Principal’s Report

Welcome to our March Newsletter.

Term one has disappeared very quickly and we have certainly had a very productive start to the year. I am impressed with the way our students are conducting themselves and the attitude they are displaying towards their learning. It’s great to see teachers and students engaged in the learning process and working together to reach their goals.

Year 12 students will receive their Half Yearly Exam timetables within the next week. I would like to remind all Year 12 students and their families just how important these exams are and they must be taken seriously. I hope to interview every Year 12 student during Term 2 to ensure that they are on track to achieve their goals.

I recently had the privilege to be part of the assessment panel for the ‘Lillian Hulbert Memorial Prize’. Could I take this opportunity to congratulate all the young people who applied, and in particular the finalists. The winner of this prize for 2015 was Gemma Ferguson, from Year 12 at Narrabri High School. I’m sure that Gemma will put the prize to good use with her tertiary studies in the future.

Last month we had our annual swimming twilight carnival. What a fantastic evening the whole school had at the pool. It is so nice to see students and staff enjoying themselves at a school event such as this. I want to extend my congratulations to all competitive swimmers who tried so hard to break existing records and to the student body for their great behaviour and school spirit.

As I write this article, our Year 7 students are bussing their way to Tea Gardens for their camp. I’m sure they will have a wonderful few days away. I’m also sure that the accompanying staff will sleep well over the weekend. Whilst we are on Year 7, can I thank the parents of this group for coming along to the meet the teachers evening and your participation that night. A really positive night was had by all concerned.

We have painters in the school at present, painting the exterior of ‘B’ Block. We are also having some major maintenance work carried on our hall which will see some repairs completed to a section of its floor and then the entire floor and stage sanded and

Calendar

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<tr>
<th>March</th>
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<tr>
<td>16 P &amp; C Meeting 6.30pm in Library</td>
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<td>20 School Photos - see information</td>
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<tr>
<td>27-28 Year 12 Exams</td>
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<td>27-28 CHS Swimming Carnival</td>
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<th>April</th>
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<tr>
<td>2 Last day term 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>20 Staff Development Day</td>
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<td>21 Students Commence Term 2</td>
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recoated. This will very much rejuvenate the Betty Berriman Hall.

I invite all parents and carers to come along to our next P&C meeting to have your say on our school and also to listen to what we are planning for the upcoming terms. Our next meeting is on Monday 16th March from 6.30pm in our Library. I look forward to talking with everyone then.

Until our next newsletter.

Rod Jones
Principal

Aboriginal Report

Narrabri High School Students and staff have had a very productive and successful year which has seen students from Year 7 to Year 9 engaging in a Cultural Awareness program.

Narrabri High School has a significant Aboriginal population, the Cultural Awareness program has engaged the students with a greater understanding of their need for an education, respect for others and the resilience to bounce back from a negative experience, may it be within community or the school environment. Attendance rates have increased due to the positive outcomes from the program.

Youth week in Tamworth was a very exciting and rewarding day for students who attended the Youth Connection program; students interacted with students from various other local schools and enjoyed a fun filled day of music and social activities.

Narrabri High School’s partnership with the local AECG has strengthened, with support from new members, which has been great.

New staff members at Narrabri High School have had the pleasure of attending a three day Cultural Awareness program “Connecting to Country”. The program provided an opportunity for participants to establish and maintain respectful relationships with Aboriginal students, families and communities at a local level.

NAIDOC activities were celebrated in July with great enthusiasm. Our guest speaker for the local Aboriginal Community was Mrs Merle Hurley (ex student) who addressed our morning assembly. Morning tea was conducted in the ARR which again was filled to capacity; This gave community members and staff a chance to chat on the progress of students. The touch footy match between staff and students and community was enjoyable entertainment.

The Norta Norta program has been very effective. Students’ progress due to in class tutor support has been overwhelming. Students are becoming confident in completion of assignments and attendance rates have increased. Teachers have been benefited by the program as it is allowing them to attend to the other students with in their class, which again is beneficial to both staff and students.

Year 9 Textiles Technology

In class this term the Textiles students have started the year off producing table runners and matching coasters to build their skills in using the sewing machines. They are a very keen and enthusiastic group of students who are showing great interest in textiles.
production. They are currently designing and planning their next textile item with the inspiration being “Urban Escape”. They will be making a variety of apparel items ranging from shorts and skirts to long pants. Keep watching this space for their completed projects of their Urban Escape inspired clothing.

We have also welcomed a new Shorthorn Bull calf to our herd, he safely arrived on swimming carnival day, which added to the excitement to the day.

On Friday 27th February three students travelled to Armidale to compete in the Armidale Show’s Youth Show. Courtney Boyd in year 11, Ashleigh Dunn in year 10 and Laura Findlay in year 8 competed in Junior Judging Events, judging stockhorses, merino Sheep, Meat Sheep and fleeces. They also were kindly lent cattle from the PLC Armidale Show team so that they could compete in paraders and handler classes. The girls were all in the intermediate age group which was the largest age group, with the girls up against over 60 other competitors from a number of different schools. The girls all performed extremely well with Courtney Boyd winning the stockhorse judging class and Laura Findlay placing third in the meat sheep judging class. Congratulations to both Courtney and Laura on their outstanding results.

The first half of the term has been very busy on the Ag plot. We have four meat sheep which we are preparing for the Narrabri Show and the Northern Schools Lamb competition which are both in May. The sheep have been kindly donated by Trevor Atkinson and we thank Trevor and his family for their ongoing support to the Agriculture department. The summer vegetable crops have been producing with the students enjoying lots of fresh produce, including watermelons, tomatoes and cucumbers.

Agriculture News

The team was led by co-captains Hamish Duncan and Nicholas Tomlinson who played key roles throughout the tournament and led by example on and off the field.

Starting with a home match against Coonabarabran, the team never looked in trouble scoring too many runs in an innings which featured an unbeaten Nicholas Tomlinson century. Narrabri bowled Coonabarabran out within ten overs to progress further in the competition.

An away fixture at Gulargambone was the next challenge. Winning the toss and batting first proved an excellent decision as Hamish Duncan hit an unbeaten century and Aaron Baker, fifty n.o, to secure a big first innings score. The bowling attack once again got the
job done dismissing Gulargambone well short of Narrabri’s total. Some excellent bowling from Jesse Bennett, Adam McLeod-Hennesy and Caleb Frawley ensured that the responsibilities to win games were shared amongst the team.

The semi-final against Oxley High, played in Narrabri was a much tighter contest. Apart from early resistance from Aaron Baker and a late flurry of runs from Jesse Bennett, Narrabri’s innings never got going, being bowled out for just ninety runs. With Oxley 1/50, it appeared that Narrabri may be in trouble, but a run out led to an Oxley collapse which featured some disciplined bowling from Mitchell Smith, Mathew Nash and Jordyn Mowle.

The final, played at Inverell saw Narrabri win the competition in outstanding fashion, despite being sent into the field for the first time in the campaign. Tight bowling from Jordyn Mowle, Hamish Duncan and Aaron Baker built pressure before Thomas Woodham, the youngest member of the squad, ripped through the home side’s line-up with truly remarkable figures of 7-15 of 4.2 overs. If a seven wicket haul is not enough in a North West Final, Woodham also secured a hat trick. The man of the match helped to restrict Inverell to a score of just 39. An unbeaten 16 to co - Captain Hamish Duncan saw the majority of runs in Narrabri’s innings and the side won the game with 7 wickets in the shed.

The team was an absolute pleasure to coach, ensuring they were respectable ambassadors for our High School at all times.


Swimming Carnival

A fantastic evening was enjoyed by all at our twilight swimming carnival in 2015. DJ Isabelle Madden kept the crowd entertained out of the pool and there were some fantastic results in the pool.

Champion house - CURRONG

Age Champions
12 yrs Girls - Zoe Campbell
13 yrs Girls - Laura Gourley
14 yrs Girls - Isabel Gourley
15 yrs Girls - Matilda Howarth
16 yrs Girls - Bethany Mison
17+ yrs Girls - Emma Rose
12 yrs Boys - Ayden Hunter
13 yrs Boys - Hilton Jackson
14 yrs Boys - Nick Tomlinson
15 yrs Boys - Lachlan Hall
16 yrs Boys - Toby Sunderland
17+ yrs Boys - Josiah Barnes

Record Breakers
13 yrs Girls Freestyle - Laura Gourley 29.95
13 yrs Girls Backstroke - Laura Gourley 35.61
14 yrs Boys Breaststroke - Nick Tomlinson 36.63
14 yrs Boys Freestyle - Nick Tomlinson 28.12
17 yrs Boys Backstroke- Josiah Barnes 31.92
17 yrs Boys Butterfly - Josiah Barnes 28.20
**Moonbi Horse Sports**

On Friday the 6 th of March, six members of the Narrabri High School Equestrian Team competed at the Moonbi Public School's Horse Sports Day. Despite the heat, last minute changes in the program and a late start, Narrabri High performed exceptionally well. The team presented well in the march pass and individual competitors excelled in their age groups. Results for the day include: Will Alexander 1 st Best Presented, Champion Overall Best Presented, 1 st hack, 1 st riding class and pair of riders, reserve champion senior boy rider, 1 st sack race and bounce keyhole, 2 nd bending race and 3 rd in the barrels. Will was awarded 14 year old Highest Point Score boy. April Squire 1 st Best Presented, 1 st hack, 2 nd riding class and pair of riders and 5 th in the barrels. April was awarded 16 year old Highest Point Score girl. Ellie Rae 2 nd Best Presented, 4 th riding class, 5 th hack, 1 st pair of riders, 2 nd bending race and 1 st sack race. Georgie Baker-Shields 2 nd Best Presented, 2 nd hack and pair of riders, 3 rd riding class, 1 st barrel race, 4 th bending race, 2 nd keyhole and 5 th sack race. Georgia was awarded 12 year runner-up highest point score girl. Olivia Bange 2 nd pair of riders and 3 rd sack race. Kim Bange 4 th hack, 2 nd riding class, 1 st barrel race, 2 nd keyhole and sack race.

This was the first event the equestrian team has attended for the year and demonstrates their potential for future events. The team conducted themselves with fantastic sportsmanship and were wonderful ambassadors for the school, they should all be very proud of their achievements.

**Open Girls Softball**

Narrabri High Open Girls Softball Team will play Lightning Ridge in Round 1 of the CHS Softball K’Out on Monday 23 rd March. The game will commence at 11am on the school oval.

The following girls have been selected in the team:– Caitlyn Dewar, Monique Foster, Isabel Gourley, Laura Gourley, Chelsea Hancock, Alexandra Howard-Phemister, Isabelle Howard-Phemister, April Smith, Maddison Smith, Katarnie Toomey, Cheyenne Tovehi & Brielle Wales.

Cindy Neil  
(Coach)

**EBM Insurance**

EBM’s Student Cover is student accident insurance that provides protection for students 24hrs a day, 7 days a week, anywhere in the world.

If you would like a flyer please send fax request to EBM 1300 365822 or email to:- marketing@ebminsurance.com.au

**Newsletter by email**

If you would like to receive the Newsletter by email, please advise the school either by phone 67921633 or email your information to: narrabri-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
**SCHOOL PHOTOS**

Students will be given information regarding the photos to be taken on 20 March.

Students bring the envelope on 20 March with the **CORRECT** money in the envelope and give straight to the Photographer.

The school DOES NOT collect the envelopes prior to this day.

The school DOES NOT have change to give to students.

Please put this date on your calendar.

Many thanks

If you have further information please contact the school.

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**RELAY FOR LIFE**

18th & 19th April 2015

2:00 pm – 10:00 am

Collins Park – Tibbereena St

NARRABRI

Lots of entertainment, activities, food and refreshments plus heaps more.....

Create a team, join a team or become a sponsor.

[www.relayforlife.org.au](http://www.relayforlife.org.au)

Who will you Relay for?

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**Canteen Menu - 2015**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sandwiches (Multigrain or White)</th>
<th>Hot Foods</th>
<th>Others</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yogamiye</td>
<td>Chilli Chicken Subs</td>
<td>Salad Dishes Chicken &amp; Ham</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheese - Lite</td>
<td>Hot Dog</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egg</td>
<td>Hot Dog with cheese</td>
<td>$2.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curred Egg</td>
<td>Pie, Ham</td>
<td>$2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egg &amp; Lettuce</td>
<td>Pie, Potato</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicken &amp; Luttoce</td>
<td>Pie, Cheese &amp; Bacon</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corn Beef &amp; Fiddles</td>
<td>Pizza Singles</td>
<td>$2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salmon</td>
<td>Pizza Roudnea</td>
<td>$2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ham &amp; Tomato</td>
<td>Sausage Roll - Small</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ham &amp; Cheese</td>
<td>Sausage Roll - Large</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salad (No meat)</td>
<td>Toasted Sandwiches</td>
<td>+ $0.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ham Salad</td>
<td>Rolls (Multigrain or White)</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicken Salad</td>
<td>Toasted Sandwiches</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toasted Sandwiches</td>
<td>Rolled (Multigrain or White)</td>
<td>+ $0.20</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

- **Drinks**
  - Cup of drink
  - Flavoured Milk - 500ml
  - Fruit Salad Tube (Summer)
  - Flavoured Milk - 500ml
  - Muffins
  - Water - 500ml
  - Ice Creams
  - Water - Pump Plain - 750ml
  - Frozoon Yogurt
  - Juice NAS - 575ml
  - Icy Twists
  - Juice NAS - 500ml
  - Lasers
  - Sausage Roll - Small
  - Paddle Pops
  - Sausage Roll - Large
  - Paddle Pop Thick Shakes
  - Extra Fillings
  - $2.00

- **Chips**
  - Extra Fillings
  - $2.00
  - Red Rock Dori - Small 210g
  - Red Rock Dori - Large 450g
  - Jay Jay's 25g

**Lunch Orders before school would be greatly appreciated.**

- Pens, pencils, rulers, books, maths sets etc. are also available for purchase.

Prices may vary with some items.

Sorry we DO NOT provide accounts!
The Board of Studies has a program to help students with practical support in their Higher School Certificate examinations. This practical support, known as provisions, assists students to read examination questions and to write their answers. Provisions include rest breaks and extra time. The use of any provision is not written on the student’s results.

Students may need provisions for:

- a permanent condition, such as diabetes or reading difficulty
- a temporary condition, such as a broken arm, or
- an intermittent condition, such as back pain when sitting for long periods.

It is not embarrassing to apply for or use provisions. More than 5000 HSC students apply for provisions each year. Provisions help students to show the markers what they know and can do.

To apply for provisions, the school submits an online application to the Board of Studies. This application tells us which provisions the student is requesting and includes recent evidence. Evidence may include medical reports, reading results, spelling results, writing samples and teacher comments.

Much of the evidence can be collected by the school, but the parents’ role is welcome and needed. Parents help by talking with the school, describing the student’s needs, and providing the school with medical or other reports.

Applications for provisions should be submitted by the school to the Board of Studies by the end of Term 1. Late applications are accepted for an emergency, such as a broken arm, until the time of the examinations.

Once the Board of Studies has made a decision about which provisions are approved or declined, a decision letter is provided to the school. The school will provide the student with a copy of the letter.

If you or the school are not satisfied with the Board’s decision, it is possible for the school to lodge an appeal. Appeals must state why the Board’s decision is unsuitable and must include new evidence to support the appeal.

If you think that you or your child may require support in completing the Higher School Certificate examinations, please discuss the matter with the Year Adviser, School Counsellor or teacher.
Electronic device policy
Narrabri High School has recently revised its policy on electronic devices-mobile phones, audio players, smart watches etc. We know how important and valuable that these devices are, and furthermore the fact that as tools for education they have many advantages. Unfortunately, some students find it difficult to put them away during class time. The following image and flowchart should clarify our expectations of the students and the process that is followed to resolve issues. The full written policy is available from the school or on the website. It is important to emphasize that students should not leave any valuables in their bags outside of a classroom. They should put important items in their pockets or give them to their teacher who will place the item in a secure part of the room. We encourage parents to support us and remind them that direct contact via phone should be made through the Office and not to the student during class.

As students enter the room with a device
Give the device to the teacher to be secured or place in their bag
At the conclusion of the lesson the device is returned to the student
A student is observed using their device during a lesson

The student places the device in the secure area e.g. teacher’s desk

At the conclusion of the lesson the device is returned by the teacher

The student refuses to comply

Restate the direction and warn of further consequences

The student should be referred to the H.T. with the device

The student refuses to comply

The student should be referred to the D.P.

The student refuses to comply

The phone is given to the H.T. and secured. It is returned to the student at the end of the next break

The student refuses to comply

The D.P. secures the phone and the student organizes to get the phone at 3.30

The student refuses to comply

Parental contact is made

Please note that if a student continues inappropriately use their phone further consequences will be applied. There is another flowchart which has not been included to save space—it is also available on the website—in the our schools section, rules and policies.
Compulsory School Attendance
Information for parents

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

What are my legal responsibilities?

Education for all children is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age. The Education Act 1990 requires that parents ensure their children's attendance at school. Principals may seek information from a medical specialist or other professional to confirm that your child is unable to attend school.

What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:
- being sick, or having an infectious disease
- having an unavoidable medical appointment
- being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- exceptional or urgent family circumstances (e.g. attending a funeral)

Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absence are explained as being due to illness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information collaboratively to develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the principal can record the absences as unjustified.

Travel

Children are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If your child is absent from school for more than a week, you may need to complete an Application for Extended Leave. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and should contribute to your child's total absences for the year.

In some circumstances the student must be enrolled in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child's school principal.

My child won't go to school. What should I do?

You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school's learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

What might happen if my child continues to have unauthorised absences?

It is important to understand that the Department of Education and Communities may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unauthorised or unjustified absences from school.

Some of the following actions may be undertaken:
- Compulsory Schooling Conferences

You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the supports your child needs to attend school regularly. The school, parents, and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as an Undertaking) to support your child's attendance at school.

The Department of Education and Communities recognizes that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child to fulfill their life opportunities.