From the Deputy Principal: Mr Grant

Year 12 Sign Out Procedures

Congratulations to all of our Year 12 who have finished their HSC examinations, and therefore have completed their secondary schooling. Students are now required to return all of the school’s textbooks and finalise any outstanding fees in the signing out process. With Year 11 having already commenced their HSC courses the return of the textbooks is essential for their learning. We ask that all Year 12 students complete the Sign Out procedures, if they have not already done so. On behalf of the Muirfield High School, I would like to thank you for allowing us the opportunity of teaching and caring for your child over the past 6 years. We wish the class of 2015 the very best for their future.

Other important dates that we would like Year 12 to take note of includes Presentation Evening on Tuesday 8 December 7.00pm (students who are to receive an award will be contacted by mail, and all students in attendance need to be in appropriate attire of smart casual). The next date is for their HSC results which will be available to students by telephone, internet and SMS on Wednesday 16 December, and their ATAR information can be accessed on the UAC site from 9am Thursday 17 December, using their ATAR with their HSC number and UAC PIN. Finally, on the morning of Thursday 17 December, we will be having a celebration breakfast in the senior quad at 9am, and all Year 12 students are invited.

Year 11 - Preliminary Reports

Year 11 will have also received their Preliminary Reports, both in a hard and electronic copy. On the cover page of the student’s report is the Year Advisers comment, a list of the student’s subjects, attendance information and two ‘Yes’ or ‘No’ statements – one refers to the student’s consistent wearing of school uniform, and the other to whether they are satisfying of DEC sport requirements.
In order for students to receive a ‘Yes’ on all of their Year 12 reports for uniform, they need to wear correct uniform every day. All students signed a Senior Agreement document at the beginning of Year 11 agreeing to adhere to the Muirfield High School’s Uniform Policy. More importantly, they are the leaders and role models in the school for all the younger students. Year 11 students who may have recently received a “No” on their report should endeavour to change their behaviour and school attire so as to avoid a similar statement on their Year 12 reports, which prospective employers often request.

Lunch time uniform checks will be undertaken and detentions will continue for uniform infringements.

After reading through the Year 11 reports, I found the teachers feedback to be very factual and helpful for identifying the areas that students need to address. The reports also provided highly useful strategies on how students could improve in these areas and on their overall performance. It is important that students not only read this feedback, but that they act upon and put into practise these recommendations.

Year 11 will have almost weekly assemblies during which Mr Turner (Year Adviser), Mr Finley (HT Senior Studies), Ms Scott (Careers Adviser) and myself will provide information and best practice options for them to implement in order to achieve the success and an overall result that they desire over the remainder of Term 4 and through Year 12.

Mr Finley’s HATS (High Achieving, Target Setting) Roll Call group also commenced in Week 5 of this term. These students will assess their individual strengths and weaknesses before making the minor adjustments required to improve their HSC. Of the 21 students invited, all have accepted a position in this roll call group. For any student who did not receive an invitation into this group, they can make an appointment with Mr Finley at any time to discuss their progress and identify strategies that could be of benefit and assistance to them over the course of the HSC journey. Past experience has shown that these appointments generally concern much broader aspects of the students examination preparation, study planning and time management strategies and therefore cannot be covered in a 10 minute Roll Call with 20 other students.

**School Facilities**

Over the coming weeks, the roofs on the Library, A27 and A28 will be removed and replaced. This will address the many leaks that we have when there is heavy rain. This will also coincide with the extensive building renovations that will be conducted in the Library, with the lower level being re-carpeted, painted and redesigned over the Christmas holiday period.
The Muirfield High School’s Soccer field has also recently undergone a major overhaul, with the surface of the Soccer field being removed, levelled, graded and new turf re-laid. This upgrade will be followed by aerating of all the fields (Soccer, Baseball and Rugby) and fertilising of all the fields once the newly laid turf has become established. A big thank you to Mr May, our General Assistant, who has tirelessly overseen the project and maintained the high levels of water required to ensure the newly laid turf did not perish in the recent warm to hot conditions.

Students are also to be commended for valuing the new upgrade and continuing to remain off the surface. Refraining from running on this surface will allow it to establish itself and grow.

**Toyota Financial Services Employee Community Grants Fund**

Thank you to Angela Duffy, a parent of our community, for applying and nominating Muirfield High School for a $1000.00 grant from the Toyota Financial Services Employee Community Grants Fund. This application was successful and the funding has been received by Mr Phelps and his current Year 11 Construction class to assist in the purchase of materials needed to construct a community picnic table/eating area between our Rugby and Baseball fields.

Many visitors to our school are highly complementary of the grounds, environment and the school’s overall general appearance. A significant amount of this beautification of our school environment is due to the amazing efforts of Mr Phelps and his Construction classes. Many of his class projects not only fulfil the required competencies of the Construction course, but also leave Muirfield High School with incredible gardens and seating areas.

**Pink Day**

Pink Day was a fundraising day organised by Ms Nettle and our Year Advisers to raise funds for Breast Cancer Research. On the day students raised in excess of $1000 for this excellent cause. Many thanks must go to Ms Nettle for organising this event and to our individual Year Advisers for their efforts in supporting the cause and organising the food and fundraising stalls. I would also like to extend a big thank you to all the parents who supported this fundraising event, either by cooking, baking or preparing many of the items that were on sale on the day, or for just sending your child to school on the day with some extra funds to donate to an excellent cause.

**Farewell Ms Heap**

After 25 years at Muirfield High School and 6 years as the Head Teacher Administration, Ms Karen Heap left to commence in the same capacity as Head Teacher Administration at Springwood High School. This lateral transfer of duties for Ms Heap will save her almost one and a half hours per day of travel time to and from work. Ms Heap was the organiser of the
Muirfield High School student display at the Royal Easter Show. Our school won the award of best school display in the show a record four from six times, and was runner up on one of these occasions. The Head Teacher Administration position is a major role in the school, often a thankless one, but one that she completed in a composed and professional manner. The staff of Muirfield High School all wish Ms Heap the very best at Springwood High School.

From the P&C President

This time last year, I did not know many parents at the school. It has been great to get to know so many of you over the course of the year and it will be nice to know a few more people at the Hawaiian Night.

Please try and find the time to come along to the parent social night or the P&C Christmas get together coming up in December. It is a great time of year to enjoy the festivities and get to know other parents or meet up with old friends.

As we elect new office bearers in preparation for 2016, I would like to thank everyone who takes the time to volunteer for P&C. It can be very rewarding. I hope that new faces continue to come along to our P&C meetings to show support for our fundraising and assist when possible with making plans for P&C activities in 2016.

Parent Social Night

It should be a lot of fun and we are hoping for a great turnout. We had a really fun night last year. There will be a silent auction on the night with Muirfield Golf Club proudly donating a round of golf to be auctioned. Looking forward to a fun night.

“Hawaiian Summer Beach Party”
MUIRFIELD HIGH P&C PARENT SOCIAL 2015

Tickets $45 per person includes finger food, music, fun, games and prizes.
Dress up in your most colourful Hawaiian Summer Beach attire!
Drinks available for purchase at club prices.

Venue:
Muirfield Golf Club

DATE and TIME:
Friday 4th December from 6.30pm

Tickets & RSVP online at:
http://www.trybooking.com/JISG
CANTEEN NEWS.
Students should plan to order their lunches as some stock may run down as we approach the end of year. Fresh salads and sandwiches are available daily. Email CANTEEN at mhs.pnc.canteen@gmail.com if you have any questions or suggestions for 2016.

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS.
Uniform Shop will continue to open on Monday and Thursday lunch times from 12.30pm-1.30pm until the end of the year. Additionally, extra opening hours will be: Monday 30 November from 5.00pm - 8.00pm and on the Year 7 2016 Orientation day Thursday 3rd December from 8.00am – 11.00am and 1.30pm – 2.30pm.

If you have any questions about uniforms, please contact the Uniform Shop committee by emailing muirfield.p.and.c@gmail.com or phone the Uniform Shop Managers (Mel, Katrina or Sam) via the school on 9872 2244.

CAPA COMMITTEE
The CAPA Committee are planning for Summerarts on 1st December. The committee will be holding a BBQ Sausage Sizzle and selling sausage sandwiches and drinks from 6pm-7pm on the evening. Supper/Tea/Coffee will also be available at intermission. We can’t wait to see the amazing talent of Muirfield CAPA students.

TERM FOUR DATES

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<tr>
<th>Dates for Your Diary</th>
<th>Who?</th>
<th>When?</th>
<th>Where?</th>
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<tr>
<td>Hawaiian Night Parent Social</td>
<td>All parents welcome $45 per ticket (see above)</td>
<td>Friday 4 December from 6.30pm</td>
<td>Muirfield Golf Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>P&amp;C General Meeting and Christmas Party</td>
<td>All parents welcome Please bring a plate</td>
<td>Wednesday 9 December at 7.30pm</td>
<td>Common Room</td>
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Please feel free to contact me or any of the subcommittee members via muirfield.p.and.c@gmail.com.

Narelle Williams
Introduction to School Leadership Team

At some point last term, a group of keen students stood up in front of a selection of the school and nervously gave their speeches on why they believed that they would be a good candidate to be a school leader. The tallies were counted and after an anxious wait we were all told our positions. Who are we you ask? Tara and Mitchell are your committed School Captains, Lara is your energetic Sports Captain, Jordan and Jake are the enthusiastic Vice School Captains and not far following them are your excited School Executive Team including; Abbie, Abbey, Emma, Georgia, Mardi, Seodiin, Lockie and Daniel.

From our very first day as a cohort, this team has been nothing but a determined group of students, willing to work as hard as we can to bring some positive changes to our schooling environment. After our Mitchell Youth Leadership Forum, we returned buzzing full of ideas and could not wait to get started. In the short 5 weeks we have had so far, I think it is fair to say, that we are off to a great start. In our time of being your school leaders we plan to focus on some priority areas which all interrelate and are all important.

Inspired by our time at camp we plan to bring the same level of spirit which filled the air, back to Muirfield. By this, we hope to have a school which focuses on their house spirit (Thorpe, Eels, Beachly and Freeman) as well as the general school spirit. To achieve this we are hoping to introduce a new point system which focuses on rewarding students with house points for various activities that take place at school. On top of this we are currently planning a SRC and House Captain camp (it is more like an incursion over the period of two days) so we can share the awesome experiences we had on our camp and hopefully inspire all the other school leaders.
In relation to school spirit we are currently in the progress of surveying students and soon parents too, in an attempt to change aspects of our Sports Uniform. Our aim at this moment is for our school sport shirts to have the name of a student’s sport team on the collar. This will remind students of their house and allow them to easily recognise other peers in their team. Due to ongoing issues with our sport shorts we aim to make suitable changes to the material and cut with the hope of allowing students to feel more comfortable in their school Sports Uniform.

Another topic of focus for us is one surrounding mental health. Due to the increase in mental health illnesses amongst youth we think it is vital to give students here an adequate support system. Things will be hopefully adjusted in order to provide a supportive environment for students and an easy access to help if it is needed.

On a side note - Councillors are available here at school and bookings can be arranged through the front office.

These are the main priority areas that we as a team, will be tackling over the next year and we are so excited about each one of them. As the 2016 school leaders, we will promise to put in our greatest effort to make these positive changes and as the new faces representing our school we hope to represent our school community with justice. Seniors may seem scary but we assure you, we are all very approachable and willing to listen to any suggestion or comments students may have, so don’t be afraid to say hey.

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**Hills Community Concert Band**

The Hills Community Concert Band is a band for students from Years 6 – 12 who love to have fun. We rehearse at Winston Heights Public School on Thursday afternoons with our conductor Dr Steve Clark, who brings years (and a PHD) of musical experience to our band. We perform around our local area at community events, and we also enter state and national band championships. In this year’s competition we came 4th for nationals and 1st in state.

So if you love to have fun and eat pizza, invite yourself to one of our rehearsals at Winston Heights Public School. Our rehearsals go from 4:30 – 6:00 pm (no need to tell us your coming, just show up).

Jack
PASS Primary School Coaching

Over the term the Year 10 PASS students have been developing their coaching skills. As part of our course this term we completed the AIS online coaching course where we learned what was required to become a good coach. We were also required to design our own training session for an assessment task which was presented to our classmates.

As part of this program, we got the opportunity to put our new skills into practice at North Rocks Public School. We were divided into groups of four and then taught students from Years 1 and 2 a variety of sports, including: OzTag, Netball, Soccer and Cricket.

Overall, it was an enjoyable and challenging experience communicating and putting our new found skills into practice. We look forward to the opportunity of coaching North Rocks Primary in the future.

By Rebecca & Makenzie
Drama Studio Seating

It has arrived! We now have retractable seating in the Drama Studio.

No longer will you need to crane and stretch your necks to view the work of talented Murfield Drama students as they create wonderful Theatre. Over the past three years we have been producing successful and engaging plays. Our Drama Studio is developing into an exciting performance space and with our new seating we can now move ahead and continue to produce even more fabulous Theatre for your enjoyment.

Here are some before and after pictures:

Before:
An empty space

After:
Seating extended out

After:
Seating retracted in

Valerie Miller – Drama and Entertainment Teacher
Pink Day

On Thursday 29th October 2015 Muirfield High School held their annual ‘Pink Day’ fundraiser to help raise awareness and money to be donated to cancer research in the hopes of finding a cure for breast cancer. All year groups joined together to collaboratively raise funds. Year 7 sold pink ice cream cones, Year 8 collected a gold coin donation for pink mufti, Year 9 and 10 participated in a bake sale, with students baking lots of different kinds of delicious sweets and treats. Year 11 held a BBQ at lunch time. Together we raised $1234.10 which will be donated to an amazing cause. Thank you to everyone involved, for your time and effort.

Bronte (Year 10)
Barclay Learning Team Guitar Tutoring

Over the course of Term 4, a group of Year 9 students, accompanied by Ms Lau, go across to North Rocks Public School and teach the students to play guitar. We teach them important music skills, and hopefully over the weeks, the young students will build in confidence and knowledge. As well as benefiting the primary school players, this experience has also greatly improved our teaching skills.

This is a great leadership opportunity as well as an experience which we can use throughout the rest of our lives. Over the short period of time that we have been teaching them, these hard working primary school students have learnt several pieces, including Smoke on the Water, Summer Nights, Wild Things and more.

This linkage between the two schools breaks some of the barriers between the transition into high school from primary school. By getting to know some of the older students, the primary school students will hopefully become more comfortable and relaxed with the idea of moving to high school.

This has been a both a fun, educational and rewarding experience that hopefully will continue on in future years.

Joanna
The NSW Public Schools Millennium Marching Band

The Millennium Marching Band is a group of passionate students that are full of energy, excitement and commitment. We perform a mix of popular, traditional and new music, but we don’t just stand around. As we perform we march a drill, to give our crowds a visual to match our amazing sound. We perform at events such as, The ANZAC Day March, Schools Spectacular, NRL/Rugby matches and other community events. If you wish to take your performing arts career to the next level, and want to enjoy the thrill of performing to thousands live, and to millions via television then the Millennium Marching Band is for you.

Membership of the Millennium Marching Band is open to all students in Years 7-12 attending a government secondary or central school in New South Wales. Opportunities exist within the band for instrumentalists, dancers and rhythmic gymnasts. There is a place for anyone with energy, commitment and a willingness to learn.

Jack
The evening of Bandlink may have been stormy but the 160 piece combined primary/high school concert band drowned out any thunder. It took a huge array of musicians from Year 6 through to Year 11 of all different abilities playing in unison to make this spectacular performance possible. North Rocks, Murray Farm, Winston Hills and Baulkham Hills Primary School, accompanied by teachers and conductors all came together to participate in tutoring workshops and then perform in the Primary Schools Link Workshop Concert.

This unique opportunity hosted by The CAPA Department, CAPA Committee, Muirfield High Band and with Mr Steve Lavis our resident conductor front and centre. Our student band members and tutors mentored over 120 primary school kids through a playlist of challenging songs. For some of our students this was the first time they have had the opportunity to demonstrate their leadership in running small group workshops for younger students, and they shone. For some of the primary school students, this was the first opportunity they have had to be mentored by older musical students.

This Primary Partnership Link assists in a smoother transition into high school as a lot of the ‘unknowns’ have been removed, and with music as the common ground, friendships across grades can begin to be developed well before the younger students even step foot into Year 7.

As the day progressed, workshops finished, and a restaurants worth of pizzas were consumed, families began to arrive and the students settled in to show off their newly
developed skills. Each school band had the opportunity to play a selection of pieces to the assembled crowd of family and new friends. Then as a whole, all the students combined into one massive band to play a selection of pieces that most had only begun to learn that day. My personal favourite that never fails to make me happy was the ‘The Muppets’, and I must say, with over 160 performers, it really blew the roof off the hall.

Thank you to the amazing CAPA Committee and Teaching Services Australia, also thankyou to all the primary school teachers who so generously gave up time to accompany their students. I look forward to next year, let’s see if we can get a 200 piece band!

Ms Frame HT CAPA
Mitchell Youth Leadership Forum

On the first week of this term, a portion of the incoming Executive Team members for 2016 had the opportunity to attend the Mitchell Youth Leadership Forum at Vision Valley. While the majority of participants would agree that the two-and-a-half day camp should have been much longer, we can all agree that our time overflowed with team building activities and inspirational guest speakers that certainly made the time worthwhile.

However, such a positive experience didn’t seem so attainable at the commencement of the camp. Our Muirfield team walked into the main building to sign in, anticipating how the next two days would strengthen our collaborative skills. While this was accurate, we failed to realise that we would be doing so in separate groups, filled with complete strangers. On realisation of this condition, there was a splurge of anxieties that ignited within us, stemming from our shared expectation that this camp would bring us closer as a team. What we didn’t predict was that the eight-or-so strangers in our assigned groups would make leaving the camp the most difficult feat of all.

The highlight for many was the community service project we completed at the Anglican Retirement Village in Castle Hill. Whether your role was to interact with the residents or to complete duties outside, such as by washing cars and landscaping gardens, the experience ultimately reinforced the importance of leading to serve others. The emphasis placed on service was a prominent theme of the camp as a whole, as well as the values of integrity and courage. I feel positive that our Executive team will strive to embody these virtues as we approach our future duties.

Overall, the Leadership Forum gave us a fresh perspective on what it takes to be effective leaders. We, the Executive Team, take great pride in our school and hope that our leadership journey reflects the passion sparked within us at the Forum. We want the student body to be as excited as we are about the positive legacy we can all leave at Muirfield, because as the guest speaker Brett Murray shared with us, “Passion isn’t taught, it’s caught.”

Tara Arrow
Under 15’s Netball Knockout

On Monday, 19th October the Under 15’s knockout netball team competed in a Regional Netball Carnival. Muirfield High School were to dominant the first round for Arthur Philip High School, before defeating Rooty Hill High School in a close match in the second round. In our third and final round against Glenmore Park High School we were challenged across the court by tall and physical opponent who proved to be too tough for us on the day. Muirfield High School played their hearts out but we were unable to overcome their height and strength and lost in our last round of the carnival by 5 goals.

As a team we played extremely well considering the range of ages, year groups and the fact that we had not trained or played regularly together in the past. So on the whole, the carnival was a success for Muirfield High School and are talented netballers. Congratulations and well done to all the players for playing so well throughout the day and demonstrating excellent sportsmanship.

Finally, a big thank you to Ms Bligh for supervising and coaching us on the day.

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**Hawaiian Summer Beach Party**

**MUIRFIELD HIGH P&C PARENT SOCIAL 2015**

Tickets $45 per person.
Your ticket includes finger food, music, fun, games and prizes.
Dress up in your most colourful Hawaiian Summer Beach attire!
Drinks available for purchase at club prices.

**Venue**
Muirfield Golf Club
Barclay Rd, North Rocks

**DATE and TIME:**
Friday 4th December 2015
From 6.30pm - 11.30pm

**TICKETS:**
Book your tickets before 20th November online
At the Trybooking website: [WWW.TRYBOOKING.COM/JIGG](http://WWW.TRYBOOKING.COM/JIGG)

**Contact:**
Narelle Williams
Muirfield.p.and.c@gmail.com
**HOW TO “PAY ONLINE” AT MUIRFIELD HIGH SCHOOL**

**Step 1: On Home page on Muirfield High School**

1. Navigate to the Home page on Muirfield High School.
2. Click on the “Make a payment” button.

**Step 2: Only answer green asterisk (*) questions**

1. Leave Blank
2. Answer green asterisk questions only
3. Continue answering green asterisk questions through to receipt printout
How to “Pay Online” at Muirfield High School

Continue answering green asterisk questions through to receipt printout and note your receipt details.

Answer green asterisk questions only.

Fill in payment options.

Continue answering green asterisk questions through to receipt printout and note your receipt details.

Opening Day
Saturday 5 December 9am-3pm

Christmas 2015 exhibition
December 5 to 12

Boonah Creative Arts Centre
Supporting Artists with a Disability

Boonah Creative Arts Centre
CatholicCare
disability futures

Original Artwork
Beautiful Cards & Fabulous Decorations

The Philip Mall, Kendall St, West Pymble • 9499 5675
Lions Club of North Rocks Inc.
PO Box 4385 North Rock NSW 2152

A.B.N. 78262542133
Email:northrockslios@yahoo.com.au

The Principal
Muirfield Public School
Barcley Road
North Rocks NSW 2151

11 September 2015

Dear Jennifer
Re Exodus Foundation Christmas food collection

Once again we are seeking the assistance of your School community to help us to collect cans of food on behalf of the Exodus Foundation for distribution to those most vulnerable in our society for the Christmas period.

Last year we have estimated that our local school donated approximately 1.5 tonnes of food, an outstanding result. This year we are seeking donations of a similar amount or better as the problem just does not go away.

It would hard to find a better project that involves every single member of the school community in the Christmas spirit.

If you are able to assist us, we would like to collect all the donations made from the school on the morning of Monday 7 December 2015.

Please help us to help others.

Henry Jones
Vice President
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<th>Week</th>
<th>Monday</th>
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<td>Yr 7 Swim School</td>
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<td>Year 10 End of Year Activities</td>
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<td>December 11</td>
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