

**Murrumburrah
High School**

**Principal:
Mr Dale Rands**

Mercury



18 February 2022

Dates

- **Zone swimming**
Monday 21 February
- **Year 7 & 10 Needles**
Thursday 24 February
- **P&C AGM**
Monday 14 March
- **School Photos**
Friday 18 March



Year 7, 2022

Welcome back to Murrumburrah High School
for 2022.

We extend a very warm welcome to all
students, and in particular to Year 7 who begin
their High School education.

Principal's Report

Hello and welcome back to school for our staff students and families, I really do hope that everyone managed to find some quiet time and relax with family and friends over the holiday break.

Unfortunately our deepest wishes to have school start with no restrictions was dashed with Omicron over the break but due to the plans we have in place and the support of our community with rapid testing and monitoring for any flu like symptoms we, as a school, have been largely able to avoid too much disruption to the start of school. Attendance has been quite high to start the year, which is a positive sign of student engagement.

Over the holidays we had a few infrastructure projects take place. The second-floor balcony has finally had its roof built and is now a really great place for outdoor learning to take place in a very pleasant environment. Teachers have already started using the space for some lessons and this will only increase as we get technology installed outdoors as well. Rooms 3, 4 ,5, technology lab and parts of the library had new carpet installed in the final days of the break.



Principal's Report Cont'd

Unfortunately, due to delays with deliveries into Australia, our new air conditioning system is way behind the planned timeline and that project will extend for a while to come. At least our current heating/cooling is operational.

The storm just after school finished last year did bring down many large branches and a tree. A big thank you to our very own Jan Young and her husband for removing the fallen tree and felling the very dead one that did not blow down. Hilltops Vegetation Services then came in this term and removed/mulched all the rest.

Students had their annual swimming carnival last week and attendance was the best it has been in years, another sign that our students just want things to be as normal as possible. Some very good results came through and we had a large group qualify for the next level. Mrs Spencer is taking that group to Temora on Monday 21st February. Let's hope many of them qualify again but I know that our students will give it their best.

We have several staff that started at Murrumburrah High School this year so I will outline the changes.

Bev Stevenson retired – New School Administrative Manager is Karen Jenkins

Nicole Irons is working at Narrandera High school for this year – replaced by Ben Phillips

Rob McBride transferred – permanently replaced by Doug Phillips (father of Ben)

Georgina Vickery – permanent appointment to a school in Sydney – replaced by Amy Kirkpatrick

Naomi Elliott – permanent appointment to Cootamundra High School – replaced by Krista Hooke

Ann Sharman - working at Murrumburrah Public school all year – replaced by Kristy Brown

Michael Clancy – moved to Sydney – permanently replaced by Dean Kabbout

Michael (Mick) O'Connor and Michael (Macca) McKenzie both worked over the holidays as relieving General Assistant and Farm Assistant. Both these staff will now fill in as we need them in these roles.

Please continue your efforts with testing, it is working, and there are rumours that we may see some easing of restrictions soon. I can't wait to not have to wear a mask all day at school and I know that all staff and students feel the same.

Enjoy your weekend and thanks for taking the time to read this newsletter. We spend a lot of time to put this together for you, the reader.

Mr Dale Rands
Principal



Captain's Corner

School has returned for the new year and we are eager to get back into things!

We have now welcomed our new SRC members to join us on the 2022 leadership team. We are all keen to get ideas from the student body and hope to make your ideas happen. Let's make 2022 the best year yet.

We hope to have exciting and entertaining fundraising events happening in the upcoming months and throughout the year.

Beau and I would also like to welcome our new SRC teacher, Ms Buttriss to our team. We are all thrilled to be working with her this year.

Chloe & Beau
School Captains

Student Representatives



Congratulations to the 2022 Student Representative Council!

Chloe Wade, Ellie Ward, Bonnie Abnett, Aiden Hill, Regan Manton, Rory Arabin, Lily Dare, Evie Giddings, Brooke Emms (Absent: Beau Abnett and Oscar Phillis)

P & C Update

The AGM to be held on Monday 14th March.

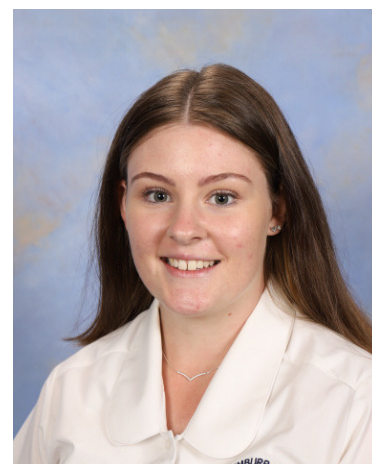
New members are vital to the continuation of the P&C and the School Canteen!!!!

All current Office Bearers either no longer have students attending the school or have held their positions for as long as the constitution allows. We do not want to see the P&C fold or the students have no access to a Canteen, or the driver training program, so we encourage your attendance at this AGM. All new Office Bearers will be strongly supported by outgoing members.

Sarah Rowan
P&C President

Chloe Wade

Congratulations to Chloe Wade for receiving the Junior Citizen of the Year award at the Australia day ceremony. Chloe was described by Rita O'Connor as being "A kind, caring and considerate citizen". Chloe praised her parents Rebecca and Adam as well as the teachers at Murrumburrah High and Community for all of their support, quoting "It takes a village to make a person". Well done Chloe.



Congratulations



2021 LAMBING FLAT FELLOWSHIP OF AUSTRALIAN WRITERS WRITING COMPETITION

Congratulations to Lily Shorrock on being awarded First Prize in the category of Secondary School Short Stories for Years 10, 11 & 12 in this nationwide competition. Her story was called "Lemonade and Alphabet Blocks". Congratulations also to Maddison Teys whose story "Now" was highly commended.

Reading at home

Parents and carers tend to read aloud to their children when they are young and give up when they are older. The belief holds that once children are old enough to read by themselves parents and carers are no longer needed or wanted. A recent report has blown this idea out of the water.

Scholastic surveyed a collection of young people, and the results were surprising. In fact 83% of young people across all age groups said they wish their parents still read aloud to them. This is something that we see at school on a daily basis, where many teachers read to their classes, in both English lessons and IVY lessons. Not only is it something that kids enjoy, it is also good for them.

One benefit relates to the time they spend with their parent or carer, but it also increases vocabulary, their own reading confidence and their ability to read aloud with expression and fluency. When they share the reading they also increase their abilities in public speaking and lift their performance at school!

Another obvious benefit of this practice is that the students become more interested in reading for pleasure and the OECD says that kids who read for pleasure do better in their school work. While teachers may seem to be the best placed to teach children to read and help them to understand texts, parents are the best people to show them that reading can be fun.

So no matter how old your young person may be, it's never too late to rediscover the magic of reading together!

Adrienne Beck - Head Teacher English/HSIE/CAPA

New Staff



Ben Phillips, Krista Hooke, Doug Phillips, Kristy Brown, Karen Jenkins, Amy Kirkpatrick and Dean Kabbout.

Swimming Carnival

On Thursday 10th February, we held our annual school swimming carnival at the Harden Memorial Swimming Pool, and we were blessed with sensational weather. The day saw many students participating and competing for house points. For those students who were not as competitive, there were a variety of novelty events organised for them to gain some points for their team. We saw some great races throughout the day, including the teachers v students relays, where the elite staff team blitzed the students in a very “clean” race!

We had two students who broke records, which is a great achievement!!

Brooke Emms broke the 15yr Girls 50m Freestyle record with a time of 33.50.



Sam Manwaring broke the record for every event he competed in!

- 50m Freestyle = 31.37
- 50m Breaststroke = 42.94
- 50m Backstroke = 39.56
- 50m Butterfly = 39.10
- 100m Freestyle = 1.11.75
- 100m Breaststroke = 1.31.97
- 100m Backstroke = 1.24.22
- 100m Butterfly = 1.28.90



Swimming Cont'd

The age champions for the day were:

Junior Girls - **Evie Giddings**

Junior Boys - **Sam Manwaring**

Intermediate Girls - **Brooke Emms**

Intermediate Boys - **Rory Arabin**

Senior Girls - **Jade Emms**

Senior Boys - **Tom Ings**

The house points at the end of the carnival:

Blaxland - 502

Lawson - 377

Wentworth -307

We have several students who have been successful in qualifying for the Zone Swimming Carnival and we wish them the best of luck! The Zone Carnival will be held in Temora on Monday 21st February.

Thank you to all the teaching staff that put in a lot of hard work to make the carnival a success. To the timekeepers, marshals, starters, supervisors, recorders, thank you so much for proving your experience and skills.

Congratulations also goes out to all the students who swam, encouraged, motivated, and assisted on the day. Without your enthusiasm and participation, carnivals like this would not exist.

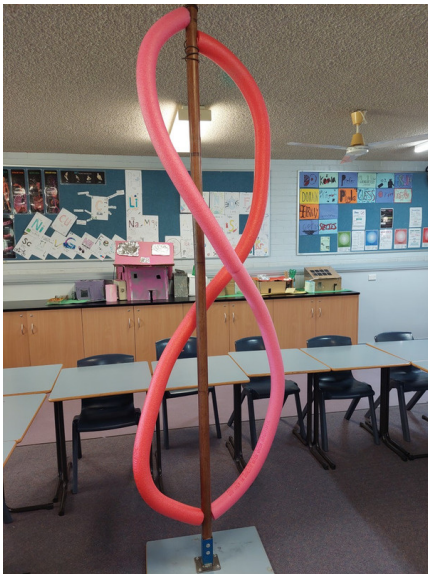


Swimming Carnival



Science

Stage 5 Science have been studying DNA and constructed an enormous model of the DNA double helix using pool noodles. Students can now recite to you that Thymine bonds with Adenine and Cytosine bonds with Guanine. It is easy to remember with the following sentence: Cows eat Grass and Apples grow in Trees (C-G/A-T).



Lui's Apple Tree

This year we have our first crop of delicious apples on Lui's Memorial Tree.

We had to thin and prune lower branches due to the enormous set of fruit. Students are just waiting for the final ripening before the harvest.

Lets hope the birds don't find them first.



Farm

The Biggest Pumpkin

Stage 4 TAS last year planted a pumpkin or two and over summer it grew and grew and grew.

When the now **Stage 5** students returned to school to check out their produce in the agriculture elective, Jade was very happy to see her pumpkin had grown to this enormous size.



Farm Club

A small group of students will show and parade for sale "Logan" the Fleckvieh Bull from Mrs Heather Emonson's stud located at Cootamundra at the upcoming Canberra Show. We will be asking one of our "Old Boys" to parade on the showgrounds to meet requirements.

The Farm Club team has done an excellent job in breaking in, feeding and training "Logan" for this event. The team will also show 4 steers at Canberra Royal Show. We kept the team limited to meet with COVID safety but look forward to local shows for the rest of the team to attend and learn the process of showing cattle.

Mrs Jan Young Head Teacher - Science/Maths



Lucerne Hay



The Farm has been busy baling quality Lucerne Hay. There are only limited amounts available for sale at \$10 a bale so first in best dressed. Please contact the school for more information.

Best Start Assessment

Year 7 students will participate in the Best Start Year 7 Assessment in Term 1, 2022.

Best Start Year 7 is an online literacy and numeracy assessment available to secondary schools that assesses key literacy skills of Year 7 students. It is designed to assist teachers to identify students who may require additional support in developing their literacy and numeracy skills.

The 2022 assessment window is:

2 February to 4 March 2022

The purpose of the Best Start Year 7 assessment is to provide feedback to teachers to help identify students needs. Feedback will be provided to teachers who may choose to share this with students, parents and carers during teacher interview processes.

Best Start Year 7 is just one of a range of assessments the school uses to assess students.

Please inform the school if your child has special needs requiring support to complete an online assessment.

Optional advice:

Students will be asked to bring headphones or earbuds that plug into a computer to enable them to hear audio during the assessment. Earbuds used for mobile phones or other portable devices.

NSW School Vaccinations

Each year NSW Health works in partnership with schools to offer the vaccines recommended by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) for adolescents as part of the school vaccination program.

In 2022 the following vaccines will be offered:

Year 7

Human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine - 2-doses at least 6 months apart
Diphtheria-Tetanus-Pertussis (whooping cough) vaccine - Single dose

Years 10

Meningococcal ACWY vaccine - Single dose

Parent Information Kits that include an information sheet, consent form and privacy statement will be sent home to parents/guardians. To consent to the vaccination of their child, parents/guardians are advised to:

- read all the information provided
- complete the consent form, including signing their name next to the vaccine/s they would like their child to receive
- return the completed consent form to their child's school
- ensure that their child eats breakfast on the day of the school vaccination clinic.

Please note that, to improve vaccination completion, students will be opportunistically offered any missed doses during Year 7 or 8 (for HPV and dTpa vaccination) and during Year 10 or 11 (for Meningococcal ACWY vaccination) or consent signed in 2021.

Parents/guardians who wish to withdraw their consent for any reason may do so by writing to the school Principal or phoning the school. The Procedure for Withdrawal of Consent is available on the NSW Health website.

A Record of Vaccination card will be provided to each student vaccinated at each clinic. Details about vaccinations given at school will also be uploaded to the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR) to support complete vaccination histories.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact Barbara Wilson MLHD Immunisation Coordinator, Albury PHU on 1300 066 055.

Reminders

- **Enrolment / Student Forms** - Thank you to those parents who have already returned their forms, if you have not, can you please return these by Monday 21st February
- **School starts at 9am**. It is expected students are at school by then. School concludes at 3.25pm.
- **Should a student need to leave school** during the day it should be for a valid reason. They need to bring a note from home and present it to the Deputy Principal before school. Phone calls to the office should only be used in emergency situations. Phone calls and texts on a student phone will never be accepted. This includes during sport.
- **Phones** - The school has a very strict policy on phone use in the school. Phones are never to be used in class unless under the direct supervision of the teacher and then only for educational purposes. If a student is using their phone in class they will be given a direction to turn it off and put it away. If the student doesn't put their phone away they will be directed to take their phone to be locked up at the front office for the remainder of the day. Continual offenders may have to have their phone collected by parents.
- **Contacting your student** - If you would like to contact your student, please either call them during break times or contact the front office to leave a message. Please do not call or message your student during class time as they will not be able to answer it.
- **Basic everyday uniform** is a school shirt and navy shorts (not black). Jeans, jean shorts, and leggings are not uniform and are not to be worn to school. Inappropriate clothing, including revealing items or those with inappropriate logos and slogans are not acceptable. Parents will be called to bring up appropriate alternate clothing or take students home.
- **Absences** - Parents are required to explain students absences on the day of their return. This could be by directly replying to the SMS from the school, phoning the school or sending a note with an explanation.
- **Returning Permission Notes** - Parents and students are reminded that notes and money must be returned on or before the date specified, or your child will not be allowed to attend the excursion. Payment plans may be put in place in special circumstances, but must be organised ahead of time.
- **If your student is sick** - In accordance with NSW Health, parents and carers are reminded NOT to send children to school if they are unwell, even if they have the mildest flu-life symptoms.
- **Break times** -
 - Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday -
 - Break 1 - 11.25am to 11.55am, Break 2 - 1.55pm to 2.25pm.
 - Wednesday is sport day
 - Break 1 11.05am to 11.35pm, Break 2 - 1.35pm to 2.05pm

If you have any concerns about your student please don't hesitate to contact the school.

Important Dates for Term 1

Zone Swimming Carnival @ Temora - Monday 21 February 2022

Canberra Show - Wednesday 23 to Sunday 27 February 2022

Regional Swimming @ Leeton - Tuesday 8 March 2022

School Photos - Friday 18 March 2022

School Holidays - Monday 11 April to Friday 22 April 2022



headspace

UPCOMING SESSIONS

Communicating with my young person

07 March 2022

Time: 12:00 -13:15 PM AEDT

Location: Online webinar Registration: <https://bit.ly/3nnNY4X>

Helping my young person during COVID

21 March 2022

Time: 6:30pm – 7:45pm AEDT

Location: Online webinar Registration: <https://bit.ly/31RMIF8>



Murrumburrah High School

Principal:
Mr Dale Rands

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Harden NSW 2587

02 6386 2755

murrumburr-
h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

MHS Uniform
Stockist - 180
Embroidery

Website:

<https://180embroidery.com>

Contact: Beth Allen

Telephone: 0435 873 420

Email:

embroidery180@yahoo.com

Location: 1 Derby Street,

Harden

Deliveries to the High School
available.



Preparing our students for tomorrow's challenges through learning

Word Search

Photography

K	L	N	F	E	F	F	O	L	E	P	L	U	T
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PIXEL
TRIPOD
LANDSCAPE
DARKROOM
PICTURE
SHUTTER
FILM
PHOTOGRAPHY
FOCUS
FLASH
CAMERA
CANON
NIKON
INK
PORTRAIT
LIGHT
FRAME
EDIT
LENS

Unwell or have COVID?

Unwell at School

Any student or staff member who is unwell and/or displays symptoms of COVID-19 will be asked to go home and stay until they can complete a RAT or PCR test.

- If symptoms continue, they should stay at home and take another RAT in 24 hours or have a PCR test.
- If the second RAT or initial PCR test result is negative and they are displaying no symptoms OR they are diagnosed as another condition such as hayfever, the student or staff member can return to school.
- If a student or staff member receives a positive RAT result, they need to:
 - record the positive RAT result through the Service NSW website or Service NSW app
 - notify the school of the positive RAT or PCR result as soon as possible
 - follow NSW Health advice to isolate for 7 days.
 - Your student can return to school after the 7 days as long as they have no symptoms, you will need to provide the clearance letter from the NSW Health.

Negative results do not need to be reported to Service NSW or to the school.