From the Principal: Ms Reeves
Welcome to the new school year

In this, Muirfield’s 40th year, once again another friendly group of Year 7 students joined our school. Initially the girls and boys looked a little hesitant, but the wonderful work of our Year 11 Peer Support leaders had Year 7s feeling much more confident and relaxed. It is amazing how quickly children can adapt to change in such a short period of time, especially with support.

The Year 7 Camp in Week 4 is one of the ways we work to build resilience and independence in our young people. Mr Dark, the Year 7 Adviser, Ms Adams, the teacher in charge of Peer Support, Mr Chivers, our Learning and Support teacher, and Mrs Anderson have been working together to ensure the youngest members of our community feel at home.

A special welcome to the families who have joined us in other year groups. I know Year Advisers have appointed buddies for all new students. I trust our newest Muirfield students feel welcome.
HSC Successes

I am proud to share some of the outstanding academic results from our students sitting the Higher School Certificate last year.

Our top ATAR of 98.25 was achieved by Carly Vanden Dool. Carly achieved a Band 6 in all of her courses and thus was placed on the Board of Studies’ All-round Achievers. Carly who came 6th in the State in Agriculture, was also placed on the Board of Studies’ Top Achievers in Course merit list. Other students on the Board’s Top Achievers list include Emma Longworth for 3rd in Primary Industries and 8th in Agriculture, Conor Keane for 2nd in Construction and Karla Wilson for 10th in Mathematics General.

Of special note is the achievement of Calvin Huang in Mathematics Extension 1. Calvin was in Year 11 in 2015 and was accelerated into the HSC course. He achieved 100% in his Extension 1 Mathematics examination.

Once again we had 10 courses with all students achieving in the top 3 bands, including English Advanced.

P&C

I invite all parents and caregivers to participate in the P&C. Parental support of our school and education is essential to ensure successful engagement of our young people. The P&C also provides important services such as the canteen and the uniform shop; assisting with creative and performing arts activities and being part of the panel that employs some teacher positions within the school. Moreover, the P&C undertakes vital fundraising to provide our students with excellent facilities and resources.

Last year the P&C raised funds to install air-conditioners in the upstairs classrooms. The P&C also donated $12,000 to support welfare programs such as Peer Support and Peer Tutoring; grounds improvement; and school sport.

Narelle Williams, the P&C President, was also successful in gaining a grant for the shade sails which will be installed in the senior courtyard this year.
The first meeting of the year decided on priorities for the P&C. I do hope to see some of you at future meetings. Put the second Wednesday of the month in your diary!

The P&C will be hosting morning tea for our Year 7 Open Classroom Day. On this day we invite Year 7 parents to visit their child’s classroom. At morning tea parents can meet other parents and find out ways they can become involved in their child’s school.

**School Uniform**
Under the COLA for the first school assembly, there was a swathe of crisp white and pale green shirts. Most students also had the correct shorts and shoes. Fewer than 5 in each year group had non uniform items. I ask for parental support in maintaining this wonderful standard. If families need financial assistance for uniform items, please contact the relevant Deputy or the Principal. Students out of uniform and without a parental note will be dealt with according to the school’s Behaviour and Discipline Policy.

**School Contributions**
A full costing of elective contributions, and the general contribution, has been posted home. I thank the families that have already paid. Elective fees are used for consumables such as paint in Visual Art and the ongoing repair of major and minor equipment, such as band saws and chisels in Woodwork and ovens in Hospitality. The general contribution supports refurbishment, such as our library upgrade, texts and materials used in the classroom, provision of the school diary and our IT support officer.

It is most fortunate that our parents and community do so strongly support the school and value the education received by their sons and daughters and we need this support to continue in 2016.

**Diary**
Did you know that every student receives a school diary? We encourage students to use the diary to manage their studies and teach students how to make effective use of them. The diary also contains information about our school, for example what to
do if your child is absent, who to contact and a summary of our Electronic Devices Policy.

2016 School Student Wellbeing Team

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<tr>
<th>Year Group</th>
<th>Year Advisor</th>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Mr Richard Dark</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Mr Jonathan Wilcox</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Ms Valerie Miller</td>
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<td>Ms Naomi Bligh</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Mr Ian Edmondstone</td>
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<td>Mr Tony Turner</td>
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Student Welfare Coordinator
Ms Anna Pasternatsky

School Counsellors
Ms Lisa Liebman Mon & Thur
Mr Luke Mc Adam Tues & Frid

Deputy Principal Mrs Sonja Anderson
(Years 7, 9, 11)

Deputy Principal Mr Bryce Grant
(Years 8, 10, 12)

Peer Support and Year 7
How to Pay Online at Muirfield HS

Step 1: On Home page on Muirfield High School

1. Click on "Make Payment".

Step 2: Only answer green asterisk (*) questions

2. Leave blank where instructions tell you to leave blank.
3. Answer green asterisk questions only.
4. Continue answering green asterisk questions through to receipt printout.
Update for all Schools using Parent Online Payment

POP (Parent Online Payment) is now user friendly on mobile devices.

Behind the scenes, Westpac has been working on an upgrade to the POP webpage attached to the school’s website. In the past using the “$ Make a payment” page through a mobile device or tablet has not been as easy as on a computer. Now, automatically, when parents click on this page, via a mobile device, they will be able to complete the online form with ease.
MUIRFIELD HIGH SCHOOL
SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS WILL BE TAKEN ON: February 22nd 2016

Dear Parents,

School photographs are scheduled to be taken by advancedlife Photography.

An envelope and flyer has been distributed to the students. If possible it is preferable that ordering be completed online to reduce administration and potential security issues related with the return of cash and envelopes on photo day.

Orders for packages and sibling photographs can be placed securely online at www.advancedlife.com.au using our school’s unique 9 digit Online Order Code.

Portrait and group package orders are due by photography day.

Should you wish to purchase a sibling photograph online, the order must be placed no later than the day before photography day.

Sibling photographs will only be taken if an order has been placed.

Should you have any queries concerning school photographs or online ordering, please direct them via email to enquiries@advancedlife.com.au

ORDER NOW
WWW.ADVANCEDLIFE.COM.AU

Tanya McGie, the well-loved Director at North Rocks Uniting Church Preschool is retiring after 15 years. Let’s send her off in style! She would love to see ex children, families and friends. There will be 2 afternoon teas, Monday 1 March, Thursday 3 March from 2.30-4 pm.
A celebratory and fun church service Sunday 13 March.
A dinner, Friday 26 February at the Church Hall.
For more information about the dinner, or to go on an information list ring the Church office (Tue- Fri) on 9683 2586 or email office@northrocks.org.au
From the P&C President

P&C Success

I received a lovely letter from the Premier, Mike Baird to inform us that we have been fortunate enough to have been awarded **$22088 from the Community Building Partnership Grants offered by the NSW Government** this year towards our “Senior Courtyard Shade Project”. Our local state MP David Elliott also phoned me to congratulate us on being awarded this wonderful grant. I’m so excited that we can now build some shade for our senior students and I know that many parents and other students and community groups will have the opportunity to make use of the much needed shade.

The new shade structure will be built in the senior courtyard, funded entirely by these grant funds. Once completed, the senior courtyard area will look amazing.

General P&C News

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<th>MEETING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY</th>
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<td><strong>What</strong></td>
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<td>Canteen Committee Meeting</td>
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<td>P&amp;C General Meeting</td>
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Uniform Shop News

**WINTER BLACK JACKET AVAILABLE BY ORDER ONLY**

We are now taking orders for the Black Jackets for delivery prior to winter. These popular jackets have a warm fleece lining, printed with the school logo and are lovely and warm for the colder weather. They are only available to purchase by completing the order form that has been emailed to you. This order form should be returned with payment of $55 per jacket, to the front office. Credit card payments must be made by completing details on the order form or at the uniform shop.

**Payments for uniforms are not accepted via the school payments website. ORDERS MUST BE IN BY 10\textsuperscript{th} MARCH.**
Canteen News

Please welcome our new canteen assistant, Jeannie Earl to the canteen. Jeannie comes with a lot of experience working in the food services industry and will be a very welcome addition to our canteen.

We hope to see many new volunteers to assist our canteen staff in 2016. We require one parent volunteer per school day. If you are available to commit one day per term or once per month, it would be most appreciated.

Please feel free to talk to Jannine Smith (our canteen manager) or email the canteen at: mhs.pnc.canteen@gmail.com

SCHOOL BAGS

A reminder that the new school bags are available for sale to any student or parent wishing to purchase them, online at: http://www.schoolbags.com.au/your-school/muirfield-high-school.html

Fundraising Plans for 2016

<table>
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<tr>
<th>2016 P&amp;C Plans:</th>
<th>Date:</th>
<th>Details:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bunnings North Parramatta</td>
<td>Saturday 5th March</td>
<td>Helpers required! Bakers will also be required.</td>
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<tr>
<td>BBQ AND Cake Stall</td>
<td>From 8.30am-4.30pm</td>
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<td>Entertainment Book fundraising</td>
<td>TERM TWO</td>
<td>Details to be advised</td>
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<tr>
<td>Movie Night</td>
<td>TERM THREE</td>
<td>Details to be advised</td>
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</table>

If you are able to help out for a couple of hours on Saturday 5th March at our BBQ/Cake Stall at Bunnings North Parramatta, please add your name to the roster at the following link: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1iiXDJNYsn0GWfrxVH8wmtvxFhGxODskZkFgyvgwg7Rk/edit?usp=sharing

I hope to see many new faces at our upcoming P&C Meeting. Happy New Year to everyone.

Narelle Williams
Muirfield High P&C President
muirfield.p.and.c@gmail.com
Muirfield High School Uniform Shop
Winter Black Fleece Jacket - Order Form: 2016

Closing date for orders - Thursday 10th March

Student Name & roll call:
Home/mobile contact number:
Email:

Please note: Payments CANNOT be made through the school website

Jacket samples are available to try on in the shop during opening hours

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Total Amount Owing: $___

Payment can be made by Cash, Cheque or Visa/ MasterCard

Please note: Payments CANNOT be made through the school website

Credit card payment
Card No. ______ ______ ______ ______
Visa [ ] Mastercard [ ]
CCV number ______
Expiry Date: ______/_______ Amount: $___

Cardholder’s Name:
Cardholder’s Signature:

Uniform shop hours:
Monday 12.30 pm to 1.30 pm
Thursday 12.30 pm to 1.30 pm
1st Monday night of the month 5.30 pm to 7 pm
(except where the 1st Monday falls during school holidays)

Please return order form with payment in a sealed envelope marked “Uniform Shop Jacket Order” to the front office or uniform shop (during opening hours) to avoid missing out.
Princess Charlotte Alopecia Program

My goals for 2016 were to be more involved in community service, to be kind and to be grateful.

To start off the year, I wanted to make a difference in someone’s life, someone going through a life experience that was more difficult than I could ever imagine. So on the 24th of December I went to the hairdresser fully determined to cut my hair, enough of it so that I could donate it.

My hairdresser Rachael braided my hair – about 33cm of it and in an instant she had chopped off the braid and I was holding it in my hand. I was sad for a moment but the feeling of being able to make a small difference in one person, just one persons life was all I needed to confirm that what I had done was the right thing to do...and if I had more hair... I would do it again in a heartbeat.

Jordan-Leigh Hartland
Construction and Community Based Projects

2015 saw the Year 11 and Year 12 Construction classes carry out 2 community-based projects.

Year 12 renovated 4 garden beds at North Rocks Shopping Centre by prefabricating the panels at school and installing them on-site.
Year 11 worked at Baulkham Hills North Public School. They installed raised garden beds in a seating area at the top of the school and built 3 timber decks around shade trees outside Year 1 classrooms.

North Rocks Shopping Centre and BHNPS contributed the full amount for materials and both Year 11 and Year 12 classes worked hard to achieve high quality projects.

Mr Phelps
CAPA Extracurricular Programs

The CAPA department will continue organising various extra-curricular music activities in 2016. These are great opportunities to extend students and offer them chances to perform that are not normally available to class based lessons.

Muirfield High School Band

Teaching Services Australia (TSA) is a company that provides band programs throughout greater Sydney and the Central Coast. They coordinate the Concert Band program at MHS.

| Date: | Tuesdays 2:45pm-3:30pm – Concert Band Rehearsal / Wind Ensemble Tutorials 3:30pm-4:30pm – Wind Ensemble Rehearsal 3:30pm-4:00pm – Concert Band Tutorials 12:45pm-1:30pm & 4:00pm-5:30pm – private tuition Thursdays 2:45pm-3:30pm Stage Band |
| Transport: | Parent responsibility to arrange collection of students |
| Cost: | Payable through TSA Concert Band- $110 per term Wind Ensemble - TBC Stage Band - $80 per term Private Tuition – Cost on application |
| Additional information: | Meet in the school hall. The music side room is available for storage of instruments during the day, it is available before roll call and after period 4. Unfortunately we cannot guarantee the security of anything left in it. Instruments are left at students own risk and responsibility. |

Muirfield High Guitar Groups

Guitar tuition is run by Craig Laird. Craig is a highly regarded and sought after session musician and performer having worked in bands for Kate Ceberano, Glenn Shorrock, Angry Anderson, Richard Clapton and is a member of the band ‘1927’.
### Vocal Group

Students are exposed to contemporary repertoire and are encouraged to bring their energy, enthusiasm and love for singing to the experience. Vocal group strive to achieve high standards with performances throughout the year at special school events such as MADD and Summerarts.

| Date:          | Wednesday 2:45pm-3:30pm  
|               | Term 1 will begin in week 2. Term 2, 3 and 4 classes will commence week 1 |
| Transport:    | Parent responsibility to arrange collection of students |
| Cost:         | Payable through Muirfield High School at or before the beginning of each term  
|               | $10 per student per term with 1 term in advance commitment |
| Additional information: | Meet in the school music room. The music side room is available for storage of instruments during the day. It is available before roll call and after period 4. Unfortunately we cannot guarantee the security of anything left in it. Instruments are left at students' own risk and responsibility. Students may stay on school ground between period 4 and guitar classes. If you wish to have your child supervised during this time they must bring some quiet work to do in H25 and a teacher will supervise. They will not be permitted to leave the school grounds. Please let either Ms Frame or Craig know if students are not able to attend classes. |
Drama Group
This program follows the NSW Drama Syllabus for Stage 4. Students will gain the essential skills and experience in Drama and performing should they wish to continue with Drama in Years 9 and 10. The Drama Group will be working towards a number of theatrical pieces for MADD night (Term 2), Summer Arts (Term 4), and the opportunity to perform in Drama Festivals when they become available.

| Date:          | Thursday 2:45pm-4:00pm  
|               | Term 1 will begin in week 2. Term 2, 3 and 4 classes will commence week 1 |
| Transport:     | Parent responsibility to arrange collection of students |
| Cost:          | Payable through Muirfield High School at or before the beginning of each term  
|               | $10 per student per term with 1 term in advance commitment |
| Additional information: | Meet in the school drama room. Limited places are available, so a term commitment is required. Students will need to wear comfortable and appropriate clothing that they can easily move in. They will also need to purchase an A4 hardcover notebook for their Drama Journal. |

Students are not able to commence extra-curricular activities until this permission note has been returned to Miss Shelley Frame in the CAPA Staffroom, or to the front office. This includes attending as a one off trial. A permission note with full medical information and emergency contacts must be completed. If you have any further questions, please contact me at shelley.frame@det.nsw.edu.au

Ms Frame
### Drama, Music, Art, Guitar, Band, Vocal

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<th>WEEK A &amp; B</th>
<th>Monday</th>
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<td>Before School</td>
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<td>7.30 - 8.00am Music Side Room Trumpet Tutor</td>
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<td>Draw Club Mr Campbell</td>
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<td>Senior Art Studio Time Miss Frame</td>
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<td>After School</td>
<td>2.45 - 3.30pm H24 Beginners Guitar</td>
<td>2.45- 3.30pm H24 Advanced Guitar</td>
<td>2.45 - 3.30pm H24 Intermediate Guitar</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>
<td>2.45 - 3.30pm H24 Vocal Group Ms Lau</td>
<td>2.45 - 4.00pm Drama Room Drama Group Ms Miller</td>
<td>2.45 - 4.00pm Drama Room Drama Group Ms Miller</td>
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<td>3.30 - 4.00pm C-Block Concert Band Sectionals</td>
<td>4.00 - 5.30pm C-Block Wind/Brass/Percussion Tuition (C-Block)</td>
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WANTED: Old ADSL Modems

If you have an old ADSL modem that is in working order and you no longer want it, please consider donating it to the school for our Information Technology Department. We will use it to teach students how to set up a home network.

Contact Mr Carpenter if you have any questions.

PARENT AND CAREGIVERS
PLEASE DO NOT DRIVE INTO THE SCHOOL GROUNDS

In the interests of student safety, parents and caregivers are not permitted to drive onto school grounds at any time, including before or after school, to drop off or collect students, or to attend meetings with staff. There are deliveries and staff accessing the car park at different times during the day and the access is very narrow.

The only exceptions to this are when either you or your passenger has a disability or if you are picking up a sick or injured student.

STUDENT SAFETY IS UP TO ALL OF US

THANK YOU FOR PLAYING YOUR PART
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<tr>
<th>Week</th>
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<td><strong>March/April</strong></td>
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**Calendar of Events**

- **Year 11 & 12 in-class assessment week**
- **School Development Day**
- **Yr 7, 11, 12 return to school**
- **Yr 8, 9, 10 return to school**
- **Yr 12 Drama Excursion**
- **Yr 7 Camp**
- **School Photos**
- **Hills Zone Swimming**
- **Yr 11 Industrial Tech Excursion**
- **Open Evening**
- **Yr 8 Swim School**
- **Year 11 & 12 in-class assessment week**
- **Good Friday**
- **Easter Monday**
- **Zone Cross Country**
Disclaimer: Advertisements placed in the school’s newsletter do not reflect an endorsement or otherwise by Muirfield High School of that product or service.
North Rock Rugby Union Club
The 2016 season is about to start and we still have vacancies for boys who are turning 14 this year, in our U14 age group. So if you would like to join our local, family orientated club, please contact Steve Taylor on 0414 946 865 for more information or have a look online at www.northrocksjuniorrugby.com
CATCH THE FREE SHUTTLE TO THE SYDNEY HILLS LUNAR FESTIVAL

SATURDAY 13 FEBRUARY 2016

SHUTTLE BUS STOPS | EVERY 15 MINUTES
1. Bus stop outside Australia Post, North Rocks Shopping Centre
2. Don Moore Reserve, Tieman Avenue
3. The Sydney Hills Lunar Festival–North Rocks Park

MORE INFORMATION
www.thehills.nsw.gov.au | 9843 0555
21 January 2016

Dear Resident

NorthConnex project information work on the Hills M2 Motorway westbound and changes starting 6 February 2016

Further to our previous notifications informing you of construction on the NorthConnex project, we would like to inform you about work in preparation for the hills M2 Motorway integration work. The Hills M2 Motorway integration work is required to enable southbound traffic from the tunnel to merge safely with westbound traffic on the motorway. An additional westbound lane will be added between Pennant Hills Road and Windsor Road.

Some preparation work for this integration is being done in January 2016 till 4 February 2016, weather permitting.

The following activities will continue:

- Night work on the westbound carriageway for the construction of drainage pits, crossover points and related work adjacent to the existing median
- Temporary night time reduced speed limits and lane closures both westbound and eastbound on the M2 during the above work.

Once the work preparation is finished, construction activities to add an additional westbound lane will continue.

The following changes will be in place on the Hills M2 motorway from 6 February 2016:

- Safety barriers on the left side shoulder westbound
- The Hills M2 Motorway will have two westbound lanes between Pennant Hills Road and Windsor Road, with buses using the general traffic lanes
- No bicycle facilities will be available in a westbound direction between Pennant Hills Road and Windsor Road from 5 February 2016 and detours will be in place, see over for detour map. Changes to eastbound bicycle lanes will be made in the second half of 2016.

Access to the bus stops on the motorway will not change.

Residents in close proximity to the south side of the motorway may experience some noise and extra lighting, though every effort will be made to minimise this.

We apologise for any inconvenience and will take steps to minimise any impact associated with this important work.

We thank you for your patience, if you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to call members of the project team on 1800 997 057, email enquiries@northconnex.com.au or visit the NorthConnex Community Information Centre at 118 Yarrara Road, Pennant Hills, open weekdays from 9am to 5pm.

Yours sincerely

NorthConnex Project Team
Work on Hills M2 Motorway westbound

Modifications are required to the Hills M2 Motorway west of Pennant Hills Road to enable southbound traffic from the tunnel to merge safely with westbound traffic on the motorway.

To allow this work to be done, preparations will be done at night and will take place from January 2016 until February 2016, weather permitting.

The following activities will be under way:

- Night time work on the westbound carriageway for the construction of drainage pits, crossover points and related work adjacent to the existing median.
- Temporary night time reduced speed limits and lane closures both westbound and eastbound on the Hills M2 Motorway during the above work.

The following changes will take place on the Hills M2 Motorway:

- Safety barriers on the left side shoulder westbound.
- From 6 February 2016 the Hills M2 Motorway will have two westbound lanes between Pennant Hills Road and Windsor Road, with buses using the general traffic lanes.
- No bicycle facilities will be available in a westbound direction starting from 5pm on 5 February 2016 between Pennant Hills Road and Windsor Road and detours will be in place.
- No bicycle facilities will be available in an eastbound direction between Pennant Hills Road and Windsor Road in the second half of 2016 and detours will be in place.

Access to the bus stops on the motorway will not change.

Residents in close proximity to the south side of the motorway may experience some noise and extra lighting, though every effort will be made to minimise this.

If you are a resident, business or road user close to the site and would like to find out more, please contact us on 1800 997 057 or email enquiries@northconnex.com.au

NorthConnex
Building for the future

Hills M2 Motorway Bicycle diversion route and bus lane closure

Legend
- Bicycle lane closed
  - Westbound from Pennant Hills Road to Windsor Road (from 5pm on 5 February 2016)
  - Eastbound from Windsor Road to Pennant Hills Road (second half of 2016)
- Bicycle ramps closed
- Bicycle ramps open
- Bicycle detour route

The bus lane westbound between Pennant Hills Road and Windsor Road will be temporarily closed from 6 February 2016 for 24 months. Buses will merge with other traffic and use the general traffic lanes.