



Coomella High School

Weekly

Newsletter

Week 4, Term 1

18th February 2020

What's on this week?

19/02– Swimming Carnival

18/02– P & C Meeting @ 6pm

20-21/02– Yr 12 Mock Interviews

20/02– Yr 11 Careers info night

Swimming Carnival – Please note that it is time again for the annual swimming carnival. I can hardly believe that this time has come around again! All swimmers will be required to do a swim test at the commencement of the carnival for them to participate. All parents are certainly welcome to come and help cheer on the students!

Barry Maggs Retirement – Barry Maggs has decided to retire after just over 40- years' service with the NSW Department of Education. Barry worked as the Farm Assistant with our Agricultural Department. He will be replaced by Peter Cameron who has been temporarily engaged in this position for the last three years. Peter will now have permanency in this role.



Coming up.....

24/02– Yr 11 & 12 Latrobe SPP
(Student Partner Program)

25/02– Yr 10 Careers Info night

03/03– Yr 7 Meet & Greet @
5-6.30pm

Parent Phone Survey – Late last year, Josephine Crowley distributed a phone survey to parents to elicit your views on the use of mobile phones in schools. Thank you to the 38 respondents that participated. Some interesting data to come from the survey was: 84.2% of students own a phone, and 96.9% of these bring their phone to school. 90.3% of parents contact their children on rare occasions, however almost 10% make phone contact every day. Nearly 70% of students with phones contact their parents through the day. Most parents believe that students should not use their phones in class for non-educational purposes (65%) and believe that the negative impact of social media outweighs the benefit of mobile phones (54%). Thank you to Josephine for collecting and presenting that data. This issue will be discussed in greater depth at the P&C tonight.

P&C Meeting – The P&C will have its first meeting for 2020 this Tuesday night. We normally have it in the Board Room, but on this occasion, we thought that we would conduct the meeting in the Flex room. Amongst other things, we will be discussing the results of the mobile phone surveys, work education and the move to a new school pedagogy. I hope to see you all there!!



Year 7 Meet and Greet! – On Tuesday 3rd March, we will be conducting a “Meet and Greet” for Year 7 parents, and family. Light refreshments will be offered. Year 7 teachers and all executive staff will be introduced to families. You will also have an opportunity to experience what the students have done so far this year through visual and musical displays. Please come along and help us celebrate the beginning of our Year 7 students' journey through high school!

Address: Silver City Highway, Dareton NSW 2717

Phone: 03 5027 4506 **Fax:** 03 5027 4837 **Email:** coomealla-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

4Cs School Transformation (4CST)– Last week, we were visited by two of the team from 4CST. This is the first of what will be a series of professional learning visits over the next few years. This professional learning is vital to embed student centred and directed, engaging teaching practice into the culture of Coomealla High. All executive who attended last weeks training were inspired by the strategies and pedagogy that was experienced. The team will be back out here on the 5th and 6th of March to work with some of our eager staff. This work dovetails nicely into the physical transformation that is planned to take place within the general learning spaces of the school. The prototype flexible learning space is proving to be very popular with both staff and students. This room has almost been booked out to capacity and I am under pressure to get the wheels in motion for the second Flexible Learning Space to be established in what is currently the Drama room. What separates us from other schools is that we are developing staff expertise through well tested and researched methodology in conjunction with giving staff trial rooms to practice these new strategies. This is done so that staff can have an informed input into the redesign of the general learning spaces. The work on redesigning the Mathematics, HSIE and English learning spaces is planned to commence towards the back end of this year but will depend on staff readiness. Once we go down this path, I don't think that the students will allow us to turn back.

Student of the week–

Year 7- Olive Waston-Kiely nominated by Ms Dove for Excellent work and insightful responses in Science.

Year 8- Caitlyn Farnsworth nominated by Mrs Batchelor for Excellent creative writing in English.

Year 9- Jake Harriss nominated by Ms Dove for Diligence and Safety in Science practical work.

Year 10- Andresanna Rees nominated by Ms Nixon for Diligence in Visual Arts.

Year 11- Jason Mitchell nominated by Ms Norton for Student Leadership.

Year 12- Linda Hunter nominated by Mr O'Shannessy for a Positive outlook in Design and Technology.

Congratulations to all our students of the week!

Staff members of the week– Mr Adam Astill for all his hard work into revamping our PBL rewards system and **Mrs Helen Sulicich** for her outstanding start to her Coomie High career.

Please email any suggestions to me at stephen.harper@det.nsw.edu.au to improve this service.

Steve Harper

Community News

Wentworth Junior Tennis practice will commence the 2020 season on Friday 13th March. No experience necessary, free coaching given to beginners. To be eligible for junior pennant tennis at Wentworth children must turn 8 by 31st December 2020 and no older than 17. Practice is from 4.00pm to 5.30pm. Pennant tennis is played on Saturday mornings and this year's season commences on May 2nd.

Also available is sub-junior tennis for 4 to 7 year olds (on a shorter court with small racquets, which are available for use.)

Active Kids vouchers available again this year for junior memberships. Anne can assist you with this.

For more information contact Cheryl Vines on 0428522969 or for sub-juniors Anne Snow on 0400113549



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