

MURRUMBURRAH  
HIGH SCHOOL

PRINCIPAL:  
MR DALE RANDS

# Mercury



Mercury

25 September 2020

## Week 9

- **School Holidays**  
Saturday 26  
September to  
Sunday 11  
October
- **Term 4 - Staff  
and Students  
return to school -**  
Monday 12  
October



## School Captains 2021

### Abbey Wade and Max Spackman - 2020 Captains

Max and I would just like to say how privileged we were to be able to lead Murrumburrah High School through one of the craziest and most unpredictable years we can possibly experience. We hope that we have helped achieve goals and represented the school the way everyone hoped we would.

We would also like to congratulate the captains elect for 2021 Jordan Phelan and Amity Sheargold, we wish you all the best and we are glad to be handing over our captaincy to two dedicated and responsible people, good luck.

Lastly we want to thank Murrumburrah High School on behalf of the class of 2020 as we part ways.

### Amity Sheargold and Jordan Phelan - 2021 Captains

We would like to first thank and farewell our current captains Abbey and Max for having to navigate such a trying and difficult year in the position of captain.

We would also like to say just how much we appreciate everybody's support and are working forward to taking on such an important role in the school community.

Finally, we would like to wish Abbey and Max all the best in their future endeavours and hope we can make as much of a difference as they have done in improving our great school.

## Principal's Report

Welcome to the end of term 3.

It has been a long term, in fact it was and will be the longest school term of 2020 as Term 4 is slightly shorter. I would like to thank all the staff, students and their families for their work this term in getting through our daily school life whilst abiding by the ever-changing guidelines for schools to operate under. As of this week some new guidelines have now been released for term 4 school operation. As the staff version of this update is 23 pages long it would be easier to log onto the Department of Education website and follow the links to the COVID-19 page and read the changes, if you really have the desire, otherwise we will provide you with the guidelines that will affect our school next term.

Year 6 into 7 Orientation and transition activities will now be planned around these new guidelines and we will be in touch with our partner primary schools early next term also with specific planning. The changes have been constant this year and I am sure that we all look forward to 2021 and what it can bring for us.

I have very recently had a meeting with Hilltops Council regarding the parking and traffic flow at the Smith street entrance to the school. The meeting was originally planned to discuss parking concerns for families, however, I was informed at the meeting that Harden Council (pre-amalgamation) had made the decision back in 2014 that parking restriction signage would be installed on both sides of Smith Street for about 40m. Hilltops Council is having those signs installed over the coming school holidays. This will then be monitored by council and police for traffic flow and safety. The restrictions will mean that during the 40km/hr reduced speed school times, no one will be able to park in those zones at all, not even for drop off and pick up. So, from day 1 next term please drop off and pick up your child(ren) outside these marked zones for everyone's safety. Unfortunately, this means that students will need to walk that little bit further to get into and out of school.

My final message for term 3 is to congratulate our new incoming school captains. Congratulations Jordan Phelan and Amity Sheargold on your selection by the staff and student body, you will make fine leaders and representatives of the students of the school and of the wider community. I look forward to working with you over next term and 2021.

*Mr Dale Rands*  
*Principal*

## MHS School Driver Training Program

If your student is 16 years old they are eligible to enrol in the school's driver training program.

All students must be financial and sign an additional COVID consent form.

**1 hour = 3 Log book hours**

Contact the School to find out more information or your student can pick up a form.

## Platinum Award Winners

**2020 Term 3 – Melanie O'Farrell, Hayley Hambrook, Riley Arabin, Emily Willett, Lily McKinley, Elden Rowan, Jasmin Chesworth, Grace Shorrocks, Maddison Teys, Samantha Emms, Chloe Wade, Emily Schulz, Coralie Vasquez**

Once again, it is my absolute pleasure to announce the following student recipients of the Platinum level at Murrumburrah High School. Each of these students has worked hard and shown determination to achieve their best over the last number of years. They have made their own unique impact on the life of the school and are all to be congratulated.



**Coralie Vasquez** has been a student at Murrumburrah High School for 4 years. In that time, she has shown herself to be an outstanding student in every way. Her behaviour is always exemplary, she wears her uniform with pride and she is a model student in the classroom. Coralie is a keen participant in school-based sporting activities such as the swimming carnival and volunteers for involvement with broader activities such as STEM in 2020, while she proudly represents the school during the town ANZAC day service. Her teachers commend her for this award, noting her enthusiasm for her studies and her perfect conduct in the classroom.

**Emily Schulz** has similarly been a student at Murrumburrah High School for 4 years. In that time her behaviour has always been exemplary. Emily is a willing participant in school-based activities such as the school swimming carnival and the annual creative and performing arts event. Emily is also a keen participant in extra-curricula activities like representative swimming and debating where she has demonstrated skill and cooperation. Additionally, Emily is a proud representative of her school at the town ANZAC Day service. Her teachers roundly commend her for this award commenting on her enthusiastic participation in class and her consistent status as a model student!



**Chloe Wade** has also been a student at Murrumburrah High School for 4 years. Chloe is a worthy recipient of this award having been an excellent student in that time. Chloe always behaves to the very best of her ability, and is a model student in the classroom and playground. She is a keen sportsperson, participating with solid results in all school sporting carnivals from swimming, to athletics and cross country. She has been a keen participant in extra curricula activities such as Rypen, a leadership camp and she was a very able assistant with the Year 6 transition in 2019. It is in school service that Chloe particularly shines having been a member of the student representative council for many years. Additionally, she is a proud attendant of the town ANZAC Day service while she volunteered to participate in the Remembrance Day visit to the War Memorial and Belgian Embassy in 2019. Chloe is commended for this award by each of her teachers who comment on her maturity and dedication to her studies.



## Platinum Award Winners



**Samantha Emms** has attended Murrumburrah High School since year 7 and in that period has shown herself to be a model student. Samantha is a keen and talented sportsperson who enthusiastically participates in school based and representative sports such as swimming, athletics and cross country. She has taken her success to the next level, representing the school at district and regional carnivals in the past. Samantha was involved in the Rypen leadership program in 2020 and she has been a keen organiser and leader of the school debating team for a couple of years. Samantha was an excellent help and student guide to the year 6 students during their transition in 2019. Samantha has regularly represented the school with pride at ANZAC Day ceremonies and has been in the SRC for all of her years at MHS. Samantha's teachers are united in their belief she is an exemplary student who is a very worthy recipient of this award.

**Maddison Teys** has been a student at Murrumburrah High School since 2017. She is an excellent student who always applies herself in the classroom, contributing to class discussions and participating in all learning activities with enthusiasm. Maddison has been involved in extra curricula events such as the annual creative and performing arts evening in singing and dancing. At school, she always wears her uniform with pride and is well organised for class activities. She is an attentive student in the room, always listening and demonstrating respect for her peers and teachers. Maddison's teachers commend her unanimously for this award believing her to be a model student.



**Grace Shorrock** has been a student at Murrumburrah High School since 2016. Grace is an exemplary student who applies herself to all activities associated with her learning with dedication and pride. Her behaviour is always exemplary whether it is in the playground or in the classroom. Grace stepped out of her comfort zone to contribute to the annual creative and performing arts evening last year, running the back stage and administration side of the show ably assisting the teacher director. Grace is well organised and prepared for all classroom activities and she wears her school uniform proudly. She listens attentively in class and make positive contributions to the learning in the classroom as required. She is at all times respectful and is thus a valuable member of the school community and a deserving recipient of this award.

**Jasmin Chesworth** has been a student at Murrumburrah High School since year 7. She always displays excellent behaviour across the school and is a leader amongst her peers for her inclusive behaviour. Jasmin has been involved in all school sporting activities, from swimming through athletics to the cross country. She excels at whatever sport she attempts. She has additionally been involved in debating in 2020, ably leading her team, coaching and guiding them. She is a valued member of the SRC and has made a strong contribution to the lighting and sound team working to assist all manner of presentations for the school. Jasmin is an excellent student who wears her uniform with pride, and is well organised and prepared at all times. She contributes positively to the learning environment and demonstrates respect for her peers and teachers at all times. She is a very worthy recipient of this award.





## Platinum Award Winners



**Elden Rowan** has been a student at Murrumburrah for the last 5 years and in this time he has really found his place in the farm club leading other students and helping them to find their way. Additionally at school he is well organised and prepared for lessons and activities, he listens attentively in class and works well with his teachers. He is a positive force in the classroom making valuable contributions to class discussions and is respectful towards others. He is a worthy recipient of this award.

Another student who has found his place in farm club is **Riley Arabin**. Riley has been a student at Murrumburrah High School since year 7 and in that time he has been a strong contributor to farm club, also helping other students find their way and acting as a leader during club events. Riley is always prepared for all classroom activities and is a strong contributor to a positive learning environment. He is respectful to his peers and teachers at all times and listens attentively to classroom instruction. Riley wears his uniform with pride and is a worthy recipient of this award.



**Emily Willett** has been a student at Murrumburrah High School since year 7. She is a well-mannered student who always wears her uniform with pride. In the classroom she is always attentive and listens and follows instructions promptly. She makes a positive contribution to the learning in the classroom and always demonstrates respect towards her peers and her teachers. Emily is a model student. Her teachers all commend her for her positive influence on her learning environment and thus she is a worthy recipient of this award.

Similarly, **Lily McKinley** has been a student here since year 7. She is also a model student, always wearing her uniform proudly, and always demonstrating respect towards her peers and teachers. Lily listens attentively to all classroom instruction and makes positive contributions to the learning at all times. She has been a strong contributor to the homeless project coming from Ivy 9 and has a positive influence on the learning environment of her classroom. Her teachers universally commend her for her positivity and thus she is a worthy recipient of this award.



**Hayley Hambrook** is a great student of Murrumburrah High School who is always working towards achieving her goals! She has been involved in representing the school in sport and on cultural occasions, where she has always acted in a manner befitting the school. Hayley wears her uniform with pride, attending ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day events and is a positive influence in every learning environment. She behaves respectfully towards students and staff at all times and makes great contributions to class activities. Hayley is a model student who all of her teachers commend for this award. She is a very worthy recipient.

## Platinum Award Winners



**Melanie O'Farrell** has been a student at Murrumburrah High School since year 7. She is a student who involves herself in many activities including sport and cultural events. She has represented the school at ANZAC and Remembrance Day activities, wearing her school uniform with pride. Melanie is a very capable student who applies herself well in all learning activities. She is organised for class and listens attentively, making positive contributions in the classroom. She always demonstrates respect towards her peers and staff.

## Positive Level Awards

Congratulations to the students listed below for receiving their Positive Level awards at last week's assembly.

### Blue Level Award

Toby Ryan

Jakoby Mounsey

### Double Purple Award

Amity Sheargold

## Work Placement & Work Experience

Oscar Killick completed work placement at the Barnes Store in Murrumburrah during Week 7 to achieve more competencies for his Hospitality certificate. Wendy and Stephen were great hosts supporting Oscar in his studies. Thank you to them for their continued support of our students.

Emily Willett has been doing work experience Wednesday afternoons with Oxton Park having a look at what it would be like to work on heavy machinery, she is absolutely loving it. Thanks to Greg for showing Emily the ropes.



# Library

## Year 12 and the HSC exams

As our Year 12 students prepare for their HSC exams the library has assisted them by providing easy access to a range of study guides. These guides contain excellent summaries for quickly reviewing content and composing flash card dot point notes. The library has multiple copies of these study guides and students are able to borrow them until the exam period is finished. Library staff wish Year 12 students all the best with their exams and for their future aspirations.



## A great read!

Australia is fortunate to have marvellous writers of children's fiction. This is obvious whenever browsing the shelves of a good book store. The formats range from picture story books, novels for young readers, novels for middle school and novels for young adults. So how do readers know which novel will be a great read?

Each year the Children's Book Council of Australia shortlists 6 titles from each of these categories based on their exceptional narrative, characters, illustrations and composition. Each year the MHS library purchases the 6 novels for young adults and a selection of titles from the other categories. These books have a label placed on the spine indicating to students the author has been awarded the prestigious shortlist for the year. They cross all genres from fantasy to survival, adventure to identity. Grab a great read!

**Ms Lauren Masson**





## Debating - Winners are grinners!



Congratulations to the Stage 5 Murrumburrah High School debate team on their win against Girraween High School in Sydney. The topic was: 'That we should ban people under 18 from playing games like Fortnite'.

The team of Samantha Emms, Brooke Emms, Emily Schulz and Brydan Cracknell worked together exceptionally well to put forward a series of logical arguments in favour of the topic including the vulnerability of young people in the online environment due to the phenomenon of "cat fishing" and the influence of violence on the young mind. These arguments won against ideas relating to the economy and cognitive value of computer games.

Each member of the team has grown as a debater, developing in skill, style and confidence. We look forward to the next round against Engadine High School.

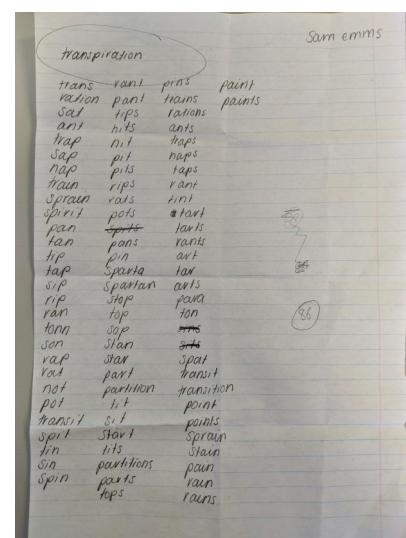
**Ms Adrienne Beck**

Head of English/HSIE/CAPA

## IVY Challenge

This week the IVY challenge was for the students to find as many words (over 3 letters) from the word transpiration in 20 minutes.

Congratulations to Sam Emms who was the winner with 86 words. We hope you enjoyed your block of chocolate Sam!



## Year 12 Hospitality

Year 12 Hospitality completed their final service period last week.

The menu was a light lunch: Savoury triangles with salad or sticky Thai lettuce cups. The drink options were sweet lemon iced tea or sparkling cucumber lemon water.

Well done Maddie and Oscar!



## Farm Club - Sale of Steers

On the 24 September 2020 four steers were sold on behalf of Murrumburrah High School at the Yass Saleyards.

**Ghost** weighed in at 545kg and received \$3.74 per/kg totalling a fair price of \$2,038.00.

**Jeff** weighed in at 475kg receiving \$3.53 per/kg overall and received a price of \$1,679.00.

**T-Bone and Bud** averaged 300kg receiving \$4.37 per/kg overall, making a price of \$1,311.00 each.

With an unfortunate cancellation of majority of the shows in 2020, hopefully 2021 will be a great success for showing.





## Paraders Competition

Murrumburrah High School Farm Club held an incursion at the school farm to compete in a paraders competition. We welcomed our judge Mrs Laura Prosser back to Farm Club to assist us by judging the paraders on the day. Mrs Prosser was a member back in her own school days at Murrumburrah High School.

We divided the students into stage groups and students spent the morning washing and fitting their cattle ready for the competition ring. Mrs Prosser arrived before judging time and observed the students working with their animals.

**Stage 4** were first into the ring with Heat 1 having Jack Trethowan 1st, Nicholas Young 2nd, Alex Tierney 3rd, Leo Auld 4th and Jade Schulz 5th. Heat 2 saw Bonnie Abnett 1st, Blake Parker 2nd, Kayla Schulz 3rd and B-Jay Skinner 4th.

Heat 3 **Stage 5** had April Drew 1st, Oscar Phillis 2nd and Vanessa Stone 3rd

**Stage 6** - Was a tight competition with Riley Arabin taking 1st, Elden Rowan 2nd and Olivia McGrath 3rd.

Champion Parader was awarded to Riley Arabin and April Drew took Reserve Champion Parader.

The Bob Stewart - Herdsman Encouragement Award was awarded by Laura Prosser to Elden Rowan.

A great day was had by all and it was so nice to be back in the competition ring after missing out on so many shows this year.







Check out the school's website for more photos - <https://murrumburr-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/>



# Good luck Year 12

Well done on six years of secondary education, wishing you all the best for the future.

The first HSC Exam paper is English (Paper 1) on Tuesday 20th October 2020.

## Year 7, 2015



## Year 12, 2020



## HSC student advice

We know our students and staff have worked hard for the HSC. The safety of our students and staff remains of utmost importance. This year extra arrangements are in place to ensure that any disruption due to COVID-19 will have minimal impact on HSC exams.

Our school has put in place a number of contingencies to help ensure exams run as smoothly as possible.

The exams have been scheduled and our school has arrangements in place for exams to proceed as planned. It is important that students review their timetable and plan well so they turn up for their exams on time, healthy and rested.

Any student with a pre-existing condition, that presents similarly to flu-like symptoms, should be planning now and speak to their doctor/GP. The GP can provide a medical certificate ahead of the exams to ensure they are not sent home.

If on the day of the exam your student feels unwell with flu-like symptoms, they should stay home and get tested. HSC students are prioritised for COVID-19 test results.

It's important to note that all students will be asked if they are well before entering exam rooms.

We want all our students to sit their exams but sometimes things happen. If your child is unwell and misses their exam, contact the school. Students who are unwell will be eligible for the [illness and misadventure](#) provision with NESA.

If there are any changes to exam arrangements we will communicate with HSC students by telephone or text message. This will be the **only source of communication** for these types of notifications. If in doubt, please call the school.

We wish all our students well in the upcoming exams.

[education.nsw.gov.au](http://education.nsw.gov.au)



Library open for Year 12 in the school holidays from Monday to Friday.

A schedule has been provided to students.





# 2020 HSC Exam Revision Holiday Period

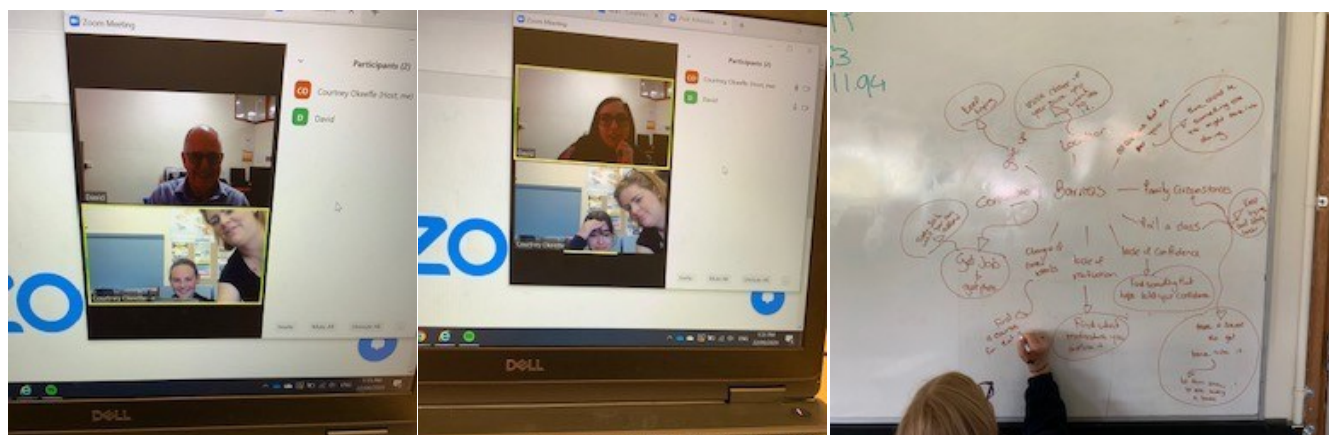
Day / Date	Staff	Time	Location
<b>Monday 28th September</b>	Ms Beck	9am to 3pm	Library
<b>Tuesday 29th September</b>	Ms Beck	9am to 3pm	Library
<b>Wednesday 30th September</b>	Ms Middleton	9am to 3pm	Science Labs
	Ms Hyland	10am to 2pm	Room 1
<b>Thursday 1st October</b>	Ms Masson	10.30am to 2.30pm	Library
	Mrs Knight-Gregson	10.30am to 2.30pm	Library
<b>Friday 2nd October</b>	Mrs Young	9am to 12pm	Library
	Mr FitzGerald	9am to 3pm	Library
<b>Monday 5th October (Public Holiday)</b>	Ms Irons	9am to 4pm	Library
<b>Tuesday 6th October</b>	Ms Irons	9am to 4pm	Library
	Ms Masson	10.30am to 2.30pm	Library
	Ms Hyland	10.00am to 2.00pm	Room 1
<b>Wednesday 7th October</b>	Ms Masson	10.30am to 2.30pm	Library
<b>Thursday 8th October</b>	Mr FitzGerald	9am to 3pm	Library
<b>Friday 9th October</b>	Mrs Young	9am to 12pm	Library

## LEAP

This week in LEAP the students undertook some mock interviews – Laura and David from Courtney's head office zoomed in for the interviews. Laura and David both said that the students were well prepared for their interviews, well presented and very well spoken.

We also talked about some barriers and some solutions for our Career projects.

We are looking forward to presenting our Career projects a bit differently for our graduation this time.



## Engineering

In these pictures students are assembling Spike Lego Robots and using coding to complete an obstacle course, spin on the spot and say hello.



The pictures below show plastic boats which students have designed using the software TinkerCAD. The boats were printed out using a 3D printer. Students tested their boats on water to see which ones float best.



## Harden Kite Festival

### 2020 Harden Kite Festival Virtual Activities

- Virtual Kids Colouring Competition
- Virtual Photo Competition
- Local Kite Flying Maps
- Kite Flying Video Tutorial
- Kite Making Tutorial
- Introducing Professional Kite Flyers
- History of Kites
- Virtual Spring Markets
- 2020 HKF Survey

<https://hardenkitefestival.org/festival-activities/>

# HARDEN KITE FESTIVAL

**MURRUMBURRAH  
HIGH SCHOOL**

**PRINCIPAL:  
MR DALE RANDS**

Murrumburrah High  
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*Preparing our students for tomorrow's challenges through learning*

## WORD SEARCH

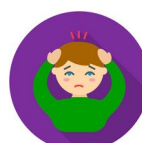
### Exercise and Physical Activity

F S G N I K L A W L C R J S Z  
H O C K E Y L Y L T R J Z N Q  
T E N N I S A A S R I A T S E  
I B J F O Y B I C Y C L I N G  
S N N C J Y T R B D K K Q F L  
W P C E E O E U A V E O O P L  
G E R L T G K G S D T O K Y A  
R N L I N B S B E W T R A C B  
K O I I N G A Y B B C U R D T  
V V K X O T B L A B I N A D F  
R I Z L O O I L L W M N T Y O  
H T F E A B L N L Y C I E B S  
G N I P P I K S G I K N A E B  
S W I M M I N G N I G G O J S  
J U M P I N G G N I T A K S O

Baseball  
Basketball  
Bicycling  
Boxing  
Cricket  
Dancing  
Football  
Golf  
Hiking  
Hockey  
Jogging  
Jumping  
Karate  
Netball  
Rugby  
Running  
Skating  
Skipping  
Soccer  
Softball  
Sprinting  
Stairs  
Swimming  
Tennis

### Reminder

Students are reminded  
to please bring their  
pencil cases with pens,  
pencils and calculator to  
school.



### STUDENTS ABSENT OR SENT HOME DUE TO DISPLAYING ANY FLU LIKE SYMPTOMS MUST BE TESTED

The Australian Government, Department of Health defines flu like symptoms as: runny nose or sneezing, cough or sore throat, fever and chills, headache, body aches, vomiting, and diarrhoea (more common in children).

- Students must not return to school until they return a negative COVID-19 result and are symptom free.
- Schools must sight the negative COVID-19 test result prior to allowing students and staff to return to school.
- A screen shot of results should be emailed to;  
[murrumburr-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:murrumburr-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au)
- Please contact school administration staff on 6386 2755 if you need support emailing results.