



Muswellbrook High Newsletter



Term 4 Issue 2

Keep up to date with school news and events on our Social Media pages.



From the Principal:



Neal Reed

There have been many highlights this year of students success, most recently demonstrated through *The Big Night In*, a wonderful showcase of student talent and achievement. From the photography to the clay work to the ProBL compilation to the Drama and Music performances - the richness and diversity of the students, and the staff who nurtured them, was on full display. A job well done to all.

As we continue planning and preparing for next year, I can confirm with you my commitment to Muswellbrook High School in 2021. I will, until further notice, be relieving as Principal. I have said to everyone who asked me about how things are going, my genuine response is that I have not met one person who is not invested in the school. I stand by this view. I feel privileged to be part of this school community.

As we conclude the year I would like to thank you for your constant support of the school. It has been challenging for us on several fronts, however true to form, the staff and students have been resilient and confident about next steps. I have recently surveyed the students about how to improve our school further and there is a lot we can do now. More about this next year.

Wishing you all a very safe holiday season and I look forward to our journey together in 2021.

Upcoming Events!

Week 9

December 11th - Special Ed Christmas Lunch

December 11th - Out of uniform day

Week 10

December 14th - Reports issued online

December 15th - Presentation day - Students

December 16th - Students Last Day

Year 7 Book Packs

The year 7 book packs have arrived and are available to purchase from the front office for \$50.

Please note: \$50 Cash is required.

Scientific Calculators can also be purchased for \$20

COVID—19 UPDATE

At the present time we are still restricting non essential face to face interaction with parents. Our bubblers are still turned off to prevent cross contamination - Students can still however use the filtered hydration station to refill their water bottles.

SRC Report - December Newsletter

We have been very busy leading up to the end of the year. SRC held a Thank You lunch in Week 7 that was to say well done to all our 2020 SRC representatives and welcome to any new representatives that have been elected for 2021. A planning day for 2021 was held on Monday of Week 8. Lindy Hunt from Where There's a Will assisted in preparing our senior leaders that attended the Adelaide Summit to run the day. Our leaders did a fantastic job of taking our SRC students through what they believe leadership is, recognising their character strengths and starting our forward planning for 2021 events and electing our SRC executive. We even had Mr Reed call in and discuss what he saw as our role within the school and his expectations. Well done to Noah Petersen who has been re-elected as our Chairperson for 2021.

FESTIVE FRIDAY: Over the last weeks we have been calling for donations of non-perishable food and toys in support of the PCYC food and toy appeal. Donations are able to be left at the HUB until Friday December 11th (Friday of Week 9). This Friday will also be our "Festive Friday" where students will have the chance to come out of uniform in their festive finest and celebrate the coming break and look back on 2020.

Have a wonderful Christmas and best wishes for 2021- Mrs Farrell and the SRC



Uniform Shop Hours - January 2021

January 2021

Mon 18th 8am - 2pm	Tues 19th 8am - 2am	Wed 20th 8am - 2pm	Thurs 21st 8am - 2pm	Fri 22nd
Mon 25th	Tues 26th Australia Day	Wed 27th 8am - 2pm	Thurs 28th 7.30 - 11.30 Normal Hours	Fri 29th

NORMAL HOURS - During Term

Tuesday: 7.30 - 11.30

Thursday: 12 - 4pm

CASH, EFTPOS or ONLINE

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Shop mobile 0452 471 167

Year 11 Life Ready Camp

They say that “living your best life is the ultimate goal”. Week 8 allowed an amazing and mature group of Year 11 students to face their fears, encourage and support each other and participate in a variety of activities all aimed at providing additional skills to achieve this objective.

Mangrove Mountain, a bushland setting in the Central Coast hinterland was the location for the 2020 Life Ready camp. The weather gods were extremely kind to us, allowing pleasant temperatures for students to attempt the 18m Tri Jump, Giant Swing, Abseiling Wall, Flying Fox and Challenge Rope course as well as use their collaboration and team building skills to build quite creative rafts that ‘sailed’ them across the dam! Night time activities were full of laughs and encouragement with teachers proving to be the far superior Commando team!

NESA’s mandatory curriculum requirements also meant students were led by qualified staff in sessions focused on the topic of drugs and alcohol, relationships, mental and sexual health, safe travel and independence.

The camp was facilitated by Outdoor Education who did an amazing job at keeping our students engaged, fed and watered. Regular comments were made on how enthusiastic, personable and humorous our students were with an overall summation of how much they just “love country kids and their positive, have-a-go attitude”.

Miss Gageler, Miss Turnbull, Mr Lyons, Mr Elliott and Mrs Kelly have enjoyed a fabulous three days away and are extremely proud of the efforts and approach taken by each and every student.



The Big Night In

The Faculty of Creative & Performing Arts' annual showcase event, the **Big Night In** took place on Thursday 26th November. Impressively, despite only students and staff being able to attend this year, the best artworks and performances from students' coursework were showcased to an almost full capacity audience. Our Visual Arts staff curated a highly impressive exhibition of painting, sculpture and digital works, while our performing arts students and staff presented a total of thirty amazing items, comprising the largest program in the event's history. The CAPA faculty, in what is beginning to become somewhat of a habit, burst onto stage for a surprise performance of a rocked up version of the 90's classic, 'Back Street's Back'. Sadly, however, this Big Night In was Mr Foy's last at Muswellbrook High School and this was a great way to send him off.



Yearly Reports 2020

Reports for 2020 will be issued on Friday 11th December

Year 10 student reports will be given to students in Roll Call

Year 7 - 9 will be issued via Millennium - Digital for you to view from Friday morning.

Special Education Excursion

On Wednesday December 2nd, 25 eager students and 4 staff members from our Special Education Faculty boarded a bus bound for the Gosford Outdoor Education Centre for our annual excursion.

On arrival, the students had lunch, before heading off to the first of many activities with the help of our fantastic instructors. First up, students participated in Archery, with many students developing their accuracy after their first few shots. Next up was afternoon tea, yummy donuts and fruit to prepare us for our next activity. The challenge high ropes were the next activity. This required students to navigate their way through a challenge rope course of tight rope wires, rope bridges and hanging obstacles suspended 10m in the air. Many students overcome their fear of heights and attempted this challenging task. The day concluded with dinner and a challenge night, where students completed different challenges in teams to collect points.

Day 2 of the camp was jam packed full of more exciting and challenging activities. Abseiling was first, with students making their way up a 10m tower that they had to abseil down. The next activity for the morning was the Tri Jump. This was a tower that had 3 different height level platforms 8m, 12m and 18m. Students had to select a level to climb to and walk out on the platform, once on the platform, they had to step off the edge, where they would freefall to the ground. After lunch, students participated in a raft building challenge. In teams, they had to design and build the strongest raft, out of the rope, PVC pipe and inflated tubes. They then had to race the rafts, trying to keep the driest. Although the rafts looked sturdy, they didn't stop the students from getting wet. Our next activity was the flying fox, it was 150m from start to finish.

After a busy day, students enjoyed dinner before completing the last activity of the night, the Giant swing. The giant swing stand 12m high, students are strapped into a full body harness and a helmet and are then lifted to the top by their peers. The students built up the courage to release themselves from the top and fly through the air.

On our final morning before making our way home, students had to ensure their rooms were clean and bags packed. Bushwalking was our first activity for the morning, we made our way through the bush completing challenges and learning about the bush. After a bite of morning tea, we made our way to the rock-climbing wall for our last activity. The wall was 10m high, with 3 levels of difficulty. Two of our students made it to the top of the hardest level, with many others attempting the medium level after gaining confidence from the easiest level. After some lunch, we boarded the bus and returned back to school.

We would like thank AGL for their contribution which allowed the cost of the camp to be reduced. Overall it was a fantastic camp and everyone had a wonderful time, taking home some happy memories.



We wish you a Very Merry Christmas

Happy New Year

