



CALLAGHAN COLLEGE

Waratah Campus News

2021 Term 4
Week 9 edition



COVID-19 update

The Minister has announced a number of changes to be introduced from Monday 29 November to minimise school closures and maximise the time students have for face-to-face learning. Changes include the introduction of Rapid Antigen tests for close contacts. See p. 7.

Recognising our teachers

On World Teachers Day we celebrated Waratah's amazing teachers who continue to show resilience, leadership, adaptability and tireless commitment to our students throughout the disruptions of this year.

For more, see Facebook.

Parli-flicks winners

Congratulations to Joshua S., Francesca M., Finlay K. and Samuel W. who won Best Regional Short Film in this year's 'Parli-Flicks' short film competition. Their film captured what democracy means to them.

For more, see Facebook.

Principal's Update

By Ms Hayley Macdonald, Principal

Welcome to Week 9. It's hard to believe we are nearly at the end of the 2021 school year! Our classrooms have been very busy places over recent weeks with lots of learning and assessing taking place. I've been very impressed to witness how well our students have reconnected back with face-to-face learning after such an extensive learning from home period. They've demonstrated a level of character and resilience of which they should be very proud.

Our teachers are finalising school reports this week and they will be available on Sentral Parent Portal from the last day of term. For years 7-9, the reports are slightly different from previous years

to account for the disruption caused by the learning from home period. We have used a progressive scale ranging from 'not yet observed' to 'excelling', much like in our interim reports. Year 10 will receive award grades (A-E) as normal.

There's still much to look forward to in the last few weeks of term with the announcement of our 2022 school leaders, presentation ceremonies, our SRC 'My Hero' dress-up fundraiser, Year 10 farewell and formal. We will film our presentation ceremonies to share with families and one fully vaccinated family member will be invited to attend our Year 10 ceremony and farewell on 8 December in our COLA (see p. 7).

Thank you all for your ongoing support - it's been a challenging year but we look forward to celebrating all that we have achieved as a school community next week.

Out & about

A snapshot of learning back in our classrooms



Year 9 Music students have been studying music for radio, film, television and multimedia. Pictured here, Eden works as part of a small instrumental group on a practical piece.



Year 7 have been studying visual language in English. Pictured here, Ahlam and Kelly from 7G talk through their ideas for designing their own picture books focused on this year's NAIDOC theme - Heal Country, Heal Our Nation.



Year 9/10 IEC class have been calculating areas of simple rectangles and compound shapes. In this lesson, students measured the area of the classroom and the hallway. Pictured here, Vy discusses the 'real life' applications of her learning with Ms Balodis.



Year 9 Science students have been looking at the central nervous system in their topic on Human Biology. Pictured here, 9B complete a brain dissection experiment.



Year 9/10 Industrial Timber students have been building coffee tables. Pictured here, Robert T. and classmates discuss their design ideas with Mr Scrivener.



Special Education students have been enjoying making use of their new playground equipment, including basketball hoop, table tennis table, tent swing and chess set. Pictured here, Jacob and Soloman set up for an outdoor game of chess.

New uniform FAQs

We are excited to announce that we are introducing a new uniform for 2022. It will be introduced over a 3 year period.

Day to day, students can choose between a white shirt or a polo shirt with shorts, pants or a skirt. We have a new dress as well. The pattern of the dress and skirt have been specifically designed for Callaghan College using the colours of our three campuses.

For sport, students can wear a polo shirt with shorts or tracksuit pants and, when they are representing our school at formal events, they can wear our new blazer. We also have a pullover jumper and shell jacket for winter.

Q1. What consultations were done with our community?

Callaghan College has been working on a new uniform for some time. We initially consulted families, students and teachers in 2020 with a survey that went to all parents and carers to respond to. A joint uniform working group across the three campuses was established by the four Principals, which consulted with P&C and student leadership groups at various points of the process of developing the new uniform.

Q2. Why did we choose a white shirt?

White shirts have been chosen to bring us in line with our other two campuses and to provide a contrast to the dark pants, skirts, dress, jumper and jackets. The shirt material is non-iron and light weight, and can be soaked if stained (more easily than other colours). There is also a white polo option. Sportswear remains dark in colour (red and navy).

Q3. Can my child wear the current uniform?

Yes, the Department of Education school uniform policy guidelines allow for students to wear the old uniform for up to three years from the introduction of a new uniform. Please be aware that although you can continue to wear the current uniform, there will be no further manufacturing of this uniform, so once the current stock is depleted it will be replaced with the new uniform items only.

Q4. Can my child wear a combination of the current uniform with new uniform pieces?

Yes

Q5. Where do I purchase the uniforms?

The School Locker, order online at theschoollocker.com.au/schools/callaghan-college-waratah. The School Locker will have a shop onsite at Waratah Campus in 2022 which will be open two days a week.

The School locker will sell the remaining stock of our current uniform as well as the new uniform.

Q6. Can I purchase second hand uniforms?

The new uniform will be available in term 1 2022. Families can pre-order from 1 December 2021.





News from the Gunya Room

Aboriginal Student Leadership

Nominations are now open for Waratah's Aboriginal Student Leadership Group (ASLG) for 2022. Interested students are encouraged to complete the nomination form on the [Student Leadership page](#) of our school website by week 3 of term 1 next year.

Sincere thanks to our outgoing 2021 Year 10 leaders for their dedicated service to our school.

Making a Difference Awards

Congratulations to Jordan (Year 10), Ariana (Year 10), Aunty Robyn, Miss Milat and Mr Kendall who all received 'AECG Making A Difference' awards in recognition of their valuable contribution to Aboriginal Education throughout 2021.

Acknowledgement of Country

This month, Ariana S. (Year 10) proudly shared her Acknowledgement of Country at the Hunter Psychology Conference, continuing our school's long term association with this event.

NAIDOC Awards

Due to COVID-19 we were unable to hold our NAIDOC celebrations this year. NAIDOC awards will be distributed to students as part of our end of year award ceremonies in week 10.

For more information about Aboriginal Education at our school, please contact our Aboriginal Education team via our Administration Office.



(L-R) Miss Milat, Jordan, Uncle Darren, Ciara, Hayley, Ariana and Katelyn.



Our student leaders did a magnificent job of facilitating our high school orientation sessions for Year 6 students. We look forward to welcoming our new Year 7 in 2022.

School leaders make real-world difference

As part of their involvement in Youth Mock Council earlier this year, our School Captains wrote a Notice of Motion about installing Community Pantries in Newcastle Library branches for people in need.

We are excited to share that their project idea will now become a reality with Council supporting a trial at Wallsend Library starting in May 2022.

A wonderful example of how the voices of young people can have a real world impact!



(L-R) Grace E., Abbegail C., Shaqayeq B. and Bailey N.

Our new routine and timetable for 2022

Waratah Campus is introducing a new timetable and school routine next year as part of our journey to transform learning at our school.

Here is a snapshot of the main changes:

- The new campus timetable continues to operate on a ten-day cycle – Week A (Day 1 - 5) and Week B (Day 6 - 10).
- Each school day is broken up into 4 lessons, lunch and 2 x 15 minute breaks.
- Lessons are 75min in length on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday and 60min on Wednesdays.
- Every Wednesday there is a whole school assembly immediately after roll call (this replaces Monday assemblies).
- For Year 7 and 8, assembly is followed by two periods of school sport, then two other lessons.
- For Year 9 and 10, assembly is followed by two lessons and then two periods of school sport.
- The school day finishes at 2pm on a Wednesday for all students.
- Students wear sport uniform to school all day on Wednesdays.
- School commences at 8:50am Monday to Friday. The school day concludes at 3:00pm every day except Wednesday when it finishes at 2:00pm.

MON, TUES, THURS, FRI	WED
Roll Call 8:50–9:00	Roll Call 8:50–9:00
1 9:00–10:15	Assembly 9:00–9:30
Break 1 10:15–10:30	1 9:30–10:30
2 10:30–11:45	2 10:30–11:30
Lunch 11:45–12:15	Lunch 11:30–12:00
3 12:15–13:30	3 12:00–13:00
Break 2 13:30–13:45	4 13:00–14:00
4 13:45–15:00	

New routine video

For more information view the new routine and timetable video on our website.

Please don't hesitate to contact the school if you have any questions or concerns.



Introducing our Student Support Officer

Mel Griffin joined Waratah's Wellbeing team just before lockdown in the role of Student Support Officer. She is a qualified Social Worker who is passionate about helping young people work through the challenges they face.

Mel runs small group programs and is available for one-on-one sessions with students and families. This term she has been facilitating the following group programs:

- RAGE - an anger management course for adolescents
- Feeling Fantastic - a program aiming to support adolescents manage feelings of depression and anxiety.

We asked Mel to tell us a bit more about herself by answering the following questions:

Best book you've ever read?

I won't admit that, I love trashy romance novels!

The Netflix series you're currently watching?

Down to Earth with Zac Efron

Dream holiday destination?

Anywhere tropical! I love warmth and the beach!

You're favourite self-care tip/strategy?

Ensuring I find at least 30 minutes in a day to prioritise my exercise.

If you were an animal what would you be? A dolphin or turtle. I'd love to swim all day in the glorious sunshine.

If you think your adolescent might benefit from a session with Mel, or you'd like them to participate in one of the group programs in the future, please contact Mel via our School Administration Office.



Headspace donation

Sincere thanks to the 255 students who participated in the 'Me and My School' survey over the last two terms. We look forward to sharing the results with families next year.

There were over 455 consenting families for this research. If your child hasn't attempted the survey,

it's not too late! Please encourage them to complete it using the link emailed to their DoE email address.

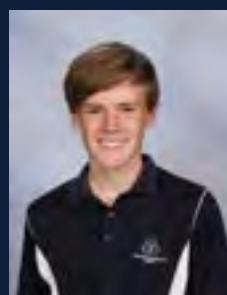
The University of Newcastle has donated \$500 to Headspace on behalf of our school in recognition of our community's support of this research.

Sport news

After a very quiet semester in representative sport due to the impact of COVID-19, we are excited that two of our students, Josh C. (Year 9) and Alexis C. (Year 8) will have the opportunity to represent the Hunter at the NSW All Schools Athletics Championships next week. Congratulations Josh and Alexis (pictured right) for your selection and best of luck for the championships.

Waratah staff have worked hard to provide opportunities for students to stay active on campus this semester with Canvas challenges and weekly school sport.

We are very grateful to all the students who embraced these opportunities and helped keep the House Championship running by earning points for their house.



Rapid Antigen home tests

(continued from page 1) A rapid antigen home testing (RAHT) 'test-to-stay' program will be available to any student who is a close contact of a COVID-19 case in a school setting. This will enable them to get back to school immediately following a negative PCR test and on the basis they do daily RAHTs before attending school across 7 consecutive days. This means that our students' learning is able to continue with minimal interruptions following a positive COVID-19 case. Full support will be available to help you implement this should it be required at our school and many other schools and students are already using RAHTs successfully.

Visit [COVID-19 advice](#) for the latest information.

Laptop return

If your child borrowed a school laptop or charge during the learning from home period, please ensure they return it to Ms Allen in the Administration building before the end of the school year. We still have 45 laptops outstanding.

Book packs

[Year 8 - 10 book and stationery requirements](#) for 2022 are now available on our website.

Year 7 2022 book packs can be ordered from Stuart and Dunn. Details in Year 7 orientation packs

Key Dates

**3
Dec**

'My Hero' out of uniform fundraiser

Students are encouraged to come to school dressed as their hero or someone they admire. Gold coin donation. Students can also come out of uniform but not in dress up.

**6
Dec**

Year 8 Presentation Ceremony

Our end of year award ceremony for year 8 where we celebrate student achievements in learning, extra-curricular activities and citizenship during 2021. Families will receive a video recording of the ceremony.

**6
Dec**

Year 9 Presentation Ceremony

Our end of year award ceremony for year 9 where we celebrate student achievements in learning, extra-curricular activities and citizenship during 2021. Families will receive a video recording of the ceremony.

**8
Dec**

Year 10 Awards Ceremony and Farewell

9:15am -11am in our Covered Outdoor Learning Area (COLA). One fully vaccinated guest per Year 10 student is invited to attend this special event. Families will also receive a video recording of the ceremony.

**9
Dec**

Year 7 Presentation Ceremony

Our end of year award ceremony for year 7 where we celebrate student achievements in learning, extra-curricular activities and citizenship during 2021. Families will receive a video recording of the ceremony.

**9
Dec**

Year 10 formal

Our Year 12 formal will take place in our school hall. Entry from 6:30pm via our Young Street carpark. Pick up will be staggered from 9 - 9:20pm from Young Street carpark. Please advise the school prior to the event if another parent/adult is picking up your child from this event.

The last day of term for students is Thursday 16 December 2021.