



# Muswellbrook High School

## Newsletter

Term 2 Issue 2

*Keep up to date with the latest school news through our social media pages.*



### From the Principal:



Partnerships between schools and families are at their best when there is strong communication, and first and foremost in our communication together is ensuring that students, and their success, is the focus. I have attached for you the updated communications document for Muswellbrook High School. A school as large and as complex as our school requires clear systems and practices to best ensure that there are positive outcomes for our entire school community, and as we continue to undertake our systems and practices audit the focus of our practices will be to ensure that students, parents and staff are supported to positively contribute to a smooth-running school.

We have a broad range of snapshots to see how students are learning, and since the last newsletter students in Years 7 and 9 have completed their NAPLAN testing. It is important to remember that this is a point-in-time assessment and helps us to identify trends in what is working well with student learning and what areas can be improved. To this end, this year we have a number of staff employed to support students under the COVID tutoring Intensive Learning Support model. This funding has been made available to schools across the state and allows us to support students who, because of the disruption to learning last year, require some additional support to get back to where they need to be in literacy and numeracy.

We have had many successes this term, drawn from the care and dedication of our staff and the hard work of you children, our students.

From the outset of my appointment to relieve as Principal of Muswellbrook High School it became clear to me how invested parents, students and staff were (and are) in our school. It is a school with a proud history of success and of achieving great things to mould and shape the future.

Indeed, when I commenced in June 2020 there was no 'relieving' in my eyes – the job is always too important to sit back idly and wait for things to happen. Intentional decisions must be made for the here and now for the benefit of students. There is no other way.

And, so, as far as the decisions go, I was offered and have accepted a permanent appointment, as Principal, of a school some 4 or so hours away from Muswellbrook High School. The decision to accept the appointment was made with a very heavy heart, having grown to love Muswellbrook High School, and the Muswellbrook community very quickly.

It is important you know, too, that my tenure Muswellbrook High School will continue until a substantive principal is appointed, a person who can build on the gains we have made in the last 12 months and lead the next cycle of growth for the students and staff of our school.

Wishing each of you every success for the future, from a Principle who has been deeply touched by the power of education here at Muswellbrook High School/.

*Neal Reed*

## **Muswellbrook High School**

Striving for Excellence in a School that Cares

T: Telephone 02 6543 1033

E: Email [muswellbro-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:muswellbro-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au)



# MUSWELLBROOK HIGH SCHOOL SCHOOL PROTOCOL FOR COMMUNICATION

## Background

Schools are very busy places and there is a great deal of information that needs to be conveyed to parents. The aim of these guidelines is to ensure that parents receive information which is timely, detailed and accurate.

## Notification of events

- Events are entered on the school calendar which is accessible through the parent portal as soon as approval is granted by the Principal.
- For all school events, parents should receive a permission note **two weeks** before the event. NB For CHS events this may not always be possible.
- All permission notes about events need to have the following information:
  - Time
  - Date
  - Venue
  - What to wear
  - What to bring
  - Pick up/drop off details
  - Educational reasons for the event
  - Staff supervision arrangements

## Return of permission slips

- All permission slips should be returned at least one week before the event
- The relevant teacher should start contacting parents about the non-returned permission slips at this time. Two reminders are sufficient.

## Social media/Newsletter/notification

- These should be published at least **one week** before the event if it pertains to an event.
- Advance notice should be also included in Facebook posts of postponed/cancelled event.

## Emails

- All emails from parents should be responded to within **one school day**. This includes emails from office staff requesting a return reply or return phone call.

NB Recognising that emails may be received whilst staff are on leave, the returning member of staff is expected to respond within one school day of their return.

*□ If more time is required then a reply email should be sent politely thanking the person for their enquiry and stating when the email will be returned with the appropriate answer.*

## Phone calls

- All phone messages from parents should be responded to within **one school day**.
- If more time is required then an email or phone call should be sent/made politely thanking the person for their enquiry and stating when the call will be returned with the appropriate answer. The expectation is a maximum of three working days for the answer to be provided.*

### **Communication between teachers and HSC Students**

The nature of the relationship between Year 12 (HSC) students and their teachers is often very different than between teachers and the other year levels they may teach. HSC students may at times need extra assistance from their teachers to complete work. This may from time-to-time include holiday times or weekends.

Email is an appropriate medium for students to seek this assistance from their teacher. All emails from HSC students to teachers should be responded to **within one school day**. If more time is required, then an email should be sent stating when the email will be returned with an appropriate answer.

Students should not expect teachers to either check or respond to emails late at night or early in the morning. Contact at these times is at the teacher's discretion.

The Senior Executive Team  
Muswellbrook High School


# What's On at MHS

## Important Dates

- 3<sup>rd</sup> June - Marbo Day
- 8<sup>th</sup> June - Whole School Assembly
  - Yr 11 Reports Issued



*Striving for excellence in a school that cares.*



## STUDY HUB @ MHS

**ABOUT**

A safe space where students can work on assessments, receive help from teachers, use available resources like computers, printing and ... snacks.


**WHEN**

TUESDAY & THURSDAY EVERY WEEK  
@ The Hub 3:30PM - 5:00PM

**WHAT WE CAN HELP YOU WITH**

- Exam Preparation
- Reading Skills
- Assessment Tasks
- Homework
- Study Skills
- Independent Study

**CONTACT US:**  
T: 02 6543 1033  
E: [muswellbro-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:muswellbro-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au)




Muswellbrook High School

## VOLLEYBALL CLUB

**MPC - WEDNESDAYS 3.30PM - 5.30PM**

Students can be picked up or have permission to walk home. Bring comfortable sports clothes, kneepads and lots of fluids.



## COVID—19 UPDATE

At the present time we are still restricting non-essential face to face interaction with parents. Our bubblers have now been turned back on for students to use – Students are encouraged to still bring water bottles to use the Hydration station at the MPC.

## Uniform Shop Hours

Tuesday  
7.30am - 11.30

Thursday  
12pm - 4pm

**CASH, EFTPOS OR ONLINE**

[www.daylightsportswear.com.au/muswellbrook](http://www.daylightsportswear.com.au/muswellbrook)  
Shop Mobile: 0452 471 167



## SkoolBag

Don't forget you can complete student absentees through our Skoolbag app, fill out sport permission slips, get up to date with all the latest excursion notes and upcoming events.

## School Canteen

Our School Canteen is currently looking for volunteers.

If you have spare time to join our canteen team and help prepare/cook and serve food we would love to hear from you.

If any new parents received forms from the front office please send them in with your child to the canteen.



### *Is it time for a dental check-up?*

Hunter New England Oral Health provides free dental care for all children under 18yrs of age

We accept the Child Dental Benefits Scheme

HNE Dental Clinic opening hours: 8:00am – 4:30pm



Health  
Hunter New England  
Local Health District

**Call 1300 651 625 to book an appointment today**

For more information about oral health and accessing our service, visit the HNE Kids Health webpage at [www.hnekidshealth.nsw.gov.au/oralhealth](http://www.hnekidshealth.nsw.gov.au/oralhealth)

# Department in Focus

The CAPA Faculty are hard at work at the moment preparing for the Muswellbrook and Upper Hunter Eisteddfod and their upcoming concert and tour, "The Greatest Show". Students are preparing performances in Drama, Music and ensemble groups, in order to display their talents to the local community. Our Stage 5 Entertainment students will also be developing their skills by setting up all staging, sound and lighting equipment.

A concert will take place in the MPC on Thursday 10th June, this will be our first public performance since COVID and we look forward to welcoming family and friends. Doors will open at 5.45pm with performances starting at 6.30pm. The canteen will be open serving a BBQ, drinks and snacks. Tickets will be on sale at the door, \$5 or \$15 for a family of four.

Students will then be taking "The Greatest Show" program to our feeder Primary Schools in the following week. We are very excited to entertain the younger students in our community, whilst showcasing the talents of our students.

The CAPA faculty would also like to welcome Mr Swaddling, our new Music teacher, we hope he enjoys his time at MHS.



# SRC Report

## Leaders speaking at SDD afternoon

Three of our senior leaders recently played a role in the Staff Development Day afternoon session. They took part in a question and answer session with Mr Reed in front of staff to get student insights into how students feel about the school and areas that they would like as priorities. It was great to see our student leaders putting themselves out there and, on the spot, to give staff their thoughts.



## Athletics Carnival Novelty Events

Mrs Farrell, other staff and SRC ran the novelty events at the recent Athletics Carnival. Lots of fun was had by all and it was a great way for those not quite so high in athletic ability to still earn some points for their house. Events included egg and spoon race, hula hoop race, tug of war, dodgeball and rob the nest. We hope everybody enjoyed the events as much as we enjoyed running them. Looking forward to next year.

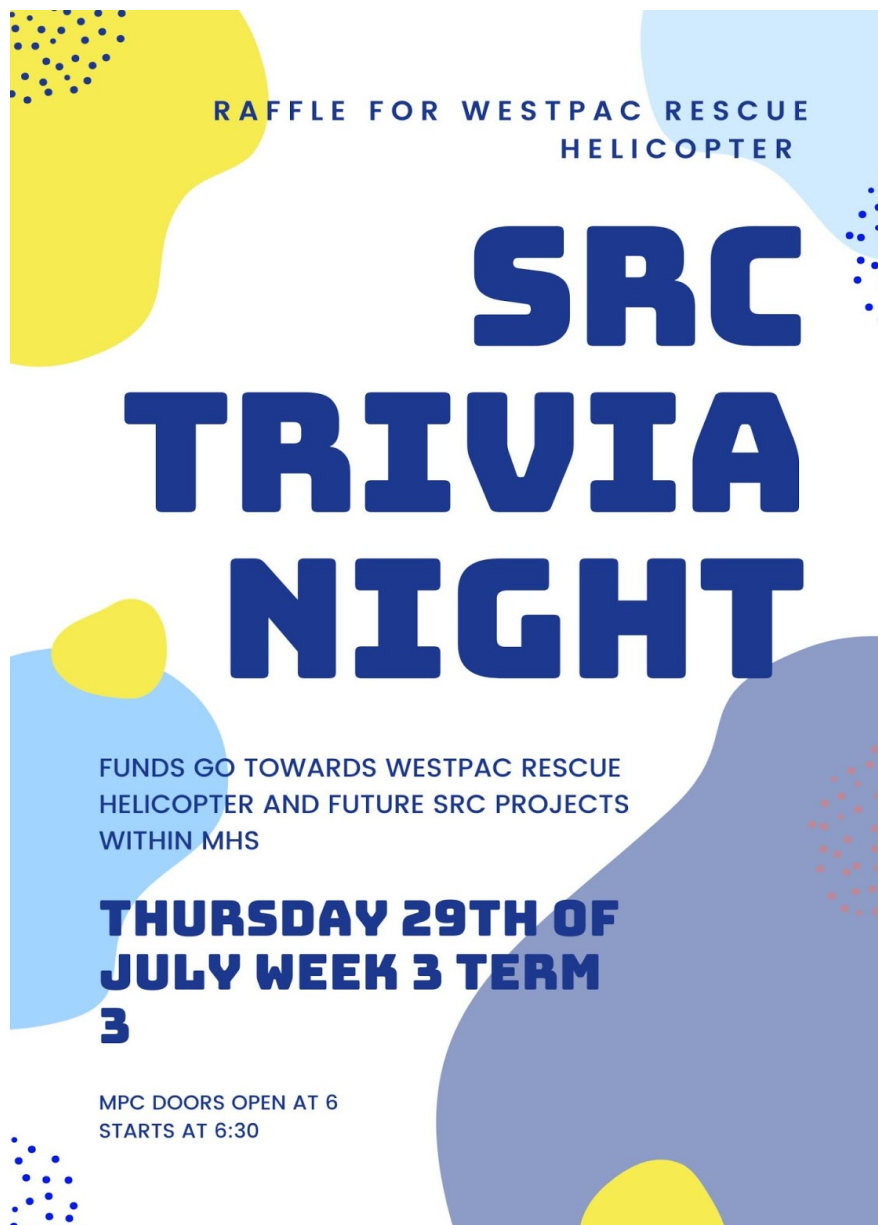


## Upper Hunter Student Leadership Summit

On Thursday 10th June selected Year 11 and 10 students will be attending a leadership summit which will be run by all the students from local high schools that attended the Adelaide National Leadership Summit back in March. This includes our MHS Year 11 prefects. They can't wait to share all of the activities planned with those who are attending. This is just a reminder to please bring in your notes and money as soon as possible if you are one of the students attending. We have one more rehearsal day planned for students to refine the presentation ready for a fantastic day on Thursday the 10th.







### Trivia Night

SRC has a Trivia Night planned for early next term. Funds raised from the raffle that will be drawn on the night will go towards the Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service and proceeds from the trivia night will go to the Helicopter Service and the SRC for projects within the school. If you are able to assist with prizes/gift vouchers for the raffle or trivia competition please contact Mrs Farrell at the school. Skoolbag and Facebook will let you know when you are able to purchase tables. Cost will be \$40 per team of 8. We will have a sausage sizzle, popcorn, chocolates and drinks available to purchase on the night.

### Wear Orange Wednesday

Last Wednesday we raised awareness of the great work of the SES and bought some orange to the school for Wear Orange Wednesday. Teachers were encouraged to wear orange and we decorated the doors of the administration blocks with orange to raise awareness. We will also have SES contact information for students over 16 who may like to think about joining the local SES.

Thank you for your support of the SRC and student voice within the school- Mrs Farrell and the SRC.

## *Frequently Asked Questions*

### ***If my child needs to leave school during the day?***

If you need to collect your child during school hours – You must send a note showing the date, reason and time to the E Block office before roll call to get a partial absence pass.

### ***If my child becomes sick during the day?***

If your child becomes sick during the day, they need to advise their teacher and they will be sent to our sick bay – from there we will contact all emergency contacts to have someone come and collect them.

### ***My Son/Daughter will be absent from school for an extended period of time. Can I please have work sent home?***

If a medical certificate can be provided, then your child's Year Advisor will coordinate relevant work and/or instructions from his/her teachers. We find that a digital platform is the most efficient mode of communication.

### ***Do I have to pay my school fees all together?***

It is preferred that school fees are paid in full but can be paid over the year by the term.

**If you have any questions or concerns please call the office – 02 6543 1033**

### *School Office Hours*

Monday – Friday

8.30am – 3.30pm

After hours – [muswellbro-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:muswellbro-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

# Behaviour code for students

## NSW public schools

NSW public schools are committed to providing safe, supportive and responsive learning environments for everyone. We teach and model the behaviours we value in our students.

### In NSW public schools students are expected to:

- Respect other students, their teachers and school staff and community members
- Follow school and class rules and follow the directions of their teachers
- Strive for the highest standards in learning
- Respect all members of the school community and show courtesy to all students, teachers and community members
- Resolve conflict respectfully, calmly and fairly
- Comply with the school's uniform policy or dress code
- Attend school every day (unless legally excused)
- Respect all property
- Not be violent or bring weapons, illegal drugs, alcohol or tobacco into our schools
- Not bully, harass, intimidate or discriminate against anyone in our schools

Schools take strong action in response to behaviour that is detrimental to self or others or to the achievement of high quality teaching and learning.

### Behaviour Code for Students: Actions

Promoting the learning, wellbeing and safety of all students in NSW Public Schools is a high priority for the Department of Education.

We implement teaching and learning approaches to support the development of skills needed by students to meet our high standards for respectful, safe and engaged behaviour.

### Respect

- Treat one another with dignity
- Speak and behave courteously
- Cooperate with others
- Develop positive and respectful relationships and think about the effect on relationships before acting
- Value the interests, ability and culture of others
- Dress appropriately by complying with the school uniform or dress code
- Take care with property

### Safety

- Model and follow departmental, school and/or class codes of behaviour and conduct
- Negotiate and resolve conflict with empathy
- Take personal responsibility for behaviour and actions
- Care for self and others
- Avoid dangerous behaviour and encourage others to avoid dangerous behaviour

### Engagement

- Attend school every day (unless legally excused)
- Arrive at school and class on time
- Be prepared for every lesson
- Actively participate in learning
- Aspire and strive to achieve the highest standards of learning

The principal and school staff, using their professional judgment, are best placed to maintain discipline and provide safe, supportive and responsive learning environments. The department provides a policy framework and resources such as Legal Issues Bulletins, access to specialist advice, and professional learning to guide principals and their staff in exercising their professional judgment. In this context the NSW Government and the Department of Education will back the authority and judgment of principals and school staff at the local level.



## MUSWELLBROOK HIGH CANTEEN MENU

<b>WINTER CANTEEN MENU 2021</b>			
<b>BREAKFAST</b>		<b>SALADS</b>	
Bacon n Cheese Bun	\$2.00	Salad Bowls/ Wraps – no meat	\$6.00
Cheese Toasty	\$1.50	Salad Bowls/ Wraps + Meat	\$6.50
Ham & Cheese Toasty	\$2.00	Add Baked Vegies	\$1.00
Bacon & Egg Rolls	\$3.50	Chicken Tender Sliders	\$3.00
<b>HOT FOOD</b>		Caesar Salad Wrap or Bowl	\$5.50
Potato Wedges (gravy .50c extra)	\$3.00	Sweet Chilli Wrap	\$5.50
Chicken Nuggets (3)	\$1.50	Taco Wraps	\$5.50
Chicken Strips (5)	\$2.00	Fish/Chips & Salad	\$6.50
Lean Pies	\$3.50	Meat & Salad Rolls	\$6.50
Lean Sausage Rolls Small 120gr	\$2.00	Egg & Lettuce Sandwich	\$3.50
Chicken Burger	\$5.00	Ham Cheese & Tomato Sandwich	\$3.50
Nachos	\$4.50	<b>DRINKS</b>	
Pizza on Turkish bread- Cheese	\$3.00	Water 600ml	\$2.00
Pizza Ham & Pineapple	\$3.50	Orchy Juices 250ml (3 flavours)	\$2.00
Pizza- BBQ Ham & Chicken	\$3.50	Dairy Farmers Small Milks 300ml	\$2.50
Garlic Bread	\$1.50	Dairy Farmers 500ml Flavoured Milk	\$3.50
Pasta Bake ( Bolognaise)	\$4.00	Glee Cans 250ml ( 3 Flavours)	\$2.00
Cheese Toasties	\$1.50	Just Juice Poppers 200ml	\$1.50
Ham & Cheese Toasties	\$2.00	Waterford's Mineral Water	\$2.50
Chicken & Gravy Rolls	\$3.50		
		<b>Extras</b>	
Fruit/Yoghurt/ Muesli	\$2.50	Sour light Cream	.50c
Custard / Fruit Cups	\$2.50	Sauces	.50c
Fruit Cups	\$1.00	Gravy	.50c
Frozen Yogurt	\$2.00		
Cheese & Crackers	\$1.50	<b>ICEBLOCKS</b>	
Grainwaves	\$1.00	Paddle Pops (2 flavours)	\$1.50
Muffins- light	\$1.50	Juices (3 flavours)	\$1.00
Chobani Yoghurts (3 flavours)	\$2.50	Frozen Pineapple Rings	.50c

**WEEKLY SPECIALS ARE AVAILABLE  
ON THE BOARD**

# PRISM LGBTIQA+ Inclusivity Training

This one-day training will explore the core principles of LGBTIQA+ Inclusivity.

This training will cover:

- Unpacking the LGBTIQA+ acronym, with a focus on sex characteristics, gender and sexuality identity
- Realities for LGBTIQA+ populations - discrimination, microaggressions, statistics
- Inclusive practice for individuals and organisations - language, allyship and inclusivity audits

This content will be contextualised to focus on inclusive language and service provision in the community setting, and will allow space and time for questions, discussion, and for the group to establish next steps.

twenty10

GLCS



UPPER HUNTER  
COMMUNITY SERVICES Inc.

9am-5pm  
26th of August 2021

Muswellbrook RSL Club  
113 Bridge St Muswellbrook

Twenty10 inc GLCS NSW is an LGBTIQA+ organisation, working primarily with young people aged 12-25. They offer specialised services for youth across housing, mental health, counselling and social support, and are a Specialist Homelessness Service, offering transitional accommodation for LGBTIQA+ young people. Twenty10 is the NSW State Partner for QLife - Australia's only free, national and all ages LGBTIQA+ phone and web support service. Twenty10 also works in community suicide prevention, delivers LGBTIQA+ inclusivity training, performs advocacy, and offers consulting for organisations and service providers across most sectors.

UPPER HUNTER YOUTH SERVICES INC.

# CALENDAR

## June 2021

**Tuesday 1st** - Group Discussion - Positive Role Models  
**Wednesday 2nd** - Cooking Class : Sweet Rolls With Kathy  
**Thursday 3rd** - In Town Activity - Walking To Maccas For Soft Serve Ice Cream

**Tuesday 8th** - Your Recount Of Last 4 Tuesday Programs In Art Form  
**Wednesday 9th** - Wear Your Footy Colours to Youthies - Pass & Kick The Footy  
**Thursday 10th** - Cooking Class: Mini Quiches With Kathy

**Tuesday 15th** - Craft with Jackie  
**Wednesday 16th** - BBQ & Tunes  
**Thursday 17th** - Handball Challenge

**Tuesday 22nd** - Cooking Class: Fried Rice With Alicia  
**Wednesday 23rd** - Bullrush  
**Thursday 24th** - Youthies End Of Term Party

**29th & 30th June** - School Holidays - Keep An Eye Out For Our Holiday Calendar

Located at The Showground, Maitland Street, Muswellbrook NSW 2333

**Phone:** (02) 6543 4841 **Email:** [admin@uhys.org.au](mailto:admin@uhys.org.au) or [cbrown@uhys.org.au](mailto:cbrown@uhys.org.au)

**Opening Hours:** Tuesday to Thursday, 3pm - 6pm

**Free Transport Provided:** Muswellbrook Area Only

**Age Group:** 10 - 17yrs

FREE MEMBERSHIP TO YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 10 - 17 YEARS

