

Murrumburrah Mercury

Dates for the Calendar

TERM 4

Monday 8th December

Tuesday 9th December

Wednesday 10th December

Thursday 11th December

Friday 12th December

Monday 15th December

- End of Year Activities

Tuesday 16th December

- End of Year Activities

Wednesday 17th December

- End of Year Activities
- Last day of school for students

Thursday 18th December

- School Development Day for staff

Friday 19th December

- School Development Day for staff

Week 10 Term 4

9 December 2014

Students Achievements Celebrated

The end of year Presentation Day was held last Friday to acknowledge the successes and achievements of students. Congratulations to students who received awards.



David White Memorial Prize for Practical Agriculture winner, Josh Manwaring. Presented by Judy White



Outstanding Sportsman of the Year, Will Manwaring with NAB representative Linda Stewart



Year 10 Work Experience Student of the Year, Elizabeth Eccleston, with John McFadyen, MHS Principal 2015



Landcare Representative Louise Hufton with Naomi Bernthaler

Citizenship Award recipient Katie Hearne with RSL reps Linda Hearne and Graeme Chalker



New Look Uniform

As previously advised the new look school polo shirts will be available soon through the Uniform Shop at Murrumburrah Public School. Shirts do not need to be pre ordered. The shop will be open at the following times for parents and students to purchase the shirts;

- Thursday 22 January from 10am to 5pm
- Tuesday 27 January from 3pm to 5pm
- Thursday 29 January from 3pm to 5pm

Further 2015 opening times will be advised early in the new year.

Parents are reminded that while the new uniform is being phased in all current items of school uniform are still good to be worn by students. The phasing in period for the new items of school uniform is expected to take two years.



Years 11 and 12 Polo

Light blue polo with navy panels, collar and embroidered logo

Cost: Approximately \$25

To be worn with navy blue shorts or skirt



Years 7 to 10 Polo

Navy blue polo with light blue panels, collar and embroidered logo

Cost: Approximately \$25

To be worn with navy blue shorts or skirt



Years 7 to 12 Sports Polo

Maroon polo with white panels, collar and embroidered logo

Cost: Approximately \$25

To be worn with navy blue shorts or skirt

Principal's Report

The staff have recently reviewed and ratified our mobile phone and electronic device policy and procedures. This policy is underpinned by ensuring we as a school provide the least distraction and disruption in class learning time for all our students. In the interest of educating young people to be responsible users of technology we are seeking to inform our students with the correct etiquette to use these devices. For that reason the expectation is that students will always follow teacher directions. Students who misuse their technology in class will be supported by the school and will be allowed to submit their device to the office until the end of the day. Continued misuse of technology, especially mobile phones, may lead to the privilege being withdrawn from the student and they will be asked to keep that device at home. Parents and friends of the community are reminded that if you require contacting your child urgently at school then the best way is via our school landline on 6386 2755. This enhances communication, frees the class from disruption and allows us to best support your child. I have attached a copy of the policy in this newsletter.

We have recently made some submissions to the DEC in the best interest of our school. We have expressed interest to participate in the 'Tell Them from Me' survey in which parents, staff and students will complete surveys that will provide valuable information to plan improvement in the school. We have also submitted an interest in becoming a lighthouse school in agriculture. This opportunity would recognise schools state wide that support good practice in curriculum delivery, student engagement and career promotion in Agriculture and Primary Industries. Similarly, we also expressed interest for a

School Chaplain worth up to \$24,000. The School Chaplain would operate as a Youth Worker and would be an added resource for the school to use for students who are faced with adversity and require further support that extends into the community. We will keep you informed with the progress of these submissions.

Currently we are doing the mandatory annual evaluation of a faculty in the school. This year our focus is the Science Department. We have established a team to review documents observe classes, interview students in focus groups, interview science staff and engage in random parent surveys by phone to collect information that will be used to plan improvement in the science faculty in the future. We thank all of the community who have contributed to date and hope the reward of this process is further opportunities and experiences for our students that enhance their learning. The results will be published in the Annual School Report in early 2015.

Thank you to all the guests, sponsors, parents and friends who attended our school last Friday for presentation day. It was an absolute delight to celebrate student achievement. I appeal to all students to continue to persevere as this is a significant ingredient for success. I ask students to be brave and have the courage to work towards your goals. To not be afraid of mistakes rather see them as an opportunity to learn and become resilient. As we come close to the end of another academic year, I ask parents and students to prepare themselves for next year with uniform and equipment for class that includes the basics like pens and books. I have always stated that halfway to success is organisation and time management the other half is perseverance and hard work.

Finally, it was an absolute delight to receive a letter from the Principal Ms Sandra Hiscock from Yass HS. Ms Hiscock acknowledged our great students for their leadership and generosity at the recent Albury Show. She also acknowledged our teacher Ms Young who demonstrated what education is all about. Ms Young and our Show Team from Farm Club have proven to be great ambassadors not just for our school and system but for their teachers and parents too. Congratulations to all involved. I have shared this letter publicly with this newsletter.

Relieving Principal
Ms Safija Bristina

Driving Training Program to continue

The Driver Training program at Murrumburrah High School is set to continue into 2015 with recently announced additional funding from the Geoffrey Kruger Trust.

The program is sponsored by McAlister Motors Young, the Murrumburrah High School P&C and the Geoffrey Kruger Trust. The school is indebted to these organisations for their support.

This program has been in operation at the Murrumburrah High School for over 30 years. It is designed to teach safe driving habits and to make students realise when they are driving, that they are responsible for the safety of family, friends, other members of the community and most of all themselves.

Students rate this driver training program very highly because it provides a thorough, well planned course of instruction which follows a logical sequence. It gives the learner driver individual tuition with no pressure. A good attitude to safety and driving is developed and our hope is that it will provide a means to reduce accidents in the local area.

Much is said about how we could reduce the road toll, particularly amongst young people in the 18 to 25 years age bracket. This program provides a hands-on, safe driving focus which turns words into action. Good driving habits learned early stay with drivers in later life.

Very few schools have a driver training program and not many could match a program that has run successfully and continuously for over 30 years. The Harden community has an asset that is worth keeping and support will be needed in the future to keep the program running.

IMPORTANT DATES

Wednesday 17 December - Students last day of school

Wednesday 28 January - Students in Years 7, 11 and 12 return to school

Thursday 29 January - Students in Years 8, 9 and 10 return to school

Summer Chess Competition

Last week Mr Moodley organised a summer chess competition. With good participation and close chess games the competition was enjoyed by the many players. Congratulations to the winners:

Brad Williams - Junior Winner

Ty Newman - Junior Runner-up

Josh Whittington - Senior Winner

Tom Foster - Senior Runner-up



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