Thank you for your ongoing generous support of the school over this past term. We are all very appreciative of the efforts of staff, students and parents in ensuring that the school reputation continues to grow. With the increase in pride within the school our hope is that people in the wider community will see our students and look to employ them, support them and give them opportunities later in their careers because they have come from such a good school. This newsletter is full of all the achievements of students and staff during this term. Every item shows the talent and commitment of our students and staff.

**Meet and Greet Evening**

Wednesday 4 March Muirfield High School’s P&C ran their annual Meet & Greet Evening for all new parents to Muirfield HS. This night gave parents an opportunity to come and meet other parents in an informal setting. I would like to thank all members of the P&C involved and especially; Narelle Williams, Wendy Bowman and for all the hard work they put into the night.

It was great to meet so many new parents and catch up with some ‘old’ parents. It was wonderful to receive positive feedback from parents about how well their child has settled into high school. A lot of parents agreed that the Peer Support Program and Muirfield’s caring nature was a big factor in how well the students transitioned to Muirfield.

**IWD Breakfast**

On Friday 6 March MHS hosted our annual IWD Breakfast. The 2015 theme is ‘Make It Happen’. The Breakfast is an event that celebrates what women have achieved together to make the world a better place, and a brighter future for all girls. This year’s IWD Breakfast was organized by the Student Executive Team and all monies raised will go to support UN Women, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment o Women.

These events would not be possible without the dedication of staff pooling their resources together to ensure these events have the significance that they deserve. The teachers involved were Ms Sheath (and her hospitality crew) and Ms Miller (and her sound crew). A special thanks to Janine Smith, our canteen manager, and her dedicated
parent volunteers for putting together a delicious breakfast and Brett May, our GA, for assistance in setting up. I would especially like to thank Ms. Pasternatsky for all leadership in both the IWD Breakfast to fruition and the work she does with the Student Executive Team.

**Harmony Day**

On Friday 20 March Muirfield HS celebrated Harmony Day. It was a day to reflect on the importance of some of the basic ideals we all often take for granted and to reaffirm our commitment to celebrate cultural diversity, inclusivity and respect. Thank you to our Harmony Day Team who spent hours preparing for the day and time ensuring it ran smoothly. Our celebration of cultural diversity was an outstanding success, due in no small part to Ms Wendy Brown and her team of helpers, who worked tirelessly to organise the day. We were treated to some great speeches, performances, stalls and more importantly great attitudes and support for this very positive day. A celebration assembly was held where students from differing cultural backgrounds spoke about their life story. Some of the stories certainly promoted greater understanding and reflection on the part of our students and an appreciation of what this country offers all of us.

I would like to especially thank Mrs Brown, Mrs. Mutreja, Ms Wong, Mr Li, Ms Lau and Ms Miller for their support of Harmony Day. These events rely and the goodwill and support of others, so on behalf of the school we thank you all.

**Open Classrooms**

On Tuesday 24 March, Muirfield hosted its annual “Year 7 Open Afternoon”. The Open Morning gave parents/carers an opportunity to return back to the classroom. Parents were able to visit two lessons and observe their son/daughter in their learning environment. During recess parents joined their child for some morning tea in the senior courtyard. This gave parents/carers an opportunity to catch up with other parents, meet their child’s new friends and have a chat to teachers in a casual environment. After the Open Classrooms parents were able to collect their child’s Interim Report. The Interim Report is a snapshot informing parents how their child is settling into high school. The morning was well attended and parents spoke very positively of having the opportunity to visit classrooms.

Personally, I enjoyed the conversations I had catching up with ‘old’ parents and meeting ‘new’ parents.

I would especially like thank Mr Grant the Deputy for Year 7 for organising such a successful morning and thank all of the teachers who opened their classrooms. The teachers were: Mr. Ballard; Ms. Bootes; Ms. Burton; Mr. Campbell; Ms. Eagle; Ms. Frame; Ms. King; Ms. Kurian; Ms. Naidoo; Mr. Read and Ms. Wills.
“A Bad Neighbour is a Misfortune, as much as a Good One is a Blessing”

During Week 7 I had an early morning meeting with the Security Manager and Security Supervisor of North Rocks Westfields. Whilst working around the centre I must say I was very impressed and proud at the way the majority of our students behaved themselves. Over the years the school has spoken to our students the importance of being a good neighbour. As a school community we work tirelessly with our primary school partners and Westfields at North Rocks to ensure that we maintain a positive relationship within our community. It was very refreshing to walk around the centre and have some positive conversations with students who were being positive role models in our community. Most of my conversation with students are gentle reminders about using their “inside voices”, making sure they put their rubbish in the bin, not sitting inappropriately on the lounges or putting their feet on the seats, using the correct footpaths and not trampling through Westfields’ gardens. It would be great if parents could reiterate this message to their children.

Whilst you are chatting to your children about being a good neighbor it would you also chat about being safe. Some of our students seem to forget to cross at the lights when making their way back to school. It can be very frightening at times watching students race across either the busy North Rocks Rd or Barclay Rd during peak hour traffic.

‘Tell Them from Me’ Surveys

Our students are currently participating in this feedback survey, which asks questions about factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other outcomes. It aims to help improve the learning outcomes of students. The survey is designed to measure, assess and report insights at the school and system levels for those schools participating in NSW.

The focus of the survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices. Data collected from the survey’s responses will be quickly compiled into reports for our school to review. We will then use this information to identify emerging issues and plan for school improvement. Our staff will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. Following information about the survey being provided to parents, most have endorsed their child’s participation in the survey.

North Rocks Public School

During Week 7, myself and 4 young Year 7 students spoke at the North Rocks Public School P&C meeting. I must say I was very proud of our young student leaders who spoke so eloquently and confidentially about Murfield HS. Before attending the evening I had a meeting with interested Year 7 students from the Year 7 Leadership Team and asked for volunteers who would like to attend the P&C meeting. These girls freely gave up their time and they organised their own speeches on what they thought primary parents would like to hear about. I have included their speeches in this newsletter for your perusal.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Peter Harker, Principal of NRPS, for allowing me the opportunity to speak to our neighbouring parents and for his ongoing support that he shows to our wonderful school. Mr Harker is a strong advocate of Muirfield and this is evident in the joint projects we have been running here over the past number of years.
Lucy’s Speech

Good evening/afternoon. My name is Lucy, and I’m from the Year 7 Leadership Team at Muirfield. Our group consists of a number of Year 7 students from Muirfield, aiming to help the school, alongside the teachers, Student Representative Council, School leaders, and of course; our peers.

I came from Winston Heights Public School, over in Winston Hills. Most of my friends and peers went to Model Farms High School, as that was their local school, with a few going to places like OLMC. I didn’t really want to go with everyone else, so we looked around for other opportunities. One of the other high schools was Tara, but the idea of an all-girls school didn’t really appeal to me, so then we went to check out Muirfield.

As soon as we got there, I knew that Muirfield was the school for me. It felt really inviting, and there was still so much more to see. I’m into the creative and performing arts, as I’m a percussionist, and I wanted to continue being in a band. And so when we found out about Muirfield’s band, I thought, wow this will be great; and it is! I also love drama and art, and Muirfield has both of those in large supply.

On Open Night, we were taken around the school in small groups by students currently at Muirfield. It wasn’t daunting, unlike when we went to Model Farms, where we had to walk around the school by ourselves. It was really good, because we got to go into several classrooms, such as the Japanese classroom where we could see displays of culture, and have our name written in Japanese!

We also went into the drama classroom where we saw some of the activities they did during a normal lesson. I couldn’t way to see if I was accepted into Muirfield because it had everything I was looking for.

While I was at primary school I was a member of the Winston Heights Environmental Team, or WHET group. We were a team of students who worked with a teacher to improve the school grounds and look at environmental issues and plant fruit and vegies in the various gardens around the school. When I saw the Ag plot at Muirfield, I was excited to think that I could continue gardening and animal husbandry. This was another reason why I chose Muirfield over other high schools.

During the Open Day, all the year sixes were put into peer support groups, led by the year elevens, and given a small booklet that explained how to read our time tables, and other helpful things. We were also shown around the school again, and taken into classes that were being taught at the time. We played some games that helped us to learn and remember the other students in our peer support group.

Some of the students in the peer support group would be in my class, and some wouldn’t, but it was great to have the chance anyway to meet some of the other students, because then it wouldn’t feel so awkward on our first day. In the end, I didn’t come with any of my friends
from Winston Heights, so it was hard at first to make some new friends. My mum is a teacher librarian at a public school, and she knew two students coming to Muirfield. I became friends with one of them, and soon enough, another girl joined our group. It still felt weird at first, as all three of us had come from different schools, but we still have a great friendship.

During Year 7 Camp, we had the chance to make even more friends. I didn’t really know anyone from my class, and my two other friends were in different classes, so I had to start again with my class. But this time, it was easier as I found out that some of the girls in my class were a lot like me! Some might say it wasn’t that long ago that we started our first day at high school, but I already feel like I’m a part of the school community, and I know I can say that for many others as well. Eight weeks into the school term, I feel like I’m able to go with the flow of High School. We’ve already completed a few assessments and assignments for various subjects, and we were all well prepared. At the end, we were able to form a small group, and we’ve been together since then. We all love reading, so half the time we hang out in the library, which is what I would’ve done anyway!

Starting high school isn’t as hard as some people think. Sure, there are the ups and downs, but that’s life! But don’t worry; we seriously don’t have as much homework as people think either! To conclude, I chose Muirfield over several other high schools because of the warm and inviting atmosphere, the friendly environment but mostly for the subjects and activities that the school offered that seemed better than what was on offer at other schools. At the time of making my choice, they seemed to do things in a way that suited my learning style and I’m glad I was excepted because I’m very happy with Muirfield.

Ashleigh and Megan’s Speech

Since starting high school, Ashleigh and I have both noticed many good and bad differences. Some of these differences are as small as there being more students and having to be more organised to having lots of new and different subjects and teachers.

Having more students means that there is much less one on one attention than in primary school but it does also means that there is a lot more people to meet and be friends with.

In high school, because there are a lot more classes and assignments, we all have to be very organised. Packing ours bags the night before is a good way to stay organised as well as using our student diaries. We have found that timetables can also be very confusing so colour coding it will make it easier to remember, makes it quicker to locate your next class and looks pretty.

We gave also found that many of the classes are new and different. Textiles, Woodwork and Metal Work, the Design and Technology subjects are all things that we weren’t able to do in primary school as well as Agriculture. Subject like PE and science are very different as well because there is a lot more practical work.

All of these differences can be hard but once we got used to it we had lots of fun.
From the P&C President

At our last P&C general meeting on 11th March, the amazing Muirfield Student Leaders came along to talk about their roles, responsibilities and achievements. Amelia, Aaron, Tim and Carly were very kind to spend some time telling us about some of the Student Representative Council (SRC) Initiatives, including Spirit Week. They told us about their involvement in leadership forums and what a great experience it is being part of the (SRC). What lovely role models they are!

The Muirfield student representatives have asked the P&C to continue to provide support for “MindMatters”. This is an important framework that helps schools to support young people to achieve their goals, build relationships and cope with challenges. Check out the MindMatters website, it’s really informative and interactive: [www.mindmatters.edu.au](http://www.mindmatters.edu.au).

PARENT SURVEY

We distributed a survey to all parents a few weeks back. This survey was designed to provide us with information about how much parents are able or willing to help out with Muirfield P&C activities. The parent survey provided some feedback from 50 parents. Some responses to the recent survey:

Around a third of parents are happy to help out with Bunnings/other BBQs and with cake stalls. 10% of parents said that they would help out with organising a trivia night, but 44% said that they would come along! Social events such as Lawn Bowls, dinners, year events and the Annual Hawaiian night were popular with around 30% of respondents. It was noted that there were some parents that were not interested in, or lacked the time to commit to P&C activities. There are many parents who would be willing to share some of their skills and knowledge to benefit the school.

We hope to engage parents further through improved communication through a directed P&C newsletter. We hope to increase opportunities for new P&C activities/projects to generate interest and look to support initiatives that may be of interest to our parents also.

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS Coming your way!

We will be sending home an Entertainment Book or an online order form with your youngest child shortly. The Entertainment Books are full of vouchers for generous discounts at various restaurants, cafes, shops and events. They are also helping P&C to raise money for our numerous projects throughout the school. Please consider buying a copy as you will definitely get your money’s worth! If you do not wish to keep your copy, please have your child return it to their roll call teacher ASAP. THANK YOU!!

CANTEEN HELPERS REQUIRED!!

Canteen helpers required!! Are you able to help in the canteen once per month, once per term or just a few times per year?? Please see our canteen manager Jannine in canteen from 7am each day or
email MUIRFIELD CANTEEN at mhs.pnc.canteen@gmail.com. Your assistance is greatly appreciated! Grandparents are also welcome!! Bring a friend! Helpers required urgently for the 5th Tuesday and 5th Wednesday of the month (that’s only once per term).

We would also love to see some new faces at our next canteen committee meeting on 5th May. The committee meet once per month. Now that we have two new canteen staff members, I’m sure they would appreciate your input as they develop new menus and fresh food ideas!! If you have an interest in what your child eats during the school day, you should definitely consider being involved!! Has your child mentioned the new salads now available for lunch order?? Chicken Caesar (my favourite), Greek and Honey Soy Chicken Salads!! Take a look!

UNIFORM SHOP
Winter black jackets coming soon!

GROUNDSC/ ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS REQUIRED!!
We need you!! If you have an interest in gardens, landscaping, trees! If you want to help to improve the appearance and first impressions of the school! If you are able to assist with the supply and purchasing of landscaping supplies! Or if you just like spending time outdoors!
We need a Grounds Committee coordinator and interested committee members to meet a few times a year. The coordinator role may include organising “Clean Up” days and arranging volunteers to assist with any garden maintenance or grounds activities that are considered important by the P&C and school community. The Grounds committee may also be involved in supporting other areas such as waste disposal within the school.

If this sounds like your cup of tea, please come along for a cup of tea at our P&C general meeting on Wednesday 13th May or email your interest to Narelle at: muirfield.p.and.c@gmail.com.

CAPA COMMITTEE
We had a great turnout and plenty of new faces at our CAPA (Creative and Performing Arts) committee meeting on 5th March. It was wonderful to hear of the exciting events planned by the CAPA faculty over the next term or two. There will be plenty of opportunities for parents to be involved in assisting in various ways throughout the year in events like the CAPA workshop and evening events such as MADD in August, a wonderful showcase of the students’ artistic talent at
Riverside Theatre on Monday 10th August.

Band students will be performing as part of an ‘Earth Hour Planets’ on 28th March, which should be an amazing experience for them!

Congratulations to Marie Moran, Leanne Ollerenshaw and Lesley Smythe for taking on the committee Convenor, Secretary and Treasurer roles, respectively. If you would like help the committee to support any of the upcoming events, please contact the CAPA committee via email at: muirfield.p.and.c@gmail.com.

P&C EVENTS & MEETINGS COMING UP:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>What?</th>
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<th>When?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising committee meeting</td>
<td>All parents welcome Newcomers welcome</td>
<td>Monday 23rd March at 7.30pm</td>
<td>Common Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>Election BBQ and Cake Stall</td>
<td>Parent helpers and bakers required!</td>
<td>Saturday 28th March</td>
<td>Outside School Hall</td>
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<td>Baked goods drop off at canteen from 10am. BBQ from 11-2pm.</td>
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TERM TWO DATES FOR YOUR DIARY!

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<th>What?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Uniform committee meeting</td>
<td>All parents welcome Newcomers welcome</td>
<td>Monday 4th May at 7.00pm</td>
<td>Common Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>Canteen committee meeting</td>
<td>All parents welcome Newcomers welcome</td>
<td>Tuesday 5th May at 7.30pm</td>
<td>Common Room</td>
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<td>P&amp;C General Meeting</td>
<td>All parents welcome Newcomers welcome</td>
<td>Wednesday 13th May at 7.30pm</td>
<td>Common Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAPA committee Meeting</td>
<td>All parents welcome Newcomers welcome</td>
<td>Thursday 21st May at 7.00pm</td>
<td>Common Room</td>
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Please have an enjoyable, safe holiday break and I look forward to seeing you on Wednesday 13th May for our P&C General Meeting. We welcome your input and encourage your participation. Please contact me with any questions at the P&C email address: muirfield.p.and.c@gmail.com.

Narelle Williams
Muirfield High P&C President
Art express

On Friday the 13, a bus load of art students from Years, 10, 11 and 12 went to the Art Gallery of New South Wales to see the Art Express Exhibition. A showcase of some of the best marked HSC major artworks in New South Wales. This offered us all an insight on our art making skills, practices and presented us with inspiration.

We got to see a large range of art works varying in concepts and materials. Some of these included. Ceramics, Photography, Graphic design, Sculpture, Drawing and Painting. Not only did we get to see the art works presented in there finished state but we also got to see the pages from the students Visual Arts Process Diaries. This showed us the development of their ideas and their planning method. This was helpful with time management plans and how to get the most out of our ideas.

This was beneficial to all of us, our Year 12’s who are currently in the process of developing their major work and both year elevens and tens who will be creating their’s in the foreseeable future.

Our group also got to see the other displays the Art Gallery had on at the time of our visit which included 'Conversations through Asian Collections Exhibition'. This improved our understanding of art in other cultures and broadened our thoughts regarding art making. The whole day was an insightful experience and was rewarding as we were shown more than what can be seen in a class room.

It wasn’t all work, as Year 12 had heaps of fun with their Twitter #artselfie competition, it was funny to watch them really looking at art works. They also had to read all the info on each art work figure out who owned it, as they were only allowed to photograph art works owned by The AGNSW.

Our whole group are very thankful to the teachers who organised the excursion and took us all.

Kate Corrigan
# Schedule of Extra Curricular Activities for CAPA Term 2

**Drama Music Art Dance Guitar Band Vocal**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK A</th>
<th>Monday</th>
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<td><strong>Before School</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7.30 - 8.00am Music Side Room Trumpet Tutor</td>
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<td><strong>Lunch</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Before School</td>
<td>H25 Music Rehearsal Time</td>
<td>C13 Draw Club Mr Campbell</td>
<td>H24 music rehearsal time</td>
<td>C13 Draw Club Mr Campbell</td>
<td>C13 Draw Club Mr Campbell</td>
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<td>Music Side Room Clarinet Tutor</td>
<td>C22 Art Studio Time Ms Frame</td>
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<td><strong>Sport</strong></td>
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<td>Sport</td>
<td>2.45 - 3.30pm H24 Vocal Group TBC</td>
<td>2.45 - 3.30pm H24 Advanced Guitar</td>
<td>2.45 - 4.15pm Drama Room Ms Miller After School Drama Years 9, 8 &amp; 7</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2.45 - 3.30pm Concert Band Rehearsal (Hall) &amp; Wind Ensemble Sectionals (C Block)</td>
<td>2.45 - 3.45pm Dance Room Ms Denny Senior Dance Extension</td>
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<td>6.00 - 8.30pm Drama Room Ms Miller Year 11 Drama Production Rehearsal**</td>
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<td><strong>After school</strong></td>
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**Rehearsals may be scheduled on Thursday of Week A or Tuesday of Week B due to prior commitments**
## Schedule of Extra Curricular Activities for CAPA Term 2

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<tr>
<th>WEEK B</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
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<td>C22 Senior Art Studio Time Ms Frame</td>
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<tr>
<td>After school</td>
<td>2.45 - 3.45pm CAPA Staff Room Individual Project</td>
<td>2.45 - 3.30pm H24 Advanced Guitar</td>
<td>2.45 - 4.15pm Drama room Ms Miller After School Drama Years 7, 8 &amp; 9</td>
<td>2.45 - 3.30pm H24 Stage Band</td>
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<td>2.45 - 3.30pm Concert Band Rehearsal (Hall) &amp; Wind Ensemble Sectionals (C Block)</td>
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<td>2.45 - 3.45pm H24 Intermediate Guitar</td>
<td>2.45 - 3.45pm CAPA staffroom Ms Miller Individual Project Mentoring</td>
<td>2.45 - 3.45pm Dance Room Ms Denny Year 7 &amp; 8 Dance Extension</td>
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<td>2.45 - 3.30pm H24 Beginners Guitar</td>
<td>2.45 - 3.45pm Drama Room Ms Dykes Senior Theatre Sports</td>
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Drama Music Art Dance Guitar Band Vocal
Sports Update

Sydney West Swimming Results:

13 Girls Relay - 2nd
16 Girls Relay - 3rd

Rachael McAllister - 8th 100m Freestyle and 200m Freestyle
Jess Layton - 3rd 100m Breaststroke, 3rd 50m Freestyle, 4th 100m Freestyle
Laury Brown - 6th 100m Butterfly, 7th 100m Backstroke
Harry Fowler - 1st 100m Freestyle, 2nd 50m Freestyle, 2nd 100m Backstroke, 3rd 200m Freestyle
Emma Katen - 8th 100m Butterfly
Ethan Uslu - 4th 100m Breaststroke

Congratulations to Jaelyn Mashiah, Malachai Mashiah and Aisling Klimoski for being selected in the Sydney West Hockey teams that will be competing in the NSW Combined High School Hockey Championships in May

Knockout Competition results:

Open Girls Touch Football out beat Kellyville 5-4
Open girls soccer ‘knocked out’ Girraween 9-0
Sports Update

Grade Sport Results:

Round 1 Winners (vs Greystanes):
Boys: Open Cricket, Open A Basketball
Girls: Open A Netball, Open B Netball, 15A Netball, 15B Netball, Open B Volleyball, 15B Volleyball

Round 2 Bye

Round 3 Winners (vs Baulkham Hills):
Boys: Open Basketball, Open Cricket, Open A Basketball
Girls: Open Oztag A, Open B Oztag

Round 4 Winners (vs Cumberland):
Boys: Open Basketball, Open Cricket, Open A Basketball
Girls: Open A Netball, 15A Netball, 15B Netball, Open A Oztag

Round 5 Winners (vs Model Farms):
Boys: Open A Basketball, 15B Basketball, 15A Touch,
Girls: Open A Netball, 15B Netball, Open A Volleyball, 15A Volleyball, 15B Volleyball, Open A Oztag, Open B Oztag

Round 6 Winners (vs James Ruse):
Boys: Open Touch A, Touch 15A

Congratulations to Chris Bednar who recently competed in the NSW Combined High Schools Championships.

He had a fantastic meet and came:
- 1st in 14yrs Springboard
- 1st in Opens Platform
- 2nd in Champion of Champions
- Most outstanding diver of the meet

From here he moves onto the NSW All School in May and the National Age Diving Competition.
Royal Easter Show Display

MUIRFIELD HIGH SCHOOL - WESTERN DISTRICT

KNITTERS GET BUSY!
WAR CHEST WANTS SOCKS
Appeal for 150,000 Pairs

is for Knitters
(We each must be one);
is for Needles;
Whose work has begun;
is for Interest,
(Which makes us take part);
are the Troops
So dear to each heart;
are the “Trench Feet.”
We won’t let them feel;
is the Effort
For War Chest appeal,
is the Rhyme
We must write to each boy;
are the Socks,
Which bring him such joy.
Code of Conduct for School Students on Buses

It is every student’s responsibility to behave in a manner that ensures the safety and comfort of passengers and drivers. This includes:

**Behaving appropriately**

Respect the needs and comfort of other passengers, such as no use of offensive or racist language, fighting, spitting, placing feet on seats, throwing things in or from the bus, eating or drinking - except water - unless the bus operator gives written permission
Give up seats to all adults and disabled passengers
Adhere to the law that bans smoking on buses
Obey reasonable directions from the driver, such as where to sit or to remain in the bus
Keep arms, legs and heads inside the bus
Refrain from attracting the attention of the driver except in the case of emergency.

**Respecting property**

Protect bus property
Ensure that buses are not vandalised
Report any vandalism, such as graffiti and window etching.

**Holding passes**

Show travel passes or tickets to the driver on boarding and when requested
Use the travel pass only for its intended purpose
Swipe or dip passes in ticket readers if available when boarding
Keep your pass for your own use - you should not lend your pass to other students or borrow one from them.

**Disobeying these rules may lead to the withdrawal of school bus travel passes and/or prosecution.**

In the case of students travelling under the School Student Transport Scheme, this code of conduct is also printed on the application form. You are reminded that when signing the application form the parent/guardian/carer explicitly declares that they support the code and that it has been explained to their child.

Code of Conduct for School Students on Sydney Trains and Stations

All students are to behave in a manner that ensures both their comfort and safety and that of other passengers in order to retain their free school rail pass.

Students will:

- Obey all signage instructions on stations and trains.
- Respect the needs and comfort of other passengers.
- Behave safely at all times (e.g. avoid running or riding bikes, scooters or roller blades on stations and trains, keep off the train lines, keep arms, legs and other body parts inside the train, refrain from touching train doors, safety equipment or any part of a moving train).
- Use non-offensive language and behave appropriately at all times on rail property, such as avoiding swearing, spitting, fighting, throwing items; keep feet off seats.
- Protect rail property and report graffiti and vandalism.
- Keep yourself and anything you are carrying clear of aisles, steps, thoroughfares and behind the yellow line on platforms.
- Take your rubbish with you and dispose of it thoughtfully.
- Follow the instructions of station staff, drivers, guards and transit officers.
- Carry your school rail pass during all travel.
- Spread out along the platform so as not to overcrowd one carriage. Avoid boarding carriages that are already overcrowded.
- Allow other passengers to alight before boarding and board the train without delay.
- Move inside the carriage and stand away from the doors during travel.
- Adhere to the rail safety act that bans all commuters from carrying knives, spray cans and permanent marker pens.
- Adhere to the law that bans smoking and drinking alcohol on trains.

A full copy of Sydney Trains Code of conduct. Offences and Penalties may be found on the Sydney Trains website at: www.sydneytrains.info
Volunteering at Muirfield

Volunteering to help others has become a way of life at Muirfield High School. Students in all year groups are encouraged and supported to become involved in the school community and also in the wider community.

We have students who act as readers and writers to assist other students in their HSC exams. Others assist students with their reading each week. Peer support leaders help younger students with the transition from primary to high school. Regular visits are made to local primary schools where students share their skills and experiences with younger students to teach them new skills and to mentor them.

Many students are active in volunteering in the wider community such as at RYDA, RSPCA and in nursing homes. Others contribute through church, sporting or cultural organisations.

Last week our student leaders were invited to attend a seminar at The Hills Shire Council to find out about The Hills Youth Army, a youth volunteer program established by local young people committed to giving back to their community. The Hills Shire Council Mayor, Clr Jeffreys (an ex Muirfield student) is strongly supportive of students getting involved with the local community. Our students have registered to participate in a number of activities and events in the next few months. Any other students interested can see Ms Adams or Mrs Scott for a registration form.

Why volunteer? For many, it is a way of using skills and abilities to reach out and open doors, change lives and empower others. It can give a sense of achievement and happiness to know you have made a difference in someone’s life. No tangible reward is expected BUT employers and tertiary education providers such as universities are taking notice.

For employers, the skills learnt through volunteering, such as communication, team work and time management are valued and make a job seeker stand out from other applicants. For universities, faculties are looking for more than good results. They want students who are high achievers, but who are also active in their community. Those students will be showing leadership potential, initia-
tive, self management, good communication, planning and organizational skills. A number of our students last year were accepted into university programs, including high demand programs early, because of their community service. Macquarie University is one example, with their Global Leadership program.

So get out and VOLUNTEER. Yes, you have to give up some of your time, but making a difference even in a small way makes it all worthwhile!
Year 12 Dress Up Day
Nominate yourself or someone else!
Youth Awards with lots of categories to enter.
CHECK IT OUT!
#youthawards

"I NEED A JOB"
Hints, tips & other stuff to help you get that first job.
Friday 10 April | 9am—3pm
Vinegar Hill Community Centre
CHECK IT OUT!
#inneedajob

SKATE THE HILLS
SKATEBOARD DEMO & MINI COMP
Sunday 12 April | 9am—1pm
Balcombe Heights Estate
CHECK IT OUT!
#fullysick
**SILENT THEATRE**
*ONE DAY WORKSHOP*

THE HILLS DRAMA SCHOOL
8th April, 10am – 3.30pm
Beaumont Hills Community Centre
$65

This holiday workshop will allow the kids to create their very own silent theatre performance. Using old style music to build a storyline and develop exciting characters. Each student will be taught how to perform using big facial expressions and physical movement. It’s also a great way to meet new friends!!

The workshop will also include:
- Playing fun theatre sports games
- Learning improvisation exercises
- Exciting group activities
- Using props and costumes
- A certificate for each student at completion of workshop
- Performance for parents at 3pm.

Here is a film example to give you an idea: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h6JztqQZwoI](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h6JztqQZwoI)

To book in a spot, email Aaron on contact@thehillsdramaschool.com.au or call 0413 029 899
Are you interested in a little extra one-to-one band tuition during the Easter Holidays?

Would you like a lesson from a specialist music teacher on your instrument?

Do you have an old guitar or keyboard laying around you’d like to dust off for a good cause?

TSA and DMC staff are combining to donate a day of their time, raising money for charity these Easter holidays and invite students, staff, parents, family and friends to sign up for a good cause.

Help DMC & Teaching Services Australia support Mr Lavis and Car 56 on the 2015 Newcastle Variety Bash with our School Holiday Music Tuition Day raising money for Variety, The Children’s Charity.

Date: April 14
Time: Book a 30min time slot between 9am-4pm
Venue: Dural Music Centre (Unit 1/236 New Line Rd, Dural)
Cost: $25 (make a tax-deductible donation of $25 or more for your “pre lesson”)
Bookings: 9651 7333 or at Dural Music Centre (bookings essential)

All proceeds from the day will be passed on in full to Variety, The Children’s Charity.

ARE YOU A SINGLE PARENT?

Each week Single with Children provides fun and exciting social activities for single parents and their children. (Many activities are subsidised or free)

It’s a great way to meet and get to know people in your area.

To find out more and get a FREE copy of our social calendar

Call 1300 300 496

or check out our web site:
www.singlewithchildren.com.au

CARLINGFORD COUGARS
JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE FOOTBALL CLUB

PLAY RUGBY LEAGUE ON SUNDAYS

WE ARE NOW TAKING REGISTRATIONS FOR THE 2016 SEASON FOR U6 TO U17

Your child will be provided with their uniform, all you need are boots and a mouth guard.
Our games are played in the Balmain District,
training at Roselea Oval & Cox Park Carlingford.

SAFE PLAY MODIFIED RULES
experience how fun and safe Junior Rugby League is

For more information contact us on
0426 200 181
info@carlingfordcougars.com.au

LOVE THE GAME. PLAY THE GAME
FREE FAMILY INFORMATION EVENING FOR Muirfield High School STUDENTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE IN 2015

Student Exchange Australia New Zealand is a not-for-profit organisation, registered with all state and territory Departments of Education around Australia and with the Ministry of Education in NZ. We are the first and only secondary exchange organisation in Australia and New Zealand to be certified to ISO 9001 (Quality Management System) and we ensure the highest standards of care and support to our participants.

We would like to invite your students and families to a FREE Information Evening in Sydney on Wednesday, 25th March. The session is being held at the Adina Apartment Hotel Sydney, Corner Kent & Bathurst St, Sydney and starts at 7:30pm.

Students can find out more about our exchange programs to over 25 countries, listen to former exchange students share their experience and learn about our scholarships and discounts on offer in 2015.

We offer scholarships and discounts worth over $100,000 to students each year. These include 5 x Language, 2 x International Affairs, 2 x Indigenous and 3 x Digital Video Scholarships.

"You come back a different person, with so much more confidence & you feel that you can conquer the world" Jessica, Semester Program to Italy

We would appreciate if you could please mention our upcoming information session in your newsletter or place the notice on a study room noticeboard. You can copy the below text or download our PDF notice from here. If you would prefer to receive the attachment in a different version, please respond to this email with your request.

*FREE STUDENT EXCHANGE INFORMATION EVENING IN SYDNEY*
Hear from returned students, find out more about discounts and scholarships available and ask questions.

**Wednesday, 25th March - 7.30pm**
Adina Apartment Hotel Sydney,
Cnr Kent & Bathurst Streets

Visit [www.studentexchange.org.au](http://www.studentexchange.org.au) or call 1300 135 331 for more information

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**Enrichment, Education, Excitement - Become a Volunteer Host Family!**

World Education Program (WEP) is inviting you to experience another culture in your own home by becoming a volunteer host family to an international student arriving in July 2015. Our students from Canada, Denmark, Ecuador, Italy, Belgium, the USA, and France are looking forward to experiencing life in Australia, making new friends and becoming a member of an Australian family soon.

"Wonderful - joyous - heartfelt. An absolutely wonderful idea and so beneficial for all involved, from family to school friends. We truly feel Enrico is another member of our family."

- Marie - host mother of Enrico (Italy)

**Hosting Is Fun! Find Out more!**
Getting to know your student before he or she arrives brings fun and joy to everyone involved. To help you make this important decision, contact WEP today to receive a full information pack for your family.
LEARN ABOUT YOURSELF!

“The real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new landscapes, but in having new eyes”. (Marcel Proust, 19th century novelist)

Volunteer to host an international high school student through Southern Cross Cultural Exchange and prepare to be amazed at how this unique and rewarding experience can help bring your family together, understand themselves better and see the world in a new light.

We have students aged 15-18 arriving from France, Germany, Italy, Spain and Scandinavia in July 2015 who are seeking welcoming families all over Australia, in both rural and urban communities. They will live like a local, attend a local secondary school, arrive with their own spending money and comprehensive insurance cover – all arranged by Southern Cross Cultural Exchange.

Capture the spirit of family and friendship - visit us on Facebook or at www.scce.com.au, email scceaust@scce.com.au or call us toll free on 1800 500 501 to request a booklet of international student profiles.