around the school we ask that parents are also very diligent at this time with the extra traffic in the vicinity.

The temperature is dropping and with this comes the battle with students not wearing the correct school uniform. While we want students to be warm, we also require them to maintain our great uniform record. The uniform shop is open on Tuesday from 7.30-11.30am and Thursday from 12-4pm allowing either parents or students to purchase the correct jumper. If a student arrives at school with the incorrect uniform they will be asked to go to the library to change into a school jumper. As always we ask and thank parents for their support with uniform.

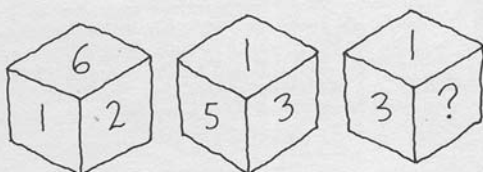
Mathematics Report

Year 11 and 12 Mathematics Standard/General students have access to their textbook on line so it's available to them over the internet. Our junior textbooks all come with CD versions so students can borrow their text book in a more portable form.

Our thanks to Ms Jung, one of our Science Technology Engineering Mathematics (STEM) teachers, and the Australian Mathematical Sciences Institute, on recently running a Choose Maths for students in 9MA01, 9MA02, 10MA01 and 10MA02. The aim of the day was to expose students to a variety of jobs for which higher Senior Mathematics Courses is an advantage.



57 The following figures represent three views of a cube, on the faces of which are the numbers 1 through to 6. What is the number missing from the third view?



As a trail, in the lead up to the NAPLAN and Junior Half Yearly exams, several Senior students will be running a Student Assisted Mathematics Study (SAMS) on Tuesday and Thursday lunchtimes.

Labor Omni Vincit ~ Work
Conquers all

Mr Greg Morris

HSIE Newsletter Item for May 2018

Staffing News

The HSIE faculty sadly farewelled Miss Rebecca McNeil from our faculty at the end of last term. Miss McNeil was successful through Merit Selection in gaining a position as a HSIE teacher at Scone High School. She has been a very hard working, professional staff member at Muswellbrook High School and fully deserves her appointment to a permanent teaching position.

In her place, we welcome Mrs Jessica Bielby who will work in the HSIE faculty for the remainder of the year. Mrs Bielby had been working at St. Josephs. She is not completely new to our school, as she did one of her practicum placements at Muswellbrook High School.

We also welcome Mr Jarrod Wilton who is covering Mrs Farrell's leave for the first 4 weeks of this term.

Mobile Phones

Mobile Phones can be a tool for learning, however, they can also be a tool for distraction. The HSIE faculty have decided to have zero tolerance towards use of mobile phones, unless under teacher direction as a tool for learning. If your child needs to have a mobile phone at school, please encourage them to keep it out of sight in the classroom.

Term 2 Reports

Term 2 is a report term. Students are encouraged to do their best work for assessment tasks and put in their best efforts in class. The HSIE faculty awards marks for effort, attitude and conduct. We encourage all students to take a positive approach to their learning this term in order to give themselves the best chance of having reports they can be proud of.

Attendance – Term 1, 2018

Regular attendance at school for every student is essential if students are to achieve their potential, and increase their career and life options. It is our objective at Muswellbrook High School, in partnership with parents, to promote the regular attendance of all students. While parents are legally responsible for the consistent attendance of their children, as part of our duty of care, the school records and monitors part and whole day absences. We would like to acknowledge the following students who have achieved 100% attendance for Term 1, 2018.

Year 7

Rachel Barry
Jeoff Beldad
Jayden Craker
Elizabeth Ferries
Cooper Gageler
Lachlan Graham
Sophie Hayes
Hannah Kermond
Jada King
Joshua Lacey
Oscar Morgan
James Pemberton
Cade Snewin
Annalyce Sorensen
William Thompson
Beau Wallace

Year 8

Kobe Cavanagh
Georgia Charles
Mia Hallett
Carryn Harmer
Lequisha Yule

Year 9

Liam Galvin
Jac Maxwell
Phoebe Moore
Darcy Saunders
Karl Ursulo

Year 10

Lachlan Barnes
Thanushka Gajendran
Jack Hayes
Wade Reddish

Year 11

Shaun-Patrick O'Donnell
Boston Gageler
Marc Ferries

Year 12

Sarah Shelford
Elizabeth Symington
Sam Xia

let's go
to school

Every Day Counts

When your child misses just	that equals per year	and therefore from Kindy to years	and therefore from Kindy to Year 12 that is	Your child has missed
1 day each fortnight	20 days per year	9 months of school	1 ½ years of school	260 days
1 hour per day	40 days per year	1 and ¼ years of school	Over 2 ½ years of school	520 days
1 day per week	40 days per year	1 and ¼ years of school	Over 2 ½ years of school	520 days
2 days per week	80 days per year	2 and ½ years school	Over 5 years of school	1,040 days
3 days per week	120 days per year	4 years school	Almost 8 years of school	1,560 days

Give your child every chance to succeed.....

CAREERS

This term will be a busy term for students, with excursions, training, work experience, a careers day, Principal Interviews (Year 12) subject choices and our annual 'Back to the Brook'.

White Card Course 30th May (notes were sent out to students 7/5)

Careers Day 31st May

Year 10 Work Experience – 6th June-10th June.

University of Newcastle – 5th July.

"Back to the Brook" – 6 July.

In addition to the events organised directly through our school:

There are some great opportunities available for Year 12 students considering a GAP year, after the HSC.

The Defence Force offers Cadetships (paid work and training) for a period of 1 year after the HSC. Go to <https://www.defencejobs.gov.au/>

If you have a child in Year's 10, 11 or 12, now is the time to start considering courses, researching training providers, universities or employment options. Reviewing opportunities now, saves considerable time later and leads to making educated decisions. If your child would like to discuss the opportunities available to them or to even gather some ideas, please encourage them to call into the Careers office.

Students are asked to regularly check the Careers Noticeboard for career opportunities; this could be in the form of employment, training, scholarships or events. Please encourage your child or student in your care, to do this regularly as well as registering for the Careers website (www.muswellbrookhighcareers.com and www.jobjump.com.au). Both these sites are free to our students and 'jobjump' is available to parents and carers. They both provide current information, relating to everything careers (for now and after school).

Mrs McDonald



**Nationally Consistent
Collection of Data**
School Students with Disability



Information for parents and carers

WHAT IS THE NATIONAL DATA COLLECTION?

The Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (the national data collection) is an annual collection that counts the number of school students with disability and the level of reasonable educational adjustment they are provided with.

The national data collection counts students who have been identified by a school team as receiving an adjustment to address a disability under the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* (the DDA). The DDA can be accessed from the ComLaw website at www.comlaw.gov.au.

what is the benefit for my child?

The aim of the national data collection is to collect quality information about school students with disability in Australia.

This information will help teachers, principals, education authorities and families to better support students with disability to take part in school on the same basis as students without disability.

The national data collection is an opportunity for schools to review their learning and support systems and processes to continually improve education outcomes for their students with disability.

WHY IS THIS DATA BEING COLLECTED?

All schools across Australia collect information about students with disability. But the type of information currently collected varies between each state and territory and across government, Catholic and independent school sectors.

When undertaking the national data collection, every school in Australia will use the same method to collect information. Therefore, a government school in suburban Sydney will collect and submit data in the same way as a Catholic school in country Victoria and an independent school in the Northern Territory.

The information provided through the national data collection will enable all Australian governments to improve target support and resources to benefit students with disability.

WHAT ARE SCHOOLS REQUIRED TO DO FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITY?

All students are entitled to a quality learning experience at school.

Schools are required to make reasonable adjustments, where needed, to assist students with disability to access and participate in education free from discrimination and on the same basis as other students.

These responsibilities are outlined in the DDA and the Disability Standards for Education 2005 (the Standards). The Standards require educators, students, parents and others (e.g. allied health professionals) to work together so that students with disability can participate in education. The Standards can be accessed via the ComLaw website at www.comlaw.gov.au.

WHAT IS A REASONABLE ADJUSTMENT?

A reasonable adjustment is a measure or action taken to help a student with disability access and participate in education on the same basis as students without disability. Reasonable adjustments reflect the assessed individual needs of the student, and are provided in consultation with the student and/or their parents and carers. Reasonable adjustments can be made across the whole school setting (e.g. ramps into school buildings), in the classroom (such as adapting class lessons) and at an individual student level (e.g. extra tuition for a student with learning difficulties).

What information will be collected?

Every year your child's school will collect the following information for each student with a disability:

- the student's level of education (i.e. primary or secondary)
- the student's level of adjustment
- the student's broad type of disability.

The information collected by schools will be provided to all governments to inform policy and programme improvement for students with disability.

WHO WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL DATA COLLECTION?

The definition of disability for the national data collection is based on the broad definition under the DDA.

For the purposes of the national data collection, students with learning difficulties such as dyslexia or auditory processing disorder as well as chronic health conditions like epilepsy, diabetes or asthma, that require active monitoring by the school, may be included.

Who will collect information FOR THE NATIONAL DATA COLLECTION?

Teachers and school staff will count the number of students with disability in their school and the level of reasonable adjustment they are provided based on:

consultation with parents and carers in the course of determining and providing reasonable adjustments
the school team's observations and professional judgments
any medical or other professional diagnosis
other relevant information.

School principals are responsible for ensuring the information identified about each student is accurate.

How will my child's privacy be protected?

Protecting the privacy and confidentiality of all students and their families is essential. Personal details such as student names or other identifying information will not be provided to local or federal education authorities.

Further information about privacy is available from www.education.gov.au/notices.

IS THE NATIONAL DATA COLLECTION COMPULSORY?

All education ministers agreed to full implementation of the national data collection from 2015. This means that all schools must now collect and submit information annually on the number of students with disability in their care and the level of adjustment provided to them.

Information about the arrangements that may apply to your school in relation to this data collection is available from your child's school principal and the relevant education authority.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Contact your child's school if you have further questions about the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability.

You can also visit www.education.gov.au/nationally-consistent-collection-data-school-students-disability.

An e-learning resource about the Disability Standards for Education 2005 is freely available for the use of individuals, families and communities at <http://resource.dse.theeducationinstitute.edu.au/>



7pm, Tuesday 22 May 2018
Muswellbrook High School
Multipurpose Centre King Street, Muswellbrook

**FREE
ENTRY**

**THE 5 GREAT PARENTING CHALLENGES
MILLENNIAL PARENTING MUST KNOWS**
Alcohol - online safety - sleep - other key issues

www.uhwherethesawill.com.au



Cross Country Report

On Wednesday the 14th of March the students of Muswellbrook High travelled down to Olympic park to participate in the annual cross-country event. Although the conditions were warm on the day every student participated, many with great enthusiasm, some going for the gold medal while others focused on getting their step count up for the day. The students demonstrated a tremendous amount of sportsmanship supporting and cheering on their fellow students, some even going back to help their friends run the last leg of the course and get over the finish line. Overall it was a fabulous day and it was great to see the whole school come together in such a positive light! We look forward to future whole school carnivals and next year's cross-country.



Our age champions on the day were:

12 Years: Faith Redhouse-Veljanovski & Tyson Ward

13 Years: Ashtyn Quinn & Tyrel Forrest

14 Years: Kashanti Walmsley & Joshua Halliwell

15 Years: Ashley Halliwell & Darcy Saunders

16 Years: Corinna Brown & Walter Pankhurst

17+ Years: Jacinta Ballard & Jack Clare

Congratulations to these students.

Jayde Moritz

Carnival Organiser



INAUGURAL TOUCH FOOTBALL GAME



MHS students came together as a united front to show their support for each other in combating mental health issues through a friendly touch football game. After the game the students were also lucky enough to enjoy a free sausage sizzle which was provided by generous local supermarkets Coles and Woolworths. Students were asked to make a gold coin donation. We are pleased to announce that MHS students raised \$ 354 which will be donated back to local charity Where there's a Will. We look forward to running this program annually as part of a whole school student wellbeing program.

About Where there's a Will

Where there's a Will is a not for profit charity established in the Upper Hunter in 2016 to address significant mental health issues facing the community. They do this by supporting schools to build positive learning communities that embed the teaching of resilience and wellbeing in their curriculum and in their schools.

While prevention is the primary focus of Where there's a Will, they also support and fund our community through the introduction of education initiatives utilising established services and programs such as Youth Mental Health First Aid. This assists with reducing stigma, improving awareness and increasing the number of qualified mental health first aid experts for a flourishing Upper Hunter.





Thu 10th May 6:30pm - Sat 12th May 1:00pm

Fri 11th May 6:30pm - Sat 12th May 6:30pm

Tickets - www.trybooking.com/SUIY or School Office

By Jai Sepple - By Arrangement with David Spicer Productions - Additional Material by David Spicer



Opening Hours

Wed - Fri 3pm—6pm
School Holidays—11am—3pm

FREE BUS RUN
Muswellbrook area only!

FOCUS OF THE MONTH

'MINDFULNESS'



YOUTH PRIDE

UPPER HUNTER YOUTH SERVICES INC. - YOUTH CENTRE

JUNE CALENDAR 2018

Located in The Showground—Maitland Street Muswellbrook NSW 2333

Phone: (02) 65434841

Email : lmcphee@uhys.org.au or kholman@uhys.org.au

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
				1 LIFE SKILLS Cooking
		6 TEAM SPIRIT State Of Origin NSW v's QLD	7 HEALTH /WELLBEING Let's get Physical on the	8 CHILLAX Movie and Popcorn!
		13 MINDFULNESS Bring to mind all the people you love and care about.	14 ART/CRAFT COLOURS	15 NATIONAL BUD- DY DAY Tell your friends how much they mean to
		20 THINKING OF YOU WEEK! Make a card and give it to someone to let them know you are thinking of them.	21 HEALTH & WELLBEING What are the best winter fruits and	22 FRIDAY BBQ!! Bring a friend and join in the fun!!!
		27 PHYSICAL ACTIVITY Outdoor Activity	28 MINDFULNESS When someone is speaking, take a full breath before Replying.	29 ART/CRAFT

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.

Upcoming Events 2018

May 10,11,12	Disco Inferno
May 14	Wingham Beef Week
May 15,16,17,18	Naplan Yr 7 and 9
My 17 –18	Eisteddfod School Band and Choir
May 21 –25	Yr 7 –10 Exams
May 22	Yr 11 Gulgong Excursion
May 22	Dr Micheal Carr-Greg presentation
May 29-30	Zoo Snooze Yr 12 Excursion
May 31	Careers Day
June 1	Regional Cross Country
June 4	Yr 10 Work Experience
June 11	Queens Birthday Holiday
June 12	Yr 11 Work Placement
June 13-14	Science and Engineering Challenge
June 14	Eisteddfod School Drama

