

SCONE HIGH SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER 4

13TH AUGUST 2021

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

What a week we've had. As I write this newsletter another week of lockdown has just been announced by the Premier for the LGAs of Muswellbrook and Singleton.

There's been a lot of confusion for many staff and students, parents who reside in the lockdown areas. I really appreciate how difficult the last week has been and I also recognise that some families have made the choice to keep students at home. I want to reassure you that all of the guidelines that we are adhering to have been set by NSW Health and that none of these are local decisions. We will always support you in these decisions by informing you directly via SMS and email, using our website for NSW state-wide information and phone calls.

If you reside in the Muswellbrook LGA you will need to stay at your place of residence for 14 days unless you have a reasonable excuse. Attending school is a reasonable excuse.

At all times, please continue to:

- closely monitor for symptoms for COVID-19 and immediately get tested should you have the mildest of symptoms, regardless of where you live or attend school. If you get tested for COVID-19 because you have symptoms or if you have been directed by NSW Health to do so, you must isolate at home until receiving your test result.
- refer to the [NSW Government list of case locations External link](#) and act on the guidance from NSW Health if you have been to any of these venues.

Above or below the line? – Operating below the line, we take on a victim psyche. Nothing is our fault. We abdicate responsibility and it all becomes 'too hard'. Whilst we accept no responsibility, we also relinquish all control. Scone High School is operating above the line. We are doing everything in our power to keep us out of this lockdown.

Last year we installed extra handwashing stations for students and staff. We have extra cleaners on-site keeping all surfaces germ free. Hand sanitizer is supplied in every classroom and staffroom. Please encourage your students to make good use of these. Operating above the line means we are accepting responsibility for doing our best, we have a positive mindset and are future focused.

WE'VE GOT THIS.



"Helping young people create their futures"



Frequently asked Questions:

1. How can I get the latest advice for families about Scone High School?

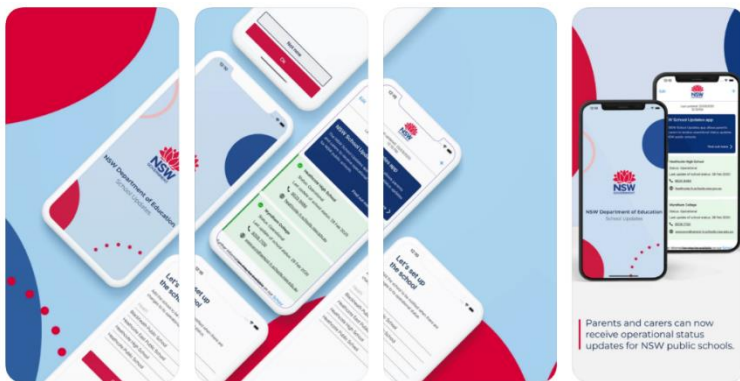
There's a NSW School Updates app. Please see below

The app will complement the other means of communication available to parents and carers from schools and the Department of Education to ensure families receive timely, accurate information in a crisis.

The app is free and available now for iOS and Android users.

- [Download for iOS - App Store](#) [External link](#)
- [Download for Android - Google Play](#) [External link](#)

You can opt in for notifications about the operational status of as many NSW public schools as you choose.



2. What happens if we go into a Stay at Home Order setting?

Currently we operate on Level 2 restrictions for COVID, as below.

	Overview	Guidance on mask wearing
Level 1 School operating in a COVID-safe/ COVID-normal way	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools can operate in a COVID-normal way Students and staff to not attend school if they have symptoms; negative COVID-19 test required prior to returning to school Parents, carers and visitors are allowed on-site QR code check-in and check-out required for all staff and visitors COVID safety plans required in line with NSW Health advice (such as large gatherings or events) Activities such as singing, chanting, choirs, bands and school performances allowed in line with broader health settings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inter-school sport in line with community sport guidelines Community use in line with broader health settings SRE/SEE (externally provided religion and ethics classes) operational Community Language Schools operational P&C on site Additional cleaning measures in place Further detailed guidance available on the Department's website.
Level 2 COVID-safe; restrictions on activities and non-essential visitors	As per Level 1, except: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-essential visitors not allowed on-site (including parents and carers) Mask wearing recommendations Staff identified as vulnerable supported to work from home Activities such as singing, chanting, choirs, bands and school performances allowed in outdoor settings only Assemblies must have COVID-Safe practices in place and no parents/ carers are allowed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Excursions within Local Government Area only, and strongly recommended to be outdoors and within walking distance Further detailed guidance available on the Department's website.
Level 3 COVID-safe; further restrictions on activities and non-essential visitors	As per Level 2, except: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mask wearing requirements Introduction of staggered breaks and reduced mingling of student cohorts wherever possible Activities such as singing, chanting, choirs, bands and school performances not permitted No assemblies No excursions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No community use (except early childhood services and QOSH services) No uniform shops No SRE/SEE (externally provided religion and ethics classes) No Community Language School on site Further detailed guidance available on the Department's website.
Level 4 Learning from home encouraged, schools are open for families who need it	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Families are encouraged to keep their children at home, with no student to be turned away Schools activate plans to support continuity of education for all students learning from home. 	Where students and staff are at school, Level 3 guidelines apply, except: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No community use (except early childhood services) No canteens Further detailed guidance available on the Department's website.

If NSW Health change this to Level 4, then we will change to a Learning from Home setting. Under these arrangements, students mostly stay at home and engage in learning via Google Classroom. Some students will need to be at school, as their families are essential workers and cannot work from home. We have a timetable ready for this and we will send this directly to you when needed. Laptops would be available to assist students with this and would be collected in a contactless manner.

As usual, we will answer any questions you might have, either send us an email, SMS, or phone us.

3. I have a student sitting their HSC this year. What has changed?

- The dates of the HSC Examinations have changed, with the first examination being held here in the MPU on Tuesday 19th October. All Yr12 students can download their individual HSC timetable from <https://studentsonline.nesa.nsw.edu.au/> Students must activate their account to go into this site.
- Music Performances have been changed to school marked, so the dates for these will be negotiated with students, with plenty of notice.
- More changes are likely with Design & Technology and Industrial Technology Major Works. Students will be informed about these as we find out, however, their final submission dates have not changed.
- The HSC Yr12 Presentation Day is scheduled for Friday 17th September at school and the Yr12 formal will be on Friday the 12th November at school in the MPU. Hopefully parents will be able to be a part of this celebration, even if this is for a very short time.

4. What is happening with buses at the moment?

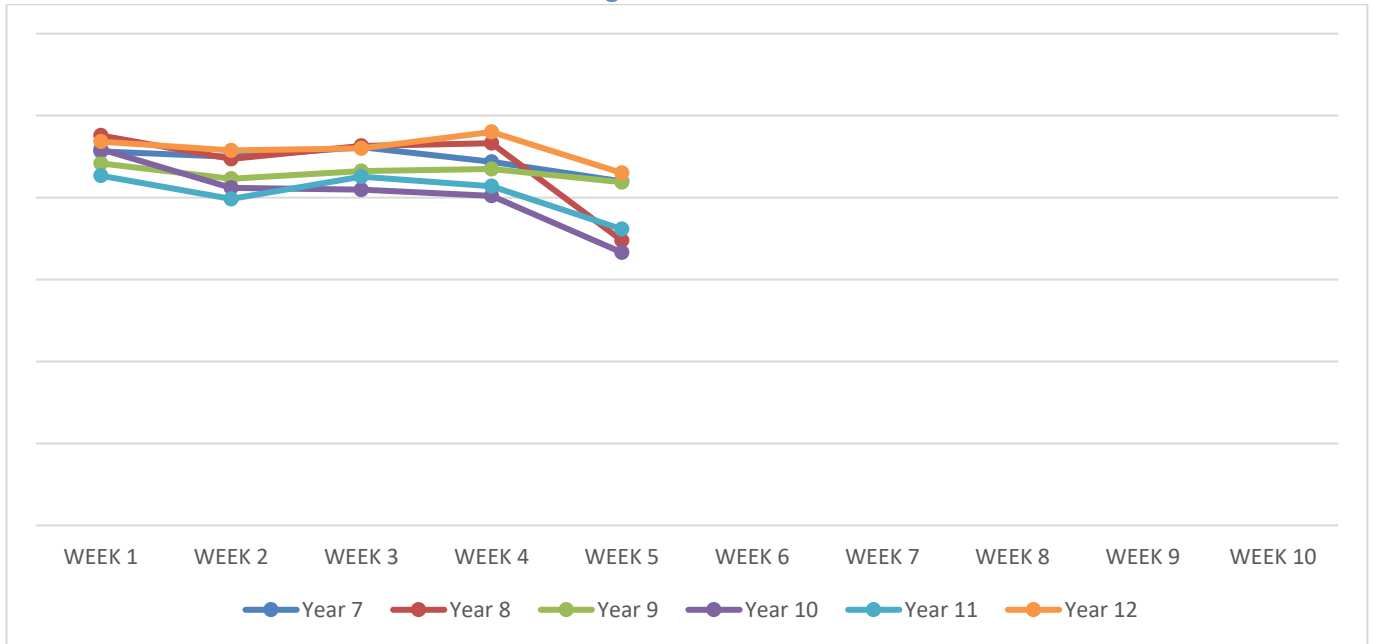
ALL buses are operating and running as normal. Please bear in mind with the decrease in student numbers using bus travel it is advisable you are arriving at your bus stop before the recommended time.

Due to the continued COVID restrictions this is a timely reminder that it is mandatory for students in Years 7 and above to wear face masks whilst travelling on buses. Children under 12 are exempt but are encouraged to wear masks where practicable, If you are not wearing a mask you may be fined. There are exemptions in place if you have a physical or mental health illness or condition, or disability, that makes wearing a mask unsuitable, it is advisable you must carry either a medical certificate or letter signed by a registered health practitioner (such as a doctor) or a registered NDIS provider or a statutory declaration.

Attendance Matters

This Term, we have begun to acknowledge the groups across the school with the most growth in their attendance. It has been great to see that students have been both excited to win and disappointed to not quite make the grade.

The weekly attendance rates are collected and then the percentage growth from one week to the next is calculated and the roll call group with the greatest growth that week receive a prize on Friday in their roll call class.



Sometimes as a parent we feel that this type of encouragement for “just being here” is a bit silly, but it might surprise us all how simply discussing attendance is an encouragement for us all to be here tomorrow with our friends and to be learning every day.

There are some students and families who have extremely good reason to not be at school and these situations are considered on a weekly basis.

Brian Drewe
Principal

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

It has been great to see an increase in attendance across year groups despite the cold weather! Everyone is working towards improving their own attendance percentage. As groups we have a Freddo Friday competition running where the roll call with the highest attendance percentage for the week wins Freddo Frogs to share. This prize has been hotly pursued by all year groups and we have seen a number of roll calls come away with the chocolates.

Another area of focus is our students who are regularly late to school. Samantha Cockerill, our Student Support Officer, will be working with students to improve their time management so that they are not missing any valuable learning time.

With recent COVID activity impacting families in our learning community our attendance numbers have been impacted in week 4 and 5 this term. Despite this students are still looking to engage with school and where possible we have all eligible students attending in person.

We have the highest attendance rate for high schools in our region and we are looking to continue to improve because the more time spent at school - the more learning growth can be achieved.

Adam Johnston
Deputy Principal

EXCURSIONS & NEWS

YEAR 4 STEM WORKSHOP

STEM day with Miss Garling and Mrs Young from Scone HS. We had two challenges, firstly building a bridge to support as many marbles as possible and then constructing a seat to support a baby (and extra weight if possible!).

Thank you Scone High School for providing this STEM learning opportunity for our students!

Written by Scone Public School

On Monday our Year 4 students participated in a Science Technology Engineering Mathematics (STEM) challenge. Students were asked to build a bridge and a chair using limited materials, these needed to be capable of holding weights. STEM activities require students to plan, test, problem solve & work collaboratively. It's a fun way to build children's critical thinking.

Thanks to Mrs Young from Scone High School who has been conducting these workshops at APS for the past four years.

Written by Aberdeen Public School

[Click Here To See Photo Gallery](#)



THANK YOU SCONE BOWLING CLUB

Scone High School would like to thank John Day from Scone Bowling Club for their wonderful donation of \$1,000 from the 'return & earn' program.

We appreciate the fabulous generosity to support students at our school.

Written by Brian Drewe



SCHOLASTIC 10-4-10 READING CHALLENGE

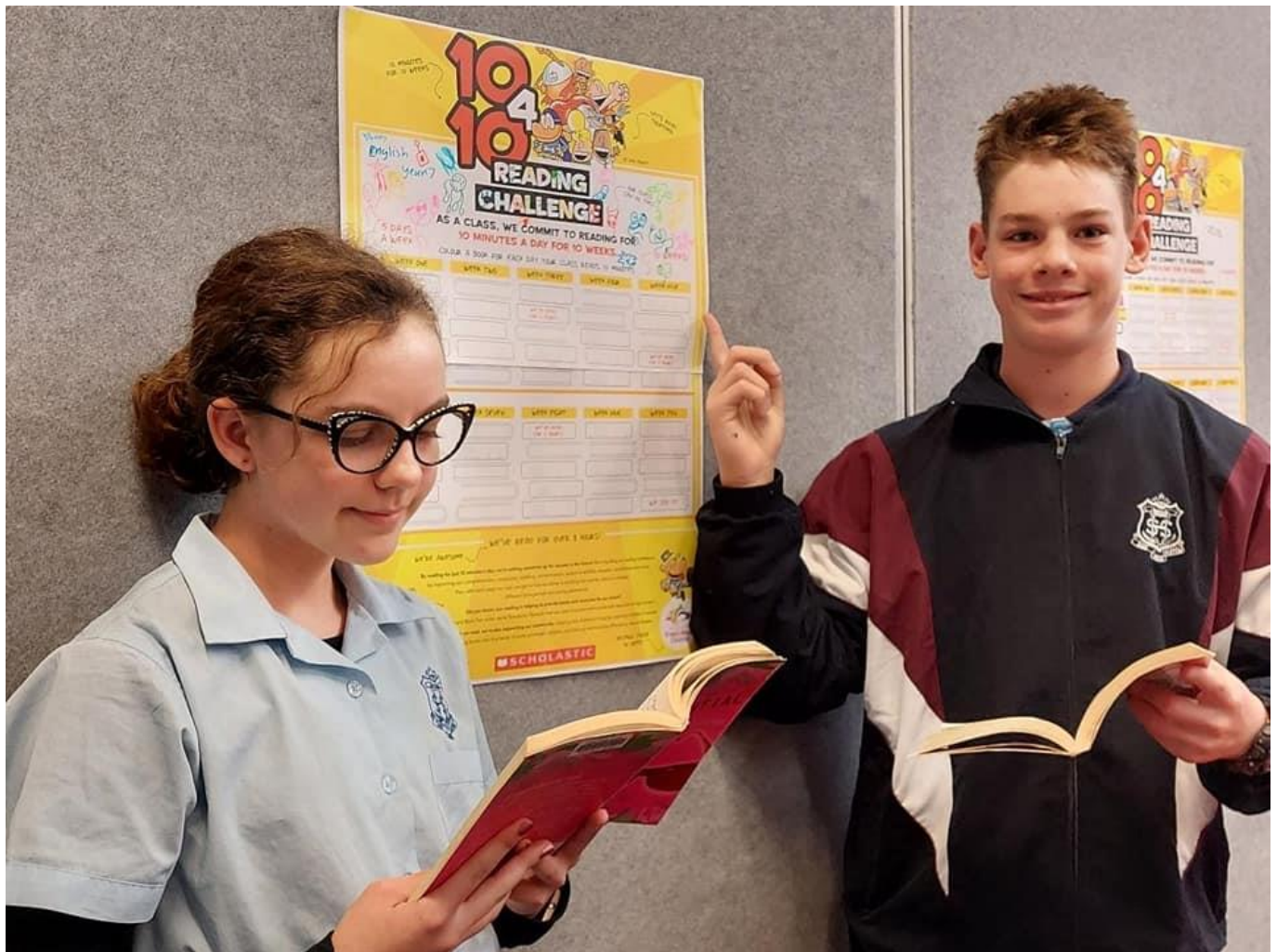
Mrs Tidyman-Crawley's English classes, 7S, 8.2, and 9.3 have accepted the challenge and committed as a class, to read a book of their choice, 10 minutes a day for 10 weeks.

Our focus is on improving comprehension, vocabulary, spelling, concentration, analytical abilities, empathy, mindfulness and more.

If your student would like to be part of this reading challenge, they can chat to Mrs Frost in the Library.

[Click Here To See Photo Gallery](#)

Written by Lenise Crawley



NAIDOC WEEK ASSEMBLY

During the last week of Term 2, Young Mob organised and presented a whole school assembly to celebrate Naidoc week. Led by students ranging from Years 7 to 11, the presentation was held outside overlooking our Yarning Circle, which now boasts a new firepit that will be used for our smoking ceremonies. After the Acknowledgment of Country, the assembly was opened by several Torres Strait Islander dances, performed by the students. At the conclusion of each dance the significance of the dance was explained. This year's theme, 'Heal Country' was introduced, and our Young Mob organisers Aunty Yvonne and Aunty Jen were thanked for the learning they and

other presenters have provided this year. Information about Yarning circles and their significance in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities as a way of passing down traditions and knowledge was also shared. It was impressive to see the enthusiastic involvement of students and staff when they were invited to partake in a whole school smoking ceremony, a ceremony which is used for a variety of purposes in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

The presentation concluded with a moving song played by Year 11 student, Jayden Hines. Our students were proud to share the cultural knowledge learnt this year with the school and to show off our new Yarning circle. This outdoor space will be enjoyed as a new learning environment for classes to use for discussion and the sharing of ideas. To finish the celebration, Mrs and Mr Field provided the school with an emu, crocodile and kangaroo sausage sizzle, a new culinary experience enjoyed by many, curious to try something new.

I would like to thank Mr and Mrs Field for their ongoing support of our Young Mob program. Mrs Field spoiled us with a variety of meals featuring indigenous ingredients throughout the week, and many of our students voted the kangaroo burgers to be their favourite lunch item on the canteen menu. Mr Field has led the building of our Yarning circle and the garden which surrounds it. Thank you also to Mr Goodwin for providing the CADD design for the fire pit and for Justin of Scotty's Fabricate and Paint in Muswellbrook for creating it. Thank you also to Mr Garbyal for his support this year as a new member of the Young Mob team. Congratulations to all Young Mob students for providing a fantastic Naidoc assembly, you did an amazing job and deserve to be congratulated. Your character strengths of leadership, teamwork, bravery and zest were on full display for all to see.

[Click Here To See Photo Gallery](#)

Written by Ruth Gal



P&C NEWS

Our P and C is made up of parents and carers, teachers and community members. Our P and C meet on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7pm in the school's library. If we are restricted from meeting due to COVID concerns we meet via a ZOOM meeting. We meet regularly to contribute to decision-making, developing policies and management plans as well as discussing and implementing fundraising opportunities.

Members of the school executive regularly attend our meetings. We are a great team who believe in getting things done to support the needs of staff, students and families in our school.

Our canteen continues to present healthy, low priced food to both students and staff. We listen to our student's requests with the philosophy that if we cook what they want, it will be eaten. (Only healthy food is part of these discussions) Our canteen is managed by Belinda Field and currently is supported by Gemma and Amanda as well as volunteers. We are grateful that volunteers feel happy to give their time up to come and work in the canteen. If you are considering volunteering please consider working in our canteen.

Our current project: Scone High School Enriched Outdoor Learning Areas aims to provide outdoor learning spaces for both lessons and break time. Our project focuses on the needs of students within our Support Classes but also enriches our playground areas for all students. We have already received a great deal of monetary support from our community which we are very grateful for. Last week we were notified that we were successful in receiving a sponsorship from Bengalla Mining Company. We are so thankful that our project has gained such excellent support and we thank everyone who has supported us.

Last week members of the Student Representative Council (SRC) approached the P and C to support them in overhauling the student toilet areas. We have committed to supporting them in this project and look forward to working with these students.

We are a great team, who get things done and have a lot of fun in the process. Please feel free to contact any of us. Our leadership team is listed below:

President/Secretary Cheryl Pringle 0412998774
Vice President Andrew Dick
Treasurer Kath Meier
Canteen Manager Belinda Field

Written by Cheryl Pringle



SAIL W NEEDS YOUR HELP

As you know most days SAIL W engage in sensory experiences in the classroom. These activities are lots of fun and the students really enjoy them, but they do use a lot of materials.

To assist us in creating these experiences we are asking for donations of items that you may have around the house or can add to your weekly shop. You do not have to send in all the items but if you can send in some with your child we would greatly appreciate it.

Please see the list below and if you could help out Sail W will be very grateful 😊 Every little bit helps 😊

Written by Suzan Wilson



YEAR 8 GIRLS PROGRAM

Thank you for the support from our parents and carers of Year 8 girls who will be participating in a 5 week Girls Program this term. This is the second year the program has run and we are delighted to deliver this tailored program again to this year's cohort.

We will be bringing in experts to deliver engaging and educational content that addresses social and emotional wellbeing. The program has been developed with specific areas of focus to build on existing skills within their resilience and wellbeing toolbox.

The three guiding principles of our program are:

- Treat people how you want to be treated
- Uplift and empower each other
- You are enough just the way you are

An outline of the content being covered can be seen below.

Week 6 (19/8/21)	Acknowledging our negativity bias
Week 7 (26/8/21)	Self-respect and strategies to support one another
Week 8 (2/9/21)	Physical wellbeing
Week 9 (9/9/21)	Nutrition and sleep hygiene
Week 10 (16/9/21)	Rewards session

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Miss McNiel or Ms Cockerill on (02) 6545 1455.



Written by Samantha Cockerill

PUSH48 CHALLENGE

We recently received a letter from Jennifer Saunders and Dayna Haynes on behalf of the PUSH48challenge and the Murrurundi Lions Club about our very own Year 8 student, Sophie Luscombe. Sophie participated in the PUSH48challenge from the 7th – 9th May. This was a 48-hour physical and mental endurance challenge, where participants were required to run 6km every 4 hours.

Sophie was the youngest participant in her PUSH48 crew. She impressed everyone with her determination and strength to continue even when her body wasn't willing. She displayed kindness when running alongside a 10-year-old who had wanted to see if she could compete for one round, even though it meant she was back later than some of the others. Throughout the challenge, Sophie maintained a positive attitude and turned up with a smile on her face.

As a result of the group's efforts, they raised \$9,054 for Murrurundi Public School, which was presented at the Lions Club changeover dinner. This will go towards a formalised swimming program to be introduced in 2022.

We are extremely proud of Sophie's achievements!

Written by Jennifer Saunders & Dayna Haynes (Push48 Challenge)



FORMAL ASSEMBLY AWARDS

YEAR 7

Alison Badenhorst, Matthew Bates, Dean Dingwall, Dawson Mills, Cohen Palmer, Ava Roughan, Cameron Ryan, Amina Shahid, Raya Talty, Olivia Witchard

YEAR 8

Harrison Baxter, Charlotte Brown, Billy Chamberlain, Amber Davis, Robert Griesheimer, Hudson Gunning, Cash Hill, Nickolas Lima Melo, Caitlyn Moran, Preston O'Brien, Ada Ollerton, Hass Porter, Danny Risby, Jayden Rowland, Brooke Sampson, Triston Skinner, Leelan Wyldman

YEAR 9

Luc Bates, Isabelle Bogaard, Chace Bridge, Clayton Brooks, Matthew Byrne, Jorja Cooper, Keira Dingwall, Ethan Downton, Emlyn Elliott, Hallee Frost, Taylor Gibson, Hunter McLoughlin, Lockey Ralston, Bella Reardon, Joshua Smith, Tyrhone Sullivan, Bridgette Thompson, Natasha Vickers

YEAR 10

Samuel Adams, Ziggy Minter, Luca Turri

YEAR 11

Rhys Baker, Gracie Bates, Cynthia Gibbs, Indianna Welsh, Kaitlyn Woodward

YEAR 12

Hallie Day, Kelsey Gunning, Maddison Gunning, Flynn Harman, Matylda Hayne, Emily-Rae Rose, Gypsy-Rose Whitby

COMMUNITY NEWS

Fabulous Formal & Work Wear Giveaway

Everything
FREE



Free clothes and accessories
for job interviews or the formal season

Tuesday, 3 August	4:00pm - 6:30pm	Muswellbrook UHCS
Wednesday, 4 August	4:00pm - 6:30pm	Merriwa CWA
Tuesday, 10 August	4:00pm - 6:30pm	Scone Bowling Club
Wednesday, 11 August	4:00pm - 6:30pm	Murrurundi RSL Hall
Tuesday, 17 August	4:00pm - 6:30pm	Denman RSL
Wednesday, 18 August	4:00pm - 6:30pm	Aberdeen Bowling Club
Tuesday, 24 August	4:00pm - 6:30pm	Singleton Youth Centre

Or call Bec Eveleigh or Jess Dallah from UHCS on **6542 3555**

nib foundation

NEWCASTLE PERMANENT
**CHARITABLE
FOUNDATION**

BHP Proudly Supported by
Mount Arthur Coal

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COMMUNITY SERVICES Inc.**



This service is proudly provided to you by:
Upper Hunter Community Services Inc.
QEII Community Centre
Cnr Bridge & Market Streets • Muswellbrook
Phone 02 6542 3555 • www.uhcs.org.au



1st Scone Scouts

Contact:- Greg Morris
greg.morris@nsw.scouts.com.au

Joey Scouts (6 & 7 year olds) and
Cub Scouts (8-10 year olds) ~
Mondays 6:30 – 7:30pm

Scouts (11-14 year olds) and
Venturer Scouts (15 – 17 year olds) ~
Thursdays 6:45 – 8:30pm

Scone Girl Guides

Contact: Christina Darlington
sconeDM@girlguides-
nswactnt.org.au



Jnr Guides (5 – 9 year olds) ~
Mondays 5:30 – 7pm

A background image for a photography competition featuring various cameras and lenses on a wooden surface. The word "PHOTOGRAPHY" is written in large white capital letters, and "Competition" is written in a blue cursive script below it.

PHOTOGRAPHY
Competition

Our annual school 'Photography Competition' is on again, get snapping and submit your photos by Wednesday 1st September, Week 8.

For more information see Mrs Frost in the library.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Principal:	Mr Brian Drewe
Deputy Principal:	Mr Adam Johnston

Street Address:	9 Gundy Road, Scone NSW 2337
Postal Address:	PO Box 285, Scone NSW 2337
School Email:	scone-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Webpage:	www.scone-h.schools.nsw.edu.au
Phone:	02 6545 1455
Fax:	02 6545 3269
SMS:	0427 016 460

P & C Association

Meets 7.00pm in the School Library, fourth Tuesday in the month.

For further P & C information contact the President – Cheryl Pringle on 0412 998 774.

Canteen Supervisor – Mrs Belinda Field

Please call the front office on 6545 1455 if you need to contact the canteen.

SMS Text Messaging

Daily attendance of your child is sent to your family mobile number. This can also be used for important information regarding parent teacher meetings, issue of reports etc. The school SMS number is: **0427 016 460**. Please add this as a contact in your mobile phone. You CANNOT phone this number, please phone using 02 6545 1455. You may send a text message at any time to this number to explain your child's absences. Please let us know if you have any problems with this texting service.

Millennium

<https://millenniumschoools.net.au>

The Millennium website contains all of your child's school information. This includes attendance, school reports, assessment tasks, timetables and behaviour information.

Families are able to see the whole family at a glance with your private login. This will be sent to you via an email if you have one listed with us. If not, please phone the office with a current email address. Students can also access this site through a separate login.



www.scone-h.schools.nsw.edu.au

The school website holds a great deal of information, and is a useful place for you to find out what is happening at school.



facebook.com/SconeHighSchool

SCHOOL CALENDAR

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	9 AUG 2021 <i>Special Ed Transition</i>	10 AUG 2021	11 AUG 2021 <i>Evacuation Drill</i>	12 AUG 2021	13 AUG 2021
	16 AUG 2021 <i>Special Ed Transition</i> <i>Wellbeing Week</i>	17 AUG 2021 <i>Wellbeing Week</i>	18 AUG 2021 <i>Kia Ora Music Camp</i> <i>Wellbeing Week</i>	19 AUG 2021 <i>Kia Ora Music Camp</i> <i>Wellbeing Week</i> <i>Year 8 Girls Program</i>	20 AUG 2021 <i>Kia Ora Music Camp</i> <i>Wellbeing Week</i>
WK 1	23 AUG 2021	24 AUG 2021	25 AUG 2021	26 AUG 2021 <i>Year 8 Girls Program</i>	27 AUG 2021
WK 2	30 AUG 2021 <i>Random Act of Kindness Week</i> <i>HSC Assessments Due</i> <i>Special Ed Transition</i>	31 AUG 2021 <i>Random Act of Kindness Week</i> <i>Pajama Day – SRC Event</i>	1 SEP 2021 <i>Random Act of Kindness Week</i> <i>Year 6 Orientation Day</i>	2 SEP 2021 <i>Random Act of Kindness Week</i> <i>Year 8 Girls Program</i>	3 SEP 2021 <i>Random Act of Kindness Week</i> <i>Whole School Assembly</i>
WK 3	6 SEP 2021 <i>Special Ed Transition</i>	7 SEP 2021	8 SEP 2021 <i>Year 11 Exams</i>	9 SEP 2021 <i>Year 8 Girls Program</i> <i>Year 11 Exams</i>	10 SEP 2021 <i>Year 11 Exams</i>
WK 4	13 SEP 2021 <i>Scone Public School Concert</i> <i>Black Dog Institute Talks</i> <i>Year 11 Exams</i>	14 SEP 2021 <i>Scone Public School Concert</i> <i>Year 11 Exams</i>	15 SEP 2021 <i>Scone Public School Concert</i> <i>Year 11 Exams</i>	16 SEP 2021 <i>Year 8 Girls Program</i>	17 SEP 2021 <i>Year 12 Presentation Day</i>
WK 5	20 SEP 2021 <i>School Holidays</i>	21 SEP 2021 <i>School Holidays</i>	22 SEP 2021 <i>School Holidays</i>	23 SEP 2021 <i>School Holidays</i>	24 SEP 2021 <i>School Holidays</i>
WK 6	27 SEP 2021 <i>School Holidays</i>	28 SEP 2021 <i>School Holidays</i>	29 SEP 2021 <i>School Holidays</i>	30 SEP 2021 <i>School Holidays</i>	1 OCT 2021 <i>School Holidays</i>
WK 7	4 OCT 2021 <i>Public Holiday</i>	5 OCT 2021 <i>Students Return to School</i> <i>Year 8 Booklets Issued</i>	6 OCT 2021	7 OCT 2021	8 OCT 2021
WK 8	11 OCT 2021	12 OCT 2021	13 OCT 2021 <i>Love Bites – Year 10</i>	14 OCT 2021	15 OCT 2021