From the Deputy Principal: Mrs Anderson

Swimming Carnival

What a fantastic day we had for our 40th Annual Swimming Carnival. Ms Bligh & Mr Edmondstone did an outstanding job organising the day. We are very fortunate to be able to hire Granville Pool for this event because it allows us the flexibility to run ongoing novelty events for our non-competitive swimmers. The smaller pool allowed every child the opportunity to get wet or to have a moment where they could shine.

Congratulations to Thorpe (Blue), the victorious house on the day, and to their captains for maintaining the highest student participation rate of all the houses.

Age Champions are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>12 years</th>
<th>13 Years</th>
<th>14 Years</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emily Gathercote</td>
<td>Caitlin Roach</td>
<td>Kristie Lea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luke Garment</td>
<td>Jacob Uslu</td>
<td>Thomas Arthur</td>
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<th>15 Years</th>
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<tr>
<td>Stephanie Frankcombe</td>
<td>Caitlin Wilby</td>
<td>Lauryn Brown</td>
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<tr>
<td>Edmond Lo</td>
<td>Harry Fowler</td>
<td>Adam Mcallister</td>
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Year 7 Camp

As part of our Peer Support Program, Year 7 and Year 11 Peer Support leaders took the annual pilgrimage to the “The Great Aussie Bush Camp” during Week 4 of this term. I was fortunate enough to attend the camp.
and observe the students stepping out of their ‘comfort zones’ and participating in the huge range of activities.

Apart from the opportunity for the development of student relationships and settling in to high school life, a big element of the camp is related to enhancing resilience and the opportunities for students to take calculated risks, team bonding and pushing themselves to their limits. The Dual Flying Fox, High Ropes, Rock Climbing and the Giant Swing courses are designed to provide students with a chance to master and overcome a fear of heights. The students were encouraged to push themselves to the limit within the boundaries of safety precautions, which made it almost impossible to come away with injuries more than a bit of rope burn or a skinned elbow. I was really proud of the way the vast majority of the students approached each activity. In some cases you could see their legs shaking as they left the safety of the wooded platform to “tightrope” across various challenges. Personal determination combined with instruction and encouragement from the group, resulted in most completing the challenges.

The camp offered our Peer Support Leaders the opportunity to establish a rapport with their groups and to develop and implement leadership skills. Year 7 students are able to develop friendship and group cohesion as well as enhance their self-esteem and identify with their Peer Support Leaders and peer group. A big thank you to all our Peer Support Leaders for their help over the three days of camp.

I would like to thank the Year Adviser, Mr Dark, for the preparation and seamless organisation ensuring a smooth running of the camp. My thanks also to those teachers and support staff that gave up their own person time to attend camp: Ms Dykes, Ms Adams, Mr Read, Mr Alley, Mr Chivers and Ms Lamport. Without this commitment and devotion, camps could not go ahead and the students would miss
out on some wonderful memories and learning experiences.

Also a huge thank you to our Year 11 Peer Support Leaders who were amazing role models and who showed maturity beyond their years in the way they conducted themselves on camp. Not only were all the teachers impressed by their leadership, but the compliments they received from the camp staff were overwhelming.

I hope you enjoy photos and quotes from the students (see pages 6 - 19).

**Study Without Stress (SWOS) Workshops**
Muirfield’s Wellbeing Team is offering our Year 12 students a unique opportunity to be part of a program aimed at reducing the symptoms of academic stress in Year 12. In conjunction with Macquarie University’s Psychology department, we are offering a *Study Without Stress* program.

We are very fortunate to be selected by Macquarie University to run the program at Muirfield. One group will be selected to run during Term 1 and another during Term 2.

The program involves students attending 6 to 8 weekly group sessions, during which the students learn about the components of stress, and the skills to manage stress, and then they practice these skills with their peers. Students will be asked to practise the skills taught in the group during the weeks in between sessions. So far we have had positive feedback from our first group and look forward to delivering the program to the second group in Term 2. If any Year 12 students are interested in attending the Term 2 workshops, please speak to either Ms An soul or me. Other sessions may be conducted should sufficient demand occur.

**School Counsellors**
We welcome two new School Counsellors as part of the Muirfield Wellbeing team; Lisa Liebman who is available Monday and Thursday and Luke McAdam on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.

**New Staff**
I warmly welcome the following new permanent staff to the Muirfield community.

Ms Julie Diodati is the new Head Teacher English. Ms Diodati has been a Head Teacher for many years so brings a wealth of experience. For 2016 she will be working part-time and sharing the position with Ms Dykes.
Mrs Bronwyn Fogg joins the TAS faculty. Her expertise is in computing studies. Mr Carpenter has given over his favourite computer room to her and is now redeveloping a computer room in C-Block.

Assessment Policy and Programs
Years 10, 11 and 12 now have received their 2016 Assessment Policy and Program (found on the school website under Curriculum & Activities; then Assessment and Reporting). It is a good idea for parents to have a close read of the rules surrounding the areas of attendance at school in the days leading up to task due dates, and the “evidence” that is required to support students when assessment issues arise.

I would strongly recommend that parents spend a little time with your child to create a calendar which identifies when all tasks are due. While the schedule only indicates the week in the term the item is due, and not the date, it will enable students and parents to identify times when multiple tasks are due and when additional monitoring and support may be needed. Please keep in mind that students will be given at least two weeks notice of the specific date when a task will be due.

Staff Development Day
As most parents are aware the first day of Term 1, 2 and 3 and the last two days of Term 4 are Department of Education designated School Development Days (SDD). This year we are amending the delivery of our SDD by extending Term 1, 2 and 3 SDD and lengthening additional days throughout the school term. This will mean that on Monday 19 December and Tuesday 20 December only the Principal and the SASS and SLSO staff will be on site.

On Wednesday 27 February staff participated in a number of workshops and presentations involving up to date training in Code of Conduct, WHS, Consistency in Assessments and Office 360 – Use for classrooms. Staff also spent time in their faculty areas planning strategies for achieving school targets for 2016 around programming and assessment. On Wednesday 2 March all staff were engaged in professional learning workshops until 4.30pm. These workshops focused on the mandatory Child Protection and Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL).
Year 7 Camp

In Week 4, Term 1, Year 7 went to the Great Aussie Bush Camp at Tea Gardens, 1 hour north of Newcastle. It was a great experience for all involved. We had excellent weather for the 3 days and were pleased it wasn’t too hot and didn’t rain!

Year 7 students had an opportunity to meet new people, form new friendships, and have a lot of fun at the same time. Some of the activities undertaken were; the dual flying fox, canoeing, indoor rock climbing, the high ropes, archery and Commando. As a result of participation in these activities, students pushed their boundaries, learnt new skills and participated as part of a team.

We would like to thank all of the teachers who attended and the Peer Support Leaders who worked with Year 7 to make this a very memorable experience.
“My favourite part of camp was the flying fox, because everyone had a good time we all cheered each other on” Jenna (7G)

“Being on the giant swing feels like flying, like a bird” Addy (7B)
"My favourite part of camp has been getting to know everyone better and making new friends" Tahliya (7P)

"All the activities are really fun and the food was nice" Mia (7R)
“The high ropes course was really fun.” The high ropes was fun and scary, especially the swinging log.” ‘The flying fox at the end of the high ropes makes you feel like Tarzan” Corey, Jackson and Cameron Scott (7Y)

“I liked the high ropes, it was high but I still liked it” Isabelle (7R)
“The mud run was fun because I got dirty” Joash (7B)

“I really like hanging out with my friends in the cabins and all the camp activities” Johnson (7P)
"I liked making new friends. The mud run was heaps better than I expected" Jesse (7G)

"The highlight of camp for me was trivia night, because everyone gave it a go and it was really fun" Olivia (7G)
“What I’ve really liked about camp is meeting new friends and just being able to try new things” Leo (7R)
"I had really enjoyed canoeing before, but never in a 3 person canoe like at camp!" Courtney (7G)

"All the activities were really great, the instructors were really nice and I had a really good time" Gabriela (7R)
"I found it interesting interacting with Year 7 because I learnt leadership skills. Being in charge of them made me feel responsible" Luca (Year 11 Peer Support)

"I have enjoyed leading the Year 7s, because it’s rewarding to see them enjoy themselves" Andrew (Year 11 Peer Support)

"It’s really good to be supportive of the Year 7 students and introduce them to new opportunities and get to know them" Chloe (Year 11 Peer Support)
Welcome from the Student Executive team

We have already well and truly dived into the new year at Muirfield. The Student Executive Team would like to extend a warm welcome to all new students and parents, as well as those who have returned. We hope that our student body can take advantage of the many opportunities at our school to really make this year worthwhile. We, the Executive Team, have many projects on the horizon that will hopefully leave a lasting impression on our school. Most importantly, we are passionate about igniting school spirit throughout this year, in order to leave an enduring legacy of school pride.

As an initial application of this, we organised and ran a two day incursion at the end of last year for all students involved in leadership roles. This included the members of our Student Representative Council, our Sports Captains and Vice Captains, and of course our Executive Team. The program involved a range of activities such as team building exercises, learning what it takes to be an effective leader, a visit from the speaker Chris Healy, and discussing how we can actually implement what we learnt within our own school community. It was the first leadership workshop at Muirfield, so it required immense organisation behind the scenes. We hope that with future refinement and effort, such an incursion can be replicated in the future. It is equally as important that students who are not directly in leadership positions also acquire the benefits of being a competent leader. Like Chris Healy said, “you do not need to wear a badge to be a leader”. Regardless of who you are, contributions can be made by any student at Muirfield. That is why we encourage students to approach the Executive Team with any input, and a suggestions box has been placed in the office to provide a further means of access.

Aside from implementing change in the broader school community, the Executive Team has invested time into the fundraising for our Year 12 Formal. Last Christmas, we raised money by offering Santa photos to our students and staff, as well as selling candy canes which students sent to their friends or favourite teachers. More recently, we continued the Valentine’s Day fundraising legacy by selling red roses, friendship roses, songs and Muirfield’s first ever costume-made poems by the one and only Emma Moran (student by day, poet by night). Our fundraising endeavours will certainly help reduce the financial burden of formal costs, while hopefully, also entertaining our school community along the way.

We still have a variety of fundraisers coming up this year for our formal as well as school projects. One of our most important events is Spirit Week during Term 3,
which involves a week of activities around the school to enhance the collective spirit that Muirfield holds dear.

On another note, we are currently in the process of making improvements to the girls’ sports shorts. It is our goal to introduce a new style of sports shorts that is more comfortable and flattering to the female physique. While this change will not likely occur soon, we are dedicated to ensuring that future female Muirfield students can receive the benefits of our hard work. By doing so, more students will feel much more inclined to wear the correct uniform, which can only be a positive thing to the image of our school. With the ongoing support of the P&C Committee, we feel positive that this process towards change will continue smoothly.

As a team we look forward to involving ourselves in all aspects of the school community in an attempt to improve the student experience at Muirfield. We have many projects planned for this year and hope that we can leave a lasting impact, one that can be honoured and carried on in our absence. Please do not hesitate to approach us with any thoughts or questions, as we are more than happy to listen and do all that we can to help.

Wishing everybody the very best for the year to come,

Tara, Jake and the Student Executive Team

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.
From the P&C President

I recently attended a area meeting of North West Sydney Group of P&Cs to network and compare notes with other P&C Executives from the area and discuss relevant happenings affecting public schools. Please see the attached media releases outlining the changes to Gonski funding for public schools in NSW.

For further information, please visit the P&C Federation website: www.pandc.org.au

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<th>MEETING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>What?</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Uniform Shop Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>P&amp;C General Meeting</td>
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<td>Uniform Shop Meeting</td>
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<td>Canteen Committee 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. This order form (on page 19 of this newsletter) 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\(^{th}\) MARCH.**

We invite new members to join our uniform committee. We have an opening for a Uniform Shop Convener. Please come along to show your support and lend a hand in running the uniform shop. The Uniform Shop has three paid staff members, but relies on
the dedicated committee volunteers to keep things running smoothly. Please consider coming along to the meeting on the first Monday evening of each month. The opening hours of the Uniform Shop are: Monday and Thursday lunchtimes (12.30 to 1.30pm) and the first Monday of the month from 5.30-7pm.

**Canteen News**
Lovely fresh salads are available to order and made fresh on site each day. Students may place orders at canteen before school. A variety of salads are available and differ each day.

As you probably know, our two canteen staff, Jannine and Jeannie, need one parent volunteer each day to assist them with the efficient running of canteen. If you would like to volunteer for a day, please feel free to talk to Jannine Smith (our canteen manager) or email the canteen at: mhs.pnc.canteen@gmail.com

Many thanks to all the wonderful student volunteers who assist with serving and restocking at lunch time and recess each day! They do a great job and we could not run such a great service without their help!

**Fundraising Plans for 2016**

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<th>2016 P&amp;C Plans:</th>
<th>Date:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bunnings North Parramatta BBQ AND Cake Stall</td>
<td>Saturday 2nd April From 8.00am-4.30pm</td>
<td>Helpers required! Bakers will also be required! Baked goods collection at canteen on 1st April.</td>
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<tr>
<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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**Volunteers Needed Please**
If parents and/or students are able to help out for a couple of hours on Saturday 2 April at our BBQ/Cake Stall at Bunnings North Parramatta, please add your name to the roster at the following link:

**Link to BBQ Roster for 2nd April 2016:**
https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1ijXDJNYsn0GWfrixVH8wmtvxFhGxODskZkFqyvgwg7Rk/edit?usp=sharing

or email muirfield.p.and.c@gmail.com.
BAKERS NEEDED
If parents/students are able to assist by baking, we will accept cakes, slices, cookies or treats on Friday 1st April at the canteen prior to 1.30pm, or please bring down to Bunnings on the Saturday.

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

I hope to see you at the next P&C Meeting on 9th March and also meet some new

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 make cheques payable to Muirfield High School Uniform Shop

Please note: Payments CANNOT be made through the school website

CREDIT CARD PAYMENT

Visa [ ] Mastercard [ ]

Card No. [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ }
NSW kids back to school after Turnbull quietly dumps Gonski funding during holidays

Kids return to public schools today without hope of proper funding for their education, after the Federal Coalition during the holidays quietly dropped its promise to provide it, parents said today.

The Federal Coalition before the last election promised to fund the Gonski reforms, which guaranteed all Australian students a world-class education, Federation of Parents and Citizens Associations of New South Wales (P&C Federation) said.

“It is unfortunate that this special time of year is being marred by the decision of the federal government to break its promise to properly fund education in Australia,” P&C Federation President Jason Vials said in a media release.

“The Gonski reforms were independently recommended and supported by all major political parties at the last federal election.”

“Yet new Federal Education Minister Simon Birmingham has just walked away from the promises made to the electorate, and to the students of Australia.”

Gonski funding commenced in 2014 after an independent review found too many Australian children were unable to access a high quality education due to a lack of government funding.

The system allocated funds to schools based on individual students’ needs. It was designed to ensure all Australian children would receive a world-class education irrespective of their background and parents’ resources.

Mr Vials said education funding is not a cost – it is an investment in the future of our country.

“Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull talks about the need for an agile and innovative workforce, and the importance of students excelling in Science and Maths,” he said.

“But Mr Turnbull refuses to provide the funding our education system needs to achieve those outcomes.”

“We need a Federal Government genuinely committed to a bright future for our country and its people.”

The initial implementation of the Gonski reforms have been enthusiastically embraced in NSW by the State Government, by principals, teachers and parents, he said.

“We have seen the difference the extra funding is already making to our schools and

FEDERATION OF PARENTS AND CITIZENS’ ASSOCIATIONS OF NEW SOUTH WALES
Locked Bag 40, GRANVILLE NSW 2142
Telephone: 1300 885 982 Fax: 1800 655 866
Website: www.pandc.org.au ABN: 37 439 975 796
student outcomes,” he said.

“We call on the Federal Government to honour its promises, and join all of the stakeholders in our education system to ensure a bright future for the students of Australia.”

Mr Vials wished all students, parents and teachers a happy and successful year, especially those taking their first big step on the great adventure of education.

Sydney, NSW, 28 January 2016
For Further Media Information Contact:

Media Contact:
President Jason Vials 0418 163 665 president@pandc.org.au
Great News that Labor will Honour Gonski – now Turnbull Must Do the Same say Parents.

January 28, 2016

Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull should reconsider his decision to dump the Gonski reforms and match Labor’s promise today to fully fund the final two years of the schools funding package, parents said.

NSW Federation of P&Cs President Jason Vials said public school parents welcome Federal Opposition Leader Bill Shorten’s announcement today that Labor will commit to fully funding the Gonski reforms.

“This is great news for every student in Australia and for everyone concerned about the future of our country,” Mr Vials said in a media release.

“If you believe in ‘a fair go’ you have to support the Gonski reforms.

“Now Mr Turnbull needs to reconsider his decision to walk away from the Coalition’s commitment to Gonski pledged at the last election.

“If he wants an innovative Australia, he needs a well-educated Australia and the Gonski reforms will make that happen.”

Mr Vials said all parties and politicians should be pledging full implementation of the Gonski reforms for the next election, given they are based on a review which received 10,000 submissions from teachers, parents and researchers.

“Education is too important to be some sort of political football,” he said.

“Our students deserve Gonski and the voters of Australia were promised full implementation by this government.

“We call on PM Turnbull and his Education Minister Simon Birmingham to rethink their Christmas decision to be Mr Scrooge on education.”

Sydney, NSW, 28 January 2016
For Further Media Information Contact:

Media Contact:
President Jason Vials 0418 163 665 president@pandc.org.au

FEDERATION OF PARENTS AND CITIZENS’ ASSOCIATIONS OF NEW SOUTH WALES
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Website: www.pandc.org.au ABN: 37 439 975 796
Sports Report

The school Swimming Carnival was held on 12th February 2016 at Granville Pool. It was a hot and sunny day and the participation from students was fantastic. It was very pleasing to see so many students dressed up in their house colours and entering the 50m events. The Sport Captain and House Captains were kept on their toes all day organising relays and ensuring it was a fun and successful carnival for all students. The overall winning house was Thorpe.

Many students progressed onto the Hills Zone Swimming Carnival, which was held at Parramatta Pool on the 23rd and 24th of February. Harry had several stand out performances, including three Zone records and was awarded with the 16 Years Boys Age Champion title. Luke was also an Age Champion in the 12 Years age group.

Congratulations to all students who represented Muirfield at the Hills Zone Carnival and good luck to those successful in progressing on to the Sydney West Swimming Carnival.

Congratulations to Chloe, Year 12, who was named in the in the Australian Junior Women’s Spirit Softball Squad for 2016 with the final team selected to take part in the World Championships.

Players are selected from the respective age related Australian Championships for the program with a view to developing potential players for the Australian Open Women’s Team, CTI Aussie Spirit, in the future.

Congratulations to Nathan Year 10. Following nomination by the Western Sydney Academy of Sport, Nathan was awarded the Parramatta City Councils ‘Sportsperson of The Year’ award at the Australia Day Awards Ceremony on 26th January 2016.

Nathan was recognised for his outstanding results in cycling over the previous 12 months, including a top 15 place at the Cycling Australia National Junior Track Series, where he competed in Sydney, Melbourne, Launceston and Adelaide. He also represented WSAS at the State Road Cycling Championships in Tamworth and the National Road Championships in Shepparton VIC. Nathan achieved top 3 results at the NSW Metropolitan Road and Track Titles in 2015 and top
Sports Report continued

5 places at the various Junior 2 day tours in Wagga Wagga, Goulburn and Hunter. In addition he placed in top 6 in all races of the Cycling NSW Spring criterium series in Sydney, Newcastle and Wollongong.

Through the 2015/2016 track season he won or placed in many events including the prestigious Clarence Street Cup (2nd), won or placed in all his events at the Sydney Socdy Cup, as well as top 4 results at the regional track competitions in Wollongong and Bathurst.

Further congratulations go to the following students for the outstanding performances in sport:

Chris, Ethan, Edmond and Nick - 1st place at Zone Swimming 15 Boys 4x50m Relay.

Rebecca, Keeley, Lauryn and Isabel-Combined High Schools 16 Girls Cross Country Team Event Champions 2015.

Alex - Selection in Open Boys CHS Waterpolo
### 2016 COMPETITION DRAW

#### TERM 1

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<td>2</td>
<td>17/2/16</td>
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<td>23rd February 2016</td>
<td>ZONE SWIMMING Paramatta Pool</td>
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<td>5</td>
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<td>11/5/16</td>
<td>4th May 2015 ZONE COUNTRY Macquarie Uni</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>15/6/16</td>
<td>Term 1 Grade GRAND FINALS</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>22nd June</td>
<td>22nd JUNE ZONE ATHLETICS @ SOPA</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>29/6/16</td>
<td>Term 4 GRADE TRIALS</td>
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#### TERM 3

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Round</th>
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<th>Teams</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>20/7/16</td>
<td>MU v BH, JR v CU, ME v NM, GR - Bye</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>27/7/16</td>
<td>CU v MF, BH v JR, MU v GR, NM - Bye</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>3/8/16</td>
<td>NM v JR, MU v CU, GR v BH, MF - Bye</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>10/8/16</td>
<td>NM v JR, MU v CU, GR v BH, MF - Bye</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>17/8/16</td>
<td>CU v GR, MU v NM, JR v MF, BH - Bye</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>21/9/16</td>
<td>Trials</td>
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#### TERM 4

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Date</th>
<th>Teams</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>12/10/16</td>
<td>NM v JR, CU v MU, BH v GR, MF - Bye</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>19/10/16</td>
<td>JR v GR, MF v BH, NM v CU, MU - Bye</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>26/10/16</td>
<td>MU v BH, JR v CU, MF v NM, GR - Bye</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>9/11/16</td>
<td>CU v MF, BH v JR, GR v MU, NM - Bye</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>7/12/16</td>
<td>Term 4 GRAND FINALS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>16/11/16</td>
<td>MF v MU, NM v GR, CU v BH, JR - Bye</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>30/11/16</td>
<td>Spare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

First mentioned team is seniors at home.
Step 1: On Home page on Muirfield High School

Make Payment

Answer green asterisk questions only

Fill in payment options

Continue answering green asterisk questions through to receipt printout and note your receipt details
Update for all Schools using Parent Online Payment (POP)

POP is now user friendly on mobile devices.

Westpac has been working on an upgrade to the Parent Online Payment 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.
The Drama of It all!

On Thursday 11 February, on a beautiful and warm summer day, ten Year 12 Drama students, with Ms Miller, travelled by train to Sydney Theatre Company for a Forum on Australian Theatre and to watch Onstage at the Seymour Centre. Actually, in reality, it was a hot and very humid day, but the students dealt with the heat with as much class as any Oscar nominee. After enduring the authenticity of being sardined into a train filled with city workers, their brief cases and smart phones, it was a pleasant experience to take a leisurely stroll from Wynyard Station to the Sydney Theatre Company at Wharf Bay. It was even more refreshing when we all got to finally sit inside a cool and comfortable theatre.

At STC the students were treated to a highly engaging and informative forum on Australian Theatre. A presentation by John McCallum, who has written a book that explores the relationship between Australian Drama and our concept of what makes us Australian was first on the agenda. The students were given a wonderful overview of the history of Australian theatre to the present day. The second session of the Forum was a question and answer session between the Education Officer at STC and a panel consisting of four highly accomplished theatre makers – actor, John Gaden, playwright Andrew Bovell, Set Designer Stephen Curtis and Playwright Angela Betzien. After the panel discussion, the students were invited to ask questions, with Muirfield offering up some fabulous questions for the panel to
answer. It was an informative morning with all students coming away with some significant notes that will most definitely support their current studies in Australian Theatre for the coming HSC.

Our next stop was the Seymour Centre to watch Onstage. This is a showcase of the best individual projects and group performances from the 2015 HSC Drama practical examination. Students were given the opportunity to view a variety of group performances and monologues from students who received the top band. This was a chance to see performances in a variety of styles and topics. In the foyer, Year 12 were able to get up close and view a selection of some of the top submitted projects. These included Individual Projects in Set Design, Costume Design, Lighting Design, Director’s Folios and the Poster and Promotion Project.

Overall, it was a successful excursion, with Year 12 Drama coming away from the day with copious notes, great ideas and a feeling of excitement for the coming practical and written examinations. As their Drama teacher, I could not have wished for a more successful day with Senior Drama.

Ms Miller – Drama, Entertainment & English Teacher
25th February 2016

Ms Jennifer Reeves
Muirfield High School
Barclay Road
North Rocks NSW 2151

Dear Principal,

I am writing to advise you that Hillsbus has amended the school bus timetable for your School, which will commence on 29th February 2016.

We would appreciate if this information can be distributed to your students this week. Your assistance in ensuring that students receive the new timetable is greatly appreciated.

Should you have any questions regarding the timetable, you can call our Customer Service Department on 8889 7000 or visit our web site at www.cdcbus.com.au for up to date details of all school special services.

Kind regards,

Peter Rose
CDC Operations Control Centre
**Hills Bus Timetable Changes**

**School Travel Advice**

For trip planning visit www.transportnsw.info or call 131 500. For current Hillsbus school and route services visit www.odobus.com.au or call 02 8999 7000.

Conditions of Carriage: Students must have a valid Opal card, term pass or pay a cash fare. Students must tap on and off every trip. Further details about the SSTs are available at: www.transportnsw.info

**Key:**
- L> Bus turns left;
- R> Bus turns right

**Muirfield HS**

**Effective 20/02/2016**

### MORNING BUSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Route</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Bus Route</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>711</td>
<td>06:33</td>
<td>EX BLACKTOWN STATION via Route 711 to Seven Hills Station (06:54)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>705</td>
<td>06:35</td>
<td>EX BLACKTOWN STATION via Route 705 to Seven Hills Station (06:54)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>630</td>
<td>06:55</td>
<td>EX BLACKTOWN INTERCHANGE via Route 630 - Seven Hills Interchange (07:09) then via Route 630 to school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>07:10</td>
<td>EX BAULKHAM HILLS JUNCTION via Windsor Rd, R&gt;Roxborough Pk, R&gt;Excelsior, L&gt;Old Northern, R&gt;Church, L&gt;Greg, L&gt;Woodhill, R&gt;Excelsior, L&gt;Drayton, L&gt;Edward (07:26), Munro, R&gt;Cary, L&gt;Cross, L&gt;Cross (at roundabout) L&gt;Railway, L&gt;James, Orchard, L&gt;Cook, L&gt;Park, Renown, Barclay to school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2043</td>
<td>07:12</td>
<td>EX HAMMERS RD AND OLD WINDSOR RD via Hammers, R&gt;Kleins, L&gt;Northmead, L&gt;Windsor Rd, R&gt;Cook, R&gt;Park, Renown, Barclay to school</td>
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### AFTERNOON BUSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Route</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Bus Route</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2617</td>
<td>14:40</td>
<td>TO WINSTON HILLS &amp; SEVEN HILLS via Route 630</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2525</td>
<td>14:42</td>
<td>TO BAULKHAM HILLS via Renown, Park, R&gt;Cook, Orchard, James, R&gt;Railway, R&gt;Cross, L&gt;Cary, L&gt;Munro, Edward, R&gt;Old Northern Rd, L&gt;Woodhill, R&gt;Mileham, L&gt;Roxborough Pk, L&gt;Windsor Rd to Baulkham Hills HS</td>
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<tr>
<td>2504</td>
<td>14:42</td>
<td>TO OAKHILL COLLEGE via Barclay, Renown, Park, R&gt;Cook, R&gt;Cross, R&gt;Cary, L&gt;Munro, Edward, R&gt;Drayton, L&gt;Excelsior, R&gt;Old Northern Rd to Oakhill College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3581</td>
<td>14:43</td>
<td>TO BAULKHAM HILLS via Barclay, Renown, L&gt;Park, L&gt;Cook, R&gt;Windsor, L&gt;Seven Hills to Merindah Rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2638</td>
<td>14:47</td>
<td>TO NORTHMEAD EXPRESS TO WINDSOR RD via Windsor Rd, L&gt;Fletcher, R&gt;Murray, R&gt;Hammers, R&gt;Kleins to Northmead PS</td>
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<tr>
<td>637</td>
<td>15:28</td>
<td>EX CASTLE TOWERS via Old Castle Hill, R&gt;Lyndstock, L&gt;First Farm, R&gt;Old Castle Hill, L&gt;Old Northern to Glenorie Shops</td>
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### Calendar of Events

#### Term ONE 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 7</td>
<td>Yr 8 Swim School</td>
<td>International Women’s Day Breakfast</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting</td>
<td>Yr 8 Swim School</td>
<td>Water Polo Gala Day</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Yr 12 Construction Work Placement &amp; Yr 11 Work Placement Week</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Young Men's Health Forum</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 8</td>
<td>Easter Show mini District Display</td>
<td>Parent Elevate Session</td>
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<td>SRC Youth Forum</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Syd West Swim carnival</td>
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<td>March 9</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Good Friday</td>
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<td>March/April 10</td>
<td>Easter Monday</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Hills Zone Cross Country</td>
<td>Yr7 Mind Matters</td>
<td></td>
<td>Merit Assembly</td>
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<td>April 11</td>
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<td>April</td>
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<td>11</td>
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#### Term TWO 2016

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<tbody>
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<tr>
<td>April/May 1</td>
<td>Anzac Day</td>
<td>School Development Day</td>
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<td>Yr12 Advanced English Excursion</td>
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<td>May 3</td>
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<td>P&amp;C Meeting</td>
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<td>May 4</td>
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<td>May 5</td>
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<td>23</td>
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<td>27</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
1ST MURRAY FARM SCOUT GROUP

Scouting Adventures for Girls and Boys
10½ – 15 years old
Is your child interested in adventure and new experiences?
Do they like making friends and exploring the great outdoors?
Do you want your child to develop confidence, determination, resilience and leadership skills?

Scouting Engages and Inspires
Participate in exciting activities like camp fires, bush walks, water sports and rock climbing.
Get involved the performing arts, environmental projects and community service.
Learn practical skills like fire safety, first aid and cooking.
Develop intellectual, social, spiritual, emotional and physical potential
… and have FUN along the way!

Some of the World’s most sucessful people were Scouts
Over the past 100 years Scouting has shaped the lives of people like Bill Gates (Microsoft founder), Jackie Chan (Martial Arts actor), Neil Armstrong (first man on the moon), Barak Obama (President of America), David Beckham (soccer player) and Taylor Swift (singer).

Wednesdays 7.30 – 9.30pm
Please RSVP a FREE four week trial
Sarah Worsley sarah.worsley@yahoo.co.nz phone 0407 745 765

11 Haines Avenue, Murray Farm, Carlingford.

Baulkham Hills Football Cub

Soccer is one of the most popular sports played in the Hills District.

Baulkham Hills Football club is a friendly, family orientated club, involving sisters, brothers, fathers, mothers, and in some cases even grandparents. And a great place to form forever friendships. One of the largest clubs in the district, Baulkham Hills is now affiliated with the new ‘Hills Football Association’.

The 2016 season will soon commence. And you are invited to join us. The club is seeking players in the following age groups:

Boys and girls: Under 6, 7, 11, and 13
Girls Only: Under 9

For further information:
Call Rob: 0428526018
Or visit our website: www.bhfc.org.au
Community News and Advertisements

City of Ryde
SOCIAL INCLUSION
WED 30 MAR
NATIONAL DISABILITY INSURANCE SCHEME (NDIS) INFO EXPO
Are you NDIS Ready? Information expo for carers, families and people living with a disability.

Read more about the NDIS, what it means for you, participate in small group and one-on-one discussions, and visit the expo to converse with a wide range of service providers to prepare for the transition.

When: Wednesday 30 March 2016
Time: 4:00 - 7:00pm
Where: Ryde Public School, C Block, Entrance from Tucker Street or Ansgar Avenue
Cost: Free

CHERRYBROOK TECHNOLOGY HIGH SCHOOL
PROUDLY PRESENTS
MARCH 2016 MUSICAL PRODUCTION
Thurs 17th
Fri 18th
Sat 19th
GREASE

Tickets: Adults $15 Child $10 Family $45
All Enquiries: www.cherrybrook.h.schools.nsw.edu.au
Phone: 02 9842 2945

Addressing Angry Teens in the Family

STOP
COOL DOWN
NEGOTIATE

This free forum is being provided by professional services to better equip parents in addressing and dealing with anger issues in teens and to assist parents to resolve conflict in the family dynamics.

Topics include:
- A Healthy Relationship with your Teenager
- Warning signs and legal ramifications
- Positive strategies to resolve issues

Where: Castle Grand Community Centre
Pioneer Room 1 (Level below Library)
One Castle & Penant Streets, Castle Hill
When: Wednesday, 16 March 2016
6:30pm - 9:00pm

FREE Admission and Refreshments | FREE access to Professional Advice
For bookings and further information contact:
Carol on 0408 705 848 or Donna on 0416 082 626 OR Email — hillsparentforum@gmail.com

The CoolKids and Adolescent Health Program:
Helping distressed children & adolescents suffering from somatic health complaints (including recurring headaches, stomach-aches etc).

About 40% of children and adolescents may experience functional somatic health complaints, which are medically benign (that is, they have no identified organic cause). The most common somatic health complaints experienced by children and adolescents include recurring abdominal pain, gastro-intestinal symptoms, recurring headaches, chest pains, dizziness and nausea. Research has shown that these children are prone to have increased rates of school absenteeism, and this may also have an impact on their learning, peer relations and overall quality of life. Studies have also indicated that up to 80% of children and adolescents struggling to cope with these recurring functional somatic health complaints may also be experiencing anxiety and/or depressive problems.

Our new, CoolKids and Adolescent Health Program is designed to specifically help children learn how to deal more efficaciously and manage their somatic symptoms as well as learn stress management skills. This program is specifically designed for children aged 7 to 12 years who are experiencing recurring somatic health complaints for at least 6 months (and which a GP or medical specialist has confirmed that the symptoms are medically benign). The program is individually based and involves 10 x 1 hour weekly therapy sessions held either in person at the Centre for Emotional Health (CEH) Clinic at Macquarie University or via Skype or mobile telephone. Interested families will be invited to attend a screening assessment to determine eligibility.

Organisation: Centre for Emotional Health, Macquarie University.
Researchers: Associate Professor Maria Kangas, Prof Ron Rapee, & Prof Mike Jones.

Who is eligible? Children and adolescents aged 7-12 years who are experiencing recurring somatic health complaints for a minimum of 6 months.

Contact: For more information, please contact Assoc. Professor Kangas and her team (email: CoolKids@health.mq.edu.au or maria.kangas@mq.edu.au) or telephone (02) 9850 8599 or (02) 9850 4082.
IMPORTANT PUBLIC NOTICE
Regional Fox Baiting Program

Please be advised that a fox baiting program will soon commence in the local area as a part of a regional fox control program in conjunction with Local Land Services. The aim of the program is to protect native wildlife including threatened species from fox predation.

1080 poison baits will be laid in the following Reserves:

- Bidjigal Reserve Managed by The Bidjigal Reserve Trust
- Eric Mobbs and Excelsior Reserve Managed by The Hills Shire Council

Foxoff® poison baits (containing 1080) will be buried in the above listed Reserves between Monday 14th March – Sunday 27th March 2016

Foxoff® is designed specifically for fox control. Trained staff will undertake the baiting as per the European Red Fox Pest Control Order 2014. Signs stating “Poison Baits Containing 1080” and “Dogs Prohibited” will be displayed at all public entrances to the relevant parks and reserves to notify the public about the program.

WARNING:

- 1080 poison is lethal to dogs and cats
- The above listed bushland reserves will be closed to dogs (including dogs walking on a lead), during and up to 4 weeks after the fox baiting program.
- Dogs on leads can return to these reserves on Monday 25th April 2016
- In an emergency contact The Hills Shire Council on 9843 0555 or 9843 0429 or your nearest vet

Please contact the following agency for further information, or if you notice that one or more of the signs has been vandalised or is missing:

- The Hills Shire Council on 9843 0555 or 9843 0429