



Coomealla High School

Weekly News

Week 3, Term 3

5th August 2020

Welcome to week 3 Coomie,

Education Week: This week marks NSW Education Week 2020. The theme of this year's Education Week is "Learning Together". As I did my daily "rounds" this morning, checking in on all the classes, I reflected on how Coomealla High meets this brief. Although there are many more examples of "Learning Together", I wanted to share with you some of the things that I saw in my school today:

What's on ?

- School Photos Wednesday
12th August 2020.

Coming up.....

- Trial HSC exams 17th-21st
August.
- Year 11 End of course exams
start 7th September.



Lowes carry the full CHS Uniform,
including senior shirts, jumpers &
jackets.



- ♦ The P&C run canteen with Anna Hansen and Ros Hehir in to support, providing excellent nutrition to our students. Our P&C has grown over the past few years to be proportionally, one of the largest in regional NSW. Our president, Shaun McInerney and his team have done a wonderful job in promoting and supporting our school.
- ♦ The Support Unit staff providing some healthy breakfast to students.
- ♦ The new Learning Centre working with some of our vulnerable students to make them feel a stronger sense of belonging and giving withdrawal tuition to bolster students' basic skills.
- ♦ Work Education classes, preparing engaged students for life beyond the school gate. I heard a success story from a new initiative from our Careers teacher, Cathy Hansen, where a student who has just taken up a regular work placement in a local business was experiencing wonderful success.
- ♦ Agriculture facility nearing completion with nearly \$100 000 of community support to get it off the ground. Last week I had a conversation with the Senior Pathways Officer, Gavin Fletcher who was glowing in his remarks about this resource stating that it was one of the best school based horticultural facilities that he'd seen.



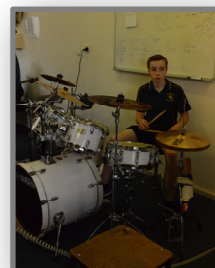
- ♦ Della Philp continuing her work as Community Outreach Teacher in a CHS based, state first initiative to re-engage students by working with them and their families in the community before transitioning them slowly to full time education, through building basic skills to a point where students better access the curriculum.



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- ◆ The students in our revamped music program, playing some of my personal favourites from Guns and Roses, specifically “Sweet Child O’ Mine”, reminding me of the work their teacher, Donald Robinson had done through our music program to provide some entertainment to the senior citizens groups in our community.



- ◆ The students and families that still support the school's uniform policy, wanting to be a team and learn together and not buckling to the issues that COVID-19 has presented in enforcing adherence to uniform compliance.

As I said, these were only a few thoughts and things that I had noticed in my morning rounds, there are certainly plenty of more examples by which we can demonstrate how we learn together here at Coomealla High.

COVID-19: COVID-19 continues to dominate the news and our lives. Border town life can be challenging when trying to meet the individual state requirements. The living conditions in NSW and Victoria are now very disparate and I suspect unprecedented.

- ◆ Victorian schools are moving to distance learning for all students except for children of essential workers and vulnerable students from Thursday forwards. Tuesday and Wednesday will be student free days to assist the schools in preparing for distance learning. NSW public schools remain open for face to face learning. At Coomealla High it is business as usual, apart from some restricted activities such as excursions and incursions students will come to school as normal.
- ◆ When you are in Victoria in public, you must wear a mask when going about your normal duties outside of home. In NSW it is optional to wear a mask. Students who come to school from Victoria should bring a mask with them to school, particularly if they are catching the bus, as they should be wearing a mask when they are in Victoria.
- ◆ The first lot of border passes will expire over the next few days. All students and staff from Victoria should spend some time and reapply for another one to avoid their current pass elapsing.
- ◆ Stage Three restrictions now apply in regional Victoria. This means unless you leave home for any of the four reasons below, you must stay home:
 - * Shopping for food or other essential items
 - * To provide care giving, for compassionate reasons or to seek medical treatment
 - * For exercise (applies to outdoor exercise, and with only one other person or members of your household)
 - * Work or study, if you cannot work or study from home.

Check in Assessment – As you would all know, due to COVID-19, this year's NAPLAN testing has been cancelled. The state government is making available a “Literacy and Numeracy Check-in” This will be only available to Years’ 3, 5 and 9 and will be open from 17th August until the 4th September. More information will be forthcoming to parents and carers of Year 9 students in the coming weeks.

School Planning: Last Friday, I spent a few hours with my principal colleagues from the NSW Sunraysia at the beautiful Buronga Public School. Our Director of Educational Leadership, Peter Macbeth, presented on the new model of school planning that we are about to embark upon. The School Excellence in Action (SEiA) model is data based planning where we have to complete a situational analysis to identify where the school base position before formulating an improvement plan. The data collection phase will involve the whole school community in a process that will uncover clear and evidenced areas for us to improve upon. Over the next three school terms, there will be much work in putting this much more refined and strategic undertaking in place.

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Students and Staff of the week:

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Year 7: Makayla Dale for Improved performance in her studies for English nominated by Mrs Batchelor.

Year 8: Zac Boundy for Leadership nominated by Ms Steel.

Cassidy Philp for Leadership nominated by Ms Steel.

Year 9: Olivia Baird for continued Application to her studies nominated by Mr Celegon, Mr Crammond & Ms Steel.

Year 10: Laura Tilley for Citizenship nominated by Ms Crowley.

Amelia Paech for Citizenship nominated by Ms Crowley.

Year 11: Jenna Ryan for Consistent application to her studies in PDHPE & SLR nominated by Mr Crammond & Mr Driscoll.

Year 12: Aiden Shaddock for Consistent application to his studies nominated by Mr Celegon & Ms Steel.

Staff: Paul Davis for his dedication to the wellbeing of our students.

Please email any suggestions to me at Stephen.harper@det.nsw.edu.au to improve this service.
Have a safe and happy week everybody!

Steve Harper
Principal



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COLD? FLU? COVID-19?

**Don't Guess...
GET A TEST!**

**Testing is FREE
No GP Referral Required**

If you're experiencing:

*** Runny Nose * Cough * Fever * Tiredness
* Loss of Smell * Trouble Breathing * Loss of Taste**



Get tested for COVID-19

COVID-19 Drive-Through Clinic Buronga

Midway Centre

10am to 2pm Mon-Fri

COVID-19 Drive-Through Clinic Balranald

Balranald MPS

1pm to 4pm, Mon - Fri

COVID-19 Drive Through Clinic Wentworth

Wentworth Health Service

10am to 2pm Mon - Fri

phn
WESTERN NSW

An Australian Government Initiative



Health
Far West
Local Health District

For more Information:

**Call the COVID-19 Hotline: 1800 020 080
visit wnswphn.org.au/coronavirus**