FREE

Ringer

Issue 14
Thursday June 25, 2020

Bell Tower restored

WHAT'S INSIDE









Are Termites eating your home?

(02) 6884 7557



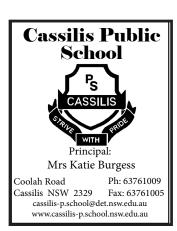
Termites
Spiders
Rodents
Cockroaches
Ants

Important Notice Merriwa PAH and I Association

The Merriwa PAH and I Association Inc. wishes to advise that due to the uncertainty around the rules and regulations of the Covid-19 issue, the 2020 Merriwa Springtime to be held September 19-20 has been cancelled. The Committee believe this is in the best interest of our community at this time.

> Tyler Austin Merriwa PAH and I Association President









Ph 6548 2993





Ringer Deadline!

Please remember to place your articles advertisements and into the Merriwa Ringer by Mondays, at 12.00 noon

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Fax



Principal's Report

I have been pleased with how well students, staff and families have adjusted to the "new normal". We have communicated the measures being used in the classrooms and playground to protect students with use of hand sanitiser, additional cleaning around break times, and limitation of visitors on site. It is clear by the recent outbreaks in Victoria that we need to remain vigilant with these processes. Sometimes we can be lured into a false sense of security living in the country.

SEMESTER REPORTS

At this time of year we issue semester one reports, however this year they will look a little different. Due to learning from home the usual teaching and assessment schedule went out the window. Simplified reports will be issued which will reflect these changes.

Parent teacher interviews under normal circumstances would occur in Week 2 next term, however due to COVID restrictions these will not take place. If you would like to talk with your child's teacher once reports are issued please contact the office to arrange an interview over the phone.

NEW FENCE SECONDARY

Parents may have noticed activity on the secondary campus with the installation of a new fence. Part of our existing fence is being replaced with new fencing in phase one. Hopefully the remainder of the boundary fence will be completed in the next financial year.

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

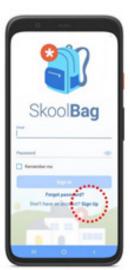
Parents will shortly receive information about school photographs which will occur next term on Monday August 3. MSP will once again manage our school photographs and parents will be able to order online. Naturally some changes will occur to the usual schedule to comply with COVID restrictions, however class and family photographs will still occur.

SKOOLBAG APP

Have you checked out our new Skoolbag app? We constantly look at ways to improve

communication with parents and have introduced a new app which is easier to navigate and has many more functions than the old one. Canteen menus can now be found on the app, as well as a range of other useful information for parents. The feedback from parents has been very positive.





END OF TERM

Next Friday marks the end of term, and the primary canteen will celebrate the occasion with a special opening and canteen menu. Parents are reminded that primary canteen will extend its operation to Mondays and Fridays next term.

On the first day back in Term 3 staff will complete mandatory CPR and anaphylaxis training. Students will return to school on Tuesday July 21.

Enjoy the holidays and stay safe.

Darren Noonan Principal

Coming Events

JUNE	
Friday 3	Last day of Term 2
Tuesday 21	First day of Term 3
AUGUST	
Monday 3	School Photographs

Primary

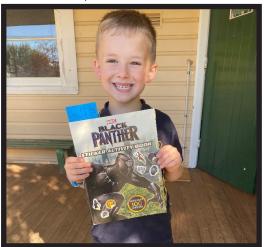
CLASS OF THE WEEK

Focus on uniform - Year 1

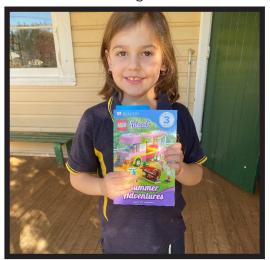


STUDENT OF THE WEEK

KindergartenNate Marchese –
Overall improvement in all class activities



Year 1 Layla Thompson – Working well in class with others



Year 2/3Bella Telfer – Working hard on decoding unfamiliar words in reading



Year 3/4 Xzavier Sait – Creative artworks and detail in writing



Year 4/5 Nicole Tudor – Excellent classroom behaviour



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Year 5/6 Paige Carrall – Excellent attitude towards all class activities



BRONZE AWARD WINNERS

Back row – Jai Wright, Olympia Magnus, James Llewelyn, Olivia Purcell

Front – Lilly Martin, Taniel Roberts, Holly Martin



The term is flying by! We are already in Week 9. School reports will be going home with students on the Friday of Week 10. Please keep a look out for these.

Reminder that from the beginning of Term 3 the canteen will be open on Mondays and Fridays. The canteen will be returning to full normal operation, meaning orders as well as just buying food at break times.

Jenna North Relieving Assistant Principal

REWARDS ACTIVITY

Teachers would like to thank all students for being incredibly resilient during blended learning and regularly displaying excellent behaviour when transitioning back to school routines.

Next Friday, July 3, students will be enjoying a movie day for their rewards activity. Infants will be watching, Farmageddon (G) and Primary students will be watching, Onward (PG). A note has gone home for Parents and Caregivers.

Our school canteen will also be operating for our students on this day, so please remember to return your lunch orders to the Primary Office by Monday June 29.

Please contact the school office if you have any questions.





Talia Morgan Infants Relieving Assistant Principal

Secondary

ENGLISH

Term 2 has been extremely busy for the students at Merriwa Central School, with our Year 12 cohort working hard in preparation for their trial examinations next term. The HSC Standard English class is currently completing their Craft of Writing module, and have been reading and composing a range of imaginative, persuasive and discursive texts. In Modern History, students have been studying the Conflict in the Pacific, and have developed a keen interest in Australia's involvement in World War 2. Our Year 11 students have been working equally as hard, composing essays about the novel A Monster Calls in English, and looking at the American Civil War in their Modern History classes.

In junior English, Year 9 have been brushing up on their survival skills through their study of John Marsden's novel, Tomorrow When the War Began. The class have enjoyed looking at a range of survival texts, and have been left to consider what THEY would do when faced with such a difficult situation.

Year 8 English have been studying The Happiest Refugee by Anh Do, and even had the opportunity to compose their own autobiography in class. Students enjoyed recalling their favourite memories, and enjoyed sharing some funny stories about their lives with the rest of the class. Within the unit, Year 8 have also been looking at the experience of refugees within Australia and around the world, and have developed empathy and compassion surrounding people's

different experiences.

As the term comes to an end, students are reminded to return any novels they have finished back to the library, so that they can be used again next year. Students are also encouraged to keep practising their reading and writing at home over the holidays to ensure they come back to school in Term 3 fresh and ready to learn.

Last term, the Year 8 English composed their own poems, based on a topic of their choice. The topics students wrote about ranged from bull-riding, hunting and sports, to family holidays at the beach and student's favourite television shows.. Overall, I was extremely impressed by the standard of work that all students produced, and the creativity and effort that they put into the task. Here are some excellent examples of year 8's work:

Bull Riding by Brooklyn Blackadder

Once the gates open, the big bull bucks like there's no tomorrow

The Ropes get tighter, the bull bucks harder Dust flying, sweat dripping, fans screaming

His eyes are a wild untamed jungle Fierce, determined and anxious

The bull can smell his fear as it hangs in the air like a thick cloud of smoke

Will he make the eight?

He can feel the bull's anger As it spreads through his entire body

STUDENT OF THE WEEK ELLIE-MAI WHITBY

FAVOURITE SUBJECT: Mathematics. Because I like to learn and Maths is the one I want to improve in

BEST PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENT: Winning the league-tag grand final against Singleton

CAREER ASPIRATIONS: Wrestler, teacher or actor

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES: League-tag and homework club

YEAR ADVISOR COMMENT: Ellie-Mai's approach to education is nothing short of admirable. She is always interested in learning something new and always has a go at trying new things which has been clearly evident over the past few weeks.

Andrew Buchan - Year Advisor



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Rope burning against the glove Chaps swinging in the air Spurs digging a little harder Bang! He hits the ground

Stars by Elisha Drury

Stars sparkling in the silent night sky,
Shimmering so bright while the world is asleep,
Feeling so sleepy but I want to cry,
Thinking of the memories I want to keep,

They're almost close enough to clutch, And hold in my right hand, But I know I'm just thinking too much, So now I'll just stare from where I stand.

Emma Piper English and Modern History Teacher

CAREER NEWS

ISCD Interior Design Online Short Courses

These short courses are for anyone interested in the world of design. Each one is aimed at giving you the basic foundation knowledge and skills in the specialised areas. Developed with our industry partners to ensure the most relevant content for you to have the best introduction into your chosen subject.

https://www.iscd.edu.au/courses/short-courses

AFTRS Past Talks with Leaders in the Film Industry – Live Stream and Free

Talks@AFTRS is a series of free, live-streamed events for the screen and broadcast industry. Each Tuesday lunchtime, we'll be hosting an inspiring chat with industry luminaries, who will talk about their current projects, careers, and inspirations. We'll focus on creativity and great storytelling. The sessions will be moderated by top industry professionals, including some of AFTRS' finest, and you'll be able to submit your questions in realtime.

https://www.aftrs.edu.au/news-and-events/events/talks-aftrs/

Career in Games and Film, Industry Experience Day at AIE

July 15 - Sydney, Canberra

Learn about the local and international game development, 3D animation and VFX industries from experts. Free practical workshops in 3D Art, Animation, Programming and Game Design for Years 10-12 students. 10.00am-2.30pm, 33 Mountain St, Ultimo, NSW, 2007. Rego required. RSVP

https://aie.edu.au/ied

Oceans of Poetry - Write A Verse

Closes July 31

Write a poem about THE OCEAN: it could be a discovery under the waves; a form of ocean life you find interesting; anything that's Ocean-related.

By the time National Science Week begins the Science Rhymes website will display a collection of your rhyming verse poems about THE OCEAN and related science discoveries that have captured our imagination.

Your poem may answer questions, such as, why it is dangerous for humans to travel deep into the ocean? What living things down there fascinate you? How can we better use and appreciate the Ocean's resources, or simply enjoy its allure and beauty?

The Science Rhymes website has a free PDF download to help you on your way.

Poems are to be submitted by email to feedback@ sciencerhymes.com.au. Include your poem title and your name, plus your town, school name and an adult name and email address (where appropriate). Email your submissions of 1 to 8 verses by Friday July 31. Published poems by children will be acknowledged by first name only (and school name where appropriate).

https://www.scienceweek.net.au/event/oceans-of-poetry/

ANSTO Big Ideas Science Competition

Entries close – September 20, 2020

Hey Science buffs – Tell your teacher about this one! We are looking for teams of 2 students who are creative and passionate – you don't have to be top of your class. Young people using STEM are the ones who will take our society into the future, so present the work of an Australian scientist who inspires you and come up with an innovative Big Idea for a chance to win an awesome Science Experience at the Australian Synchrotron in Clayton (Y7-9) or at the ANSTO campus in Sydney (Y10). Prize includes flights, travel, accommodation, and meals for your team and teacher.

https://www.ansto.gov.au/big-ideas-2020

EA Ski and Snowboard New Canada Recruits Wanted

We are now recruiting for paid ski & snowboard instructor jobs with full training provided starting this November. Download your free Canada instructor brochure to find out how you can become an instructor at one of our world-class ski resorts.

https://easkiandsnowboard.com/canada-instructor-jobs-brochure

ConocoPhillips Science Experience

UTS Postponed to January 2021 – Apply by December 20

Uni New England January 12-14, 2021- Apply by 20 December 2020

Uni of Sydney 13 to 15 Jnauary 2021- Apply by December 1, 2020

Macquarie Uni 18 to 20 January 2021 - Apply by December 10, 2020

The ConocoPhillips Science Experience is a fun 3 or 4 days of science activities for Year 9 and 10 students in 2020 program year. Each program is designed to provide students who have an interest in science with an opportunity to engage in a wide range of fascinating science activities under the guidance of scientists who love their work.

The program takes place in over thirty-five universities and tertiary institutions, within many different laboratories and lecture theatres. Participants perform experiments in the laboratories, meet and hear senior lecturers in the lecture theatres, attend site visits and walk around and experience what it is like to be on the campus of a university or tertiary institution. More than 68,000 students have taken this rare opportunity.

https://www.scienceexperience.com.au/about-the-program

BBM Global Agriculture Industry Scholarship

Now open

Applications for the 2020 BBM Global Industry Scholarships of \$8,000.00 are now open for travel in 2021.

The BBM Global Agriculture Scholarship is your opportunity to go overseas, to follow your passion, explore the possibilities and create the career you love. To apply for an Agricultural scholarship, you need to have (or be completing)

your Certificate IV.

Tocal has a long history of Cert IVs applying and being successful with this scholarship. If you are interested, we can connect you with past applicants to talk about where they went, what they did and how that has helped them.

https://www.bbm.asn.au/ and https://www.tocal.nsw.edu.au/news-and-media/bbm-industry-scholarships

UNSW CompClub for IT

CompClub is a portfolio under the student run UNSW organisation CSESoc that promotes computing to high school students throughout the year. By running a variety of freeworkshops throughout the year, we aim to create a fun, collaborative environment for students to develop their interests and hone their programming skills along like-minded students.

TAFE Snapshot on Aviation and Maritime

Which occupations in this industry are likely to have the largest employment growth over the next three years?

Which TAFE NSW courses are popular for people looking to get into these job roles and how much can you earn?

https://www.tafensw.edu.au/documents/60140/219174/Careers-Snapshot_Aviation_and_Maritime.pdf

If you have any further career enquiries please contact me at school.

Jane Hegarty
Careers Advisor

Ringer Deadline!

Please remember to place your articles and advertisements into the Merriwa Ringer

by Mondays, at 12.00 noon

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St Joseph's Primary School

ST JOSEPH'S BELL TOWER RESTORED TO FORMER GLORY

Since the early twentieth century, the St Joseph's Bell Tower has proudly stood firstly in the school's playground, near the convent and more recently as the centrepiece of the school, near what is now known as the MacKillop Room.

An inspection from the Facilities Team at the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle, almost saw the end of an era, which would have devastated the school's community, past and present. The timber in the bell tower had succumbed to white ants and weather deterioration over its many years.

Thanks to a Major Maintenance Grant, provided by the Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle and by the brilliant work undertaken by David Kirkman Carpentry and Joinery, the Bell Tower proudly rung its bell for the first time in over six weeks on Monday, having been fully and faithfully restored to its former glory with Tallowwood - an extremely hard, durable, versatile and termiteresistant Australian native hardwood.

St Joseph's held a draw before the commencement of school on Monday to determine the student who would ring the bell for the first time since its restoration.

Vice-Captain, Peter, did the honours and the lucky "winner" was Isabel, who signalled the beginning of the school day with pride!

We hope the bell could be heard loud and clear and that for students past and present, it brought back those memories of being a student at our beautiful school.

The St Joseph's staff, students, parents and

wider community wish to thank the Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle for the Major Maintenance Grant opportunity and David Kirkman and his wonderful team for their care and enthusiasm to produce an outstanding restoration of a local icon.













Mr Ashley Borg Principal

WHAT HAS BEEN HAPPENING IN STAGE TWO? WONDERFUL WEEK NINE ALREADY?

Time flies when you're having fun at St Joseph's! Stage Two have absolutely loved being back together and have shown great enthusiasm and engagement within their Term Two learning.

Persuasive Writing has been our focus in English this term. Students have explored a range of language devices, the OREO paragraph technique and the structure of persuasive texts to build convincing opinions.

Stage Two have enjoyed discussing and analysing a range of topics such as 'everyday ought to be Pyjama day, all families should own a pet and a swimming pool should be added to our playground'. Some of the students have even put their new skills into practice at home.

Our Math groups with Stage Three have been a great success with students loving the questions which cover a variety of topics. These warm up questions are a great source for revision whilst also providing the opportunity for ongoing and extension of learning.

Stage Two have also loved the quick challenges Mr Borg has recently set them. Students need to apply their problem-solving skills and creative thinking to solve the questions.

Recently, within our own class, we have calculated areas and capacities. Last week, our topic focus was Angles. Students went on a few hunts around the classroom and school looking for a variety of angles. Once they found their angles, they needed to label them (acute, obtuse, or right angle).

Students also made their own angle testers by creating a 'director clapboard' using split pins. This activity was a hit, with all students enjoying the hands-on learning.

Every Tuesday there has been a positive buzz in the classroom. History is a popular subject

this term. Students have been learning about celebrations and commemorations in Australia and other places around the world. Students have researched and learnt about ANZAC day, National Sorry Day, Australia Day, Christmas Day, the Moon Festival and Rosh Hashana.

Our current learning task is creating a 'Sources in a box' for our local celebration Merriwa's Festival of the Fleeces. This task involves collecting a range of sources e.g.

photographs, artefacts, newspaper articles, clothing and memorabilia, that represent this event to create a snapshot of the celebration.

Students have found great delight when recognising some familiar faces in our collection of sources. Needless to say, this has been our favourite learning activity from this topic.

Although we were not able to celebrate this event this year, the students have loved reflecting upon the history and significance of the event through their analysis of these sources.

Participating in the ASPIRE creative arts competition has seen Stage Two experimenting with the paper mache to create their bird sculpture. The students have eagerly been researching types of birds and collecting found, natural or recyclable materials to add to their structure and represent the features of their particular birds.

Some of the types of birds that students have made include Willie Wag Tails, Chickens, Eagles, Parrots and Kookaburras. We are looking forward to seeing the final products.

On Monday, we had the pleasure of Anna Kerrigan – Artistic Director of Aspire, visit to work with students to gain a deeper insight of who they are and to gather and build upon the ideas and themes from students. From this, Anna alongside our writing group, were inspired to begin developing the script for this year's school play. We cannot wait to hear and start working with their amazing script.

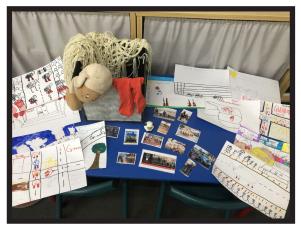
In Religion, students have explored the topic of Prayer. Within their learning students have engaged in a variety of ways to pray, in particularly meditative practices. The types of meditative prayer that we have explored include Lectio Divina, intentional creativity and guided meditation e.g. the mantra 'MA RA NA THA'. Students have learnt that engaging in meditative prayer is another important way that they can enhance their wellbeing.





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VINNIES DAY

On the last day of Term Two, Stage Two will host Vinnies Day. Vinnies Day is a day to support the Vinnies COVID-19 Winter Appeal. We ask students to come out of uniform in preloved clothes with a gold coin donation which will be then given to our local Vinnies organisation.

The money raised by students will ensure that the St Vincent de Paul Society can continue their work to make a big difference to the lives of people in need in our local community as winter approaches, especially those who are affected by the pandemic.

More information will be in our next Newsletter.

Naomi Rodwell Stage 2 Teacher







WEEKLY AWARDS

Congratulations to the following award winners.

Kindergarten - Myles Hvirf – for applying his knowledge of fractions when investigating different shapes

Mia Rose Deemer
– for her brave and confident first week at St Joseph's



Stage 2 - Shykiah Walters – for her convincing reasons as to why all families should own a pet

CooperSmith—for the courage and perseverance he demonstrates when overcoming a challenge

Stage 3 - Ben Patterson - for demonstrating bravery in areas of learning and giving new things a go

Rhianna Smith – for sharing her sense of fun in her learning and being able to laugh at herself

Principal's Awards - Lula Peebles – for her outstanding series of videos which demonstrated an excellent knowledge of Solids, Liquids and Gases

Lilly Towell – for demonstrating bravery in facing difficult work head on

Library Award - Aidan Hunt - for continually trying hard creating an animated story in library

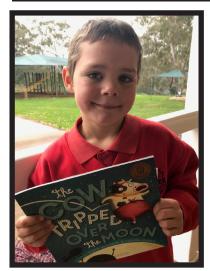
Tess Grocott - for reaching the end of Premiers Reading Challenge

Annabelle Marshall - for reaching the end of Premiers Reading Challenge.

Naomi Rodwell Stage 2 Teacher



Cassilis Public School



STUDENT OF THE WEEK -

JOHNATHAN HILLHOUSE

Johnathan has been awarded the Student of the Week because he tried hard to stay on task last week and complete tasks to his very

best. He impressed the teachers with his maths on Thursday and the monster creation where he completed the activity almost independently and used counters to solve the addition problem relating to the activity. Johnathan counted correctly one by one to 29.

He did his best to help other students' behaviour in class. Johnathan is learning that everyone is different and therefore needs different support at times. He tried his best in writing and was excited to use words which he hasn't used before.

Johnathan gave out some positive feedback to Cooper about his work and did an exceptional job when reading.

On his PBL sheet he received 6 awards. Some of the reason were respect talking during writing, hard work in maths, understanding and helping other students.

Congratulations, Johnathan, on your efforts and achievements. You should feel very proud of yourself.

CHICKEN NOODLE SOUP ANYONE?

Students and staff were treated to a delicious and easy to make soup on Friday during cooking class. There was lots of measuring and fractions involved which was learning at it's practical best.

Thanks to Mrs Nairne for her excellent organisation of weekly sewing and cooking lessons. Thank you to the Cassilis P and C for funding the classes. Our students love, love, love these.

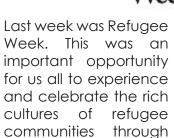








Paul said that he helped mum make the chicken noodle soup over the weekend. He liked it so much that he ate three bowls! Paul even helped wash up.



Refugee
Week
Refugee
vas an cortunity
perience the rich refugee

theatre, music, dance, film, food and other kinds of events that take place all over Australia - and beyond.

Students listened to Ziba came on a boat which is an Australian story based on a true story.

Students learnt and discussed the themes and features in the story and then wrote about the events and feeling from the story.

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Ziba was really scared of the gunshots when they went off. Ziba and her mum ran away from the gunshots holding hands. They found a fishing boat and travelled to a safer country so they wouldn't be hurt. On the boat, the water was rushing up and the boat was soggy. Her mum was singing lullabies to calm Ziba. Skylah

While Ziba was on the boat sailing across the endless sea, she had memories of home. She was collecting icy water with her cousins, helping prepare flatbread with her family and watching her mum weave a colourful rug. Ben

Ziba was on an old fishing boat and she felt sad because she was scared that it would collapse. Her mum was keeping her calm by hugging her. Paul

LOTS OF FRACTIONS PRACTICE











Jacob was so happy when Mrs Nairne showed him how to build a house out of LEGO. Not only is it a great fine-motor skill but LEGO shows creativity and helps to calm and focus students. Jacob even used the blocks to practice showing numbers.

FAMILY HISTORY

As part of our family history unit of work, students were asked to research and bring in an item which is special to their family.

Skylah, Paul and Cooper brought in some very special items which belonged to their great grandfather Gordon. The two items were a 60th anniversary service medal from World War II and a certificate of enlistment.

Ben brought in a picture of a special cage that he used to keep two birds in. Both his mum and dad kept birds when they were younger

Mrs Burgess brought in a music box which she inherited from her Nan. Her Nan was given it by a man nicknamed the Dutchmen because he came from the Netherlands. Mrs Burgess remembers punching holes at different notes to make music when she was younger.

Students love hearing the music yesterday especially from Bach.





MAKING PATTERNS STARTS WITH GROUPING ITEMS





PUTTING THE SHOT

Continuing with our Term 2 focus of athletics for sport, students learnt more about the skills involved in shot put.

Paul and Cooper measured how far they would have to 'put' the shot to match the current Australian Male and Female Champion.

Shot put competitions were first recorded in early 19th century Scotland. It is believed that it originated from the ancient Celtic tradition of "putting the stone" to help clans identify their strongest men for battle purposes.

Our current Australian male shot put champion is Damien Birkinhead. The Geelong boy's personal best is 21.35 metres. The Australian female shot put champion, reaching 18.32 metres, is New Zealand born Madison-Lee Wesche.









SEMESTER 1 REPORT CARDS

Semester one report cards will be sent home at the end of next week. Teachers have been busy writing the reports. Every day teachers observe and collect evidence of student learning. The reports will look different this term as they will not include a TE grades. Parent teacher interviews will be held at the beginning of term 3

Big movements and heavy work help all our students.





Katie Burgess Principal

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Sandy Hollow Public School

been willing to give other students a chance to join in games, even after they haven't been playing fairly or doing the right thing in games.

Well done, Eli!

THANK YOU!

A big thank you to our P and C who generously donated the Year 6 shirts this year. The students have thoroughly enjoyed receiving and wearing their new shirts. These are a fantastic keepsake of their time at Sandy Hollow Public School.





Strength of the Week: Forgiveness

I forgive others when they upset me and/or when they behave badly towards me, and I use that information in my future relations with them.

This week's focus strength is 'Forgiveness'

This week and over the next week we will be focusing on this strength. Students will be encouraged to look for it happening at school and staff will be looking for this strength in the way the children interact with each other. Our Character Strength Super Hero this week is Eli.

FORGIVENESS SUPER HERO

Eli was chosen for this award because he has



The P&C are holding a pie drive, selling Thompson's pies and other delicious goodies. The drive will run from now until Wednesday July 15, and the delivery date is Friday July 24. Orders will be available for pick up from the Sandy Hollow Community Hall on delivery day. All order forms are to be returned to Renee Roper by the July 15, or if you would prefer to drop them off to the school office please do so before the end of term.

PLAYGROUND UPDATE

Last week the new playground edging arrived, and has been installed. The soft fall

playground mulch will be delivered over the next couple of weeks and will be placed in the new edging over the holidays. The playground equipment will be up and running again next term! A huge thank you to our P and C for generously offering to pay for the soft fall.





AWARDS

- Charlie improved effort to complete bookwork neatly
- Isabelle P -YCDI (Persistence) for persistence in High Jump
- Hayden Putting a huge effort in to all of his classwork
- Isabelle M -YCDI (Organisation) for always having everything she needs ready to learn

WORKERS OF THE WEEK









BRONZE AWARD RECIPIENTS

- Attalica
- Za'Kiah
- Mya
- Taylan

Quick and Easy Cook

PUMPKIN SCONES

0:15 Cook Makes 12

Ingredients

- 2 cups selfraising flour
- 1 tablespoon caster sugar
- Pinch of salt
- 60g butter, chilled, chopped
- 1/2 cup buttermilk
- 1/2 teaspoon Ground Nutmeg
- 2/3 cup mashed cooked butternut pumpkin (see note)
- Extra buttermilk, for brushing

METHOD

Step 1 Preheat oven to 220°C/200°C fan-forced. Line a baking tray with baking paper. Position oven rack in the top half of oven.

Step 2 Sift flour, nutmeg, sugar and salt into a bowl. Add butter. Using fingertips, rub butter into flour mixture until mixture resembles fine breadcrumbs.

Step 3 Make a well in centre of mixture. Add buttermilk and pumpkin. Using a flat-bladed knife, stir until a sticky dough forms. Turn out onto a lightly floured surface. Knead gently until just smooth.

Step 4 Using a lightly floured rolling pin, gently roll dough out until 2cm thick. Using a 6cm fluted-edge cutter, cut out scones. Press leftover dough together. Repeat to make 12 scones.

Step 5 Place scones, just touching, on prepared tray. Brush with buttermilk. Bake for 12 to 15 minutes or until golden and hollow when tapped on top. Serve with butter, ricotta or cream cheese.

NOTES

You will need 300g peeled, chopped, butternut pumpkin to make 2/3 cup mashed cooked pumpkin.

https://www.taste.com.au/recipes/pumpkin-scones/688b4546-aeff-45da-85bd-f397317e0c7a



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Local Lands Services Hunter

PEST CONTROL CAMPAIGN HELPING FIRE AND DROUGHT AFFECTED PRODUCERS

Hunter Local Land Services has doubled efforts to target pest animals impacting the areas of the Manning Great Lakes and Hunter Valley hardest hit by drought and recent bushfires.

During autumn the Biosecurity Team has undertaken a combination of strategic programs involving aerial and on ground works to remove pest species across the region, to assist landholders rebuilding their farms and herds after such a devastating period.

Team Leader Luke Booth said the program has been far reaching, and utilising the skills of the Hunter Local Land Services team and contractors to assist landholders to control pest species.

"Over the last three years of the drought we saw an increased presence of pests on properties, as they came in search of feed and water, the bushfires further compounded that situation in many parts of our region," said Luke Booth.

"Through a combination of intense strategic programs including ground and aerial works, utilising Professional Controllers and working closely with local wild dog associations and community groups we have redoubled efforts this autumn to control pest animals across the region."

This is the fourth successive annual aerial shoot in the region, aimed at directly impacting invasive species populations.

"Already we are seeing the positive cumulative impact of these repeated annual campaigns, with landholders reporting fewer pests returning to these properties over time," said Luke.

"The program across the Hunter and Manning Great Lakes this year resulted in the removal of 765 deer, 714 pigs, five foxes and two wild dogs."

"Our strategic programs are all planned in partnership with local associations and in line with the Regional Strategic Pest Animal Management Plan, to ensure our customers have a say in ensuring any local hotspots are targeted."

In some areas of the Upper Hunter landholders are reporting deer numbers down by as much as two thirds on populations from two years ago.

"This is the fourth time we have undertaken an

aerial shooting campaign across the district, and it is showing we are making a big impact on feral deer populations – which is great news for landholders trying to maintain feed and water supplies for stock in the worst drought on record," said Luke.

"For producers to report they are able to carry more stock or their crops and pastures are surviving to harvest without being over grazed and wrecked by feral deer is a big success story."

More than 200 properties across the region also participated in aerial baiting during May. Hunter Local Land Services has covered all costs of the aerial baiting program for landholders for the past two years, as part of ongoing drought support measures.

These regular autumn programs have been aided by the addition of Federal Government funding, to support areas impacted by bushfires over summer. In the Manning Great Lakes a professional controller has been engaged fulltime to work with landholders in fire affected areas, to target and remove pests impacting their livestock, especially wild dogs predating in the fire scar.

"We are here to support landholders as they recover from what has been a very difficult period across our region," said Luke.

"Working together strategically to reduce and remove pest species not only assists landholders recovering from drought and fire, but native species who also often fall prey to, or have to compete for habitat with feral animals."

For information on group control programs underway in your district, please contact our Biosecurity Team on 1300 795 299.

Media contact: Penny Evans, Hunter Local Land Services, 0417 413 026.



Penny Evans



REFLECTION PENTECOST 4 - Matthew 16:13-15

It used to be that turning 21 was the great milestone for young adults. The cards for this birthday had a 'key' and we sang the song, 'S/ he's got the key of the door" for the key meant freedom. But as any one with house keys knows this key also brings responsibility and care for the household. As the twenty-one year old grows older the 'key of the door' becomes less and less a sign of personal freedom and more a sign of responsibility, of critical decisions, of good management and self-sacrifice.

After the death of Jesus, Peter was the leader of the community in Jerusalem for some years but by 49CE this is a shared leadership with James and John (Acts 10). Later he appears in Syrian Antioch, possibly needing to leave Jerusalem because of Roman persecution. The letter attributed to Peter provides the best evidence that later still Peter was in Rome (1Peter 5:13) where tradition has it he was executed in the persecutions of Nero in the 60s. In this letter Peter is remembered as a 'fellow elder' and 'shepherd' of the community. It was later generations who endowed his memory with titles such as 'bishop', 'Il Papa' (father) from where we get the title Pope.

Today we pray for all in the community who exercise the ministry of leadership and generously assume the responsibility such leadership entails. May all leaders model Jesus, the Good Shepherd, in self-giving and wise stewardship. (For those interested in Peter I recommend Pheme Perkins, Peter: Apostle for the Whole Church, Columbia: University of South Carolina, 1994). (From "Sundays Under the Southern Cross" by Mary Coloe PBVM).

We are getting closer to opening the church for services. As you know we had a funeral service for Peter Davidson last Friday, but people still had to practice social distancing, and it isn't easy in a small church. Mind you, they had to practice it down at the RSL, and that WAS difficult!

May we open for services soon!

Love and blessings, Rev Pat Kirkby

Merriwa Rotary

As I type this report, I must note that at our last meeting, attendance was well short of our full complement. We could not have expected that one of our members who had just managed to break a leg, would have been able to make it to a Rotary meeting that night. I am not prepared to disclosed the member's name... MARK my words!

Once again, it was an excellent night at Kylie's.



THE PONY CLUB

We were pleased to enjoy the company of Rebecca Magnus who gave us a good picture of what is happening at THE FIRST PONY CLUB IN AUSTRALIA.

We were asked if we could assist with supplying equipment that the club needs and our club has undertaken to assist in any way we can.

THE 2020 VARIETY CLUB BASH

We well remember the occasion a few years ago when Merriwa Rotary undertook to supply a cooked lunch for 350 participants....a formidable challenge to say the least. I recollect 20 or so frypans lined up heating the meals which had been home-prepared and brought to the Showground to cater for the throng.

They must have enjoyed it because they have asked us to repeat the effort in mid November when they plan to be heading through Merriwa again.

The Bash looks like a lot of fun for the participants as well as raising great amounts for charity .

Mark Smith

Page 18 Merriwa Ringer

Upper Hunter Shire Council

SHIRE NOTES - CR RON
CAMPBELL

EXCELLENT FEEDBACK ON COUNCIL'S PLANS

In total 150 submissions were received on Council's draft operation



and budget plans, that each year we put out for community feedback

Around a third of the submissions came in after the closing date, but all are welcome, and being considered and responded to individually.

It has been pleasing to see the many and varied responses, from across almost all areas of the shire which shows a genuine concern to improve facilities, infrastructure and other services.

Many were group submissions where people had taken the time to discuss their ideas with others and gain support.

As usual rural roads maintenance dominates the proposals, as access to and from farms is vital for workers to attend their workplaces and owners to conduct their business.

The Councillors had a meeting and were briefed on all the issues raised and the community's views and discussed how they can be addressed. All available Councillors will vote on the final Delivery Program and Operational Plans at the Council meeting June 29, 2020.

THE SALEYARDS

Scone Regional Livestock Selling Centre, is a critical piece of infrastructure which has been upgraded to meet higher standards required for workplace health and safety, animal welfare and improved livestock handling. There have been considerable changes in these areas over the last 30 years. Gone are the days of handling and receiving livestock in old substandard facilities that leaves the operator, Council, liable for a litigation case.

It has come at a financial cost (and we thank the NSW and Australian governments for their substantial assistance), but if you ask any producer or stock agent "Do you want a saleyard that meets these high standards?" they reply with a resounding YES. The on-line selling started at the end of March and is going very well. This facility is now attracting livestock from districts further afield including stud stock producers, which in turn means more businesses activities and employment in related industries across the shire.

Producers destocking their farms because of the drought meant that reduced livestock numbers were using the saleyards, however with the restocking of farms the success of the saleyards will increase.

RE-EMERGING FROM COVID

A special thanks to Council staff especially the IT section, for coping with the additional workload caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. Many of the staff relocated in order to meet the Public Health Order Restrictions. This has meant that the Council has continued to function, albeit in a different way to meet the needs of our communities. Well done staff.

It is pleasing to note with the relaxing of some of the health and safety restrictions that businesses, including clubs, cafes, restaurants and pubs are reopening for trade even with restrictions. We all enjoy contact with each other.

Lifeline provides a great service for anyone feeling depressed, lonely or just need to talk to someone and can be contacted on 131 11 14. Follow the link for a full list of phone numbers.

https://upperhunter.nsw.gov.au/f.ashx/documents/temp/2020/Helping-you-through-the-COVID-challenge-phone-numbers.pdf

Cr Ron Campbell

MERRIWA TO WILLOW TREE ROAD RECONSTRUCTION

Preparation and planning is underway for major reconstruction on sections of the Merriwa to Willow Tree road (MR 358, also known as Coulson Creek Rd).

Sections of the road which passes across the Great Dividing Range, remain single lane with a five tonne load limit.

Upper Hunter Shire Council apologises to users of the road, the NSW and Federal governments who provided funding, and the Liverpool Plains Shire, for the ongoing delays in completing the work.

"This was always going to be a highly technical challenge on a difficult site. However, the work undertaken last year by Upper Hunter Shire

Council has not met the specifications and the job needs to be redone to meet specifications," General Manager Steve McDonald said.

"We are committing more funds to the project and bringing in the necessary expertise to fix the deficient sections of road. It has not been completed to the standards and requires significant reconstruction work.

"The absolute priority is driver safety. The load limit will be in place until the road is fixed, which could take up to three years," he said.

"Once the design works are complete, the detailed cost and indicative timeline for construction will be known. We want to get it done as quickly as we can to the required B-Double standards."

Council is applying for pre-approval of a loan of up to \$5 million to complete the major road infrastructure works to connect the west of the Shire - including Merriwa and Cassilis - to the New England Highway.

Member for New England, Barnaby Joyce, welcomed council's continued commitment toward upgrade of the Merriwa-Willow Tree Road.

"This is a crucial link for people in the Upper Hunter which is also helping connect our corridors of commerce in the New England so it's important we get it right," Mr Joyce said.

BACKGROUND

Cracking of the pavement and downslope fill embankment appeared after completion of earthworks in October and November 2019, with further cracking in February 2020. After a site inspection on March 3, 2020, Council engaged Geotechnical engineers Douglas Partners who were on site within 48 hours. After geotechnical advice on the condition of road and associated infrastructure on March 5, 2020, a 5 tonne load limit and single lane was put in place.

Investigations, field work and daily monitoring have continued since then.

RECTIFICATION WORKS

Last week Council received the draft Geotechnical report on the road condition and initial recommendations for rectification works. An independent project review and audit is also underway.

Council is working closely with Transport NSW on the project, who have agreed to allocate a

Project Manager for the duration of the work. The Transport NSW Project Manager will work within a Project Control Group, to manage the preparation of the new design and tender documents for the construction work, and oversee the construction work.

The design process for the works, will require the usual environmental, and geotechnical assessments. Council has completed a detailed survey for the 3.4km section of road.

It is expected the designs will be complete and the construction work will be put to tender within a year.

The detailed design will include a dual lane road with a minimum nine metre formation and eight metre seal, as well as associated infrastructure such as guardrail, rock fall protection, rock fencing, retaining structures, drainage structures and appropriate earthworks.

Further information about the MR 358 project is available here. https://upperhunter.nsw.gov.au/your-council/media/news/council-to-seek-loan-pre-approval-to-complete-major-road-projects-in-west-of-shire.aspx

Steve McDonald General Manager

Sponsor of the Week

Di's Clothing Patch - a proud supporter of Merriwa Ringer and other organisations in our community. Support the business that supports your community.







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Community Notice Board

Can Assist

Can Assist is committed to ensuring that all people, regardless of where they live

in NSW, have access to cancer treatment and care. By providing accommodation, financial assistance and practical support to people from rural and regional areas, we ensure that country people are given the same opportunities and treatment choices as those who live in city centres.

Travelling near 150kms a day for six weeks of Radiotherapy treatment is expensive. an Assist Merriwa will help with the petrol vouchers, or accommodation, where appropriate. here is complete flexibility, the exact form of assistance depends on the unique needs of the patient.

For assistance please call 1300 226 227.

Merriwa Can Assist membership forms are available at IGA Merriwa. Merriwa Pharmacy and Merriwa Home hardware. membership fees are \$5.00 for 12 months. Come along and support a worthy, grassroots organization where all monies raised locally supports patients diagnosed with Cancer locally. There will an official launch of our Can Assist branch in October 2020. We look forward to holding fundraising events as soon as the COVID-19 virus allows.

Marlene Rogers

Congratulations

WELL DONE

Well done Grace Campbell for your ongoing effort at school and in receiving your latest award. Keep it up.

Hylt Cronin

The Merriwa Community News is available to charity groups or non-funded, not for profit organisations and anyone wishing to advise of a special event (birthday/anniversary/etc). If you would like to make use of this free service, please contact us before 12.00noon on Mondays.

REGISTERED NURSE POSITION

Hunter Medical Practice, Muswellbrook, Denman and Merriwa, is seeking a Registered Nurse to be employed on an ongoing, casual basis with a view to permanency.

We are a busy family-orientated General Practice which provides a personalised and holistic approach to patient care. Our Practice Nurses are supported by GPs, Allied Health Professionals, Reception Staff, Office Manager and Practice Manager.

Performing ECGs, spirometry, pathology, immunisations, wound care, stock control, general patient observations and assisting with minor procedures and cold chain management are some of the tasks that would be required whilst working at the practice.

Also highly desirable is experience in chronic disease management, including working closely with GPs to prepare management plans and referrals and to regularly review and maintain the recall register.

This position requires travel between our three practices in Muswellbrook, Denman and Merriwa Employment conditions will be in accordance with the Nurses Award. Salary will be commensurate with experience.

Please forward your CV to us at reception@ huntermedicalpractice.com.au

Ringer Deadline!

Please remember to place your articles

and advertisements into the Merriwa Ringer

by Mondays, at 12.00 noon

Business Merriwa Newsagency

PRIZE TIME

It is cold, miserable and after all the stress and uncertainty of the last few months, we thought we would give away some prizes to cheer people up. This fun promotion will take place over the next ten weeks.

Spend more than \$10.00 in a single transaction you go into the draw to win a prize.

At midday each Friday we will draw the Winner of the Week.

All entries (including the winner) then go into the draw for our BIG prize - a genuine Crock Pot with a great Slow Cooking Recipe Book.

Each week we start again. There are no limits to how many times you can enter.

*Excluding Lotto, Scratch-its, phone/internet recharge, gift cards.

VANITY FAIR

- Reese Witherspoon; turning her literary obsession into an empire and blowing up the Hollywood Boy's Club while she's at it
- The case of Prince Charles and the fake Picasso!
- Exclusive! Spielberg on his Westside Story. A first look at how he's reimagining an all time classic for our time.

INSIDE OUT

- The essentials; the pick of stylish sofa beds and sculptural side lamps
- Five incredible transformations, before and after
- Smart homes; the latest prefabricated and kit homes have emerged as eco friendly, architecturally designed living spaces. Here's to the new home delivery
- Buyer's Guide; home heating. From the cosiness of a wood fire to the latest energy savvy airconditioners, there are many smart ways to keep warm this winter.

MARIE CLAIRE

 Creative spirit; the future of fashion, film and music in this brave new world

- Asher Keddie; photographed at home by her husband artist Vincent Fantauzzo. The images made are reflective of the intimacy the couple share and their creative partnership
- Australia's first IVF baby, Candice Thum (nee Reed) turns 40 this month and speaks exclusively about her life in the limelight and becoming a fertility advocate.

HOUSE AND GARDEN

- 65 + pages of homes to love!
- Cake stands; elevate your home baked pride with style!
- Buyer's guide armchairs. There's nothing like statement seating for a pop of colour, personality and comfort in the living room
- Layer upon layer; decorating with dash and panache.

A TWIGSEEDS MOMENT

The best things in life are not things. The best things in life are people like you.

BEANIE BOO

My name is Izzy.

Helping flowers grow is my biggest duty, they get real big and show off their beauty.

My birthday is July 18.



PHONECARDS: All cards are now available including Telstra, Optus and Vodafone. Cash and Eftpos only.

Leanne and Neville Hook and the newsXpress

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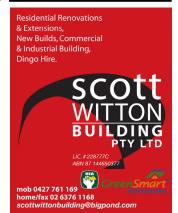
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Enquiries to:

President: Penelope Fenley Phone: 6548 3060

Email: penelopecwa@iinet.net.au Secretary: Kim Clydsdale Phone: 6548 2558 Email: kmclydsdale@gmail.com

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Mrs Katie Burgess

Ph: 63761009 Coolah Road Cassilis NSW 2329 Fax: 63761005 cassilis-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au www.cassilis-p.school.nsw.edu.au

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Merriwa Ringer

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Jessyca Morgan



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April

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Paul Frampton Contact - 0428 485 182 Visit www.

merriwaraceclub.com.au

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October Long weekend 2020

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Vice President: Mark Fieldsend

Secretary: James Armstrong

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MERRIWA DISTRICT PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

Have your voice heard on matters that affect the whole local community

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Clubs Merriwa RSL Club

As most of you will be aware the club is currently open for up to 50 patrons at

any one time, and as from July 1 this will increase to 100 patrons.

We are hoping to restart our Sunday raffles on July 5, with the Friday raffles planned to kickoff on July 10, with our courtesy bus also restarting on July 10 also for pickups, drop offs and home deliveries of meals.

Our current hours of trade are:

Bar – Monday to Wednesday 11.30am – 8.30pm Thursday 11.30am – 10.00pm Friday 11.30am – 11.00pm Saturday 11.00am – 11.00pm Sunday 11.00am – 3.00pm

Bistro – Tuesday/Wednesday 5.30pm – 7.30pm Thursday/Friday/Saturday 12 noon – 2.00pm/5.30pm – 8.00pm Sunday 12 noon – 2.00pm

As restrictions are lifted these time may vary a little.

Once again I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your understanding and support during these strange and unusual times.

Matt Morgan

Merriwa Sports Club

Mondays - Happy Two Hours - 4.00pm to 6.00pm

Tuesdays - Rotary meets - 7.00pm for 7.30pm

Wednesdays - 6.00pm Bingo - prizes of club and meat vouchers. Raffle and Super 39 special prize

Fridays - Happy Two Hours 11 00pm to 7.00pm, free raffle.

Saturdays - Monster Raffle. Tickets on sale at 6.45pm drawn 7.30pm, winners jackpot, dinner draw and Saturday Badge Draw.

Sundays - Members badge draw plus three raffles choice of \$25.00 meat or fuel vouchers.

BINGO

No bingo for the time being.

BOWLS

Casual bowls available.

GOLF

Casual Golf available. Donations in honesty box.

CHINESE SMORGASBORD RESTAURANT

NO SMORGASBORD FOR THE TIME BEING

Chinese will be open for takeaways.

For bookings and take away – 6548 3228.

WEEKEND RESULTS

Saturday Raffle - No RAFFLES FOR THE TIME BEING CLUBS OPENING HOURS AS OF JUNE 1

Restricted hours due to COVID 19 are as follows:

Mondays 3.30pm till 6.00pm
Tuesday 3.30pm till 6.00pm
Wednesday 3.30pm till 6.00pm
Thursday 3.30pm till 6.00pm
Fridays 3.30pm till 8.00pm
Saturdays 12.00pm till 8.00pm
Sundays 3.30pm till 6.00pm.

Hours will be revised with relatation of regulations.

We look forward to see you all again.

Des Snelgrove

MERRIWA WOMENS BOWLING CLUB

Merriwa Womens Bowling Club Annual General Meeting will be held Monday July 27, 2020 at the Merriwa Sports Club at 3.30pm.

Nomination forms are available on the Ladies Notice Board at the Sports Club.

For more information please contact Loretta Cooper.

Loretta Cooper





Page 26 Merriwa Ringer

Merriwa Pony Club

Merriwa Pony Club hosted an instructors school over the weekend on behalf of Zone 7. Fifteen budding instructors diligently worked through the Preliminary or Level 1 course work over two days with the assistance of several Merriwa riders who volunteered to be the instructors 'guniea pigs'.

Sincere thanks to our six riders who braved the wintery conditions to receive instruction in flatwork and show jumping under the watchful eye of the trainee instructors. Nicole Martin, Emily Ninness, Jorji Taaffe, Darcy Taaffe, Roy Lawler and Ben Patterson all looked especially smart in their full pony club uniforms and were ever so patient throughout the training sessions. It must have been a bit overwhelming at times to have all those eyes on you, but you rose to the challenge. Well done riders, you did us proud!

Another instructor assessment weekend is planned for July. We wish Ainsley Maben, Sandy Vicary, Samantha Carter and Heather Proctor from Merriwa Pony Club all the very best with

their Preliminary course and Clare Martin and Phil Logue for their Level 1 qualifications. We also THANK YOU for going the extra mile and seeking the qualifications required to teach our young riders of the future it is most appreciated.

This weekend we look forward to hosting the



Regional Campdraft School. Keep your eyes peeled for the funny looking but fabulously fit bison that will be running around the arena!

Tash Taaffe











NOTIFICATION OF COMMENCEMENT OF ABORIGINAL PARTY CONSULTATION FOR THE PROPOSED MODIFICATION TO THE LIVERPOOL RANGE WIND FARM PROJECT, NEAR COOLAH NSW.

Umwelt Environmental and Social Consultants (Umwelt) have been engaged by Tilt Renewables Australia Pty Ltd (Tilt Renewables) to prepare an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment (ACHA) in relation to a proposed modification to the approved Liverpool Range Wind Farm (LRWF) project (SSD 6696), generally located approximately 6km east of Coolah within the Warrumbungle, Upper Hunter and Mid-Western Local Government Areas (LGAs), including a transmission line extending through Cassilis to Ulan.

Umwelt invite Aboriginal people or groups who hold cultural knowledge relevant to determining the significance of Aboriginal objects and/or places within the project area to register an interest in being consulted as part of the preparation of the ACHA for the proposed modification to the LRWF project. Consultation will assist the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) with consideration and comment on the assessment and any management recommendations made.

Registrations should be submitted by July 13, 2020 to:

Alison Fenwick

P: 02 4950 5322

E: afenwick@umwelt.com.au

The name and contact details of the proponent's project manager:

Matt Stattord

Senior Environment and Development Planner

Level 23, 535 Bourke Street Melbourne 3000

M: 1300 660 623

E: matt.stafford@tiltrenewables.com

Community Calendar

Don't forget to let us know important moments in your community events calendar



The Merriwa Ringer is proudly published by

MERRIWA CENTRAL SCHOOL

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ALL MATERIAL DUE 12 noon MONDAYS

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