We Have Wonderful Parents!
The P&C Car Boot Sale last Saturday was an outstanding success, helped by the beautiful autumn weather. I thank all the parents involved with planning, organising and advertising the day; collecting, making and sorting donations; setting up, manning and packing away the stalls; cooking on the BBQ; making the coffees. It was a team effort, led by the spirited and determined Beth Mitchell.

I would also like to thank the Napier family. Mr Napier ran the Scouting crate-stacking activity at the Car Boot Sale that challenged children to stack crates while they were attached to a pulley that hoisted them high off the ground. To ensure the safety of all involved, Mr Napier, an arborist, trimmed dead tree branches. Last term, Mrs Napier organised a lamington drive for the SRC. The SRC sold these to teachers and raised over $300. The students will use these funds for their programs around the school and to support charities that the students select. It was wonderful to work with Mrs Napier and the North Rocks Community Church and I know that a future lamington drive will be well-supported.

A special request to whoever made the rocky road with the gummi bears for the Car Boot Sale: please can you give me your recipe? It was the best rocky road my family have ever had – and we are rocky road aficionados.

The P&C use money raised to help the school in so many ways. This term the P&C have paid for blinds in 8 classrooms. With the installation of Interactive White Boards, these blinds are necessary so that glare is minimised. Of course, blinds also help keep the rooms cooler in summer. The P&C have also funded the MindMatters program for Year 12.

School Development Days
Teachers had a wonderful opportunity on Monday April 29 and Tuesday April 30 to undertake some important professional learning. On Day 1, teachers focused on strategies to engage students and maximise student achievement. We had past students address teachers on what had worked for them and what they thought we, as a school and as classroom teachers, needed to do differently. All teachers were very attentive as this was a unique opportunity to hear from our past students and actually focus on the students’ views of “what works”. Teachers also worked on the importance of quality feedback to students.

Day 2 was devoted to the national curriculum for English, Mathematics, Science and History teachers where teams of teachers worked collaboratively to develop programs and resources ready for implementation in 2014. This work will continue for the rest of the year in a concerted and planned way. Teachers not implementing national curriculum in 2014 worked on individual projects. For example, the PDHPE faculty worked with a Drug Education Consultant to review our drug education programs. As always, the professional learning of our staff is a priority – we take it seriously, ensuring that our learning program is specific to the needs and improvement of student learning.

General Contributions
One of the most impressive features of our school is the wonderful level of support that our parent community gives the school in a whole range of areas, not least of these being in the percentage of general contributions that are received. These funds are crucial for the maintenance of the quality educational programs that the school provides and I thank all parents who have already paid the 2013 amount. If you are yet to make your contribution, could you please...
arrange payment as soon as possible. Reminder statements will be mailed shortly.

**Being a good neighbour**
I know most of our students live out our values of care, respect and community in their daily lives. I would like to share two positive stories although I know there are many more small and large actions that our young people do to make our community a better place.

I recently received an email from Mr Robinson, the principal of Baulkham Hills North Public School, asking that Sophie Russell of Year 8 be given a pat on the back for the caring way she looked after a Kindergarten student who mistakenly got on the bus. Sophie contacted the primary school and waited with the little girl until she could be picked up. Mr Robinson says Sophie spoke reassuringly to the girl and the mother was very thankful.

Late last term I received a letter from a father of two boys at Muirfield thanking Jacob Soloman of Year 12 for his integrity and respect in finding and returning a wallet with a significant amount of money that was lost on a bus. As Mr Dyer wrote, Jacob demonstrated some of the core values of the school—integrity, respect and responsibility.

Less pleasing is the contact I receive from neighbours in Tiernan Ave. Their complaints are understandable. They do not appreciate rubbish being dropped in their street, senior students driving unsafely and parents parking over their driveways. If you use Tiernan Ave as a drop off and pick up point, please show respect for our neighbours and do not stop over their driveways. If you have children who drive, please have another talk with them about safe driving. We all know young people take risks and can be tempted to show off. When this is done in cars there is the potential for significant harm to themselves and others. Your children will tell you that we regularly remind them of their civic duty and to be a good neighbour by not dropping rubbish on the street. I hope we can continue to have good relationships with our neighbours.

**Congratulations**
It gives us great pleasure to support students in a range of activities and to acknowledge their participation and successes. I am proud of what public schools can offer and very proud of our students. Mrs Anderson and Mr Grant have reported on other achievements in their reports.

Nicole Lewis in Year 11 has been selected for the NSW Public Schools Symphonic Wind Orchestra (SWO). Over Easter, she travelled to Perth to compete in the National Band Championships with the SWO. The SWO won their section of the competition. Mrs Lewis has provided links to recordings of the SWO’s performances in Perth. Have a look:

Gypsy Dance: [http://youtu.be/91yqS2lhzhQ](http://youtu.be/91yqS2lhzhQ)
Invercargill: [http://youtu.be/WygbIsIqEgQ](http://youtu.be/WygbIsIqEgQ)
Incantation and Dance: [http://youtu.be/jRvTsMDXfOQ](http://youtu.be/jRvTsMDXfOQ)

Fantastic work from Mrs Miller’s Senior TheatreSports Team who came first in the opening round with perfect scores from all the judges. They are now off to the semi-finals.

Lucy Harris, Year 9, and Dean Forrest, Year 11, are off to the NSW Combined High Schools Golf State Championships at the end of June in Wagga Wagga. Mr Turner’s Girls Softball Knock-out Team are also off to the state championships in June. They are travelling to Newcastle to compete against the other 15 teams in the state who made it through to the championships. We wish all of our sporting travellers well.
ANZAC Day – Lest We Forget
Earlier in the term we commemorated ANZAC Day. Year 11 History students, Eliza Andrews, Miriam Osburn and Erin Clay, lead the assembly, reminding students of the sacrifices that ordinary people make in difficult times. The Last Post was played by David Nelson. After a minute’s silence, David played Reveille.

Reconciliation Week – 27 May – 3 June

On assembly this week we acknowledged National Reconciliation Week. This week offers people across Australia the opportunity to focus on reconciliation, to hear about the cultures and histories of Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, and to explore new and better ways of meeting challenges in our communities. The Week coincides with two significant dates in Australia’s history, which provide strong symbols of our hopes and aims for reconciliation. 27 May is the day that the 1967 referendum was passed. This was a national vote where more than 90% of Australians voted to change the constitution to better recognise Indigenous people as full citizens. 3 June marks the anniversary of the High Court of Australia's 1992 judgement in the celebrated Mabo case. In this case the court recognised the Native Title rights of Indigenous peoples, overturned the myth that Australia was empty of people (terra nullius) before colonisation and recognised that Indigenous people did have rights over land.

It is important for us as Australians to recognise the original inhabitants of our land, to celebrate Indigenous culture and to work at improving relationships between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and the broader Australian community.

Foster Care Association
NSW Inc.

Carers United
Advocacy
Support
Educate

ABOUT FCANSW

Today there are many changes happening in the OOHC system in NSW. There is a need for an independent peak body organisation representing a large membership of registered foster carers in NSW.

Our Mission: C.A.S.E.
CARERS UNITE: For all NSW foster carers to unite into a powerful collective voice.
ADVOCATE: To advocate on behalf of foster carers & their families, & to form strong working partnerships with government & non-government organisations in support of a quality OOHC system.
SUPPORT: To provide peer support to foster carers, & to assist them to achieve the best possible outcomes for their foster children & families.
EDUCATE: To educate foster carers & raise awareness in the general public of the vital role of foster carers.

Our Vision
To provide advocacy, support & information to foster carers, to ensure they continue to receive the best support from their NGOs, allowing each child in care to achieve their full potential.

FCANSW welcomes & supports a culturally diverse community of foster carers who come from all different backgrounds & offer a wealth of experience.

What unites us is the common goal we have in raising this next generation to reach their full potential.

How to Join FCANSW
Go to our membership application link on our website: www.fcansw.org.au
Or to be posted a membership form contact us on (02) 4987 1847 or email admin@fcansw.org.au
FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL: MR GRANT

Athletics Carnival - Friday 17th May

A picture prefect autumn day greeted Muirfield High School as we travelled to AH Whelan Reserve for the school’s annual Athletics Carnival. The wonderful weather enabled Mr Edmondstone, Ms Nettle, Ms Spencer and their team to conduct a carnival that ran smoothly from start to finish. Participation rates were high from all the attending students, with four members of the Super hero group ‘the Avengers’ also displaying their skills on the track. It was impressive to see the healthy competition on display in all age groups and divisions of competition, both on the track and in the field.

The successful house for the 2013 Athletics Carnival was Thorpe, with the greatest number of participants in events ensuring their victory for their second carnival this year.

The individual age group champions for the carnival are:

12 Year Champions
Andrew Kanaan  Ashleigh O'Keefe

13 Year Champions
Thomas Hunt  Johanna Selmes

14 Year Champions
Bradley Wright  Rebecca Wright

15 Year Champions
Emma Longworth  Harleigh Grey

16 Year Champions
Charlotte Davies  Luke Jobson

17 Year Champions
Emma Jones  Cale D'Silva

18 Year Champions
Sea Hyun Woo  Justine Gardiner

These students will make up a large component of one of the strongest Muirfield High Zone Athletics Carnival teams that we have ever selected. We wish all these athletes the very best at the Zone competition on Tuesday 11th and Wednesday 12th June.
**Years 7, 11 and 12 Parent and Teacher Evening - Tuesday 21st May.**

The Parent and Teacher Evening for Years 7, 11 and 12 was the first time that an online booking system was implemented. This enabled the parents to control the times of their bookings and the program for the evening. For the first time parents were not reliant on their sons/daughters having to locate their teachers, deliver them their booking sheet, and hoping that they could book suitable times.

Despite some initial system problems that were identified and quickly rectified, the evening was an overwhelming success, with greater parental attendance than previous years and an overwhelming positive consensus. Staff too, valued the opportunity to provide feedback and information to all parents in these year groups, with a strong emphasis on preparation and guidance of their Year 12 students, as they approach their HSC Trials in Weeks 8 and 9 of this term.

The introduction of the clock was also a positive new feature, which assisted in ensuring that interviews ran to schedule. I would like to acknowledge Noah Carpenter for his assistance and time in designing and developing the clock that we will be able to utilise for all Parent and Teacher Evenings in the future.

**Rugby News**

Muirfield High School has once again entered 3 rugby teams in the Metropolitan North Western Metropolitan High School Sports Association Rugby Competition. This competition includes Asquith, Normanhurst, Epping, North Sydney in the North West, Ashfield and Homebush in the West, and Randwick from the East. This competition is considered to be the premier school boy rugby competition in the state school system and one which Muirfield feels very lucky to have received an invitation to enter for the second year. In our inaugural year in 2012 all 3 Muirfield teams qualified for the semi-finals.

The Opens have commenced the season in a strong fashion, and sit currently in equal second position after only one narrow lose and 3 large and decisive wins. The 15’s have played all the heavy weights in the competition and despite being highly competitive in their games so far, they have only come away with one victory to date. The new students to Rugby in Year 8, the 14’s, are very impressive and are sitting nicely on the table in 3rd position with a number of easier games awaiting them over the coming weeks. Many thanks must go the parents who have volunteered their time from week to week to assist in the transportation of the students to and from the schools listed above, for away games.

**FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL: MS ANDERSON**

**MindMatters**

At the end of last term and the beginning of this term Year 12 had their MindMatters program delivered in a different way compared to previous years. The Year 12 program has always had a strong emphasis on getting them through the stress of the HSC. After surveying Year 12 students last year on their MindMatters program the Welfare Team adjusted the delivery of the program for this year. The program was delivered in two stages. Stage 1 involved having two sets of guest speakers, one was a local clinical psychologist, Peter Casbolt, who spoke to Year 12 about anxiety and stress and ways of managing both through the HSC. The same psychologist spoke to our Year 12 students last year and after the positive feedback we received we decided to invite him back again. The second set of speakers was an educational program called Elevate Education. The speakers from Elevate presented to our students last term and did a follow up session this term.

Elevate Education is a company that advises schools around Australia on the best ways to get the best results. Over the last 6 years Elevate’s quest has been to unlock the secret to the final years of high school: Why do the top students get the top marks? Having carried out an exhaustive process of benchmarking hundreds of past students, they have identified a number of areas where the practices of the top students differ compared to that of average or lowering performing students. It is their belief and experience that any student can improve their marks by tapping into, replicating and using these insider secrets.
The delivery of the MindMatters program was to get students prepared and motivated early so they could put practice their new skills for their Trial exams. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the P&C for supporting the delivery of these programs through financing both sets of guest speakers. It has been a very valuable experience for us to be able to tap into external providers that offer something the school cannot.

We have also informed students that if they are feeling a little anxious leading up to exams that they are entitled to a mental health plan through their local GP. Students were informed that even though it is called a mental health plan it does not mean you need to be suffering from any mental illness to access this service.

Year 8

This year Ms Nettle, the Year 8 Adviser, and I have been visiting Year 8 roll call classes to check on students diaries. We find that in Year 7 students seem keen to fill them out, but by the time Year 8 hits the novelty has worn off. So to try to motivate and encourage students to use their diary we run a raffle at the end of each term. Every student that fills out their diary and can show us when we do our spot checks gets a raffle ticket to go into the draw at the end of the term. Some students have collected lots of tickets whilst others might have only one or two raffle tickets.

I encourage parents to get involved and monitor the diaries too. If students are able to record and plan their work schedules in their junior years, it will make the challenges of their senior years a lot easier to handle.

I would like to congratulate Nagin Bayat and Ila-Rose Besgrove, last term winners of the diary raffle. Both girls received a canteen voucher as their reward. Ms Nettle and I look forward to handing out a lot of tickets this term.

Success at Muirfield

Congratulations to Aisling Klimoski of Year 10 for being selected in the NSW All Schools Team for Hockey, which is an outstanding accolade to achieve. To achieve this honor Aisling had to first make the NSWCHS Hockey side and from there she trialed against not only NSW Government Schools but the NSW Combined Catholic Colleges and the NSW Combined Independent Schools to make the NSW All School Team.

We are also proud to announce that Muirfield’s school captain, Dannika Swinn recently received a scholarship to play netball for the Western Sydney Academy of Sport. Dannika competed against talented players across Western Sydney for the position and was pleasantly surprised to hear of her acceptance. The squad consists of 20 talented girls and among those Dannika was selected to represent Western Sydney in the upcoming NIB games held in Maitland. We wish her the best of luck in the competition and look forward to hearing of her success.

We also have Malachi Mashiah, Year 8, and Harleigh Grey, Year 9, who were successful in making the NSWCHS Boys Hockey side. Next Muirfield Matters we hope to hear how at the boys went at the carnival that they went to during Week 5 at Narellan.
Athletics Carnival

Parking Rules & Penalties Fact Sheet

DRIVEWAYS

You must not park your car over or block access to a driveway.

You can stop in a driveway to drop off or pick up passengers BUT only for less than 2 minutes AND the driver must stay with the car.

SCHOOL ZONE
Penalty from $165 and 2 demerit points

Council's Compliance Officers enforce parking signs at your school.
For more information please contact The Hills Shire Council on 9843 0445

FOOTPATHS

You must not STOP your vehicle on the footpath or nature strip at any time.

Stopping includes when the vehicle is not moving but the engine is still running

SCHOOL ZONE
Penalty from $165 and 2 demerit points

Council's Compliance Officers enforce parking signs at your school.
For more information please contact The Hills Shire Council on 9843 0445
Two Visual Arts students from Yr 11 were selected to participate in a secondary school program at The Dobell Drawing School, in the National Art School, Darlinghurst.

75 students Year 11 talented students from outer Metropolitan Sydney and regional NSW government schools ... nervously ... went bright eyed and bushy tailed to participate in an intensive 4 day Studio Workshop Program at the National Art School during the school holiday break.

After 5 hours of standing each day in front of a drawing paper and easel, these two extremely motivated and creative students - Larissa Pritkovs and Miriam Osburn - created a substantial folio of highly accomplished and resolved drawings. Their focus was 'Experimental Drawing' which essentially challenged these students to think and create outside the box and see art and objects from a totally different perspective. Also, they gained experience in nude life drawing for their first time!

I really cannot describe how proud I am of these students. Miriam and Larissa thoroughly engaged themselves in the program in such a mature and dedicated way. The quality of work they created is outstanding,

The four days culminated in an exhibition of the artworks created on the final day- the students working literally right up until the last second! These girls have done themselves, their families, and our school extremely proud.
### Term Two 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday/Sunday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td></td>
<td>Yr 7, 11 &amp; 12 Parent Teacher Night</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Car Boot Sale 25th May</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May/June</td>
<td>Yr 12 Std English Excursion</td>
<td>Zone Cross Country</td>
<td>Yr 11 &amp; 12 Drama Excursion</td>
<td>Yr 12 Careers Expo</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>Queen's Birthday</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting</td>
<td>HSC Trial Assessment</td>
<td>Yr 12 S&amp;C Excursion Music Camp</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>HSC Trial Assessment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Yr 10 Careers Expo</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>School Holidays</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>School Holidays</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Term Three 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday/Sunday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td></td>
<td>Yr 12 Chemistry Excursion</td>
<td>Yr 7 9 Boys Vaccinations</td>
<td>MADD Night</td>
<td>Yr 9 10 Sci &amp; Engineering Challenge</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>Yr 7 Mind Matters</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July/August</td>
<td>Yr 7 8 English Incursion</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>Yr 8 10 Subject Info Night Ryde Eisteddfod Concert Band</td>
<td>Ryde Eisteddfod Concert Band</td>
<td>Yr 8 10 Subject Selection due</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>BRAVO</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Muirfield Matters

Student Services

Parent Forum

An invitation is extended to all parents of students accessing Northern Sydney Region Student Services. Programs to attend an information-sharing meeting with other parents and regional representatives.

At this forum we welcome our guest speaker:

Barbara Lewis
Manager, Carer Support Services, Northern Sydney Health.

TOPIC: How parents / carers can decrease their anxiety by working effectively in partnership with their schools - how to manage thoughts and feelings in times of stress, sharing information and working as part of the Learning and Support Team.

Date: 21 June 2013
Time: 10.00am to 12.00 noon
Venue: Lindfield East Public School Hall
90 Tryon Road, East Lindfield

For more information, please contact Kate McCooker - Student Welfare Consultant, 9987 3900 or email kate.mccooker@det.nsw.edu.au. RSVP for catering purposes to Kate McCooker, Phone 9987 3900 or email kate.mccooker@det.nsw.edu.au

MCGREGOR CASTING

NEW TV SHOW FROM THE CREATORS OF THE BLOCK

CASTING CALL FOR SYDNEY FAMILIES

WOULD YOU LIKE TO TRANSFORM YOUR LIFE IN 30 DAYS? .... LOSE WEIGHT, STRESS LESS, SLEEP BETTER, EAT BETTER AND FEEL HAPPIER?

WE ARE LOOKING FOR SYDNEY FAMILIES WHO ARE READY TO CHANGE THEIR LIVES!

EMAIL APPLY@MCGREGORCASTING.COM FOR AN APPLICATION FORM AND MORE DETAILS!!

18 CHARLES STREET REDFERN NSW AUSTRALIA 2016
+612 9557 2844 MCGREGORCASTING.COM

BAULKHAM HILLS FOOTBALL CLUB

UNDER 15’s

Baulkham Hills Football club is seeking players for our U15/3 team. We have 9 players and need more for the team to continue.

We don’t want to close this team - if you are a football player who can play in the U15’s

Contact Tony Hughes, Secretary Baulkham Hills Football/Soccer Club
0413 222 523

West Pennant Hills Netball Club requires a few additional players for their U11’s netball teams. Please contact Ashley on 0421 558 009, for further information.
Free English classes in Castle Hill
The Northern Sydney Institute, part of TAFE NSW, is starting free Adult Migrant English Program (AMEP) classes in Castle Hill. New migrants may be eligible for 510 hours of free English lessons and childcare. Please contact the Hornsby AMEP Office on 9472 1995 or email amep.nsi@tafensw.edu.au for more information.

The Northern Sydney Institute delivers AMEP services on behalf of the Department of Immigration and Citizenship. The AMEP is a Commonwealth Government program. For more information about AMEP, visit www.immi.gov.au/amep or www.nsi.edu.au/amep