



COOMIE NEWS

WEEK 4, TERM 1 2022

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YEAR 11 STUDENT VOICE

Year 11 is a lot different from all the years so far. The thing that stand out to me the most is that there is a lot more school work but apart from that year 11 is the best year so far.

Luke Hutchinson



Year 11 has been great. You have so many opportunities that you didn't have last year like study periods, small classes, and extra help from the teachers. While it has been challenging due to Covid, all the teachers are trying the hardest to help in any way they can.

Jane Cullinan

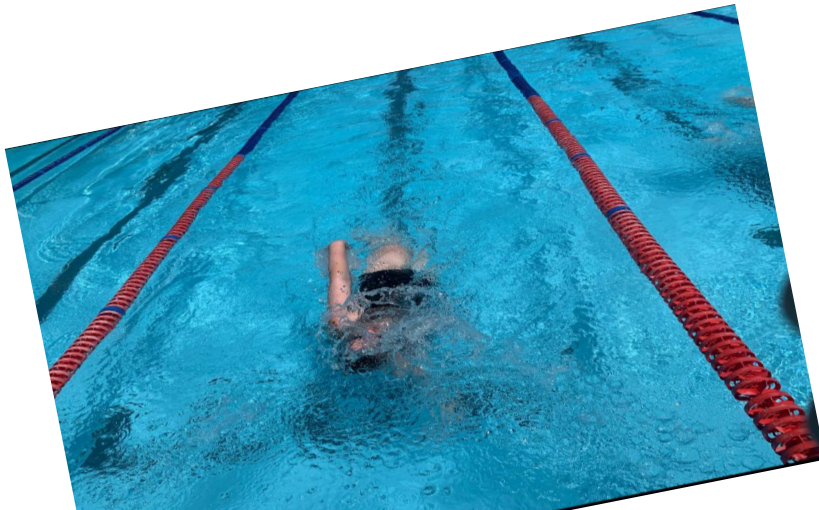


Year 11 for me has come faster then I thought it would, It is an amazing experience and I have so many more opportunities then I did last year. Year 11 is amazing and I can't wait to see how the rest of the year goes.

Seth Wilson



SWIMMING CARNIVAL



PACC MEETING

POLICE ABORIGINAL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE



MEETING WILL BE HELD:

VENUE:	Memorial Room , 66 Darling Street, Wentworth. (venue is located near Wentworth Visitor Information Centre)
DATE:	Tuesday 8th March 2022
TIME:	10.00am - 11.00am



LOCAL AECG

COOMEALLA HIGH

LOCAL AECG

WHEN:

**Thursday
3rd March @ 2pm
New members welcome**

WHERE:

COOMEALLA HIGH SCHOOL

.. RESPECT..

.. EMPOWERMENT..

.. SELF DETERMINATION ..



New South Wales
**Aboriginal Education
Consultative Group Inc.**

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ALL WELCOME...

HAVE YOUR SAY..

**MOVING FORWARD
FOR OUR KIDS...**



PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Ngayi (hello in Barkindji) to Parents and Community,



Four lucky Year 12 students were selected to attend the Resilience Arts Program this week and they travelled with teacher Ms Gigg to enjoy the many artistic delights of Sydney, joining other students from around NSW. Their itinerary was designed to provide an immersive arts experience, culminating in viewing Hamilton the musical at the Sydney Lyric Theatre. We look forward to hearing more about the trip highlights and how they survived all of that rain! The girls (Takira, Andy, Amelia and Olivia) are pictured about to leave on the plane from Mildura early on Monday morning.

We had a lovely visit from the Mayor of Wentworth Shire Mr Tim Ellstone, his wife Ellen and the General Manager of Wentworth Council, Ken Ross. Mr Ellstone and his wife are both ex-students of the school and enjoyed reminiscing about their years at Coomealla High. It was exciting to discover that Mrs Ellstone is a former School Captain of our school, with her name on our honour board. Our visitors enjoyed looking at the changes and improvements made over the years. Members of Wentworth Council will return next week for a community consultation discussion.



Barkindji language

We are pleased to report that we are currently negotiating with the NSW AECG for the delivery of Barkindji language tutoring for our Aboriginal students. This will be a wonderful opportunity for our students and opens the door to a deeper connection to culture. We are very committed to language revitalisation in our community. Parents will be receiving permission slips and more information soon.



We had a recent student meeting to discuss these plans and also enjoyed connecting with Megan and Lisa, staff from Beep-Meet, who called in to talk about their programs of support for our students, including vocational programs, assistance with transport wellbeing and cultural programs. We look forward to working with them to implement programs for our students. The first AECG meeting is on this Thursday at 2pm and community members are welcome to attend.



School operations

We have restructured our Stage 4 classes to accommodate an increase in student enrolments and some students will have a class change this week. We will be creating a separate year 7 and 8 class and retaining two others as mixed groups, as a part of the stage groupings.

Parents of students in Year 11 will be receiving Interim Reports this term for their children as it marks the mid-point of academic studies for that year group. We are keen to report on academic progress early on so that any issues can be clearly communicated and resolved early. Other year groups will not receive Interim Reports but will receive reports at the end of terms 2 and 4, which is in line with Department of Education policy of twice-yearly reports to parents.

We have been advised of changes to our COVID safe schools plans and these will take effect from today (Monday 28th February).

- Masks are no longer mandatory for high school students
- Cohorting to keep year groups apart is no longer needed
- RATs will only be needed for surveillance ie. when symptoms are present (students will be provided with additional RATS this Thursday at 3pm)

Our wonderful WHIN Nurse Michelle Chapman has kindly adjusted her days with us to balance out our support staff across the week. She will be at our school each Monday and Thursday this year.



We will be reinforcing our key values on assembly again today, this week focussing on getting to class on time and resolving conflicts peacefully at school. The first 15 mins of every lesson is critical learning time as the teacher sets up the lesson and we expect that all students get to class on time. We have three scheduled breaks throughout the day which means there is plenty of time for drinks and toilet breaks and students should not need to be late or out of class for these reasons.

We follow Department of Education policy including suspension and Police involvement for aggression and violence at school and provide a lot of support for students to resolve issues and conflicts peacefully and move on from past problems. It is our hope that our students learn these skills with our support so that they can move into adulthood without aggression towards others as a pattern of behaviour. We want our students to be safe and form positive relationships now, and in the future, to protect their physical and emotional health and avoid negative legal consequences and abusive relationships.

Finally, it was wonderful to be able to run a swimming carnival and see students and staff having a fun and relaxed day together at the pool. Thank you to Ms Barker for her superb organisation and to the senior students who attended and were great leaders on the day, helping to get junior students involved.

Yours Sincerely,

Ms Kath Steward
Executive Principal

