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NEWSLETTER

5 April 2017

LEARN TO LIVE

Construction at Coomealla High



Updated on our Website this fortnight:



Principal's Report

General News:

Attendance

It is really pleasing that so many of our Coomealla students have been given certificates recognising 100% attendance. Many students have attendance in the 90% range, which is to be highly commended because every bit of research shows that student success and career paths are linked to strong attendance at school.

Community

So many of our students have a strong sense of community. Currently we have students involved in raising money for cancer research via the "Relay For Life" whilst other students work as carers and take on a huge amount of responsibility at a young age.

Monash University

Recently I attended a function which involved a large number of trainee doctors from the Monash University mentor program. The university will provide mentors to assist any students who are interested in any health career.

Year Advisors for 2018 and 2019

We are delighted to report that Mrs Debbie West will be the Year 7 Year Advisor for 2018. Debbie has already started in the position and is currently planning for the future transition of students. In addition, we are delighted to announce that the Year 7 Year Advisor for 2019 will be Mr James Kiely.

Staffing

From the start of next term Mr Dennis Brown will take up the position of Head Teacher Science at Dungog High School. We thank him for his services to the school and wish he and his family every success in the future. Mrs Di Brown will remain with us for a period of time. Miss Natalie Steel will relieve in the position of Head Teacher Science and we are confident she will do a great job. Mr Michael Johnston from our TAS Faculty will take up a position at Karabar for the beginning of Term 2. No announcement has been made on a permanent replacement for Michael. We wish Michael well in his future career and thank him for his contribution to our school.

Curriculum

Our head teachers will meet with our Director Public Schools – Mr Peter Macbeth, in the coming weeks to examine ways to improve options and opportunities for our HSC students. They will report on HSC performance and discuss faculty plans for the future

End of Term

As we head towards the final weeks of Term I would like to wish our entire school community an enjoyable as well as safe and healthy school holiday period. Staff return on 24 April 2017 for their training day while students return after ANZAC day on the 26 April 2017



*Mr Bill Campbell
Principal*



Coomealla High School Relay For Life

Update

Lee Evans, Rachael Hanneman & Tarryn Shaddock visited the Coomealla Club to apply for a club donation for the Relay For Life. The students were successful in receiving a \$1000 donation from the Coomealla Club to support the Relay For Life team. Well done to the three students above who represented the school proudly and thank you very much to the Coomealla Club for their kind and generous donation!

Miss Natalie Steel



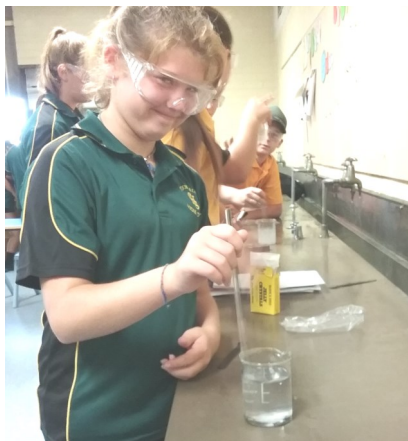
Youth Week Leadership Forum

Colby Wade, Olivia Collins and Sharie Bowes have been successful applicants for this year's Youth Week Leadership Forum. Students will be travelling to Sydney to discuss and propose ways to combat youth issues. Congratulations to all students that were accepted! The students will report on their experiences and outcomes soon.

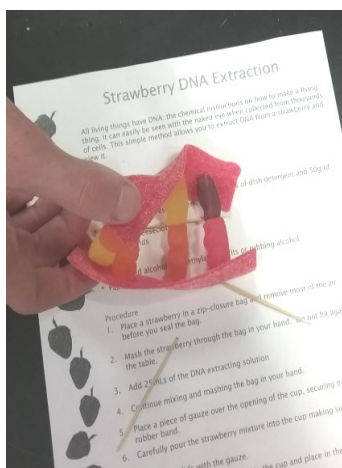
Miss Natalie Steel

Science Report

Our new cohort of Year 7 have arrived and settled in well. They have brought with them an admirable and infectious enthusiasm, involving themselves in both practical and theory exercises.



Our junior classes have now had the opportunity to get to know their teachers and their expectations. Our first unit exams are over and new units are well underway. Students have been excited by lab experiments and learning opportunities that are both fun and informative. Students revised and learned how to be safe in the science department with safety gear. The students did some experiments with crystallisation, chroma photography and DNA tested strawberries. A very fun start to the year!



Stage 6 students, formerly called the seniors, are buckling down well. Those commencing the Preliminary courses have embraced a more detailed approach to their work, while the HSC students are undertaking their mid-course exams. We wish them luck with their exams and are here to help with tutoring and extra pointers when needed.

Year 12 were dissecting kidneys this term, a task some greatly enjoyed, but others were a little nervous about. However all found it educational and informative to their unit of study. Matching the practical to the theoretical elements of the course.



Agriculture

Agriculture is currently thriving with students supervising animal production, maintaining and monitoring livestock along with rotating crops. Animals are also benefitting after a lot of hard work and money has gone into a revamp of the schools complex watering system. Our pastures have improved and we now rely on Steve, the GA, to monitor and maintain the watering, rather than the fickle rain gods.

The new batch of lambs are maturing well and not too far from weaning and consequently sale. The chickens are also becoming much more productive while the pullets are also nearing sale age. Exciting times in the ag department!



In Breaking News

I would like to thank all those who have made my stay at Coomealla High School so enjoyable. The students who I have spent my days educating and growing with; it has been a pleasure to share in their challenges and achievements. The staff who have supported and encouraged me along the way and finally the community which has welcomed me openly. I will be leaving Coomie High School with many fond memories.

Miss Natalie Steel will be relieving Head Teacher Science. Please feel free to contact her regarding your child's progress in their studies and any enquires you may have in regards to Science and Agriculture. Miss Steel is looking forward to this exciting change, which will mean developing new relationships with the community.

Mr Dennis Brown
Head Teacher Science



ICAS

ICAS ENGLISH COMPETITION 2017

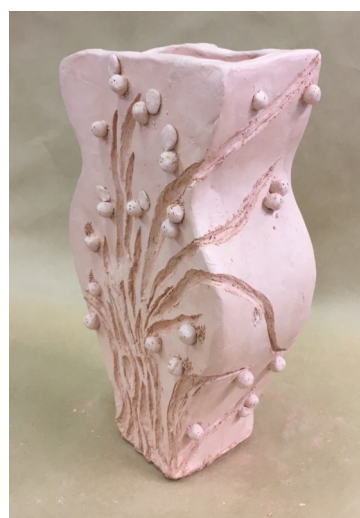
Now is the time that you can have the most impact to help your child to learn, grow and reach their full potential, and ICAS is here to help.

Our school is taking part in ICAS in 2017. This assessment can help benchmark and track learning progress. It can help identify the true capabilities of students so that we can work together to help your child to reach their full potential. Your investment in education is valuable and we want to help your child be the best they can be. Selected English classes will be strongly encouraged to participate in this valuable learning experience.

Please return permission notes and money to the Front office. Any enquiries please contact the school or you can also find out more about ICAS on our School website.

ICAS Coordinator
Ms Jackie Watson

YEAR 9 & 10 ARTWORKS





Three Colours SC announces that 2017 registrations for Under 6 - Under 12 players are now open.

Boys and Girls who have played the sport before or those who wish to play it for the very first time are welcome to contact:

Lukas Pedder - 0426 203 693 or
Lucy Fotia - 0439 302 090

School Hats



Are now available from Canteen Only

Size's are S - M - L @ \$17each

Please note: they will go up to \$20 each soon!!!

Attention

Parents & Carers

Update your contact details now!!

In preparation for the new school year we need to have the most current and relevant contact information so that we are able to reach you when necessary.

Please let us know your preferred mode of contact and update your details if you have moved address, changed phone numbers or changed your email.

Thank you for the support.

Inter-School Swimming Carnival

Fifteen Coomealla High Students competed in the Inter-School Swimming Championships held at Mildura Waves on 3 March 2017. To report that they showed tremendous sportsmanship and true heart would be an understatement!

Each representative swam with conviction and determination with the 13 year girls relays a prime example. Not only did they swim their age group freestyle relay earning 1st place but they also swam the 14 years medley relay and almost immediately two of them fronted up again to make up a 14 year girls freestyle relay. They didn't do this for points, but rather just for the sake of giving the 14 year girls another swim. That was quite impressive!

We had some great results throughout the day with Jackson McDermott, our sole 15 Year competitor achieving a 2nd in butterfly and a 3rd in freestyle, Bevan Wade achieved a 1st in butterfly, and 2nd in the freestyle 18-20 Year old section, Mikaela Fraser who drove in to swim during her study period achieved a 1st in breaststroke and freestyle in the 18-20 year old section, Mikaela Lees got a 2nd in the 13 year breaststroke, Laura Tilley achieved 3rd in the 13 year backstroke, and Ashton Tilley achieved very good results as well earning 2nd place in breaststroke and freestyle.

The team comprised of the following students: Mia Alderton, Holly Bysouth, Kyla Gregg, Mikaela Lees, Thomas Stokes, Laura Tilley, Daley Williams-Mackay, Piper Nash, Murray Bastick, Lachlan Witte, Thomas Baird, Jackson McDermott, Ashton Tilley, Mikaela Fraser and Bevan Wade.

Whether the students swam individual swims or in relays, they were totally engaged in the carnival and continually cheered and encouraged their team members. Mrs Barker & I were very proud to have accompanied this team to represent Coomealla High School..

Mrs Bonny Ward

Team Manager

Construction at Coomealla

Another cabin which has been built by Construction students has been moved off site and taken to it's new location. The Gol Gol Public School Fruit Block Committee commissioned the cabin which will be used by students when carrying out activities at the block and the nearby river.

The cabin held together well as it was swung over the Ag. Plot and placed on a truck.

A smaller cabin is now under construction and will be put up for sale soon.

Mr Ted O'Shannessy





Generation Next Student Wellbeing and Leadership Live Stream

On Friday 17 March, Year 9, 10, 11 and 12 took part in an interactive live stream. The event was held in Sydney but schools were invited to participate Australia wide via internet. Students were polled in response to questions and encouraged to ask questions of the presenters who were experts in their field.

Year 9 & 10 students participated in two sessions titled: *How to Have a Healthy Relationship with Your Mobile and Using Social Media for Good* by Dan Haesler and *Helping A Mate: Mental Health First Response* by Claire Kelly. Students were given information and asked questions which they could respond to on their mobile devices in real time. The polled answers and questions were discussed by the professionals.

In the afternoon, Years 11 and 12 students attended the session titled : *Stress Management: Coping with School and Study Stress* by Andrew Fuller. Students were given information and were invited to answer and ask questions in real time on their devices to the speaker. Andrew Fuller has provided information on how parents can help students in the senior years of school and I encourage parents to look at these on his website, alternatively I can provide you with information.

This was a new experience for many in our school and participation was high, particularly when invited to respond to questions. The topics hold relevance to the curriculum and there will be follow up lessons for each year level during Term 2.

Miss Nadein Mayfield



GOL GOL PUBLIC SCHOOL

COUNTRY FAIR

**MORE TO DO...
MORE TO SEE...
MORE TO ENJOY...**

SUNDAY - MAY 7TH - 10.00am start

Year 7

Kings Billabong Camp

On Thursday 23 & Friday 24 February, Year 7 went to Kings Billabong for two adventurous days. We were put into groups with people we don't normally work with and we did many activities that involved team work, patience, brains and stamina. Wild Side Outdoors organised activities for us, like being blindfolded, canoeing and bushwalking with a GPS (we did get quite muddy and wet).



One of the blindfolded activities was teaming up with the people in your group and one person was to wear blacked out goggles. The other person guided them through various obstacles like climbing through trees, rusted pipes, over logs and back to the safety of the pavilion. Someone managed to be guided into a tree!

Canoeing is always fun when you have friends to share it with. One of the canoeing activities was to stand on the deck then walk on a plank into the canoe. The aim was to fit as many people in the single canoe as you can then to paddle across to the other bank and back without falling out. Our team was able to fit 8 in the canoe.

For one of the GPS activities we were given a GPS and we had to follow the direction it was pointing us in. After going through muddy water and chasing after lost teammates we eventually all got to the destination; wet and muddy - but triumphant!

So, to top it all off, it was two very fun days. Students went home tired, but happy and satisfied with their efforts in helping their team to solve the set problems. Thanks to Miss Leon and Wild Side Outdoors for organising the fun adventurous day and to Will, Mr Dicker, Mr Tarrant, Mr Celegon and Ms Watson for coming along, helping out and keeping us safe.

Laura Tilley





School Notices and Reminders for 2017

Dear Parents and Carers

Coomealla High School will transition to the new NSW Public Schools' finance system and a new bank account on **24 July 2017**.

To ensure a smooth transition, there will be changes to the way we accept payments from parents and carers.

Direct deposits: As of **30 June 2017**, we will no longer accept direct deposits into our current school bank account as we prepare to close this account and transition to the new one. Any payments made using direct deposit after this date cannot be properly allocated to a student's account in a timely manner. Please ensure you have made any outstanding direct deposits before **30 June 2017**.

EFTPOS payments: We will not be able to accept EFTPOS payments between **19 July 2017 and 24 July 2017**. Please ensure that you have made any outstanding EFTPOS payments before **19 July, 2017**. From **25 July 2017**, EFTPOS payments will be accepted as before.

Cash and cheque payments: Between **19 July 2017 and 24 July 2017**, we will also not be able to accept payments by cash or cheque as we prepare to close our current bank account and transition to the new one. Please ensure that you have made any outstanding cash or cheque payments before **19 July 2017**. From **25 July 2017**, cash and cheque payments will be accepted as before.

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we transition to our new finance system. If you have any questions, please contact **Johanna Pardoe on 5027 4506**

ANAPHYLACTIC SHOCK

All parents should be aware that there are several children in school with a severe life threatening food allergy to peanuts and nuts (anaphylaxis). This is a medical condition that causes a severe reaction to specific foods and can result in death within minutes. Although this may or may not affect your child directly, please send your child to school with food that is free from peanuts or nut products.



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



**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:

**"Education is the most powerful weapon which
you can use to change the world."**

Nelson Mandela

Change of Address / Personal information

Please obtain an official 'Change of Student Details' form from the front office.

This will allow details to be updated on our system.