



Muirfield Matters

Issue 7 2020

Term 3 Week 3

From the Principal - Ms Reeves



Welcome back!

Term 3 commenced for school staff with the School Development Day. After the Term 2 focus on COVID, it was satisfying to focus on teaching and learning.

Experienced and expert teachers shared elements of their practice around classroom management, Year 12 success and using a "flipped class" model of teaching, so that all staff can refine their repertoire of teaching strategies.

Although the administrative and support staff have done, as all our staff have done, previous learning on using defibrillators, support staff did a lesson on the specific defibrillator we have at school. This is one type of learning we hope never has to be put into practice.

At the centre of most of our professional learning is how we can improve student outcomes, especially in writing. Literacy, and how it should be taught, is understandably a topic of much professional dialogue in teaching. Teaching literacy is not just about "the basics".

Earlier this term, in an email directly to parents, I shared some outstanding work of Year 9 students in Commerce and PDHPE.

On pages 5 & 6 you will find extracts from two essays written by Year 10 Dance students. The sophistication of vocabulary, sentence structure and concepts is a reflection of the depth of teaching that explicitly addresses the literacy demands of each subject.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

| | |
|---|-------|
| From Ms. Reeves | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome Back • New Staff • Curriculum for Year 9 and Year 11, 2021 • Year 12 • Properties | 1-4 |
| Year 10 Dance Essay Extracts | 5-6 |
| Year 12's Coronalympics | 7-10 |
| Muirfield CAPA Extracurricular Afterschool Activities | 11-13 |
| School Notice - Attendance | 14 |
| P&C, Uniform Shop | 15-17 |
| 2020 Calendar | 18 |

New Staff

I am very happy to announce that Michelle Towner, who many of you would know as she is our front face at reception and on the phone, has been made permanent. Deb Northwood, who has been working as the farm assistant in a temporary capacity, was successful at merit selection to gain permanency. Deb has made great improvements in the facilities on the farm.



Ms. Michelle Towner



Ms. Deb Northwood

Curriculum for Year 9 and Year 11, 2021

The final aspects of subject selection for Year 8 and Year 10 students will take place over the next two weeks, and then the Senior Executive will be ready for investigation as to what will be offered in 2021. This is a massive and important task. We do want students to do what they are good at and what they like so it's important that the detail of the process is right. While it is not possible to guarantee that every student will get everything they wish for, we try very hard to accommodate everyone.

Year 12

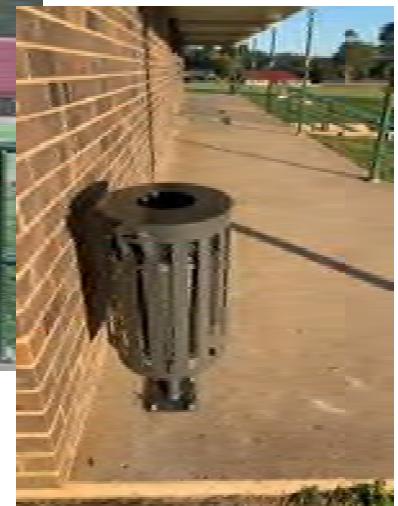
The final celebrations for the end of this term – the Graduation Ceremony and the Formal – are important milestones and rituals for students, their teachers and parents. We do love this time of year and the opportunity to celebrate, reminisce, laugh, connect.

The dreaded COVID situation may well change aspects to these ceremonies. What we will do is to honour our Year 12 students and their parents in the best way we can, no matter the restrictions. We won't be making any decisions until we have advice – which currently is a moveable feast!

I will keep the community posted.

Properties

We have had ongoing problems with cockatoos pulling out rubbish. They are very clever birds, learning how to open bin lids, working in tandem to rock bins so they fall over, pulling at bin liners so that the rubbish spills out. See the mess they created!



Julie Ogle, our Business Manager, was successful in getting an environmental protection grant of \$17,500 from the Federal government. We have bought 12 cockatoo proof bins. If the cockatoos learn how to open these bins, it will be evidence that we have the world's strongest and smartest cockatoos.



Australian Government
**Department of Industry,
Innovation and Science**

Many of our old outdoor seating are wearing out. Last term we had several complete units – seats, tables and shelter – installed. Our continual project of renewal will continue. New seats are immediately claimed by students. Watch this space – the senior courtyard upgrade will start this term.



Our STEM room upgrade is underway. As is often the case with work on buildings over 40 years old, issues present themselves. Asbestos containing material was found inside the construction site. Safety measures were immediately implemented and included restricting access and installation of air-monitoring to ensure there is no risk to students, staff or the local community.

The area is within the construction site and thus has been, and will continue to be, out of bounds to students and staff. This area was quickly remediated in accordance with the Department of Education's Asbestos Management Plan and SafeWork NSW regulations.

All work was completed by licensed and accredited asbestos contractors, and monitored by occupational hygienists in strict accordance with all applicable legislation, regulations, policies and guidelines. Testing was completed to ensure the area has been fully remediated. A clearance certificate was issued.

Year 10 Dance Essay Extracts

Sue Healey's 2002 abstract contemporary, 'Niche', encapsulates a unique and chilling narrative of one's psychology through space, dynamics and time...

[The] concept of struggling communication with the supernatural presence is portrayed by Erkin's emotion filled performance, which enhances a sense of empathy in the audience. The spatial elements are generally low, narrow and angular with downwards directions, conveying the sense of isolation and fear experienced. The dynamic elements contrast throughout the dance varying from sluggishly lethargic to sporadic releases of energy, prominently projecting ideas of confusion and stress. Finally, time is incorporated with irregular rhythms combined with no beat, to imply the unstructured thoughts and affliction.

Overall these elements combined with performance quality to emphasise the anomalous behaviour by one who experiences enigmas with understanding their mind.

Spatial elements have been efficaciously utilised to convey the restricted, but rather abstract story which evokes audiences to feel intrigued and concerned for the dancer. The performance space is a small, narrow and confined room, which indirectly creates a sense of isolation. We see the further constriction when other people fill the room, There is an emphasis on the dancer's relationship with the empty room and mottle green wall. The low, narrow and downwards movement of sliding against the wall symbolises the dragging of her disorientation and despair. The motif of the right-angle is established with her straight legs and upright body. The right-angle motif is further demonstrated with her arm and also when she abruptly turns her head towards it. The use in geometric shapes portrays something rather unnatural that has intruded her thoughts and is centred with the spatial relationship with the wall.

Written by Hritu,
Year 10 Dance



Year 10 Dance Essay Extracts

The elements of dance are a critical element in helping convey the intent of a dance film. Sue Healey's dance film *Niche* utilises space, time and dynamics to communicate the feelings of emptiness and idea of a lack of human connection. The dancer is able to communicate these ideas through the chosen choreo and the way that she performs these movements. The movements link together with the elements of dance thus creating a far more significant meaning, representing the intent of the dance, being the longingness for human connection.

In the work *Niche*, space helps to reflect the feeling of isolation and being confined in a small space. The spatial relationship between the dancer and the wall communicate these ideas throughout the film. Healey wanted to create a small and confined space to communicate the idea of a lack of human connection, even with the people inhabiting the walls creating an environment where the dancer looks and feels isolated. The dancer utilises the wall to show the spatial relationship between the wall and the dancer. She begins the dancer with the movement of her hand, where she slowly creeps her hand around the corner revealing to the camera. She then lets go and slowly creeps her finger along the wall until they lay flat against it. She then moves her body into the view of the camera. Her body cradles the wall as it turns around as she comes to a complete stop. With the left side of her body hidden behind the wall and her right side rests against the wall, with her right leg, bent against the wall. At this point, the dancer places her hand directly in front of her face, from here she slowly isolates the movements of her hand and moves it up the wall above her hand as if she was reaching for. She then moved her hand back down in an irregular and angular motion, until it came to a stop at her hips level. This movement communicates the connection the dancer has with the wall itself, how she feels a connection to the people in the walls and how they make her feel not alone; an idea which is prominent throughout Healey's work.

Written by Brooke
Year 10 Dance



2020 Coronalympics



Coronalympics – the ingeniously named afternoon of sports and party games – was run by the Year 12 student executive team, and enjoyed by the Year 12 cohort.

On the last Friday of Term 2, for a little longer than the duration of lunch, the oval was filled with slightly more activity than usual. Between a massive game of “Capture the Toilet Paper” and an unconventional match of soccer, students and a handful of teachers (honorary Year 12 members for the afternoon) came head to head in some of the most competitive sport championships of the year.

The prize? A protective mask.



Students also joined in on an exceptionally energetic game of Musical Chairs. It was not uncommon to blink and miss one student diving for a chair, and one ending up on the ground. The race of Red Light, Green Light was just as thrilling. Never before has a traditional party game become so fierce and entertaining to watch.





For those who wished to partake in some less competitive activities, there was option of the

Jelly Bean Guessing, or even Pin the Mask on Mr Wilcox. Not a real mask, of course. Nor the actual Mr Wilcox. But that did not take away from the satisfaction of opening your eyes to see the mask at least pinned on the printout, and not a metre away on the wall.



Despite missing the opportunity to have the 'Year 12 experience' at events such as the athletics carnival as a result of the virus, it hasn't meant that our final year has been any less enjoyable. The variety of ways in which students and teachers have come together, such as this afternoon of events, has made this year one to cherish forever, even if it wasn't quite how we expected it to go!

Article Written By Lucy Castelletti
2020 School Captain



CORONALYMPICS

| EVENT: SNEEZE AND COUGH | | | |
|-------------------------|----------|------------|--------|
| CURRENT STANDINGS | | | |
| | SPEED | DISTANCE | GERMS |
| | ATTAINED | TRAVELLED | SPREAD |
| 1 | 98.3 MPH | 4.8 METRES | 99.980 |
| 2 | 94.1 MPH | 4.6 METRES | 94.0 |
| 3 | 91.2 MPH | 4.5 METRES | 91.0 |
| 4 | 88.7 MPH | 4.4 METRES | 88.0 |

Bob Smith







Muirfield CAPA Extracurricular Afterschool Activities

Muirfield is eager to announce that our extracurricular afterschool activities are up and running with a new sense of excitement, whilst practising all necessary Covid-19 protocol. Our teachers have been working hard to ensure that all students are engaged and having fun, despite the current circumstances.



Art group is back, picking up where we left off, with students currently working on drawing portraits, oil paint and independent projects. Miss Frame, the heart of Muirfield CAPA, runs art group with a genuine interest, care and patience in students and their progression in art. The atmosphere is always playful and fun, with



excitement levels high. Art group is important to many students and has allowed for Muirfield to establish a community of like-minded creative people. Originality is always encouraged, with student suggestions on art activities taken. For some, it is an opportunity to clear their head and be in a safe, supportive environment and it has been dearly missed

during COVID restrictions. However, we aspire to continue developing art and expanding the already strong art community with students of all ages taking part in art group. Safety precautions are in place with students socially distancing. Unfortunately we are currently full and have been for the past two years, so make sure next year to apply early and take part in the Muirfield art group.



Dance is a beloved extracurricular at Muirfield, run by Miss Knobbs who dedicates her time and energy to providing a fun, engaging and creative outlet for students. Whilst fun there are many benefits to dance including, discipline, focus, patience and strength building.



Currently it is fully functional and practising social distancing. The exciting boys hip hop group is taking on more members, whilst Thursday dance has limited spaces. The boys hip hop group is impressive with students learning to perform all different types of tricks, and they are in the midst of preparing a routine for a future event. Sean from Year 8, who takes part in afterschool hip hop is grateful for the opportunity and missed it not being available during isolation, saying, "Before, in quarantine, it was boring. We couldn't do it at home. Now I have the ability to do it at school, it's great".



Additionally, Muirfield's afterschool drama group, which is run on Thursdays by Miss Kidd, is enthusiastic with a playful and energetic atmosphere. Miss Kidd is passionate about drama and establishing a fun and supportive environment for students to learn. The group is currently working on a group device performance which students are writing it themselves,



with a theme of 'if a superhero's villain was time'. Drama encourages creativity and engagement with students across all grades interacting and taking part. Currently there are limited spots available. The drama group is practising all safety precautions necessary regarding drama.



Both The Stage Band and Concert Band are excited to be back. Whilst a lot of things have stayed the same, many have changed, like the precautions students take after rehearsal. Students now must wipe down their chairs and stand. This hasn't muted the band's enthusiasm for practising and they have come back invigorated and even better. During isolation the conductor, Damien, took the liberty of running workshops on zoom, proving Muirfield's passion for band. The band are looking forward to the next term of rehearsals at the school, so no need to worry: the fun and energetic performances that are a staple at all Muirfield events will continue. Currently there are spaces available, especially for saxophone.

Finally, afterschool guitar group is back and run by Craig who is committed to teaching students the skill of guitar in a hygienic and socially safe environment. So



much so, that isolation came with no sacrifice, as intensive lessons were run online, however they are glad to be back, with positions available for those to join.

Article Written by
Sophie Balada-Gray Year 9

Notice to Parents

Student Attendance

At Muirfield we take the attendance of our students very seriously.

We understand that we are now living in a world with COVID and have to make changes to our normal day-to-day lives. When we would normally go to school or work if we were only little under the weather, now we have to stay home, to protect those around us.

While it is important that everyone stays home if they are sick, we ask that you please be aware of the long and short term repercussion of non-essential absences, and the effect it could have on your child's education.

Days missed = years lost
A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...

| When your child misses just... | they miss weeks per year | and years over their school life |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 day per fortnight | 4 weeks | Over 1 year missed |
| 1 day per week | 8 weeks | Over 2.5 years missed |

education.nsw.gov.au

P&C & Uniform Shop News

P&C News

Due to the current health restrictions, all P&C meetings are cancelled until further notice. If you would like to contact the P&C, please email us on muirfield.p.and.c@gmail.com.

Charmaine Hetem
P&C President

School Uniform Shop

The Uniform Shop is still open to students on Monday 12:30pm-1:30pm (No evening trade until further notice, sorry for any inconvenience).

Orders must be collected from the Uniform Shop on a Monday at lunchtime between 12:30-1:30.

Black fleece jackets are now a standard stocked item and available from the Uniform Shop and via the Qkr app.

Uniform orders can ONLY be placed via the Qkr app or from the Uniform Shop. Please DO NOT hand in order forms to the office, If you have any issues please feel free to contact the uniform shop directly via email at mfh.pnc.uniform@gmail.com.

We thank you for your patience at this time.

MUIRFIELD HIGH SCHOOL UNIFORM SHOP

TERM 3 TRADING HOURS

Monday
12:30 - 1:30pm
(Students Only)



Muirfield High School Uniform Shop

All uniform items now available on Qkr!

Qkr! (pronounced 'quicker') is an easy to use app that makes ordering and paying for your school uniforms quick, simple and secure.

Getting Started is Easy

Step 1 Download Qkr!

Download the Qkr! app to your phone or tablet device (App Store or Play Store)

Step 2 Register

Follow the prompts and select Australia

Set up your name and a password.

Add your credit card details.

Find Muirfield High School

Add the names of your children.

Step 3 Start shopping

Choose the next Monday delivery.

Select the items you want, add to Cart, then Checkout when you are finished.

You can view and print a receipt (or email it) if required.

Step 4 Collect purchase

Students pick up their uniform items during Monday lunchtime opening 12:30 – 1:30pm.

(Orders to be placed by Sunday midnight for Monday pick up)

What if I don't have a smart phone?

You can use Qkr! online. Go to <https://qkr.mastercard.com/for-everyone-australia/> and select "Use Qkr! Online" You will need to register and you will then be able to order uniforms online.

Questions about using Qkr!?

If you require further information or have any concerns, please email Muirfield P&C Assoc. Uniform Shop Committee on mhs.pnc.uniform@gmail.com.

Please note that Uniform Shop orders **CANNOT be made via the 'Muirfield High School' website payment system.

UNIFORM SHOP PRICE LIST



Muirfield High School P&C Association Uniform Shop Price List/Order Form Term 3 2020

18/05/2020

| | Size | No. | Price | Total |
|--|------|-----|-------|-------|
| Junior Boys Shirt | | | \$32 | |
| Senior Boys Shirt | | | \$32 | |
| Unisex Cargo Shorts | | | \$38 | |
| Boys Tailored Long Pants | | | \$50 | |
| Junior Girls Blouse | | | \$32 | |
| Senior Girls Blouse | | | \$32 | |
| Pleated Black Skirt | | | \$38 | |
| Girls Black Pants | | | \$30 | |
| Green Jumper | | | \$45 | |
| Green Zip Jacket (limited sizes while stocks last) | | | \$30 | |
| Black Fleece Jacket | | | \$65 | |
| Unisex Sport Shirt | | | \$33 | |
| Unisex (Straight Leg) Sports Shorts | | | \$30 | |
| Unisex (Regular Leg) Sports Shorts | | | \$30 | |
| Tracksuit Jacket | | | \$45 | |
| Tracksuit Pants | | | \$30 | |
| Senior Ties | | | \$25 | |
| Apron | | | \$15 | |
| Scarf | | | \$8 | |

Total Amount Owing

\$ _____

Payment can be made by Cash, Cheque or Visa/ MasterCard

Please make cheques payable to Muirfield High School Uniform Shop

WHY NOT USE OUR ONLINE
ORDERING VIA

Uniform shop hours :

Monday 12.30 pm to 1.30 pm
1st Monday night of the month 5.30 pm to 7 pm
(except where the 1st Monday falls during school & public holidays)



SEE REVERSE



2020

School Holidays & Terms

- School Holidays
- Public Holidays
- School Development Days

January

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July

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November

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COMMUNITY NEWS AND ADVERTISEMENTS

Disclaimer: Advertisements placed in the school's newsletter do not reflect an endorsement or otherwise by Muirfield High School of that product or service

Football is Back Baby!

Break the Isolation and get into the world's most popular game.



Training to commence in June in a safe and controlled environment. Weekend games will follow.

Register at roseleafc.com



**Parramatta Lions
Junior AFL Club**

**Come and play in a club that includes
Everyone as part of a team!
* All ages * All abilities * Boys and girls teams**



Play on Sundays. Train on Thursday nights. Home ground is Old Kings Oval in Parramatta Park. For more info please contact Brad 0420 549 838
president@parramattalions.com.au parramattalionsjafc.teamapp.com

COMMUNITY NEWS AND ADVERTISEMENTS

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Muirfield High School Dance Room

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CONTEMPORARY
BALLET



TAP

JAZZ

ACROBATICS



GKR KARATE PRIME
STRONG HUMBLE BRAVE



CONFIDENCE IS THE BEST SELF DEFENCE

You are invited to attend a **FREE TRIAL CLASS**
at our upcoming **Open Night**

Muirfield High School, Barclay Rd North Rocks
Tuesday & Friday 4:30-5:15 and 5:30-6:30pm

Our classes provide a positive learning environment for the whole family.
Students of all ages can build confidence, improve their fitness and
be empowered to reach their maximum potential in all areas of life.

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cagius@gkrkarate.com

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• Private Lessons
No fuss. No uniforms. No expensive concert costumes.
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