COMING EVENTS

Monday 12 October to Wednesday 4 November
HSC Examinations. Check individual timetable for exam times.

Monday 26 October
Seniors Study Skills Workshop

Friday 30 October
Year 10 P.A.R.T.Y. program
Fundraising Day for Daniel

Friday 6 November
Year 11 Presentation 9 am

Monday 9 November
Yr12 Formal

Wednesday 11 November
Yr10 Exams start

Thursday 3 December
Yr6 All Day Orientation

Tuesday 8 December
Yr10 Formal

PAYMENTS DUE

School fees to finalise
Yr12 Formal final payment
2016 Italian Exchange $300

Principal's Message

Gonski Funding
In 2012, the NSW Government announced its Local Schools, Local Decisions (LSLD) reform for NSW public schools. This reform gives principals and school communities a greater say over how they use the available resources to best meet the needs of their students.

To enable the shift of resources to the school level, a Resource Allocation Model (RAM) was developed based on the recommendations of the Gonski Review. The RAM provides a simpler, fairer and more transparent distribution of government school funding and changes the way resources are managed in our school system.

This RAM or Gonski funding has made a significant difference here in our school. Gonski funding has meant that Mullum High has been able to invest in more resources, programs and teacher professional development.

The funding has allowed the school to upgrade our reporting, welfare, administration, communication and attendance systems. We now have one system that manages all of these key areas. Sentral, our new system is a simple web based system that provides a centralised environment for managing, tracking and recording data in all key areas of the school. Teachers, this year, have enjoyed greater flexibility with entering reporting data. Staff are now electronically marking rolls every period and this information is sent directly to the office in real time. Personalised Learning Plans and medical information is directly linked to class rolls for staff. Student and parent interviews related to progress are informed by more accurate and up to date data. The Sentral calendar can be viewed by parents on our website and next year we plan to open a parent portal. This will allow parents to view attendance and reporting data, your child’s timetable and excursion information.

Gonski funding has also allowed us to fund the Corroborree Program, indigenous student engagement in leadership programs, an additional Aboriginal support officer for one term and staff attendance at the Connecting to Community professional learning program. We have expanded our Year 6 into 7 transition program. For example the Science in a Bus program saw Science Staff and Mullum High students travelling around to our feeder primary schools delivering science lessons. This program significantly benefitted both our students and the primary students. We purchased additional resources for the school musical and for the introduction of our new Entertainment course. The Elevate Year 12 Study Skills day will be funded from Gonski. We have subsidised the bus to allow a group of Year 10 students to complete a TAFE course once a week in Kingscliff. The coming Year 8 Peer Support day and Year 7 Gala Sports Day will also be partly funded.
using this money. Students will see changes in the library before the end of this term and during next year as we embark on a library upgrade using Gonski funding.

The school, this year, has been focusing on reviewing and redesigning our Stage 4 programs and on developing our students’ writing skills across the curriculum. Gonski funding has provided time for teachers to engage in professional collaboration and professional development. This will directly benefit your children in the classroom.

Last week, the NSW Premier Mike Baird and the Minister for Education Adrian Piccoli announced the next phase of the RAM implementation. In 2016, $113 million in additional funding has been allocated to NSW public schools through the RAM. These additional funds have been allocated in a way consistent with the recommendations of the Gonski Review.

What I have given you here is a snapshot of what Gonski (RAM) funding has meant to Mullum High this year and I believe that continued funding will see even greater benefits for our students.

Spice It Up Thai – comes to Mullum High
Matt from Spice it up Thai, recently came to our Year 10 Food Technology classes. Matt planned, prepared and demonstrated one of his signature dishes with the students. Teaching them traditional cutting methods and techniques, introducing them to authentic herbs and spices as well as plating and presentation skills. Students then had 40 minutes to replicate the dish and present their take on Matt’s recipe. Thanks Matt for taking the time and coming down.

Thank you to Dave Smith and Mark Russell for organising to purchase a ticket for Mullumbimby High School in the Byronshire.good4global fundraising raffle. Fingers crossed now!

Finally, we have been informed of a case of chickenpox in the region, and we are enclosing to this newsletter some information fact sheet.

Donna Pearson
MULLUMBIMBY HIGH P&C NOTES

The P&C is in charge of the Barbecue Fundraising on Sunday 1st November at BUNNINGS in Byron Bay. Volunteers are invited to book in a 2-hour slot from 8am to 4pm. Please call Neville Newell on 6685 1176. Your support will be appreciated.

Last chance this month of October to STEP INTO LIFE with Damian as your Personal Trainer. Step Into Life are offering our school community, friends and family a special offer of TWO WEEKS of training for only $20 – and the whole $20 will be do-nated to the school!! There is an extra value deal if you choose to sign up as a member. This is a great opportunity to get fit and also raise funds for our kids. Call Damian on 0400 920 269 to book in and make sure you mention this offer which ends on 30th October!

We are still looking for volunteers for the MULLUM MUSIC FEST! This is our biggest fundraiser for the year as well as being loads of fun. Our school will be selling pizza as well as drinks tickets over the whole weekend. Pizza making is great fun and a good opportunity to connect with other parents, teachers and the community. The festival will be held over the weekend of November 20-22. We will need volunteers for shifts of about 4 hours for pizza stall, selling raffle tickets and drink ticket sales. Please email hannah_massey@yahoo.com if you are willing to volunteer and which times are most suitable. Drink ticket sellers need an RSA.

Neville Newell - President | Claire Atkins - Secretary | Hannah Massey - Treasurer | E: mullumbimbyhighschoolpandc@gmail.com
We will be participating in the **Day for Daniel** this Friday October 30th. Students are encouraged to wear something red and to donate a gold coin. Students are also reminded:

- Tell someone where you are going.
- What time you will be there.
- Who you are with.
- If you change your plans.

The NSW Department of Education and Training requires that parents arrange holidays during school vacations. If your family holiday is during school time, inform the school principal in advance and submit permission to leave from school.

**IMPORTANT:**
An Application for Leave should be provided at least 2 weeks prior to departure.
MULLUMBIMBY HIGH SCHOOL EX STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

Has created a A4 size historical calendar for 2016
Filled with photographs and stories
NOW AVAILABLE at the school office.

$12.50

All proceeds go in support of current school programs such as LANDE, Chrysalis and Sports Excellence.

A wonderful opportunity to support your local school and celebrate 60 years of history
Chickenpox is a common viral infection that can reappear later in life as shingles.

What is chickenpox and shingles?

Chickenpox and shingles (varicella-zoster) are a highly contagious virus and a member of the herpes family. The disease is usually mild in children but can be more severe in adults and can cause serious illness.

The adult form which most commonly occurs is shingles. Complications can include meningitis and pneumonia. In rare cases it can involve the joints and other organs.

Signs and symptoms

For chickenpox:
- Mild fever
- Runny nose
- Fatigue
- General rash.

For shingles:
- Painful skin eruptions that generally appear on 1 side of the body.

How is the virus spread?

Shingles is spread by direct contact with an infected person. Chickenpox is spread by coughing and direct contact with an infected person. Children are usually infectious 2 days before the rash appears.

What is the risk of transmission?

People rarely get chickenpox twice, whilst shingles occurs more commonly in aged people and individuals that are immunosuppressed.

Shingles is a reactivation of a previous chickenpox infection. Most people have had chickenpox as children and are therefore at greater risk of contracting shingles as adults.

What precautions can you take to avoid the virus?

- Practice good personal hygiene by covering the mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing
- Disposing of soiled tissues
- Washing hands carefully
- Not sharing eating utensils, food or drinking cups
- Pregnant women should avoid contact with anyone with chickenpox.

How is chickenpox and shingles prevented?

- Childhood vaccination programs
- People with chickenpox should avoid contact with others and not attend work, school or childcare until 5 days after the onset of the rash when all blisters have crusted.

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