

MURRUMBURRAH  
HIGH SCHOOL

PRINCIPAL:  
MR DALE RANDS

# Mercury



Mercury

14 December 2020

## Term 4

- **Last Day of Term**  
Wednesday 16  
December



## Principal's Speech

Good morning and welcome.

Firstly I would also like to acknowledge that the land we are all meeting on today is traditionally owned by the Wiradjuri people and I pay my respects to all elders that have gone before and to the current, new and emerging leaders of the future. I also would like to welcome all Aboriginal students here today.

Well... what a year 2020 was.

I can very honestly say that we have all had a very difficult year and very different from anything we have ever seen or hopefully will ever see again.

The year began in a regular way with our Year 7 students starting school along with a few new students and all our returning students. Staff and families had many serious concerns about the bush fire crisis hitting our state so very badly, hurting many communities, then flooding in many areas as well as the ongoing drought..... and apparently something was happening in China.

I remember saying to staff very early in the year that I had a feeling about this virus in China.

## Principal's Report Continued...

Word getting around was that it was serious and could affect other countries, families had mixed feelings about how serious it was.....well... look at what happened within a few short weeks. Total freedom to total lockdown. Something never before seen by many Australians and it was now being compared with the Flu pandemic of the early 1900's. How quickly our way of life was changing.

Then came a new way of learning. Many of our students sitting here today showed tremendous resilience to a sudden change and my thanks to you for your efforts. For some it was difficult. Learning at home without the classroom environment and the teacher nearby was hard and the adjustment took time but I am very proud of you all, especially the students we are recognising today, who rose above the challenges of 2020 and shone bright in so many areas.

Thank you also to the staff. What a huge effort you all put in this year to help your students get through their challenges and to get through your own. I have never had so many online meetings as I have had this year and to be completely honest I hate them. I would much rather face to face learning myself and I understand how difficult it has been on everyone. The teaching and non-teaching staff worked closely together to get your learning packages together and get them delivered on the Murrumburrah High School express delivery bus. Some students used to even meet the bus just so they could see a familiar face during lockdown. Thank you to everyone, for making 2020 as much as it could be under the myriad of changes that were thrust upon us almost every couple of weeks. The changes just did not stop from the Department of Education to schools. But it was all for a good reason...to get us where we are now when the rest of the world is struggling under lockdowns and massive daily infections and death rates. We indeed are a lucky country and I am so very proud of all you ... staff and students alike for this year.

I would like to also thank President Sarah Rowan and the P&C for their efforts this year in what was very difficult, firstly normal, then COVID lockdown and then partial restarting of the canteen with Rosie as the new canteen manager. Then back to full time with all the new Healthy Canteen menu in operation. All the while with only two actual planning meetings occurring this year under COVID restrictions. It took a lot of personal time from the P&C executive and we are all very grateful for this commitment to the school. My personal thanks to Rosie for the wonderful job she did since taking up her new role and we all look forward to her foodie creations next year.

Thank you to all the staff at Murrumburrah High School, teaching and non-teaching. Without you and your hard work over the year our students may not have achieved what they have today. Thank you for your professionalism and your unwavering support. Also thank you to Bev and the school executive team for making my job so much easier. It is lovely to work with such a strong and supportive team that has one goal - to improve the standard of educational outcomes for all our students in whatever way we can.

Lastly, and the main reason we are here today .... is to celebrate the achievements of our students and recognise the fantastic efforts that they have put in over the year. These efforts need to be formally recognised by everyone gathered here today and I offer my personal congratulations to everyone receiving an award today. Thank you everyone for being with us today and all the best for Christmas and the New Year. Stay safe, enjoy the holiday break with family and friends and I will see everyone back at school next year.

*Mr Dale Rands*  
*Principal*

## ÷ Captains Corner ÷

This year our school has been through a lot together. After the tough year we have all had, we as a school, have been able to accomplish a lot to benefit our school and community. Before COVID hit our SRC participated in Clean Up Australia day, that got the whole school involved taking pride in how our school looks. Back in Term 2, the SRC ran a 'Decades' dress up day where students could come dressed in clothes that signified a specific decade and all donations for this went to Mission Australia. Then in Term 3, we ran a very successful R U OK day, we spent the day reminding students of the importance of checking up on people and asking, are you OK, which at a time like now could not be more important. Our goal for the SRC this year was to raise money to go towards our local charities and support the organisations within our community, and we feel that, for the most part, we have achieved this goal.



Since becoming captains Jordan and I have had some opportunities to reach out and get involved in our community. This year we were able to do a speech at the Remembrance Day ceremony, and it was so amazing to be a part of something with such significance in our town. We also had the opportunity to watch the Murrumburrah Public School 2021 Captain speeches, we can see that there will be some great future school leaders.

2020 has been a hard year but we have made it through and we look forward to a new year in 2021. We would like to thank everyone for the support they have given us and the school, and the SRC for all they bring to our school.

We look forward to planning next year.

Thank you

*Amity & Jordan*

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## ÷ P&C News ÷

As the school year draws to a close, I'd like to take the opportunity to thank the staff for their continued hard work through such a difficult year and also to the students for coping with all the changes. My sincere gratitude also goes to the wonderful P&C Committee that have supported myself and the school for another year and to our Canteen Wonder Woman, Rosie for all that she does.

I wish you and your families a wonderful Christmas catching up with friends and family and a safe and happy New Year.

Cheers

*Sarah Rowan*

*P&C President*



## ÷ IVY9 Community Day project – Helping The Homeless ÷

The students of IVY9 originally planned their community project around helping the homeless. The students collected items they felt would be useful for homeless people. The students also held a multi-day to raise funds to purchase personal hygiene packs. Their fellow students at MHS generously donated gold coins to raise over \$100.00. The project incorporated the idea of delivering these products to the St Benedict's shelter in Queanbeyan in Term 4. Unfortunately, COVID-19 restrictions halted that idea.

IVY9 decided instead to donate the items of clothing to our local Vinnies store. The money raised was used to purchase personal hygiene products which were placed in two large bags and donated to the Bendigo Bank appeal - #It's in the bag – which provides homeless people or people on low wages with the bags to see them through the summer period.

All students at MHS show community awareness and compassion for those less fortunate than themselves. This attribute is a credit to these young people and their families. IVY9 thanks the Bendigo Bank for reaching out to those in need.

*IVY9 students with their #It's in the bag donations. Missing are Lily Shorrock and Emily Schulz who were completing an assessment task.*



### ÷ Visual Art ÷

Year 11 Art student Peta Ryan with her art piece.

### ÷ Ivy ÷



IVY students enjoyed yoga on Thursday morning.



## ÷ Peer Tutoring ÷

A peer tutor training program was re-implemented this year at Murrumburrah High School. It had been a great success a number of years ago.

The program involved students in Year 10 completing an accredited TAFE course in literacy tutoring and providing support for selected Year 7 students.

The TAFE training program focuses on teaching the tutors the basics of instruction and teaching. The program was delivered by Karen Ward both at Murrumburrah High School and at Young TAFE. Even if a student understands the subject material well, it is not always easy to communicate the material to others. By training students and teaching the basic skills that a tutor needs to instruct, ensures the tutors have the skills to assist students with a wide range of reading skills.

The Year 10 tutors complete modules in theory (TAFE training) and tutoring sessions three times per week in IVY time. They assist their selected students to improve their reading skills by using novels and reading material from the library at their appropriate reading level.

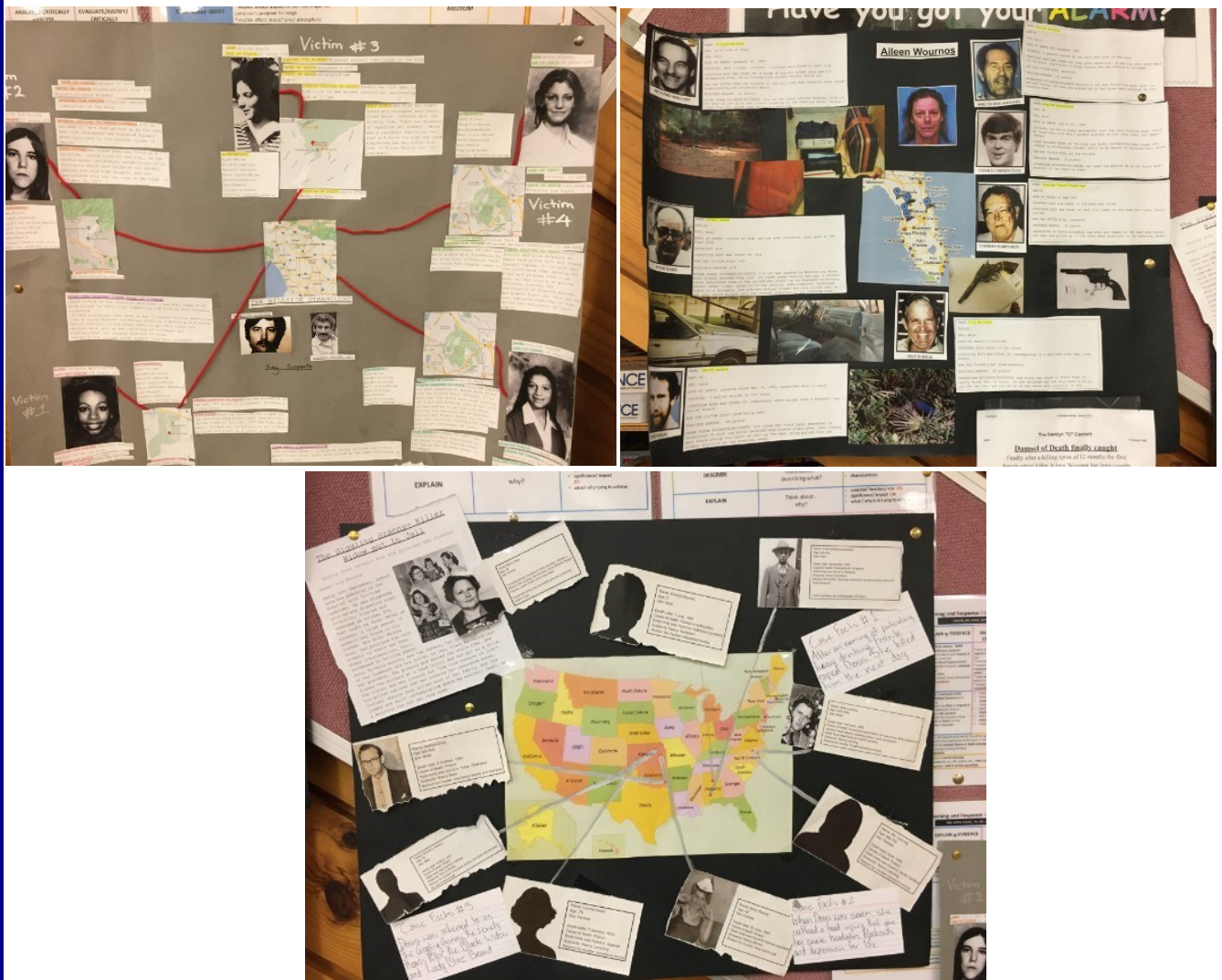
This program has many academic, social and welfare benefits for both tutor and their chosen student with the tutors and tutees getting to know each other well over the year. The program has an outstanding record of success in enhancing the students' reading levels and confidence in reading as well as providing many useful reading and comprehension skills for the tutors.

It is proposed that in 2021, Year 10 students will be given the opportunity to train as tutors.



## ≡ Stage 5 Crimes and Catastrophes ≡

The historians work is very like the detective's work! Both investigate evidence, look for connections and make decisions based on those connections and evidence! To that end, Stage 5 Crimes and Catastrophes undertook research into some serious criminals as part of their assessment in our final topic - looking into the history of crime and punishment. Students investigated the criminal and the evidence, then compiled their information into a newspaper article and evidence boards. The photos feature work from Lily Shorrocks, Coralie Vasquez and Maddison Teys.



## ≡ Clothing Pool ≡

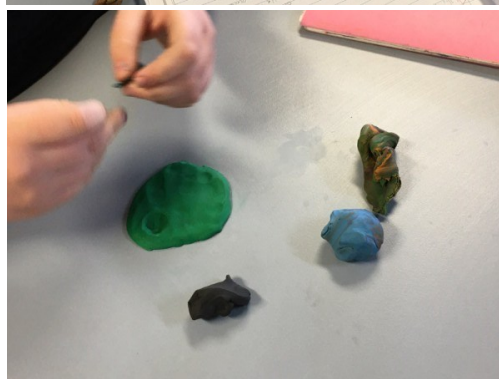
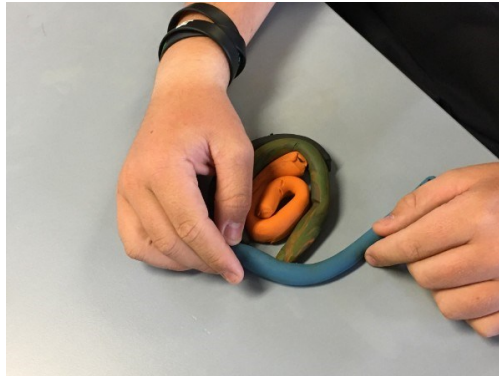
If any families have old uniforms (skirts, shirts etc) that your student has grown out of or no longer needs. We would love to hear from you.

Please contact the school on 6386 2755 to arrange a delivery time.



## ✧ Stage 5 Science ✧

Stage 5 Science enjoyed their prac lesson looking at the earth's layers. Given the opportunity to identify the parts of the earth and the story of how the earth was made, they took the opportunity to make their own mini-earth out of plasticine. The work of Jade Emms, Maci Wilkinson and Ben Sargent are among others featured in the photos below.





## Industrial Technology

### Industrial Technology Timber

The two projects complete this semester were the folding chair and wall mirror. The folding chair project required accurate measurements, skill in cutting material and the use of a range of electric power tools to complete the project. The wall mirror introduced students to the use templates/jigs with the router to create decorative pediments and for the process of mass production. Mirrors are of a standard size and students are given the freedom to design their own top and bottom sections and any other modifications they feel necessary.



### Industrial Technology Metal

In metalwork this semester students completed a number of metal fabrication projects; Year 9 students manufactured a rocket stove and Year 10 students a camping BBQ developing their skills using fabrication techniques and the MIG welder. The students also produced sheet metal projects completing a dust pan, tool carryall and advanced tool tin. The students used the guillotine, magnabend and developed sheet metal skills of accurate marking out and engineering drawing interpretation.





## ÷ Industrial Technology ÷

### VET Metal and Engineering

The Year 12 students have completed the last unit of the course: Perform Manual Heating and Thermal Cutting. The students will attain the certificate in Metal and Engineering.



### VET Construction

The Year 12 students have completed their Certificate II in Construction Pathways. The photos show the students finishing the group project. The Year 11 students are working on formwork for erect and dismantle formwork for footings and slabs on ground qualification.



## ÷ Year 12 Visual Arts Major Works 2020 ÷

Now that the marking and HSC exams are well and truly over for 2020 we are able to showcase the major works created by our Year 12 Visual Arts students.

**Natalya Kelly** drew inspiration in her natural world, looking at the stunning images associated with trees in our landscape and how they change across time and light.

**Emily Dawe** looked at images associated with femininity, and the way in which the media manipulates those images.

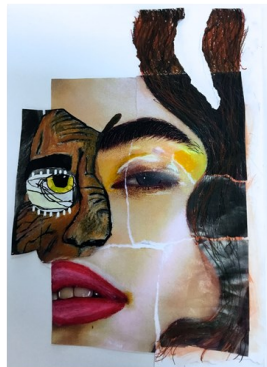
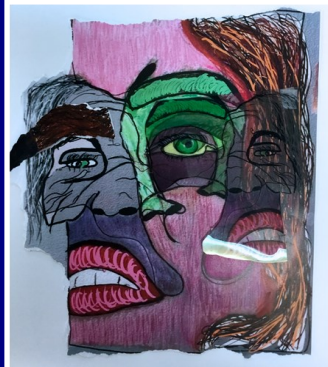
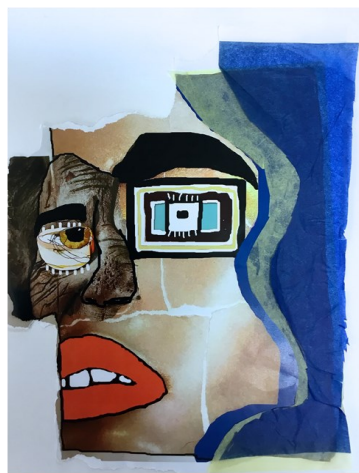
**James Daley** created a piece that combined visions of masculinity alongside his favourite art form of anime.

**Sharna Allen** explored nature and the beautiful textures associated with the decaying natural world.

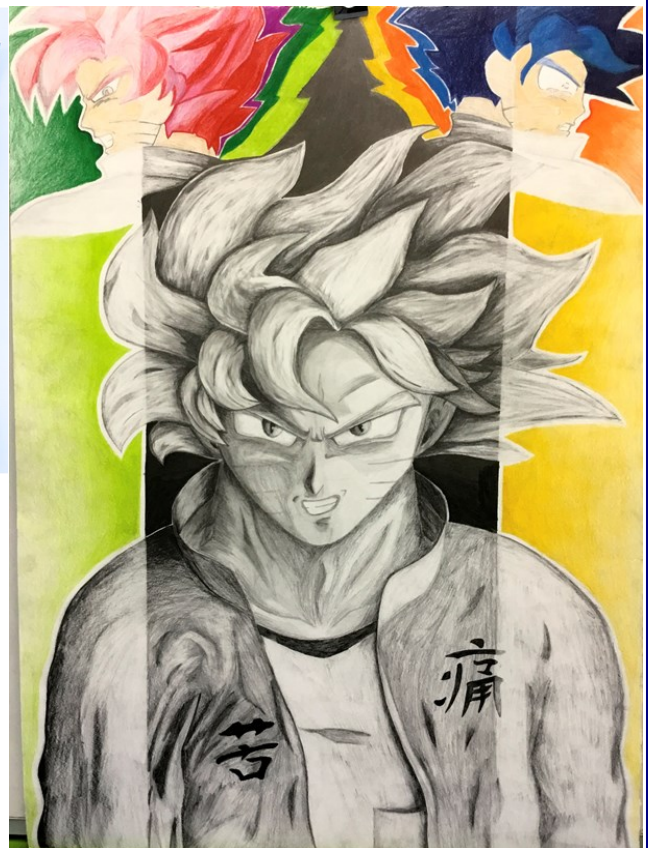


Natalya Kelly

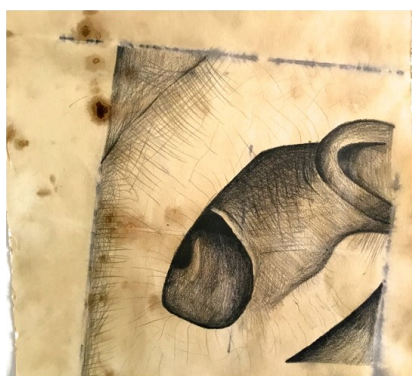
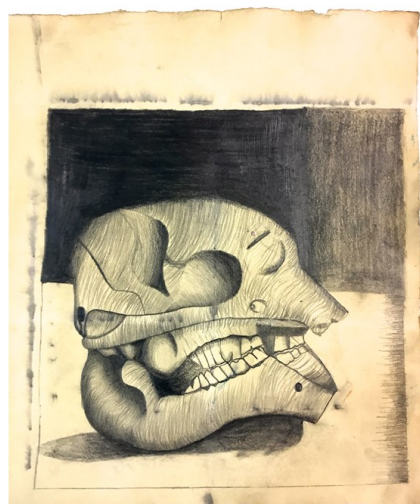




Emily Dawe



James Daley



Sharna Allen



# ⌘ Athletics Day ⌘





## ⌘ Athletics Carnival ⌘





## ≡ Presentation Day ≡





## ≡ Presentation Day ≡



## ≡ School Assembly ≡

Congratulations to the students pictured on receiving their Cross Country Certificates and Positive Level Awards.





## ❖ HDEF Award ❖

Harden District Education Foundation (HDEF) awards \$10,000 to Murrumburrah High School Student, Abbey Wade.

The Harden District Education Foundation has awarded their inaugural Alumni of Distinction of \$10,000 to Abbey Wade. The grant was made possible through the partnership of the HDEF and Graymont, Galong. HDEF and Graymont are excited to announce that this will be available to one student from MHS in Year 12 every year going forward.

The Alumni of Distinction is open to all Year 12 students of Murrumburrah High School who have made a positive and significant contribution to the high school and the wider community.

Students applied for the grant and, as part of the selection process, were then interviewed by members of the HDEF committee and Sylvio Livolsi, the Plant Manager at Graymont, Galong. Abbey was successful being selected for the grant due to her accomplishments during her secondary years in sporting, dance and leadership fields. She has demonstrated a strong work ethic through-out her time at MHS. Abbey's volunteering efforts to help others in local community groups throughout high school was also a contributing factor in being the successful recipient.

Abbey plans on using the money towards her study of Bachelor of Health Science at the University of Canberra and then hopes to then transfer to Physiotherapy, a 4 year course.



*Abbey Wade with Sylvio Livolsi, Plant Manager, Graymont, Galong.*



## ÷ Farm News ÷

The Babies have arrived.

The busy shorthorn mothers have rewarded the students with calves as an early Christmas present. Nancy was first to calve a beautiful red bull calf. Popstar, our heifer cow, was next to easily calve a beautiful red heifer calf. While writing this we are still waiting for the matriarch Shorty to deliver her calf.

Our four heifers that were artificially inseminated (AI) do not appear to have returned to heat. So fingers crossed, they are all in calf. We are looking into doing a tail blood test to confirm pregnancy as a new learning tool in the next month or so when the students are back from summer holidays. If all is how it should be, the students will be expecting four new calves at the end of August.

The colour and sex of the calf competition continues in Senior Ag while we wait for Shorty to deliver. Punnet squares for genetic traits are being drawn up to determine the genotype and phenotype of the calves in relation to coat colour.

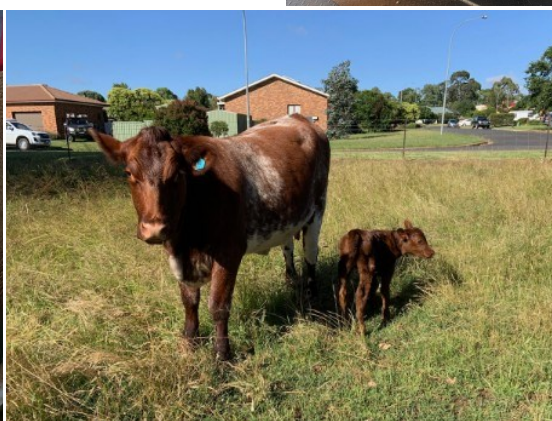
Last week our trusty shearer Doug Baker arrived at the school with his new shearing sheep handler. This was a first for Murrumburrah High School and we were excited to see how easily the handler held the sheep while moving it around to be shorn at waist height by Doug. This enabled the rams to be shorn without any ram sedative which had them back with the ewes for joining with no delays or groggy heads.

Doug also completed the shearing of our new six SAMM ewes which we purchased from Peter and Kath Manwaring. Now all ewes are in sync with wool production and joining times. We expect a drop of late autumn lambs in 2021.

With Wal backlining the ewes this week, all is set for a summer of grazing for the students' sheep flock during the holidays.

The School Farm has a large number of pasture hay to sell at \$50 a large round bale. All baled with no rain damage.

Please contact the school or Jan Young on 0412 774 094.



## ÷ 2021 School Dates ÷

Term 1	Wednesday 27 January to Thursday 1 April
School Holidays	Monday 5 April to Friday 16 April
Term 2	Monday 19 April to Friday 25 June
School Holidays	Monday 28 June to Friday 9 July
Term 3	Monday 12 July to Friday 17 September
School Holidays	Monday 20 September to Friday 1 October
Term 4	Tuesday 5 October to Friday 17 December
School Holidays	Monday 20 December to Thursday 27 January 2022

*Students return Friday 29th January 2021*



The Harden CWA's Co-op Shop is open on a Friday and Saturday from 9am to 1pm with handmade Christmas gifts for sale that would be ideal for a child to buy for, so why not bring your children along to do their Christmas shopping on Saturday morning? Any child that buys a Christmas gift from the Co-op Shop will receive free gift wrapping for that item.

There will also be a gift wrapping service available for a gold coin donation each Friday and Saturday up until Christmas.

The CWA branch also has an alterations and mending service available, so if you have a button that needs to be sewn on or a hem that needs to be taken up, our clever sewing ladies will be only too happy to help - and all for a small fee. Just bring in your alterations or mending on a Friday or Saturday between the hours of 9am and 1pm.





MURRUMBURRAH  
HIGH SCHOOL

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Preparing our students for tomorrow's challenges through learning

## WORD SEARCH

### Merry Christmas

C	F	A	J	I	L	E	S	N	I	T	L	E	P
P	R	E	S	E	N	T	S	S	H	O	T	C	D
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SANTA CLAUS  
LOVE  
WRAPPING  
FESTIVE  
SPIRIT  
MERRY  
ELVES  
CHRISTMAS  
RIBBON  
STAR  
LIGHTS  
CARDS  
KINDNESS  
DECORATIONS  
TREE  
WREATH  
PRESENTS  
REINDEER  
TINSEL  
CELEBRATE  
FRIENDS  
HAPPY  
SONGS  
JOLLY



# Happy Holidays

Wishing all families a safe  
and happy Christmas and  
New Year holidays.

