

COONABARABRAN HIGH SCHOOL and P&C NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2020



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www.coonabarabranhigh.com

Ms M Doolan, Principal

Ms Karine Williams P&C President

CHS Ag Skills Day 2020



Upcoming Dates:

- **07-09-20**
Year 11 Exams
- **14-9-20**
Music Prac exams
- **22-9-20**
**Prefect Induction
Ceremony**
*(livestreamed for
parents & carers)*
- **24-09-20**
**Year 12
Graduation
Ceremony**
*(livestreamed for
parents and
carers)*



**Excellence
Resilience
Respect**

Ms Mary Doolan Principal's Report

The last few weeks have seen a number of highlights including our wonderful Feast of Words, Ag Skills Day and Athletics Carnival. In relation to the latter it was so good to see our senior students setting a strong example of enthusiastic participation. Fabulous too, is our new mosaic "Welcome" sign (details within). My thanks to Ms Emma Rankmore and Support Unit Staff and students for their generous creativity.

Year 12 students have now completed their Trial HSC Examinations and are working with staff to complete course work and commence targeted revision. Due to Covid-19 we are not able to hold a Formal this term but are planning for one in November, post the examination period. The Year 12 Graduation Assembly will be livestreamed on 24th September to enable parents and carers to share, albeit via technology, this special day.

The process for selecting our school leaders for 2021 has commenced and we look forward to hearing from our prospective prefects, next week.

A warm welcome is extended to Mrs Kate Bain who has recently joined the English Faculty. Kate brings considerable experience and expertise and we look forward to working with her.

Finally, whilst wearing school uniform is not the most important thing a student can do to support a positive and productive school day, it certainly does support student behaviour and the school's culture. The school can assist with the provision of uniform if required. Your support in strengthening this aspect of a respectful school culture is appreciated.

**MS. MARY DOOLAN
PRINCIPAL**

CHS AG SKILLS DAY 2020



Introducing students to, and promoting awareness of the diverse range of skills in the agriculture industry through hands-on experience in small groups.

There is always a huge diversity of skills offered at the Ag Skills Day, and that did not change last week when the day functioned in compliance with COVID-19 guidelines.

This valuable learning experience was attended by Coonabarabran High School students studying Agriculture and Primary Industries and Year 8 who took advantage of being hands-on in the following workshops:

Kate Davies showed there is more to know about Sheep than you first think;
Chris Cormie demonstrated yet again that he is a guru in Horse Training;
Pig Assessment was thoroughly covered by Michelle Webb;
Marty Wilkin challenged the Knot Tying skills of all students;
Greg Larkin and Richard Fleming were impressed by the focus of students in Welding;

Ange Bunner involved students in making Bee homes;
Callen Thompson engaged his audience in Weed Management;
Kevin Keeler helped students become competent with Pipe Fittings;
Kevin Bell brought his sheep and magnificent sheep dogs to the day;
Kelly Leedham and May Fleming ran Bird Identification;
Students made Mini Worm Farms with Maryann Ebsworth,
Stefan Elbouné helped students appreciate the value of Natural Habitat Corridors as well as running two workshops for Roving Reporters;
Dan Stewart and Liz Hawkins taught students some basic Tractor maintenance and driving skills; and,

Will Thorncraft and Luke Milsom worked with students covering the complexities and relative advantages and disadvantages of different Biosecurity techniques.



We appreciate the support given to the school this year by all the experienced, passionate, engaging, flexible presenters.

We are also most grateful for Equity funds distributed by the State Government to our school supporting student education and countering the socio-economic disadvantage of our school due to isolation and the economy. The school canteen once again supplied a sumptuous banquet, a fitting accompaniment to a brilliant, hands-on, day of learning for our students.

Kellie Nash



P & C PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Due to the impact of Covid-19 restrictions, our P&C has not been able to meet, however, here is an update on things that have happened behind the scenes:

- The P&C applied for a grant from UNICEF to support our Year 12 Formal, given that they have had very few opportunities to raise funds this year. We were advised last week that we have received a grant of \$3000 towards the cost of the Year 12 Formal.
- An application for an FRRR grant was made to upgrade the school's flight simulator software and various hardware parts. The grant application was successful to the amount \$4500. Our thanks to Geoff Gasior of the Coonabarabran Aero Club and Vivian Evans of Dark Sky Innovations for their efforts and support facilitating this grant application.
- Our canteen now has Eftpos available – so far this seems to be popular with students – thank you for supporting our wonderful facility.
- On behalf of the P&C - Congratulations to Mary Doolan and Duncan Graham on their appointments as Principal and Deputy Principal of our school.

As soon as we are able to meet, we will hold the P&C AGM. Importantly, we know that we need a volunteer for the role of P&C Secretary – thank you to Gary Eriksson who has held this role for a number of years, your support is most appreciated.

Unfortunately, for the next few months our fundraising opportunities are having to take a backseat. As soon as we are able, we will be busy again, and asking for ideas and assistance to help our school.

If you would like to share ideas, but do not like committees, please feel free to email us at chspnc@gmail.com Best wishes as you continue to support your family and community through the challenge of Covid-19.

Karine Williams



WE NOW HAVE
EPOS
AVAILABLE

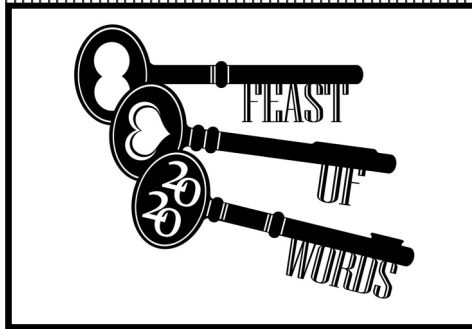
UPCOMING

COB LOAF
\$5.50

BEEF
STROGANOFF
\$6.00

SPECIALS





Amidst all the uncertainty surrounding the Covid-crisis it was lovely to be able to continue our fine tradition of our annual Feast of Words. We had two presenters, Mrs Elizabeth Macintosh and Ms Amelia Adam who presented to our students this year.

Mrs Macintosh focused on breaking down the language of imaginative writing, looking at innovative ways to engage the interest of the reader. Her activities focusing on dialogue were especially detailed and useful. Ms Adam shared her wealth of knowledge of journalism, sharing stories about the routines of her day and also tips for writing with purpose and meaning-making each word count.

Our 50 word novel competition was widely contested as usual. This year's theme was Keys.

Natasha Dent

Junior School Winner (Years 7-9) –
Amara Watton from Year 8

Exposed

*My diary open, the key was missing,
everyone knew.*

*I was no longer me, but a rumour,
stripped of my confidence, exposed.
People had heard of me for all the
wrong reasons, they finally had a
story to go with the face.*

*This isn't how it should've happened.
Not me.*

Staff Winner – Mr Paul Iannuzelli

The Tale of Two Keys

*Once upon a time, there were two
keys.*

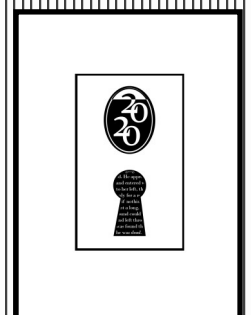
*One wanted to copy everyone, and
tried all of their locks. Eventually,
his shoulders sagged, his edges wore
down, and he fell to bits.*

*The other pondered his reflection in
an outlandish loch. It pleased him,
and he lived happily ever after.*

Senior School Winner (Year 10-12) –
Adele Ensor from Year 10

The Little Things

*The sky looked black, sad even. The dull
city moved around me. I felt nothing,
numb. I ran to the park, quickly,
quietly. Colours exploded from the park,
birds chirped, kids played. I mentally
unlock my heart with a key. Allowing
myself to feel something. I realise a
small smile.*





Athletics Carnival 2020

Finally, the planets aligned and we were able to schedule the Annual Coonabarabran High Athletics Carnival. Changes were announced by the Department of Education that no Carnivals were allowed to go ahead after Wednesday 19th August so we were lucky to hold it on Monday the 17th and Tuesday the 18th in glorious sunny winter conditions. The students were grateful for the opportunity to take part especially Year 12 who had their trial H.S.C. exams the week before. The conditions were great which was reflected in the number of records broken:

Kurt Rutter	14yrs Javelin 39.95m
Madison Heywood	Senior Javelin 25.54m
Siarne Davis	14yrs Discus 30.90m
Alirah Watton	15yrs Shot Put 10.29m
Kurt Rutter	14yrs Discus 44.75m



*Above:
Javelin throwing
Jack Rutland Davey in
action*



*Left:
Age Champions*

There were many tight contests during the day, making the age champions highly contested. The eventual winners were:

12yrs	Hannah Evans	Kayne Hanney
13yrs	Tahni Bowmaker	Dainton Kuras
14yrs	Kayla Smith	Kurt Rutter
15yrs	Alirah Watton	Declan Eshman
16yrs	Amarlee Vallette	Alex Robinson
Senior	Meg Underwood	Harry Willoughby

Below: Kurt Rutter gives his all at the high jump.



The house points had a clear winner due to the dedication of some hardworking house captains who rallied their troops to squeeze the maximum out of entry points. 4th Timor, 3rd Nandi, 2nd Mopra, 1st Tibuc. We congratulate all students who entered and due to Covid-19 restrictions this is, unfortunately the end of their path for this year. Looking forward to a more traditional 2021.

Col Cousens



SLIME MAKING



D1 students, under the guidance of their teacher Miss Rankmore, have been undertaking experiments in the Science area of Chemical Sciences this semester. This week, they created slime using Elmers School Glue and Magic Liquid, as shown in the photos here. Later this term, they will be making Snow Fluff, Play-dough and Sherbet.

Emma Rankmore

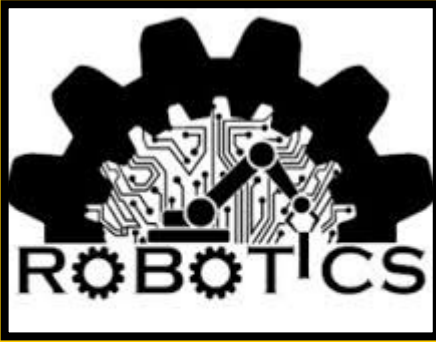


Important Safety Message

Dear Parents and Carers,
Please make all before and after school pick up and drop offs either south of the school car parks or north of the bus bay area. This will allow safe footpath access for students to cars and enable buses to navigate the school area safely and with minimum traffic disturbance.

Thank you
DUNCAN GRAHAM
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL





SUPERNOVA STAR SQUAD 6476

Tools for Success

A Big thankyou to Inland Rail from Supernova Star Squad.



Coonabarabran High School's Robotics Team, Supernova Star Squad, although very disappointed that this year's tournaments were cancelled, were excited to find out that they were one of the successful applicants for an Inland Rail Community Sponsorships and Donations Program grant.

The Inland Rail grant has provided the team with much-needed high-quality hand and power tools, and storage equipment. The tools were sourced locally with the help from the supportive staff at Roach's Hardware

and will come in very handy when building a robot.



The team is very excited about competing in next year's tournaments and have already been enjoying the use of the new 'fancy' tools and can't wait to see what they can achieve with them.

A big thankyou to Inland Rail for supporting STEM in small communities!

Sherelle Moore





Gulbiyaay—Welcome!

Students in D1 (with assistance from D2 students) have been working on a major class project for the past 12 months – a giant mosaic sign to be put at the entrance of the school.

The sign says 'Gulbiyaay' (phonetically pronounced Gool-Bee-Eye), which in our local Gamilaraay language means Welcome. Students in Year 8 will be well aware of this word as they are studying Gamilaraay language in their LOTE studies this year.

D1 students (with the assistance of SLSO Meg Rice and their teacher Miss Rankmore) cut the letters out using a jigsaw, sanded and painted the letters using black paint, cut all the glass tiles using glass nippers, cemented the cut tiles onto the letters using mosaic style, grouted all the letters, cut (with the assistance of Andrew Moody) and painted the background blue. In addition they used marine varnish to cover the background and used liquid nails to attach the letters to the background piece.

Students then worked with Mr Keeler to put the artwork in place at the entrance of the school – ensuring it was attached to the bricks safely and securely.

D1 students thank Ms Doolan for her vision, Mr Graham, Mrs Stanton, Mr Ashby, Mr Keeler, Mr Stewart, Mrs Rankmore, Mr Heaney and a myriad of other staff who have given their time and assistance to help make this artwork come to fruition.

Emma Rankmore



VP Day 75 Year Anniversary



On Monday 17th August Coonabarabran High School commemorated the 75th anniversary of the end of the Second World War. Year 10 History students spoke about the significance of the end of the war and gave accounts from individuals who experienced the conflict including Bill Schmitt, Anne Haines, and Smoky Dawson. Thanks to Caleb Smith, Vance McDonald, Alishea Rankin, and Jacob Bonello for their heartfelt contribution to our understanding of this very important event.





Mark Walton visit

Mark Walton visited Coonabarabran High School during the school holiday on Thursday 16th July and Friday 17th July. Mark travelled all the way from Sydney to Coonabarabran to catch up with and teach his Skype students. Every week, Mark teaches eleven CHS students via short Skype lessons but this time students had 25-minute face-to-face lessons. The students who had the individual lessons were Megan Hain, Ellah Bowmaker, Olivia Meier, Claire Butcher, Sam Bowman, Declan Eshman, Riley Fleming, Caleb Smith, Clover Hippisley and Alexander McWhirter.

During the period of remote learning, Mark continued to teach all of his students via either short Skype lessons or telephone lessons at home. We are deeply grateful to Mark for his dedication and the amazing work he is doing with our students, even throughout all of the disruptions this year. Our students are so lucky to have him as teacher/mentor!

Aimee Rossler



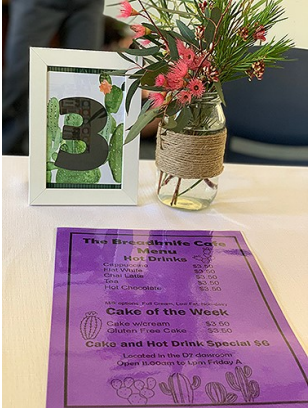
MUSIC IS LIFE

*That's why our hearts have
beats*





Breadknife Cafe



On the 31st July, Coonabarabran High school experienced the Grand Opening of the very first Support Unit café. The Breadknife Café is operated by students in Nicole Cottrill's D7 class. The café will be operational Friday A each Fortnight between 11am and 1pm. Through the operation of the café, students have the opportunity to develop life skills; following a recipe, sequencing steps, fulfilling orders, social skills, basic number recognition, reading and comprehension, health and hygiene and so much more.

On Thursdays students participate in grocery shopping and begin preparation for Friday by making a 'cake of the week' and preparing the coffee station. On Friday morning students set up the classroom for Coffee Shop and perform the last minute tasks before serving. Students prepare orders for staff. Staff have the option of dining in or take away. The D7 classroom provides the full café experience for Coonabarabran High school staff.

Giving the students the opportunity to run a café will broaden vocational opportunities for students; sharing their skills and expertise with the school through mentoring, work experience, hands-on activities and skills-specific training.

Through experience in 'work' environment, students are being given opportunities to connect with an industry and to develop skills for work and life.



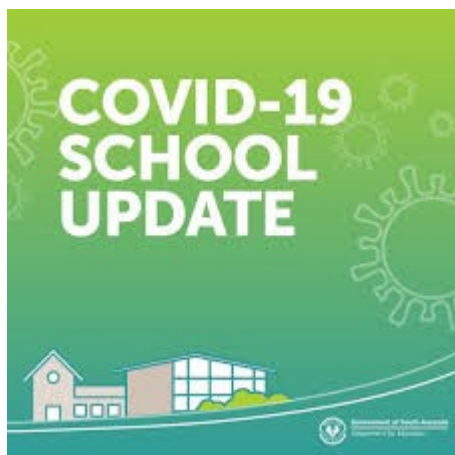
The grand opening of the Café was a success.

It could not be successful without the generous support and encouragement of teachers and staff at Coonabarabran High School. It was wonderful to see the students thrive in the café setting. We look forward to many more Café Fridays!

Nicole Cottrill



RE: COVID – 19 UPDATE



Dear Parents/Carers

NSW Public Schools continue to be safe learning environments which operate in line with the advice of the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee and NSW Health. All students should be learning on campus and in their classroom with peers, unless they have a medical certificate to support their absence.

Parents and Carers are reminded that students should not attend school if they have flu-like symptoms. Due to the low rates of

influenza currently circulating in our community, we must take symptoms seriously.

Students or staff who display flu-like symptoms should not be at school. They are now required to show a negative COVID-19 test result and be free of flu-like symptoms before returning to school.

In addition to the personal hygiene protocols, physical distancing of adults and the enhanced cleaning already operating in all schools, as of Wednesday 19 August all schools will also be required to limit, where possible, the mixing of groups of students, place inter-school activities on hold and restrict chanting, singing and the use of wind instruments in schools.

This means that while students will continue to work with their classmates in the usual learning programs, schools will limit interactions of students from different years, where appropriate.

A reminder that 'non-essential' adults are still not permitted on school grounds or at school events. This includes parents and carers. Kindly contact us by phone/ email if you so require.



How To Protect Yourself from Infection



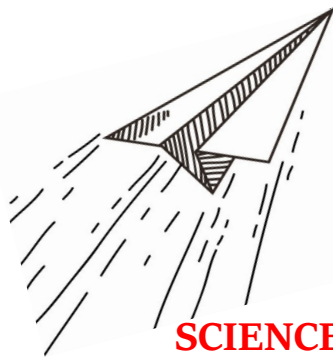
YEAR 12 COVID-19 TESTING



Year 12 students to have
COVID-19 test results faster

COVID-19

COVID test results for HSC students will be prioritised by NSW Health to minimise any impact on HSC preparations. When HSC students are getting tested, they need to advise the GP/clinic that they are currently doing their HSC so their test results can be prioritised.



 national science week

SCIENCE WEEK PAPER PLANE CHALLENGE

Coonabarabran High is known to be good at a lot of things, constructing paper planes may not be one of them, but so what if paper planes aren't our specialty. You can't say we didn't try, which is probably one of our best qualities as a school. Students from all year groups tried their hand at building paper planes for the Science Week National Paper Plane Challenge. Science is all about having a go, asking questions and finding answers in the strangest places. For every dud paper plane, we have learnt a little bit more about the mechanics of flight. Unfortunately, none of our attempts were enough to qualify for the Nationals.

And the Winners:

The Excellence Awards (Distance and Air time):

Stage 4: Nicolas Piper and Sam Fleming

Stage 5: Jack Richards and Toby Newton

Stage 6: Luke Bonello and Harry Williams

The Resilience Awards (number of mechanical revisions):

Annabelle Shannon and Alex Freeman

The Respect Awards (The Special Mentions):

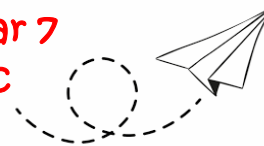
Ivolet McAway-Davis: Most acrobatic plane

Hannah Meier: Most enthusiastic

Kira Holmesby: Straight and Level flight



**Congratulations to Trudi Hoffman—year 7
who solved the Science Week Cryptic
Clue—Photosynthesis**



Year 11 Biology Fieldwork in the Warrumbungles



On Thursday 11th August the Year 11 Biology class travelled to the Warrumbungles to carry out field work. The aim of the study was to compare abiotic and biotic factors at two different sites in the National Park. Under the instruction of Mr Wes Leedham, Principal at the Warrumbungle National Park Environmental Education Centre, the students learnt and applied a range of fieldwork techniques to collect valid and reliable data. Students collected data about things like the abundance and diversity of plants and animals at each site using quadrats and transects. They also used a range of instruments to measure abiotic factors such as soil temperature, aspect, humidity, light intensity and gradient. In the afternoon students got their hands dirty when they tested soil samples they had collected at each site to determine soil pH and soil texture. During class time, following the field trip, students applied their data analysis skills to identify relationships between the different environments and the organisms that can be found there.

Kat Christoff



**Now
We're Talking**



Just a reminder that mobile phones and other non-educational digital devices are NOT permitted at school.

Students may:

Deliver their phone to the front office for safekeeping. The phone will be returned at 3.30pm.

**Phone Free
Zone**