



TERM - WEEK 9

IN THE KNOW

Muswellbrook High School Newsletter

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02 65431033

Words from our Executive Team

KYLIE FABRI - PRINCIPAL

As a parent I know full well the stress that can be the evening routine! Can I encourage you to take time to involve your young people (regardless of their age) in conversations about their learning from the day and don't start with - what did you learn? This will most certainly be met with a response of - nothing. Ask them about a subject in particular or fun activity they may have been involved in etc. The home learning environment plays a large part in the success of a young person's learning and this is just another positive way we can work together to help our young people achieve the best possible outcomes.

SOCIAL MEDIA

As most parents would be aware, your children must be 13 to be able to join most social media platforms. I am aware that there are many parents out there making their children adhere to this legality. We applaud you for holding strong in what example you are setting. We are also extremely pleased to know that many parents of students over the age of 13 are ensuring they are one of their child's social media friends or know their child's password. Well done you are acting protectively and supervising from the sidelines. Many of our students lie about their age - that is, they are making a false declaration. There is a reason why the legal age for most social media in Australia is 13. There is an assumption that by that age children will have been taught (and understand) the implications of using social media. It is anticipated that the child will have gained a strong moral purpose and be able to differentiate between what is socially acceptable and lawful and what could be considered libellous and unlawful. We have spent many years teaching our students about the digital footprint that they leave behind. Recently, we have had an increase in the number of students reporting inappropriate messaging and or comments on social media. Whilst social media can be a very valuable tool, we are asking parents to be vigilant and monitor their child's social media use.

to help our young people achieve the best possible outcomes.



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EDUCATION WEEK

On Tuesday 2nd August the Muswellbrook Learning Community celebrated Education Week. Every day I'm reminded of the critical role education plays in helping our learners shine. From those crucial early years mastering the foundations for learning, the lessons learned about ourselves and the world during school, and beyond into skills for job-ready careers – our work is truly changing lives and preparing learners for fulfilling futures.

Muswellbrook Learning Community has the power to transform the lives of young people. I am extremely grateful each day for the opportunities that I have as the Principal of Muswellbrook High School. The following people were acknowledged for the contribution that they have made toward public education.

Excellence in Teaching

Matthew Bellotti

Matthew designs and implements teaching activities that support the participation and learning of all students. He is a teacher to whom students can confidently turn for advice and assistance at school. Matthew's responsiveness to meet the needs at Muswellbrook High School is evident in all that he does. He also has an amazing sense of humour. He always articulates our school vision of "striving for excellence in a school that cares".

Kylie Kelly

Kylie's leadership particularly in supporting the HSC students through trials, graduation, and their HSC exams, is unparalleled. She consistently gives up her own time to mentor students and gives them opportunities to excel. Kylie shares information with the wider school community, particularly parents of senior students, in a timely and organised manner. She always articulates our school vision of "striving for excellence in a school that cares".

Outstanding contribution by a Non - Teaching staff member

Tara Smith

Tara has recently been appointed as our School Community Liaison Officer. She has ensured that streamlined, flexible processes exist to deliver services and information that will support parental engagement and satisfaction. She has streamlined our electronic permission note system and been instrumental in organising our learning education week awards. Tara is always willing to learn and strives for excellence in all that she does.

Tanya Vaughan

Tanya insists on a whole school approach to improving service delivery and customer (parent and/or student) experience. She continually evaluates our administrative systems and processes, ensuring that they are delivering anticipated benefits to the school community, and makes changes when required. Tanya uses her initiative and spends many extra hours learning about school systems. She is instrumental in the support that she gives to our Deputy Principals.



Outstanding Contribution by a School Community Member

Kieran Kelly

Kieran was instrumental in the organisation of our Year 12 2021 formal. Despite the many changes he was always there to support the set-up and organisation. He strung hundreds of fairy lights and assisted in the set up of the formal to ensure that our students had a memorable night. He was constant support whilst navigating Covid restrictions. Kieran has most recently driven a bus so that our students could experience various university campuses. He is always a helping hand when we need it. Kieran is always passionate support for our staff and students.

Caron Morris

In 2021 Caron was appointed as our NESA Presiding Officer. She accepted the role under extreme conditions. Caron navigated Covid restrictions and a flooding disaster. Her exemplary attention to detail, organisation, calm manner and overall concern for MHS Year 12 students, resulted in our students being provided optimum conditions for performance.

School Achievement Award

Aboriginal Learning and Engagement Centre

The ALEC is strongly focused on learning, the building of educational aspirations and ongoing performance improvement of our Aboriginal and Torres Strait students throughout the school community. All ALEC staff demonstrate aspirational expectations of learning progress and achievement for all Aboriginal and Torres Strait students and are committed to the pursuit of excellence. Effective partnerships in learning with parents/carers, students and the community mean students are motivated to deliver their best and continually improve. Our ALEC centre strives for excellence and is a product of what works best in education.

CAPA Tour "I'm Still Standing"

MHS has a number of high performing creative art teachers whose capacities are continually built to ensure every student experiences high-quality teaching. This year, our CAPA Tour "I'm Still Standing", was a learning community highlight that strived for excellence and demonstrated the high-quality educational opportunities that our performing arts teachers provide for each and every student.



Deadly Award

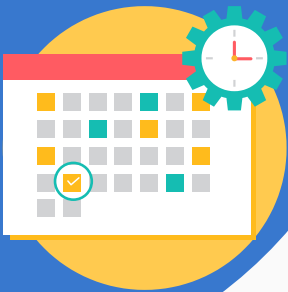
Declan Dolbel

Year 9 student Declan Dolbel has been a leading SRC member at MHS, for the past three years. Demonstrating his pride in his culture, Declan is often seen out front of our year and whole school assemblies presenting the Acknowledgment to Country. A student in our elective Aboriginal Studies class, Declan often shares his knowledge within classroom discussions and is always willing to help his peers throughout each activity. Consistently attending SRC meetings, offering to help throughout all whole school events, applying himself to his studies, representing our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students in numerous sporting events and demonstrating positive behaviour across all of his classes, Declan is a prime applicant for the Deadly Award. For consistently displaying a positive behaviour for learning and taking pride in every opportunity within the school community

Riley Newman

Year 10 student Riley Newman's involvement in various cultural programs at school has improved his sense of cultural identity. At the start of the year Riley was involved in our webinar experience with Western Sydney University, which focused on an introductory program, Unlocking Sporting Careers targeted toward Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders students. From here Riley's confidence in school activities grew we saw him, participate in our Indigenous Hunter Sports Program tryouts and represented our school during our NAIDOC League Tag Games. During Term 3, Riley was involved in the Bro Speak program, a collaborative program with P.E Teacher Dominic Tegart and PCYC Aboriginal Youth Worker, Nicholas Bailey. The program focused on cultural identity, a pride in one's self and was assisted by various Aboriginal members of the community. Riley has matured throughout the program, positively interacting with his peers and each week continuing to strengthen his cultural awareness, making him a promising applicant for the Deadly Award.

*Congratulations
Everybody*



What's On?

Term 3

Thur 18th August - Stage 6 Selection Parent Interviews

Fri 19th August - Stage 6 Selection Parent Interviews

Friendly Reminder

Students are to wear full school uniform at all times. If students can not purchase a jumper they can be borrowed from the HUB until one can be purchased. Any students wearing Hoodies to school will be asked to remove them.

P&C Meeting
12th September
4.30pm in the HUB



**NOW
AVAILABLE**

ONLINE POP PAYMENTS

Parent online payments can be accessed via the school website through the 'Make a Payment link'
Please contact the school office if you require any assistance making an online payment

Contacts:

muswellbro-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
0265431033

Don't forget if you have not already, to jump on and sign up to the parent portal on Sentral



Empowering parents to track their child's education



SRC Report Term 3

MUSWELLBROOK HIGH
SCHOOL TRIVIA NIGHT



Week 4

2022

We had a special visitor at last week's full school assembly, Mr Danny Eather from the Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service speak to staff and students about what they do for the Hunter Region. He also thanked us for the \$1782.85 donation SRC was able to make from the proceeds of the Trivia Night and Raffle hosted by SRC held late last term. Danny presented the school with a framed picture thanking the school for its efforts. He was able to meet with SRC, Mrs Farrell and Mrs Fabri during break 1 to personally thank the organisers of the night. We look forward to staging a similar event in 2023!



2023 School Leaders

Year 11 has reached that exciting time of year where we are calling for nominations for 2023 school leaders. Nominations need to be back to Mrs Farrell by Tuesday 16th August. Nominations for Year 11 Prefects for Year 10 students will be our next call for nominations but this will occur later in the year- stay tuned!

Year 11 Leaders Wellbeing Project

Our current Year 11 leaders are working hard on planning their wellbeing project which they plan with the assistance of Lindy from WTAW after their attendance at the National Leadership Summit. Students are just working out more details and then will share with you their great ideas of what they have got in store for early in term 4.

Thankyou for
supporting the SRC



On the 20th and 21st of July, Muswellbrook High School came together to celebrate 2022 NAIDOC Week. Over two days students engaged in a range of different cultural activities.

Wednesday started with our NAIDOC assembly, which saw the introduction of our two new NAIDOC Awards,
Mel Powell Award for Excellence: Awarded to Amaya Priestly

Aboriginal Learning and Engagement Centre Citizenship Award- Awarded to Xavier McGrady

We welcomed dancing from students Hazem Haines, Seth Perry and Xavier McGrady. As well as staff members Jayden Rosberg and Dionysse Spathis.

After assembly students enjoyed various cultural activities organised by our teachers within each faculty.

Our second day saw students engage in more cultural activities and by midday we celebrated our annual NAIDOC League Tag Matches.

However, this year we shared the experience with our school community primary schools, Muswellbrook Public School and Muswellbrook South Public School. We would like to thank our Major Sponsors for 2022, Malabar Coal, who catered the event and brought along local Richie Lawton for students to experience his didgeridoo piece and Wakkageti Dance Group.

Our league tag games saw MSPS win the primary school game, with some amazing talent being shown on the field.

The Indigenous All Stars took out our Junior MHS game, while the All Stars took the win in our Seniors game.

Thank you to those parents/carers, primary schools and community members who joined us at Olympic Park for our league tag games.

We look forward to celebrating NAIDOC in 2023.





Year 10 Geography Fieldwork



Permission notes have been emailed home for our Year 10 Geography Fieldwork at Stockton Beach Newcastle. It is a mandatory requirement of the Geography Syllabus that students undertake fieldwork in each stage of learning. HSIE have organised fieldwork that will be facilitated by staff from the Newcastle Environmental Education Centre.

The fieldwork will take place on Tuesday 30th August. Students need to meet at the bus bay from 8.30 am with buses leaving the school bus bay promptly by 9 am on the day and return at approximately 3.45 pm. The cost for the day is \$33 which includes the bus and the trained facilitators. Payments and online permission notes need to be completed by Friday 19th August. Students will need to bring along their own food for the day as there will be nowhere to purchase food at the location. School sports uniform is to be worn and joggers. Students will not be entering the water on the day.

The fieldwork ties in with coastal environmental issues that students are studying during Term 3 in HSIE lessons. Activities undertaken as part of the fieldwork will go towards the Research Task Assessment mark due Friday 16th September (Week 9). We strongly suggest all students attend the excursion to complete the practical fieldwork activities. Students NOT attending will be required to complete virtual fieldwork activities as an alternative for their relevant marks as part of the Research Task Assessment. Payments should be able to be made by clicking on the pay now link that is part of the online excursion note. Payments can also be made via the MHS website - Make a Payment tab. Log onto the School site at <https://muswellbro-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/> Click on "Make a Payment" and follow the prompts to make a payment via Visa or MasterCard. If you have any questions about how to make a payment please speak to the SASS staff in A block. If you have any questions about the excursion itself, please contact HSIE for more information. There are also supports available within the school if the cost is an issue. If this is a concern, this needs to be discussed as soon as possible with either your student's teacher or year advisor to allow sufficient time for this to be addressed.





HunterWiSE

Outreach Program

The HunterWiSE Schools Outreach Program commenced in Week 2 of this Term. Eleven students from Year 8 are participating in the 10-week program, which is led by HunterWiSE Mentors from the University of Newcastle. Our students will first identify a problem in their local community, and with the support of their mentors, work together in small groups to develop a STEM-based solution.

Our school's participation in the HunterWiSE Schools Outreach Program is made possible through the support of industry sponsor Glencore. In Term 2, our students had the opportunity to attend the United Wambo Joint Venture Open Cut Mine to learn more about the range of jobs available in STEM industries and meet some of the women pursuing these careers. More photos from these visits can be found [here](#) or by visiting [Facebook.com/UoNHunterwise](https://www.facebook.com/UoNHunterwise)



HUNTER *wise*
Hunter Women in STEM Network

GLENCORE



CAPA

Performing Arts Tour

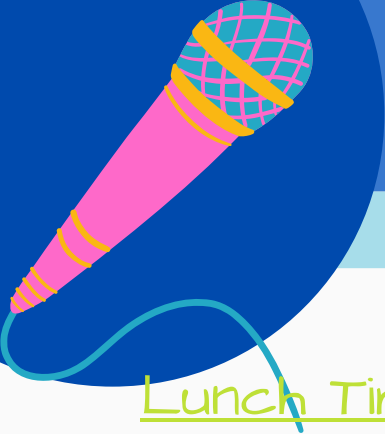
In Term 2, students from the Creative Arts Faculty presented the "I'm still standing Tour". Students performed to family and friends and then toured, performing to our local primary schools Muswellbrook Pre School, Muswellbrook Pubic School, South Muswellbrook Public School and Denman Public School.

Students showcased Music, Dance and Drama items, enjoying performing to wonderful enthusiastic interactive audiences. CAPA staff couldn't be prouder of our CAPA students, their commitment to rehearsals and performances, the comradery, mentorship and friendship they showed to each other and the positive way they conducted themselves whilst representing Muswellbrook High School is to be commended.



Well Done





CAPA

Lunch Time Concert

During Term 2, CAPA put on a lunch time concert. The sun was shining and the tunes were flowing, it was a fabulous vibe. Thank you to Guitar Ensemble and Stage Band for the wonderful lunch time entertainment, we look forward to more of these in the future.



Biggest Morning Tea

During Term 2, students from Year 11 and Year 12 Music came together to provide background Music for a very worthy cause, the Biggest Morning Tea. The event was a wonderful success with great food, music and a well deserved catchup for staff whilst raising some much needed funds.



Mrs Martin - CAPA Head Teacher

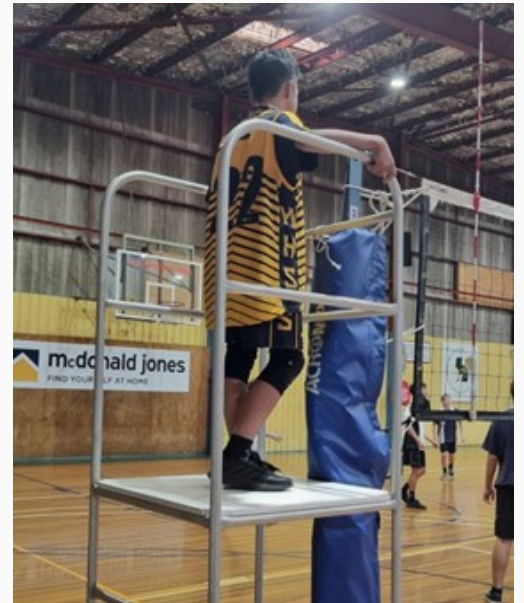


CHS Boys Knockout Volleyball Competition

At the end of Term 2, the Boys MHS Volleyball team participated in the CHS Boys Knockout Volleyball Competition in Newcastle. The students played exceptionally well, displaying impressive sportsmanship towards each other and the other teams present. They played 4 games during the day, unfortunately no games were won but they showed impressive resilience and continued to work together to win points in the games. The other schools were represented by teams of senior boys, our MHS boys team relished the challenge to take on the more experienced players.

The boys displayed quick decision making skills when refereeing other matches. Volleyball is a fantastic game of teamwork and communication. With future dedication to training I'm confident that MHS will take home 1st place next year.

Melina Morrow - Volleyball Coach





Student Volunteers

On Wednesday 10th August we had 24 students from years 9,10 and 11 volunteer their time to assist with officiating for the Upper Hunter PSSA Athletics Carnival at Weeraman Fields. The students did an amazing job and displayed great levels of leadership, judgement, teamwork and zest. The feedback from carnival organisers was extremely positive and the students were excellent representatives for our school- 'The feedback about you from parents, staff, and students was by far the best I have ever had. We will definitely be enquiring to have your school back to support us next year' Josh Morrison UHPSSA President. Thank you and well done to all involved.

Ms Hill





EVERY DAY COUNTS

ATTENDANCE IS THE BASIS OF ALL LEARNING

MUSWELLBROOK HIGH SCHOOL

**1 DAY PER
FORTNIGHT**

IS 20 DAYS PER YEAR

THIS IS 260 DAYS
OF MISSED SCHOOL
FROM KINDY TO Y12
THE EQUIVALENT OF

1.25
SCHOOL
YEARS

**1 HOUR
PER DAY**

IS 40 DAYS PER YEAR

THIS IS 520 DAYS
OF MISSED SCHOOL
FROM KINDY TO Y12
THE EQUIVALENT OF

2.5
SCHOOL
YEARS

**1 DAY
PER WEEK**

IS 40 DAYS PER YEAR

THIS IS 520 DAYS
OF MISSED SCHOOL
FROM KINDY TO Y12
THE EQUIVALENT OF

2.5
SCHOOL
YEARS

**2 DAYS
PER WEEK**

IS 80 DAYS PER YEAR

THIS IS 1040 DAYS
OF MISSED SCHOOL
FROM KINDY TO Y12
THE EQUIVALENT OF

5
SCHOOL
YEARS

**3 DAYS
PER WEEK**

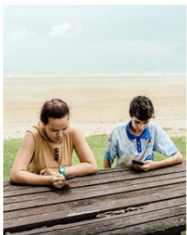
IS 120 DAYS PER YEAR

THIS IS 1560 DAYS
OF MISSED SCHOOL
FROM KINDY TO Y12
THE EQUIVALENT OF

8
SCHOOL
YEARS

upcoming sessions

Parents, Carers, and Community Members in Hunter New England are invited to attend a free mental health education session in Term 3.



The sessions aim to:

- Strengthen your understanding of mental health definitions.
- Enhance your conversational approach to mental health and well-being.
- Build skills and strategies to support young people, including transition to work and study.
- Build awareness of local, state and national supports available to young people.
- Increase your knowledge & understanding of the mental health challenges facing young people today.
- Introduce you to some of the skills and strategies to encourage and support help-seeking.



Connecting and communicating with young people

Date: Monday, 1 August 2022
Time: 6:30 pm – 7:45 pm AEST
Location: Online webinar
Registration: <https://bit.ly/3NDX4G>



Navigating uncertainty and change

Date: Tuesday, 23 August 2022
Time: 6:30 pm – 7:45 pm AEST
Location: Online webinar
Registration: <https://bit.ly/3bBaxAd>



For more information

Contact us at programsupport@headspace.org.au



headspace National Youth Mental Health Foundation is funded by the Australian Government Department of Health

FAST CENTRE

TUESDAYS
3:10PM - 4:00PM

Come along to get support with Assessment Tasks and homework.

SNACKS PROVIDED!



We hope to see you in the HUB!

Need more info? Contact Kira Johnson on: (02) 6543 1033



HUNTERwise
Hunter Women in STEM Network

STEM NEEDS GIRLS (AND GIRLS NEED STEM!)

An interest in STEM can lead to amazing opportunities and rewarding careers.

Want to find out why STEM *really* needs more girls – and where your choices could take you? Come along to this **free** HunterWISE event to hear from women leading (and encouraging!) careers in STEM. Students participating in the HunterWISE Schools Outreach Program are warmly encouraged to attend with their parents or caregivers.

TUE 16 AUG | 5.30PM | UNI OF NEWCASTLE OR ZOOM



Register here →



STUDENTS
PARENTS/CAREERS

In partnership with CAPO
NSW
New South Wales
Management Education
Consultative Group Inc.

My Future, My Culture, My Way.

