

# talkabout

Issue 1 15th February 2018



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## ALL WELCOME AT OUR FIRST P&C MEETINGS

The P&C will meet on Tuesday 27th February from 7 - 9pm in the Library. Meetings are held on the last Tuesday of the month. The first meeting is a general meeting followed by the AGM.

Please come and join our friendly, easy going P&C who work hard for your children.

## WELCOME TO NEW STAFF

New staff we are welcoming to the school this year include Mr Brett Quantrill (HSIE), Ms Ravana McPherson (English) and Ms Danielle Watters (Maths).



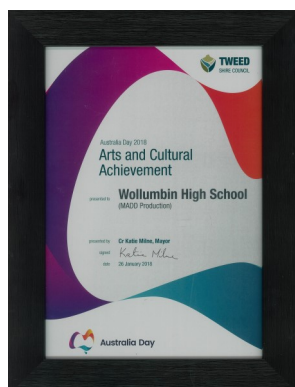
On the Administration team, we welcome Rachel Kelly and Shannon Dousling.



## CONGRATULATIONS MADDD

MADDD was awarded the Art and Cultural Achievement Australia Day 2018 Award.

The Award was accepted by Haley Hyde (past captain) and Chester Stadler (present captain). Hayley and Chester have had a long association with MADDD. Mr Glasby accompanied Hayley and Chester at the ceremony. We thank Mrs Jenny Unwin for nominating MADDD for this Award. Wonderful acknowledgement for our annual event.



## WELCOME TO 2018

A warm welcome to all our new and returning students and their families. Thank you for choosing WHS staff to educate your children. We look forward to yet another exciting, challenging and fulfilling year.

## AWARDS NIGHT 2017

Congratulations to the ever increasing number of students who are achieving at a high level and therefore acknowledged at our annual Awards Night.

Thank you to the parents, special guests and staff who made the 2017 evening so special for our students.

## IMPORTANT! STUDENT EMERGENCY CONTACT AND MEDICAL INFORMATION:

Full contact details are being posted out shortly. Please return to confirm current information or amend information if there are any changes. This enable us to have up to date contact details in the event of an emergency.

All students who return their contact details by the due date will be placed into a draw for a \$30 Gift Voucher.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS AVAILABLE ON WEBSITE

- Calendar
- Book Lists
- Positive Participation Policy
- School Fees
- PD/H/PE Advice
- Canteen Menu
- Assessment information Years 7-12

*There is much information in this edition. Please take the time to read it.*

If parents wish a hard copy of these documents, please contact Administration.

## WHS EXPECTATIONS

At our school we:

- Make Learning a Priority
- Are Respectful
- Act Safely

## STUDENT ABSENCE

The SMS message system is used to notify when a child is absent from school for all years. This will enable you to explain the absence by return SMS for this text only. This is not a dedicated number for future use. Parents are required to explain absences no later than 7 days from the first date of absence. This is a requirement of the Department of Education. If the school is not supplied with an explanation within that 7 day period the absence will be recorded as unexplained and appear as such on reports. Please phone, email, write a note or respond to the SMS to explain student absence. The school may email or phone as a reminder if no explanation has been provided after 3 days.

## HSC MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR LITERACY AND NUMERACY

Year 10 students in 2018 are the first year group to work with the HSC Minimum Standards for Literacy and Numeracy. Those students that did not pre-qualify in Year 9 by achieving a Band 8 in Reading, Writing and Numeracy will be required to pass an online test prior to receiving their Higher School Certificate. Each year, there will be two opportunities to sit the test. The first test window in 2018 will be in Week 5 of Term 2, and the second test this year will be in Term 4. Students will have 7 years to pass the test, with two opportunities each year.

We recommend that all students who did not pre-qualify sit the first test in 2018, as it will give us excellent feedback concerning which areas are required for improvement in the event that they do not pass the test on their first opportunity. This will enable targeted assistance to ensure they reach the necessary standard. The standard required to pass the test is at Level 3 of the Australian Core Skills Framework, which is not as high as the Band 8 in NAPLAN. This is why those students who have received a Band 8 have pre-qualified, as they are already above the necessary standard.

Year 10 students who are required to sit the Reading and/or Writing online tests have now begun engaging with a Literacy Planet readiness program during English classes once per week. Mathematics teachers are also working to ensure that the students will be ready to sit their Numeracy test.

## AEROSOL CANS

Aerosol cans (including deodorants) are banned in NSW schools. Students are not to bring these to school. This is a safety issue and the cans will be confiscated.

## CYBER SAFETY

An excellent site for parents to view is:

[www.cybersafekids.com.au](http://www.cybersafekids.com.au)

## OFFICE DUTY

Each day a student from year 8 will be on office duty. Students are notified in advance of their day on the Daily Information Sheet. Parents should speak with Mr Cutcher (Deputy Principal) if they have concerns about their student being involved in this school service activity.

Students are recognised for their school service with a Service to Others Outcome.

## SWIMMING CARNIVAL TUESDAY 13th FEB AT MURWILLUMBAH POOL

The carnival was very early this year but we congratulate our students for their participation and behaviour. Further information will be in the next edition. As this is a compulsory school day and students were expected to attend, non-attendance will require a note of explanation from parents.

## CONGRATULATIONS YEAR 12 2017

We congratulate Dux of Year 12, Isha Cave, who made the honours list for Ancient History.



As a small high school we are proud of our HSC students who achieved a number of early entry offers to University and scholarship offers.

Congratulations to all of Year 12 and their teachers who have worked closely together over the past 2 years to achieve results of which they can be proud.

## WHAT HAPPENS IF A CHILD IS ILL AT SCHOOL

Please do not send students to school if they are feeling ill or have uncovered wounds. It will require us to phone you to come and collect your child.

If a student presents with an illness or injury during the school day we will contact you.

If your child phones you on their mobile to say they are ill advise them to follow school procedures and to go to Administration to be assessed, and the school will call you. Please do not ask them to meet you out the front of the school. It is very important we are aware of their circumstances and that they are collected from the Administration Office.

## STUDENT PLANNER

All students have been given their new planner. A replacement planner will cost \$10.00. Please take the time to look at the first few pages with your student as it contains valuable information about our school practices and awards system.

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR P & C PRESIDENT

On behalf of the P&C I wish to welcome new and returning students to the new school year. This year set your goals high and achieve them! It was great to see everyone dressed so proudly in the new school uniform.

This leads me to touch on the P&C canteen and uniform shop. Firstly I wanted to thank Lis and Di for their amazing work on the 29<sup>th</sup> January uniform day. They did a super job in ensuring students were dressed appropriately and smartly for the first week back.

Unfortunately, some of the waiting times to be served were less than optimal and we apologise for the delays and thank you for your patience. Next year we will plan to do this day differently, either with more staff/volunteers or multiple change rooms or with set time slots or a combination! Other feedback suggested we need to alter our returns/exchange policy which we are now working on, including contact with our manufacturer in regards to any faulty items. Also expect the prices of uniforms to creep up a little as costs have increased.

The uniform shop is a work in progress so thanks for your patience! All uniforms have been re-stocked for juniors and seniors. Expecting school jumper restocks in April.

Of course if you would like to help shape what the P&C does for our students, our first meeting is 29<sup>th</sup> Feb 7pm in the Library, immediately followed by the AGM. Cheers, Don Napper.

## THANK YOU TO PARENTS

Thank you to parents who have already paid voluntary contributions and subject specific fees.

Subject fees pay for the consumables used by your child in completing projects. Voluntary contributions assist with the purchase of textbooks, ICT equipment, learning resources, paper - in fact a multitude of things used to support our students.

We have EFTPOS and Payment on Line facilities to assist parents with payment options. Of course cash and cheques are still accepted!

Your support with early payment is greatly appreciated.

### DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE INTERESTED IN ENROLMENT FOR 2019 AT WOLLUMBIN HIGH SCHOOL

Please let them know to come to our  
Open House Tours from 3.30pm.

Last tour at 5.30pm

Parent Information Session to be held at 6pm in the Library  
Both events are held on 6th March 2018

## ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

- Year 7** - Parent information evening 15th February 6pm Library.
- Year 8** - Emailed.
- Year 9** - Students have been issued with their
- & Year 10** assessment overview. Please ask for the copy and discuss with your child.
- Year 11** - Parent and student information evening is 19th February. Absent students must see Mrs Quantrill for the handbook.

## BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE (BYOD)

Students who intend bringing a device to support learning and will need to access the Department of Education internet, must meet the BYOD requirements. If parents are thinking of buying their student a device to use at school we strongly recommend it be a laptop and that the specifications outlined in the information leaflets are followed. Not all devices will log on to the Department of Education internet nor are some devices capable of meeting the learning access demands. BYOD is not mandatory and we have some banks of laptops that students can use in class with their teachers. Students wishing to BYOD will need to complete the agreements outlined in the student guidelines booklet available from Administration and return the agreements to school. Student's will be issued with a BYOD approval card when the agreement is returned and must show this card to staff on request No card no use of BYOD.

## YEAR 7 VACCINATIONS

Vaccinations will take place on 8th March. Consent forms were issued to your student on Wednesday 14th February. Please hand consent forms to Administration Office by 28th February.

### WHAT'S ON

#### Term 1 - February 2018

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| 15th February   | Year 7 Homework & Assessment Parent Information Evening 6pm Library |
| 19th February   | Year 11 Assessment Information Evening 6pm Library                  |
| 21st February   | Year 7 Camp commences   |
| 26th & 27th Feb | Primary School Visits   |

#### Term 1 - March 2018

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| 6th March  | Open House Afternoon 3.30—5.30pm       |
| 6th March  | Year 6 into 7 2019 Evening 6pm Library |
| 8th March  | Year 7 Vaccinations                    |
| 27th March | P&C Meeting 7pm Library                |

## SPORT INFORMATION

This term students will be very busy with many sporting commitments. Mr Lambert is the Sports Organiser.

The first knockout games commence at the beginning of February, with Volleyball Opens (13/2) and Under 15 Touch (23/2). Rugby League trials (24/2) will also be held. Students are asked to watch the sport notice board near the canteen where future events will be listed. They will also be listed in the Daily Notices. Some knockout games are run as gala days, while others are just a one-off games against another school.

The School's major carnivals are Swimming, Cross Country and Athletics. The Athletics carnival is held in the grounds of Murwillumbah High. It is compulsory for students who study PDHPE electives to participate in these carnivals as this is part of their assessment. See your calendar for dates for these events.

**Monies** – Students pay for their sport weekly when travelling and receive a daily, colour coded bus pass. This is purchased on a Wednesday morning and will be collected as the student gets on the bus. Some sports also have additional fees which are collected on a weekly basis. We would prefer that you do not pay weekly sport fees online.

We expect sportsmanship from all students at any sporting activity. Failure to do so will result in a suspension from the game.

## CONGRATULATIONS LAETANI

Laetani Brehaut has been selected to play in the Papua New Guinea National Touch Football competition in April. After a rigorous selection process, Laetani was selected for the women's team. Laetani will also take advantage of this trip to visit some of the remote villages in Papua New Guinea.



All the best, Laetani!

## HOMEWORK HELP

Homework help will commence Term 1, Week 4 and will run every Thursday afternoon from 3.05 to 4pm in computer room 2.

## THANK YOU ALLISON LONSDALE

Allison has been a mentor in our school due to the Bronco's program. Allison has been greatly valued in our community. See her report on page 6.



## YEAR 7 SPORT PROGRAM

**Term 1** - Students will take part in rotational activities within the school grounds. This will give them general guidance on sporting skills.

**Term 2-4** - Students are able to select their choice of sport from the range available. These selections are done electronically.

## SPORT AND PD/H/PE PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENT

Mouthguards are compulsory to wear in the following sports: Rugby League, Rugby Union, Australian Rules Football and Hockey. Student must supply a mouthguard to participate.

It is advisable that students also wear mouthguards for the following modified games: Gaelic Football, Gridiron, Australian Rules Football and Austag. As shin pads are compulsory in competition Soccer, Futsal and Hockey, Students must ensure they bring this protective equipment to participate.

## SUPPORT FOR STUDY SKILLS AND ASSESSMENT TASKS

We encourage you to visit a fantastic site the school subscribes to and is free for students and parents. Enhanced Learning Educational Services offers a range of strategies to support student learning. The website is:

[www.studyskillshandbook.com.au](http://www.studyskillshandbook.com.au)

User name: wollumbinhs

Password: 48success

We encourage you to explore the valuable information and subscribe to the monthly newsletter.

Another resource students can use to assist with assessment task completion is the ITC Think Drive which is free to Wollumbin Students.

Students can access videos, explanations, worked examples and writable templates which will assist them work out what is required for a task and what thinking tools to help with planning. Works on all devices.

<https://itcthinkdrive.com.au>

User name: WollumbinS

Password: students1

## PREMIER'S SPORTING CHALLENGE

Wollumbin students are all entered into the Premier's Sporting Challenge. This occurs in term 2 where students record their physical activities over a period of 10 weeks. They are then recognised with achievement certificates which can be included in their Quality Portfolios.



## CAR PARK SAFETY — (see diagram on right)

**DO NOT DROP STUDENTS NEAR THE CROSSING AT THE SCHOOL ENTRANCE - IT IS DANGEROUS AND ILLEGAL AS IT IS A NO STANDING ZONE**

1. A **"10 km/h speed limit"** applies to all motorists
2. Note the **"ONE WAY"** movement of traffic within the car park (clockwise)
3. The **"NO STOPPING"** zone strictly needs to be adhered to by all for traffic safety concerns. Students are not to be dropped off in this area.
4. **"Disabled Parking"** zone is allocated to the closest access to the administration building.
5. The **"30 minute parking"** zones are allocated only for parents picking up infants/primary students from the bus zones directly opposite.
6. Parents are to utilise the **"student drop off zones"** allocated. This greatly reduces congestion and improves car park safety. Students then cross at the pedestrian crossings to enter school.
7. **"Normal road rules apply"** within the car park e.g. indicating when turning.
8. **When dropping or collecting students in North Arm Road** please ensure you park as far away as possible from the roundabout to prevent traffic congestion which compromises student safety.

*We appreciate your co-operation in maintaining the safety of our students.*

## IS YOUR CHILD HAVING TROUBLE GETTING ON TOP OF THEIR HOMEWORK?

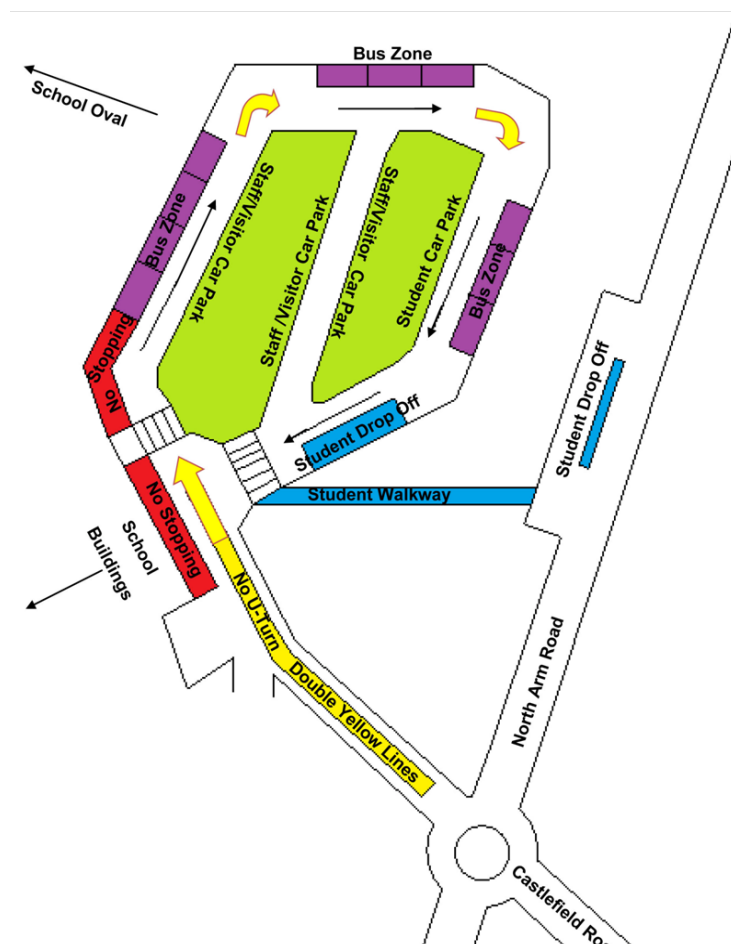
Homework help is available for all students during break 2 in the Support Room on Mondays, Tuesday and Thursday.

We have desktop computers and laptops and a colour printer connected to the school network. Students are able to word process, search the Internet, consult reference material or receive help from staff in any subject.

If your child needs help completing homework, assessment tasks or projects or just time to catch up on class work tell them to come to the Support Room. They can bring their lunch with them.



"Guess what?" "You don't have any homework tonight - I finished it all in learning support"



## WE NEED HOST EMPLOYERS!

**CONNECT is giving you the opportunity to receive a double pass to the 2018 Bluesfest!**

How to win:

- Support the VET work placement program
- Offer engaging and quality learning experiences
- If you know another industry professional who is keen to host students - refer them on to us ☺



\*CONGRATULATIONS to the 2017 winners - Marc Tuddenham of South Tweed Sports Club (Tweed Heads) & Mary Bryant of Coffee Shots (Lismore)

**3 x Bluesfest 2018 double pass giveaway**

**Host students for your chance to be selected**

**Refer a new employer**

**Tweed Heads & Lismore regions**

### CONNECT

13 & 14 / 133 Wharf Street  
Tweed Heads NSW 2486  
Ph: 07 5536 9033

147 - 149 Keen Street  
Lismore NSW 2480  
Ph: 02 6622 4199

## BEYOND THE BRONCOS PROGRAM UPDATE

Wollumbin High School Beyond the Broncos students attended the 2018 Program Launch where the program expectations were outlined by Bo De La Cruz, Scott Prince and Justin Hodges. They spoke about attendance, behaviour and conduct requirements stressing the importance of their attendance and the impact on their education.



I would just like to say a huge thank you for your support and friendship. I have loved working at Wollumbin High School. No doubt I will miss the young people and you all, but it's time to move on and grab another opportunity with the great football team that I am privileged to work for. St Josephs is calling, our new school with a substantial amount of Indigenous girls to get organised.

I'm sure you will be happy and like equally, my replacement Haley Kite. Haley has recently relocated from Sydney with her husband, league favourite, Brent Kite. Haley comes to you with extensive experience in Community Service and social work. She has been working with disengaged youth, refugees and parents for the last few years and is currently studying Social Welfare at SCU. Haley also has excellent business skills, having run her own business for a period of time.



I will still be working to support the Indigenous students at Wollumbin High in our other program, Career Club/Youth Employment.

Go the Broncos!

Allison Lonsdale

## Dear Parents and Carers of Year 12

You are invited to a workshop for all Year 12 students.

If you have any questions about University or TAFE they may be answered at this workshop which has been organised to inform Year 12 of a variety of future options.

**When:** Thursday 22nd February 2018

**Where:** Wollumbin High School Library

**Time:** 11.30am to 12.30pm

**Who:** Year 12 Students and their Parents or Carers

Universities and TAFE will be in attendance at the workshop to provide the most up-to-date information

## Year 12 University Showcase



## CONGRATULATIONS CHESTER

Chester Stadler competed in the Lions Youth of the Year competition proudly representing our school. Chester attended an interview, responded to two impromptu speeches and gave a prepared speech.

A big ask given he participated in the swimming carnival too.



## WELLBEING TEAM

We are excited to announce the establishment of a Wellbeing Team at Wollumbin High School! The team will support the school's 2018-2020 strategic directions by focusing on ways to further improve a positive wellbeing environment for students, parents and staff. You may remember completing a MindMatters survey in 2016. The results have been invaluable in assisting the direction of our team. The results showed WHS was faring well in many areas. The survey indicated parents wanted communication about wellbeing, awareness and understanding of wellbeing programs running at WHS or where to access information/help for wellbeing. Opportunities for students to build confidence and resilience were identified by parents as areas they wish the school to focus on further.

The Wellbeing team will focus on the following areas for parents and students:

1. Student Resilience
2. Awareness - promote programs currently running at school and where to access help
3. Learning – ways to give students greater independence/real skills/confidence

This will assist staff, students and parents to have a better understanding of wellbeing and engagement as important conditions for learning.

For more information, please contact Head Teachers Kathryn Perry or Chris Brooker at school.

First up, here is a list of local resources who promote Wellbeing!

### **Murwillumbah Community Centre - 02 6672 3003**

Services include:

1. **Information, Referral and Support Service**  
The Centre provides a one stop shop for community support, information and referrals.
2. **Financial-** emergency relief and advice
3. **Connecting Home – Tenancy Support**  
Connecting Home supports youth, men, women and families who are homeless or at imminent risk of homelessness to remain safely in their existing housing; find secure, stable housing; or sustain their accommodation once housed. Please ring Connecting Home and they will refer you to our Tenancy Support Service at Murwillumbah Community Centre.
4. **Connecting Home - Youth** – 1800 048 310 – (works with young people 0-18 who are homeless or at risk. If you are homeless and require temporary accommodation please ring – **LINK TO HOME** 1800 152 152
5. **Aboriginal Family Support Worker** - PH: 02 6672 3003

## **Northern Rivers Tenancy Advice and Advocacy Service**

Mon-Thurs mornings

**Phone:** 02 6621 1022 **Free call:** 1800 649 135

**Social Futures:** Email: [frs@socialfutures.org.au](mailto:frs@socialfutures.org.au)

**Tweed** 15-17 Frances Street Tweed Heads NSW 2485

Services include:

1. **Reconnect** – 02 6620 1800 (Family focused early intervention service 12-18 years). Creating positive change for young people Reconnect assists young people who may be at risk of becoming homeless due to the breakdown of family relationships.
2. **The Family Referral Service** is a prevention and early intervention service that provides information, case coordination and referrals to local community services for families with children and young people who need assistance with the challenges and demands of family life. **Phone:** 1800 338 774
3. **Connecting You (HYAP)** - Connecting You helps young people (aged 12-15) from Tweed Heads to Grafton who are having problems at home, or who are at risk of becoming homeless, to get connected with family
4. **Youth on Track** - Life can be hard as a young person. If you want to get back on track, we can help. What is Youth on Track? Youth on Track is designed to help teens (10-17 years) who are at risk of long-term involvement in the criminal justice system.

**Tweed Drug and Alcohol service** – 07 5506 7010

**Murwillumbah Community Health** - 02 6672 1822

**Bugalwena Aboriginal Health Service** –

**Senior Aboriginal Health Education Officer** Ph. 07 5506 7597 Tweed Byron Health Service Group. Cooloon PI, Tweed Community Health Centre

**Headspace** – 07 5589 8700 (for young people 12 to 25)

**Mates** – 07 5524 5799 (supports people who are socially isolated to reconnect with their families)

**Phone support:**

**Domestic violence** – 1300 720 606

**Kids helpline** – 1800 551 800

**Headspace** – 07 5589 8700 (for young people 12 to 25)

## **COUNSELLING**

**Mental Health Access Line - 1800 011 511**

**Psychologists** – website: **Australian Psychological Society**  
– enter: *Find a psychologist*



## AWARDS NIGHT 2017

