

**Murrumburrah
High School**

**Principal:
Mr Dale Rands**

Mercury



7 April 2022

Winners are Grinners

Dates

- **School Holidays**
Monday 11 April to
Friday 22 April 2022
- **Anzac Day**
Monday 25 April
- **Return to School
Term 2**
Wednesday 27 April



CHS OPEN GIRLS SOCCER

Congratulations to the MHS Open Girls Soccer Team who have successfully made it through to Round 3 of the CHS knockout. The girls travelled to Young last week, where they beat Young High School in a thrilling 12-1 match. The girls will now take on James Fallon High School on Monday 2nd May at Robert's Park, kicking off at 11:30am. Good luck girls!!

Principal's Report

Hello and welcome to our final newsletter for term 1, the longest term of the year.

It has been fantastic to be able to run a school relatively normally this year without too many restrictions to our regular day. Unfortunately, due to a local covid snap amongst our juniors, we had a lot of our Stage 4 students either sick or isolating and therefore had to postpone our Stage 4 trip to Canberra. This trip has been rescheduled and the details will be advertised next term and all the organisations redone.

Since our last newsletter, we have had many students undertake their annual Tell Them From Me, students wellbeing survey. This state coordinated survey enables every student to have their say about a range of matters that impact their daily lives at school. The results of this survey enable both the state and the school to target priority areas each year. A big thank you to Ms Hyland for coordinating these surveys and getting most of the student body completed in only a few days, especially given how many students have been away during the survey period. I should have access to the results early next term.

Year 7 and 9 have also undertaken some NAPLAN practice exams, to get ready for the formal NAPLAN tests next term. Again, thank you to Ms Hyland for running these practice tests so efficiently.

Friday the 18th of March was school photos day. The proofs have been checked by the school and now the photographer is in the process of manufacturing and printing all the orders. We expect them back to the school early next term and will notify families as soon as they arrive.

Two weeks ago we held our Year 6 into 7 evening. At this meeting we explained what Year 7 is about at MHS and what high school can lead to over the next few years of schooling. We then take everyone on a tour of the school and show them the inside of this great school. We had an attendance of over 45 people on the night, about 18 of these where new students for 2023. A fantastic group and lovely to meet all the new faces. It looks like our biggest year group for many years at approximately 35 students into Year 7, 2023.



Tuesday this week we were finally (after 2 years of restrictions) able to hold our annual Year 7 Expo afternoon. This event is held at the end of term 1 to recognise our new Year 7 cohort and display some of the works that they have completed in class this term. We also hand out a folio with a summary of term 1 work undertaken. This folio can then be used to store all future reports all in the one place. It was nice to be able to have families also attend this event and we appreciate their attendance during work hours. I know the students love now having family visiting them at school again.....well most of them do, some are just not used to it yet.

Quicksmart

Murrumburrah High School is implementing a new and exciting literacy and numeracy program this year!

Targeted students will be participating in regular literacy and/or numeracy sessions that focus on consolidating basic skills. Students will have the opportunity to develop a learning goal with the Quick Smart instructors and then work in a small group to achieve their goals around either literacy and/or numeracy.

Students have been handpicked for this program based on their enthusiasm and engagement with their learning. They are students that have been identified as those who would be able to make successful academic gains with further opportunity to consolidate their basic skills.

The Quick Smart numeracy program focuses on revising mixed operations while increasing speed and accuracy, while the Quick Smart literacy program focuses on vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension. The lessons are short, sharp, and fun, while allowing students to work towards their goals. The chosen students will receive a letter home soon with further information about the program

Ms Georgie Campbell, Mr Mitch Summerfield and Ms Courtney Jones



Captain's Corner

Last Monday, the 28th of March, Beau and I along with Ms Hyland took an overnight trip to Sydney. Beau and I were attending a parliamentary education program as young leaders. We arrived in Sydney around 5pm and were eager to hit the city, although catching a bus was a bit more of a harder task then what we originally thought. Shortly later we were happily fed and decided to catch a ferry around the harbour to see the city all lit up.

On Tuesday, Beau and I had the opportunity to visit the Government House and Parliament House, unfortunately due to covid we had to leave Ms Hyland behind in the rain and of course Beau and I stole her umbrella, (sorry Ms). We were fortunate enough to meet our Governor Her Excellency the Honourable Margaret Beazley AC QC. We were given a tour of the house and listened to her speak about what makes a good leader and were given the opportunity to ask questions about the importance of her role.

Later, we were taken to Parliament House. Here we met with the local members of numerous areas of NSW. They each gave a speech on the importance of leadership and how they got to where they are today. Again, we were given the chance to ask them questions. We then got to speak to our local member Ms. Steph Cooke personally and give ideas and suggestions to her on what we would like to see in our areas.

Before leaving, Beau and I got the chance to meet with the captains from Richmond River High School from Lismore. We shared love and support with them and explained our fundraiser we did for them a few weeks back. They are truly thankful, so again we would like to give a massive thanks to all of the students and staff of our school who raised money to help get their students and staff back on their feet. On this note, SRC are working hard on new fundraising ideas, so please be vocal about what you'd like to see.

We hope you all have a safe and happy holiday and Easter. See you all back next term!

Chloe & Beau
School Captains



Anzac Day



Could all students please attend this years **ANZAC** day march to be held on Monday 25th April. Please be in full uniform (not sports gear) and meet opposite the Mechanics building in Neill Street, Harden at 10.15am. The march will start promptly at 10.30am. Our Captains will be laying a wreath and speaking on the day.

We also have our students carrying flags at the head of the march and standing at the memorial. We hope to see you all there.

P & C Update

Our AGM was held on Monday 14th March and a new Executive Committee was successfully elected. Your new P&C representatives are:

President: Katrina O'Connor

Secretary: Michelle Gallo

Treasurer: Peta James

As outgoing President I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Katrina, Michelle and Peta on their new roles and wish them all the best.

I would also like to thank my Executive team, Vanessa Webster and Mel Peisley, all of the other Committee members, Dale and the teaching staff of MHS for all of their hard work and support over the years.

Sarah Rowan

Outgoing P&C President

IVY 5 Community Project

Harden's local Rotary branch have initiated a marvellous community garden located between the old Tennis Courts and the Petrol Station. The garden is maintained by Rotary members and volunteers from the wider community. It is open and accessible to all residents of the local area. Rotary members have commissioned raised garden beds planted with a wide range of vegetables. There is also seating and a sensory garden featuring raised garden beds containing plants for sight, sound, smell and taste. Alongside this is a sensory walk and a sensory board.

IVY 5 students are volunteering their time on Tuesdays during IVY to contribute to the maintenance of the area and the garden beds. We are involving ourselves in odd jobs such as watering the plants, collecting items for the sensory boards, clearing detritus, designing artwork, and keeping the space clean. Some students have volunteered their time out of school with brief visits.

By providing access to fresh organic produce, opportunities for physical activity, contact with nature, and neighbourhood meeting places, these gardens promote physical and mental health in communities with diverse residents"

<http://soac.fbe.unsw.edu.au/2007/SOAC/theroleofcommunitygardens.pdf>

Ms Lauren Masson



Congratulations



Congratulations to Hayley Hambrook and Samantha Emms for achieving Double Purple level.



Congratulations to Antonia Raptis and Hannah Guy for achieving Blue Level.

Stage 5 Food Tech



Stage 6 Food Tech



Athletics Carnival



Athletics Carnival Cont'd



Girls League tag team

MHS Open Girls League Tag team which included students across Years 9, 10, 11 and 12 headed to Alfred Oval Young to take on Temora, Hennessy and Cootamundra High Schools.

The team was led by co captains Hunter Ings and Chloe Wade who used their skills and experience to give confidence to those around them to produce a win, a draw and one loss. Losing only after conceding a try on the bell to Hennessy.

The team displayed skills far beyond their years with tries coming from a whole range of kicks, passes and lightning speed to make it a very enjoyable day for all.

Well done ladies!



Mr Adrian Priem

Farm Club

Yass Show – our final Autumn show for 2022.

Sixteen students from Murrumburrah High School Farm Club attended the show on Saturday 19th March. With a very busy wash bay, students were kept on their toes to get the animals ready for the ring in time for judging. Stud animals entered the ring first with our own Shorthorn Bull Rocky being led by one of the "Old Boys". Rocky placed 2nd in the Junior Bull – British Bred bull. The females entered the ring next with Murrumburrah Rosie placing 1st in her age group and Murrumburrah Pluto placing 5th in her age group. The steers were next in the ring with the new steer Murrumburrah Junior placing 5th in his section against some very heavy weight steers set to go to the Royal Easter Show in April. Junior behaved well for his first ever show and Oscar was very proud of his efforts.

Finally the junior paraders entered the ring and had a great competition with Evan James placing 5th and Montana Wirth placing 4th in their heat.

In the next heat Jack Allen placed 2nd, Annie Coulton 3rd, Lily Dare 4th and Charlene Carboral 5th.

In the senior heat Tayla Gallo placed 5th

The Paraders trying out for Sydney Royal were next in the ring with a hot competition of over 25 paraders. April Drew, Bonnie Abnett, Oscar Phillis and Ellie Ward all tried for the 7 positions going to Sydney. Ellie Ward made in through and represents MHS at Sydney today in state paraders.

Oscar Phillis participated in junior judging along with Tayla Gallo but it was Oscar who scored enough points to speak in the final. He spoke extremely well and was congratulated on his efforts by the over judge. Well done all the students who participated in this show.

They continue to represent our community in a style that makes the school immensely proud.

Mrs Jan Young
Head Teacher - Science/Maths



Yass Show



English

Writing has been a dominant practice in our Murrumburrah High School's English classrooms as we start 2022. **Stage 5** and **Year 11** have all been busily creating and crafting pieces of writing for assessment tasks and writing competitions. A collection of those stories has been printed here for your enjoyment. We really do have some very talented writers amongst our student body. Thank you to Brody and Jayda whose work has been chosen to represent the Stage 5 tasks. Thanks to Lily and Mark who have entered stories into the write for fun competition this year. We wish them good luck.

Stage 4 have been reading and learning about the terrible time in history, the Holocaust, through close study of two novels about young people who survived this terror. Once, by Morris Gleitzman is the story of a young Jewish boy who is determined to escape the orphanage he lives in to save his Jewish parents from the Nazis in occupied Poland. Alexander Altmann A10567 by Suzy Zail is the story of a young Jewish boy who must learn to trust others to survive. Both Stage 4 classes have been working on assessments this term that demonstrate their understanding of the novel through a creative matrix style task.

Ms Adrienne Beck

HT English/ HSIE/ CAPA/LOTE/LIBRARY/LaST

Broken

The streets were clean, free from crime, spotless even. The trees, green with leaves fluttering in the summer's hot sun and the ocean's breeze. The pavement, blinding, so pristine it was reflecting that hot summer's day, with houses sitting just as perfect on either side of the tar road; only a single crack remained next to the only, weathered house in town.

Time sauntered on and life along with it. Alone sat a man worn by time and ravaged by life, beaten by space that strolled down beside. Alone was this man, alone in his strife. Life seemed to want him dead, he had only just awoken from a deep nap, and yet he wanted to sleep again, instead he got up to bear it once more, a poor choice this was as soon as he stepped out that door.

On a hot summer's day with a cool ocean breeze and a tranquil aura surrounding it, a house seemed to shake at the world. Inside this house full of deep dark rooms and twisting halls lived a man, a lone man, a man who has and always will be alone. He hated all that wasn't his version of life, especially the town he lived in, that was free from all obscenities and was, by all means, the definition of perfect, however, he believed this was not how life should be lived and he loathed all those who had lived a better life than him, from an early age of six, this man had been beaten, tortured and abused. A normal day for him was one full of struggle and strife, he resented those who had turned a blind eye and left him to wither and leave him to his demise.

After a restless night of nightmares and terrible memories, tossing and tearing at the white sheets that warmed his body, he finally snapped, his mind went blank and his soul was laid to rest. Left more alone than ever was a body with no mind and no soul, only anger remained. This body trudged along the creaking hardwood floor and left towards the kitchen, opened the almost empty drawer and took out a large kitchen knife, glinting in the peaceful moonlight, swaying as the corpse snuck through the doorway and out towards the tranquil night, leaving behind the mind and soul that had broken in twain.

The night seemed to turn red, angered by this man who would not sleep in its embrace and left without a word, with only looks, unparalleled to that of a human, a face filled with insanity, looks that could only be described as a devil's smile, a smile of a broken thing.

By Brody

English

Till death do us part

You can decorate the absence of a person with flowers or candles, but you'll always feel what's missing.

I'm stood outside, fiddling with the torn end of my skirt. Absolutely sick with nerves. I stare blankly into the floral arrangement hung on the garden fence but lose all composure when I see him with her. How could he walk in here holding her hand as if I didn't exist, as if it shouldn't be me he's intertwined with. Do you know the feeling of absolute betrayal when your stomach falls so far down it feels like you're about to vomit? This was it.

She was beautiful too. Her fine hair pulled back into two French braids and she was decorated from head to toe with plastic flowers and skulls. He on the other hand was a mess. His hair disheveled and the rest resembled a servant standing next to the goddess herself. I wanted to scream at him, take hold of his wrist and tell him I love him more than her. However, that wouldn't be possible. Not because I couldn't bring myself to do so but because he couldn't hear me, nor see me. Perhaps because I was dead.

Unlatching my eyes from them I take note of my surroundings. Jugaste y Sufri (you played, and I suffered) fills the cemetery with music as families gather around each grave, by far the sweetest sight I've ever seen. I was only here for tonight, we all were. Dia de Muertos (day of the dead) was less about mourning the dead and more about honouring our loved ones who have since gone to the spirit world. However, nobody came to me, there were no flowers, no candles, not even a single light. I was like a shadow, a recluse in a room full of socialites who couldn't stop talking. When you have nobody around to support you, you start to forget yourself. It's a sad feeling but it's honest and the most real I've felt in a while.

Felt.

I was told by my mother that once my time came, I would no longer feel the aches of the earth in my bones, but that's all I felt at this moment. The strings of dread tied me to the ground as honesty was plunged into my fragile heart. I didn't know it was possible to die twice, and that the second time would be so much worse than the first. I would rather be infested by shingles for all eternity than ever have to feel like this again. Then ever see them together again.

My body dropped to the ground below, tears formed in my eyes and I began to wail. A male shadow towered over me, and I tried to pick up all the broken pieces of myself. His shoes shone in the dim lighting and as he knelt down before me, he spoke.

"I'm here," he whispered.

"You can talk to me or not, but I am still here"

I froze. If there was any voice in this entire world I remembered, it was his. There were so many words stuck in my throat but all I could mumble out was,

"Why?"

I received no reply, he didn't even lift up his head to face me. He simply placed a single white rose at my fingertips and walked away. I watched him until his figure faded into the darkness with her rose clutched in hand.

So that was it.

This was perhaps the closure I needed. I'd like to blame the stars for not being aligned but I was the reason he left. It was my fault for my death. What is now evident is how I was forever changed by who he was and what he meant to me. Even if he didn't feel the same.

I guess he really meant it when he told me

"Till death do us part, mi amor."

By Jayda.

New Sports shorts & socks

During our week 8 assembly we revealed the school's recently purchased sports shorts that go with our range of representative sporting kits. Sam Emms is wearing the new soccer shorts, Hunter Ings is in the new league tag shorts and Oscar Phillis is modelling the new rugby league shorts.

We did our best to match with our current sports jerseys and look forward to seeing our students perform well in various sporting events throughout 2022. All three students are wearing the new MHS socks which are available for any student to purchase from the front office for \$10.



Important Dates for Term 2

School Holidays - Monday 11 April to Friday 22 April 2022

Anzac Day - 25 April 2022

Return to school - 27 April 2022

Murrumburrah High School

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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

Friends

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

JOEY
GELLER
TRIBBIANI
GUNTHER
RACHEL
MATT LEBLANC
BUFFAY
MONICA
ROSS
LISA KUDROW
GREEN
APARTMENT
WAITRESS
NEW YORK
CENTRAL PERK
FRIENDS
PHOEBE
BING

Unwell or have COVID?

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 a student or staff member is unwell and has any symptoms they should always test for COVID-19, either with a rapid antigen test (RAT) or PCR (nose and throat swab) test.
- If the test comes back negative for COVID-19, the student or staff member should still not return to school until either:
 - the student no longer has any symptoms, or
 - a medical certificate is provided to the school confirming that symptoms are explained by another diagnosis (such as hay fever).
- 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.

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