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NEWSLETTER

February 15, 2013

LEARN TO LIVE

Young Citizen of the Year



Dylan Tyers

CONGRATULATIONS

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P&C Meeting
Tuesday,
19th February
7pm
Please come along.

Updated on our Website this fortnight:

Australia Day



There are a few copies of the 2012 and 2011 School Magazines available at the front office for \$15 per copy.



Principal's Report

Welcome back to 2013, it promises to be a great year at Coomealla High School. The school is looking the best it ever has. We have had extensive painting done over the holidays and it has freshened up the school exterior. The cleaners, Mario, Nita and Megan have done a marvellous job during the holidays getting the school in excellent shape. The floors shine and the grounds are in perfect order. Thanks to our ground staff Steve, Rob and Barry who have the gardens looking amazing. What a great way to start the year.

During the holidays eight of our Year 11 students attended the driver training course run by Aust-Link and the Bendigo Bank. Mr O'Shannessy has been coordinating this course for two years now. Each time the course is run the organisers say 'this was the best group of students yet'. Needless to say their comment about the group these holidays was 'this was the best group of students yet!' We don't hand pick our students, we simply take nominations from interested students. These students, through their excellent behaviour promote the good name of Coomealla High School through the community. Thanks to these students for their excellent attitude.

On Australia Day a number of our students were recognised for the work they do in their community and for their school. Coomealla High had two students nominated for Young Citizen Of The Year. This category looks at achievements and contributions to the community. Our nominations were Sarah Watts of Year 12 and Dylan Tyers, who was in Year 12 last year and one of our vice-captains. It is a great honour just to be nominated on these auspicious occasions and both Sarah and Dylan were worthy nominations. Congratulations go to Dylan Tyers who won the award for 2012. It is an excellent reward for a hard working young man.

Young Sportsperson of the Year went to another of our students, Ellen Fraser of Year 12. Ellen was recognised for her sporting endeavours at school, district, regional, state and international levels in netball, cycling and triathlon. Coomealla High School was well represented in the Sports Team of the Year category. Here Year 10 students Rhianna Duncan and Lauren Fraser were the winners for their results in rowing as a pairs team with Wentworth Rowing Club. Coomealla High School has developed close links with the Wentworth Rowing Club and this has encouraged many of our students to become interested in this sport.

It has been a great start for 2013 already and school has only been back for two weeks. I was really pleased to see the overwhelming majority of students in school uniform. This is always an indicator that students feel pride in their school and want to be part of it. I am looking forward to sharing many more positive stories about the students and staff of Coomealla High School throughout the year.

Mr R Scotton



Special Education Teacher, Vicky Hourigan, received a transfer to Lithgow Public School right at the end of 2012.

She was very pleased with the move as she is back in her home town.

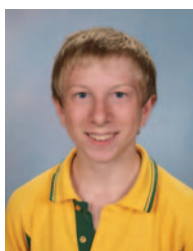
The staff wish Vicky all the best at her new school.



Major Awards 2012



Year 7 Dux
Shae McDonnell



Year 8 Dux
Dylan Watson



Year 9 Dux
Lauren Fraser



Year 10 Dux
Ashleigh Bone



Year 11 Dux
Jessica Medaglia



Year 12 Dux
Thomas Cornwall



Aboriginal Achievement Award
Jessica King



Reuben F Scarf Memorial Foundation Award
Keely Duncan



All Round Student
Caltex & Coomealla Lions Club Awards
Caitlin Hancock



Australian Defence Force Award —Yr 12
Dylan Tyers



Australian Defence Force Award —Yr 11
Sarah Watts



Australian Defence Force Award — Yr 10
Ian McKinnon



Male Sportsperson of the Year
Samuel Clyne



Female Sportsperson of the Year
Ellen Fraser

The Role Of Parents in School Attendance:

The *Education Act 1990* requires that parents (including carers) ensure that children of compulsory school age are enrolled at and regularly attend school,

or are registered with the Office of the Board of Studies NSW for home schooling. The New South Wales

Department of Education and Training may take legal action against parents and carers who do not send their children to school without a valid reason.

What is a justified reason for being absent from school?

Justified reasons for absences may include the student:

- having an unavoidable medical or dental appointment (preferably, these should be made after school or during holidays)
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- being required to attend an exceptional or urgent family circumstance (such as attending a funeral)
- being sick, or having an infectious disease.

All children have a right to an education. Only by regular school attendance can children make the most of educational opportunities, leading to greater social and economic outcomes.

Absences for reasons such as some of the following may not be justified:

- Shopping
- Sleeping in
- Working around the house
- Minding younger siblings and other children

- Minor family events such as birthdays
- Hair cuts.

It is important to realise that parents (including carers) may be prosecuted if children have recurring unjustified absences from school. Keeping the school informed if your child has to be absent from school, it is important to tell the school and provide a reason for the absence.

To explain an absence parents and carers may:

- send a note, fax or email to the school
- telephone the school, or
- visit the school.

Whenever possible, parents and carers are encouraged to provide an explanation for absences before the absences occur. The principal of the school has the right to question parents' requests for their child to be absent from school. They may also question an explanation given for a child's absence from school.

Holidays

Parents and carers are encouraged not to withdraw their children from school for family holidays. If this is necessary parents should discuss these absences with the principal and may be requested to apply for a Certificate of Exemption from attendance at school. This will ensure that these absences are not permanently recorded as unjustified.

When considering applications for Certificates of Exemption, principals may consider a variety of factors. These may include compassionate reasons, family reunions, the educational merits of the holiday and agreement for the student to complete assignments while on holiday. In some cases application for Distance Education may be more appropriate than seeking an exemption from school attendance.

Swimming Carnival

When: Wednesday, 20th Feb

Where: Dareton Pool—buses will take and pick up students directly to/from pool.

Cost: \$2 Entry

What to bring: Bathers, towel, food, drinks, hat and sunscreen.



All parents/guardians most welcome to attend.



SRC activities - Term 4, 2012

Acceptance Week

Our Acceptance Week Activities for Term 4 provided some pep for our school. With the help of our canteen manager, the SRC was able to provide special treats during Term 4. The Aussie steak sandwiches were tasty and the Mexican Nachos were a great hit too. The Italian gelati were a delicious treat for the warm weather. Our casual day 'the Power of You' completed our activities nicely. Thank you to everyone who helped and treated themselves to our tasty menu.

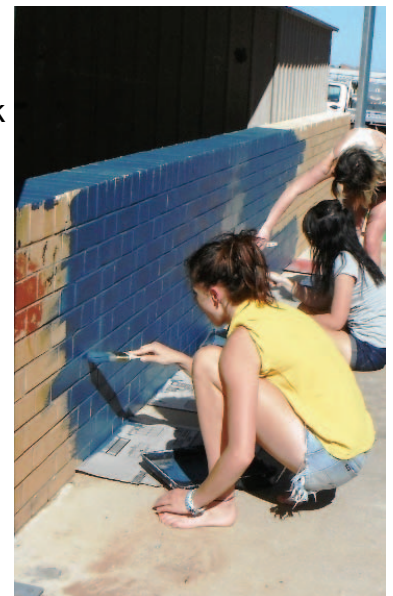


Casual day – 'the power of you' \$64.00.
 Aussie day – steak sandwich \$125.00.
 Mexican Nachos - \$95.00
 Italian Gelati - \$80.00.



Painting the Wall

Tradies Girls – Caitlin Elstone, Nat Wescombe, Brittany Martin and Sam McLean spent two days adding a new coat of paint to our half brick wall near the Art Room. The Deep Ocean colour on the wall is the same hue as the Colorbond roof. The freshly painted wall has brightened up this shelter area and made the back school entrance more appealing. Excellent work girls and thank you for taking on the task and working during the hot days.



Sensory Boxes

Sensory Boxes were donated to **Murray House Hostel** in Wentworth by the SRC. Sensory boxes help the residents to stimulate their memory and are one way of keeping the brain active. Charlotte McLean and Dylan Watson travelled out to Murray House to hand over the boxes where they stopped for a while to chat with the residents. A worthwhile trip for our students and making connections with our community.

Cupcake Fundraiser

SRC - A cheque for \$200 was donated to our local cancer support group – **Sunraysia Cancer Resource Centre**. The money was raised during Term 3 from the sale of cupcakes. The SRC supporting local community organisations.



Australia Day Awards



Above: Principal, Rob Scotton, with CHS's nomination for Young Citizen of the Year, Dylan Tyers.



Right: Mayor of Wentworth Shire, Don McKinnon, presenting Dylan Tyers as the Young Citizen of the Year.

Details of some of Dylan's achievements include:

- Coomealla High School Vice-Captain 2012
- AECG (Aboriginal Educational Consultative Group) 2007-2009
- Represents the school on Anzac Day
- Grip Leadership Conference 2011
- SRC (Student Representative Council) for a number of years
- Relay For Life participant—three years
- School Sports Captain
- Sports House Captain—2011
- Represented the school in Western Darling & Swan Shield Football
- Western Darling Athletics and Swimming
- Member of 2012 Wentworth Football Club Premiership Team
- Represented the school in Tournament of Minds
- School Canteen Helper



Above: Sarah Watts (Nominee, Young Citizen), Ellen Fraser (Winner, Young Sportsperson, Dylan Tyers (Winner, Young Citizen), Rhianna Duncan and Lauren Fraser (Winners, Sports Team of the year).



***Rhianna Duncan and Lauren Fraser
Winners, Sports Team of the Year
for their achievements in Rowing (Wentworth
Rowing Club).
(nominated by Ian Whitfield)***



***Ellen Fraser - Winner
Young Sportsperson of the Year
for her achievements in school,
district, regional, state and
international (netball, cycling and
triathlon)
(nominated by Ian Whitfield and Dianne
Snow—2 noms)***

Term 1 Aussie Hoops

Starts Monday February 11th at 4.15pm

Open to Boys & Girls aged 5 – 7

More details on 5023 2241

Wanted: Court announcer for the 2013 Mildura Heat Big V Basketball Season.

Season starts from March 16th at the Toyota Hothouse. Please call 5023 2241 for further details.



Play Football – the game the World plays

THREE COLOURS SC ARE SEEKING NEW & EXISTING PLAYERS FOR ITS TEAMS FOR THE 2013 SEASON.

VENUE: SOCCER PARK PITCH 13, OLD AERODROME OVALS, CNR 11TH STREET & FLORA AVE, MILDURA.

threecolourssc@live.com.au www.threecolours.com.au

Marching SA / DrillDance SA

Mildura Championship - 16th February, 2013

Marching SA is excited to host its first Championship in of the season in Mildura at St Joseph's College Stadium.

DrillDance makes its return to Mildura, after 20 year

The Mildura Club "Fusion" formed this season returning to the sport after approximately a 20 year absence.

Venue Address: **St Joseph's College Stadium 159-177 Riverside Avenue, Mildura**

Times: **Championship commences at 1.30pm Saturday 16th February**



Buronga Post Office is under new ownership

Hello our names are Maree and Gary Darby and we have purchased the Buronga Post Office from Lou and Angie Hederics. We took over operation on Monday, 4th February, 2013.

We are a local family from Gol Gol with 5 children, three at Coomealla High and two at Gol Gol Public. We are active members of our local community and hope to be accepted as part of the Buronga Community.

We aim to provide you with friendly and efficient service and as well as your postal needs we provide newspapers, magazines, greeting cards, stationery, batteries and small gift lines. We are open Monday to Friday from 8am to 5pm.

We are looking forward to meeting all the existing valued customers and potential new customers.

Maree and Gary Darby



Crystal Meth (ICE) Community Awareness Forum

Tuesday February 19, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Mildura Aboriginal Corporation Hall - **INCLUDES LUNCH**

The ICE Epidemic is the major drugs issue in the Mildura community today, and it is a challenge for both indigenous and non-indigenous communities.

The forum will provide information to parents and carers on:

- what to look for if you suspect your child is involved?
- the effects of use
- how to help and get help

There will also be opportunity to provide input into how our community should tackle this epidemic.

ALL WELCOME

RSVP:

to the Mildura Aboriginal Corporation 5018 4102

Student Exchange – Memories and Skills for a Lifetime!



Give your child the opportunity to gain international experiences and language skills to kick-start a future career. Along with distinct language benefits, exchange students mature, gain confidence and develop a much more worldly approach upon their return to Australia.

World Education Program Australia (WEP), a not-for-profit student exchange organisation registered with the education departments, is now accepting applications for students to live overseas in 2013/14 as exchange students for a summer, semester or year.

WEP is offering two **\$3000 scholarships** towards semester-long student exchange programs to Argentina and China commencing in 2014.

Find out more!

Visit

www.wep.org.au

Attend one of WEP's information evenings and open days

Call 1300 884 733



STUDENT PRIVACY, PHOTOGRAPHS, MEDIA and OUR NEWSLETTER / WEBSITE

There are strict rules regarding "disclosure of personal information" under the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act. "Personal Information" is defined broadly and includes photographic images where an individual is identified or his or her identity is reasonably apparent from the photograph. Thus taking photographs can constitute a collection of personal information.

The position of this school, in complying with ACT is as follows:

1. INFORMATION/IMAGES IN SCHOOL NEWSLETTER and WEBSITE

All parents/carers are advised that this school will continue to highlight the achievements and activities of students of this school in the newsletter/website, both in photographic and written form. If a parent/carer **DOES NOT** want a student's name or image to appear in the newsletters, written advice of this should be sent to the principal.

2. INFORMATION/IMAGES IN LOCAL MEDIA –Newspapers, Radio, TV

As a general rule consent of a student's parent/carers will be sought when an individual student or small group of students will be identified by name, interviewed or otherwise featured in local media.

3. VIDEOTAPING OR PHOTOGRAPHING SCHOOL EVENTS

Where school events (eg concerts, sports carnivals, etc) are to be video taped by the school, parents and carers will be advised in advance and given the opportunity to not have their child included in the video.

There is, however, nothing to prevent parents or other family members or friends of students taking photographs or videos of school events.

4. PHOTOGRAPHY AT SCHOOL BY TEACHERS/SUPPORT STAFF

The school has implemented guidelines for students being photographed at school events such as socials, excursions, sport carnivals and the like. Generally, a student must agree to have their photo taken. Agreeing to pose individually or in a group will be taken as consent. Action photos of sport activity will be taken eg races.

RHEE TAEKWON-DO
1 WEEK FREE TRIAL

**BACK TO SCHOOL
COME AND TRY FOR FREE**

Non Competitive Traditional Martial Art
For Good Health, Fitness and Self Defence
Ages 5 to 65

Gol Gol Training Centre
Gol Gol Primary School Gym

**Tuesday & Thursday
Family Class**
6.00pm – 7.30pm

(03) 5022 7351
www.rheetkd.info

**Be Prepared...
for new adventure!**

SCOUTS AUSTRALIA SUNRAYSIA DISTRICT

JOEY SCOUTS 6-7 yrs	CUB SCOUTS 8-10 yrs	SCOUTS 11-14 yrs
STORIES KNOTS OUTINGS	CANOEING HIKING JAMBOREE	VISITS GANG SHOW BADGES AMATUER RADIO GAMES CRAFT
VENTURER SCOUTS 14-17 yrs	ROVER SCOUTS 17-25 yrs	LEADERS 18+ yrs

For more information contact:
David Searle on 0434 540 202
or join us at your local Scout Hall

SCOUTS AUSTRALIA

LEARN ABOUT YOURSELF !

As Marcel Proust, a late 19th century novelist wrote: "the real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new landscapes but in having new eyes". Volunteer to host an international high school student in July 2013 through Southern Cross Cultural Exchange and prepare to be amazed at the way this unique and rewarding opportunity helps your family to become closer, to understand themselves better and to see the world in a new light.

Carefully selected students will arrive in July for one or two semesters from France, Italy, Germany, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Finland, Japan, and Spain. They will attend a local secondary school, arrive with their own spending money and comprehensive insurance cover – all arranged by Southern Cross Cultural Exchange. Visit us at our website www.scce.com.au, email scceaust@scce.com.au or call us toll free on 1800 500 501, request our international student profiles, and capture the spirit of family and friendship.

CALENDAR

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
18/2 B Week 3	19/2 P&C Meeting - All Welcome 7pm	20/2 Swimming Carnival 	21/2	22/2
25/2 A Week 4 Year 9 Camp	26/2 Year 9 Camp Inter-Sch Swim after school	27/2 Year 9 Camp Boys & Girls Snr Cricket	28/2 Year 9 Camp	1/3 Year 9 Camp Newsletter 2
4/3 B Week 5 VET Work PI (Some Yr 12)	5/3	6/3	7/3	8/3
11/3 A Week 6	12/3	13/3	14/3	15/3 Newsletter 3
18/3 B Week 7 School Photos	19/3 P&C Meeting - All Welcome 7pm Tennis Jnr & Snr Volleyball Boys & Girls	20/3	21/3 Baseball/softball Boys/Girls 7-12	22/3
25/3 A Week 8	26/3	27/3	28/3 Newsletter 4	29/3 GOOD FRIDAY
1/4 EASTER MONDAY	2/4 B Week 9	3/4 Yr 7 Adventure Tabloids	4/4 Yr 7 Adventure Race	5/4
8/4 A Week 10	9/4	10/4	11/4 Term 1 Formal Assembly	12/4 Last Day Term 1 Newsletter 5
15/4	16/4 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS	17/4 HOLIDAYS	18/4	19/4
22/4	23/4	24/4	25/4  ANZAC DAY	26/4



Reminder:
Thongs or canvas shoes are NOT to be worn at school for safety reasons.





Recipe Corner:

Lunch Ideas: Recipes on Internet

Meatball Sandwiches
 Ham, Cheese and Pineapple Pizza Scrolls
 Pasta Salad
 Chicken or Ham Salad Wrap
 Grated Cheese and Raison Sandwich
 Lamb Pasties
 Zucchini Slice
 Cold Tuna and Corn Bake
 Pita Pockets with Mini Meatballs and Salad
 Savoury Muffins ie; Ham and Cheese,
 Spinach and Feta
 Carrot Muffins
 Apple and Bran Muffins

Fruit

Cut up vegetables with dipping Hummus
 Cold Omelette
 Sesame Snaps
 Yogurt with cut up fruit
 Sausage Sandwich
 Chicken and Mayo Sandwich
 Egg and Lettuce Sandwich
 Vegetable Lasagne



Financial Assistance Available

Student Assistance - forms are available from the school office (for students 15 years and under)

Application forms are available from the office and should be returned by Friday 1st March, 2013.

Applications to the Principal are treated with the highest level of confidentiality.

Other Assistance Available

1. St Vincent de Paul Society

“Vinnies” is offering small amounts of funding to assist families with uniform, books and food support. Each application is considered on its own merits. Contact Danny Cotching, President, Dareton Conference 603, St Vincent de Paul on ph 5021 2877.

2. Smith Family – “Learning for Life” Scholarship

This Scholarship is managed by Mallee Family Care. Please contact Lorraine on 5027 7600 at the Dareton Office of Mallee Family Care.

3. Centrelink

Students aged over 15 years, Contact Centrelink regarding Youth Allowance (ph13 24 90) Abstudy (ph 13 23 17)

Wentworth Junior Football Pre Season Training

Football Pre Season training will commence for the following age groups:

Under 16's - Mon & Wed from 4:30 commencing 18 February

Under 13 & U14 - Wed from 4:30 commencing 20 February





IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING ABSENTEE NOTES

The DET Attendance Policy PD20050259 states that:

Parents are responsible for explaining the absences of their children from school promptly and within seven days to the school. *(from Responsibilities, 2.1 point 3); and*

A hard copy of the electronic record is to be generated weekly for the previous two-week period. The principal or delegated school executive must endorse this hard copy, certifying its accuracy. Once signed, this hard copy becomes the record of attendance and **must not be amended.** *(4.2 Electronic Attendance Registers, 4.2.2)*

Please send absentee notes to school promptly and, if you are going on holidays, please inform the school in advance.

Coomealla High School—Absence Note

Student Name: _____ Year: _____ Roll Group: _____

My child was absent from school: Date/s _____

Reason: _____

Signed: _____ Parent/Guardian

Coomealla High School—Absence Note

Student Name: _____ Year: _____ Roll Group: _____

My child was absent from school: Date/s _____

Reason: _____

Signed: _____ Parent/Guardian

Quotable Quote:

“Discipline is doing what you don’t want to do when you don’t want to do it.”

Anon

