



Scholarship Winners

Narges (pictured above with Ms Gallagher) and Sozdar (Year 10) received scholarships from the Mentor Support Network (MSN) in recognition of their outstanding commitment to their studies.
For more, see page 5.

More than a Word

Our deadly Aboriginal Dance and Yidagi (didge) groups proudly performed at the Reconciliation Week event 'Rising from the Embers - Land and Cultural Festival' at the University of Newcastle.
For more, see page 5.

STEM Superstars

Waratah placed 2nd at the Build ME a Future event at the University of Newcastle. Our students had so much fun participating in the hands-on Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) challenges against other local schools.

Principal's Update

By Ms Hayley Macdonald, Principal

Welcome to Week 9. It's hard to believe we are nearly half way through the 2021 school year! Our students have had a full and rewarding semester and it's been wonderful to witness their learning, growth and successes across so many areas of school life.

Last Friday I had the pleasure of dropping into a number of classes across the school to speak with students about their learning. It was great to see the new and creative ways for students to engage with their learning. Students were out of their seats in many classrooms, discussing and doing - working in pairs and groups to collaborate on problems and investigate learning.

Our teachers have been busy writing student reports which will be available on the Sentral Parent Portal in Week 10. I've enjoyed starting to read through these reports and reflect on how far students have come in their learning this semester. If you have concerns about your child's learning progress, I encourage you to make contact with your child's classroom teachers.

There's still much to look forward to in the last two weeks of term with students performing in Star Struck this Friday night and Saturday, Zone athletics tomorrow and an online showcase of student learning from our electives on our website next week (see page 6 for more details).

Have a fabulous week and an enjoyable winter break!

Out & about

A snapshot of learning beyond the classroom



Our Special Education classes learnt the basics of fossilisation when Newcastle Museum came to visit. Students held and investigated real fossils and made their own trace 'fossils.'



Students and parents attended the NSW Mining Careers Dinner last week as part of the Prime Project.



A group of Year 10 students received a hands-on experience of water sampling, surveying marine beds and investigating the impacts of microplastics as part of Envirothon, an environmental problem solving competition.



Our Debating teams have had a successful start to the competition this year with round 1 wins. A special shoutout to Zanetta, Finlay, Francesca and Joshua from Year 8 who defeated the Wallsend Campus Stage 5 team made up of students from Year 9 and 10.



Our Year 8 Music students treated volunteers from Hunter Volunteer Centre with a lunchtime performance in celebration of Volunteer Week.



Students from our Callaghan Tutorial Centre have been participating in a 6-week boxing program at the PCYC focused on fitness and discipline. It's wonderful to see the improvements in their technique as the program progresses.

Out & about cont.

A snapshot of learning beyond the classroom



Year 10 students come face-to-face with history and develop historical empathy as they listened to the stories of Holocaust survivors at the Jewish Museum.



Our Year 8 girls got the opportunity to see STEM careers up close and experience some hands-on learning at an industry site visit. This opportunity was made possible through the HunterWise schools program.



Our Year 8 Sports Academy students get a workout for brain and body in a series of Orienteering challenges testing their navigation and problem solving skills.



Our Chess team was outstanding against Dungog HS. The boys outplayed their Year 11 opponents to win all four boards.



Year 9 Food Design students treated their favourite teachers to a fine dining lunch experience complete with invitations, table service and delicious meals.

College News

It's been an incredible term for cross-campus activities, from transition days at Jesmond for our Year 10 students to sporting successes from a number of our College Sports teams.

I am very proud to let you know that our College has been involved in a whole of Callaghan Education Pathways (CEP) partner school collaboration to develop our own Acknowledgement of Country video over the past few weeks. All of our 15 partner schools held school-based activities on the significance of acknowledging country and choosing our local themes, which was then brought to two workshops attended by more than 100 students at Jesmond campus, to write, perform and record our CEP Acknowledgement of Country. This has been an extraordinary collaboration of students from kindergarten to Year 12, and the video will be released during NAIDOC Week.

Next term, Year 10 students will be able to attend the our Future Learning and Careers Expo, "esCALate" at Jesmond Senior Campus (August 20).

This provides Year 10 students the opportunity to talk with a range of industry professionals and further education specialists, as well as get involved in hands-on workshops, as part of their transition to senior learning.

We have a number of great opportunities coming up for families to come together and celebrate our students. As part of Education Week, our CEP community will be holding a Grease-themed Carnival on Wednesday 28 July at Jesmond Senior Campus (4pm-6pm). All families and community are welcome to come along and join the fun with food and entertainment for everyone. Each school will be hosting a stall or providing entertainment. We will also be displaying a range of K-12 student creative works in our Carnival art gallery.

Finally, you can now purchase tickets for our upcoming Grease musical from www.trybooking.com.

We hope you all have safe and restful holiday and look forward to an exciting term 3!

Kylee Owen, College Principal

Sharing our space

Our school is participating in the Share Our Space initiative during the upcoming winter holidays. This means our school grounds will be open all holidays for our community to enjoy.

The back gate near the Cola will be open at 8am and close at 5pm from Monday 28 June to Friday 9 July 2021, including weekends.

Parents/carers are expected to provide appropriate supervision for their child or children.

Security staff will be onsite to monitor and protect the school's buildings and assets, and are responsible for opening and closing school gates each day.



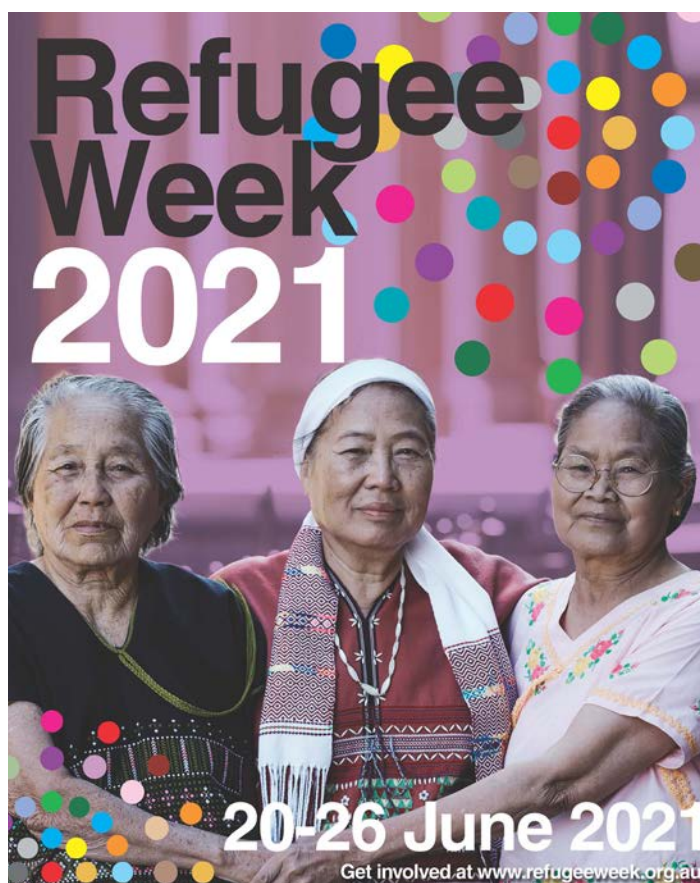
Security staff are not responsible for supervising children or other visitors to the space, but they will report unruly and unlawful behaviour to the police.

School toilets are not open as part of Share our Space – plan ahead!

Scholarship Winners

Sozdar S. and Narges E., in Year 10, received scholarships from Mentor Support Network (MSN). These scholarships are awarded to refugee students who have demonstrated outstanding commitment to their studies at school. The scholarship involves \$1500 and mentor support during the senior years of schooling.

Narges and Sozdar were lucky recipients of this award and proudly represented Callaghan College Waratah at the ceremony. The other eight recipients also included four students who previously attended Callaghan College Waratah, testifying to the depth of student achievement amongst our current and previous refugee student cohort.



News from the Gunya Room

Transition Program

Waratah's Aboriginal Student Leadership Group (ASLG) did an outstanding job leading their first Transition program for Year 6 students from Waratah West and Waratah Primary Schools.

The program is designed to give Year 6 students an introduction to our College and to the high school setting. Our ASLG organised and facilitated a range of activities to help the Year 6 students step out of their comfort zones and get ready for change, make new friends, get to know key staff and connect to culture. We are looking forward to the next transition day next term!

Sorry Day and National Reconciliation Week

Waratah Campus acknowledged National Sorry Day with a very special assembly led by our School Captains, Darren Woodhouse, Ms Macdonald, Sharni H. (Year 8) and Ariana S. (Year 10). You can read Ms Macdonald's assembly speech on the history of National Reconciliation Week on our school website.

Our deadly Aboriginal Dance and Yadagi (Didge) groups were also invited to perform at the community Reconciliation Week event "Rising from the Embers Festival" at the University of Newcastle. They represented our College with distinction and we are very proud of them.

NAIDOC Week Celebrations 2021

Our annual NAIDOC Week celebrations will take place in the first week of next term. The celebrations will include a formal assembly and awards ceremony, student performances and a bush tucker morning tea.



Understanding where your child is in their learning

By Margo Bowen, Head Teacher of Teaching and Learning

Tracking your child's learning is so much more than an exam result.

As part of our teaching, we continually use practices that allow us to check in and see how our students are developing throughout their learning. This is known as 'formative learning', and it is essentially a feedback loop between the teacher and a student to make sure we know where they are at, before we progress on to the next task or topic.

Why is formative learning important?

Not only does it help our teachers gauge a student's understanding of the content they are being taught, but it also assists students become more in control of their own learning, by increasing a child's understanding of what they know, but equally as important, what they still need to understand.

How does formative learning work?

The teacher designs a task or activity that allows all students to communicate what they understand on the given topic or subject area. Based on this feedback, the teacher can then adjust the learning to meet the students' needs in the classroom at that point in time. In essence, formative assessment allows students the chance to understand, before the lesson moves on.



Is it a test?

Formative Learning is not a test, it is a style of teaching to enable student engagement and feedback in the classroom. For example, it can be a student self-assessment, pop-up quizzes in class, gallery walks of student work on display, direct feedback from students, question walls and a range of other ways.

Our aim is to transform every student to realise their learning potential

It's important for students to be confident that learning is a journey of growth, not just a mark we get at the end of a term.

At Waratah, we strive to empower every student to find their own agency for learning. To know what, how and why they are learning. As our students progress at Waratah, we hope to awaken each student's true potential as empowered co-agents of and within our learning environment.

Elective learning showcase

Keep a look out for our online showcase of student learning on our website next week.

Students and staff have developed videos to capture students' learning in semester 1 in our Year 7 and 8 EXCEL electives and Year 9 and 10 100-hour electives.

All these electives are based on an Inquiry Based Learning philosophy. This is a highly engaging, student centered teaching practice that fosters 21st Century Learning skills and provides opportunities for students to apply these skills through real world, personally meaningful experiences. while developing essential communication skills.



Sporting Highlights

It's wonderful to see our students proudly representing our school across a range of sports, including Touch Football, Rugby League, Cross Country and Volleyball. Here are some of the highlights.



Regional

Cross Country

Collaborating to
Empower learners



Congratulations to Bobby H. (Year 8) and Amie S. (Year 9) who competed at the Hunter Cross Country Championships. Both were selected as reserves for the Hunter team for the State Championships. A wonderful result for a gruelling event.



Congratulations to our College Volleyball teams who played very well at the NSW Schools Cup at Homebush in Sydney. Girls placed 5th overall & boys 3rd in their pool. Well done!

Interested in playing volleyball outside of school? Visit [junior development programs](#).



A huge congratulations to our girls' College touch team who won the Zone Gala Day this term. The girls played 4 games, scoring a total of 35 tries. Shaylee H. and Katelyn H. from Waratah played really well.

Sport Choices

Sport Choices for Term 3 are due by Friday 25 June. Tell your child to check their emails to get their code.

Please encourage them to note down their selection so they don't forget. No changes will be allowed after choices have been submitted.

Push-ups for mental health

Waratah students and staff are participating in the push-up challenge this month to help put the spotlight on mental health. They've already exceeded their target of 3,318 push-ups (the number of people who died by suicide in Australia in 2020). Well done team!

The impact of gratitude on our wellbeing

Adapted from headspace

What is gratitude?

Gratitude means recognising the things that others have done for you, as well as what you have, rather than focusing on what you don't.

How does gratitude improve wellbeing?

Showing gratitude can help your wellbeing in a number of ways, such as:

- help you forgive yourself and others
- reduce anger and increase empathy
- help you sleep better, give you energy and boost self-esteem
- make you appreciate what you have
- help build new relationships or boost current ones.

It can also give you feelings of happiness and appreciation, which in turn has an effect on your wellbeing.

How can I incorporate gratitude into my day?

• Acts of kindness

One easy way to bring some gratitude into your life is through simple acts of kindness. These can be small and may only take a moment, like texting a family member or friend to wish them a nice day.

• Showing gratitude to others

Make an effort to say a genuine 'thank you' to others. With friends and family, try to be specific about what they've done that you're grateful for and what it meant to you.



• Create a gratitude board

A gratitude board is a physical space where you place visual representations of the things you're grateful for. These could be in the form of photos, words, and objects of the people, things and experiences you're grateful to have in your life. It can provide an excellent visual reminder of all the things you have to be grateful for.

• Use a daily journal

Another exercise is to end your day by writing down a list of the things you're grateful for. It can be as simple as two or three things that happened in your day and may include people, places or events. For example, you may write down that you're grateful for a friend for sending a nice message, or a teacher who gave you helpful advice.

A daily gratitude journal can help you to see exactly what you're grateful for, giving you a better state of mind before sleep, readying you for the next day.

COVID update for families:

We are currently refining our plan for the ongoing delivery of education in the unlikely case that Learning from Home is once again necessary.

To assist us with this planning we would ask all parents and carers to complete the following [online survey](#), so we know what supports you may need at home.

Our plan would be to adopt the same structures we adopted in 2020 with Canvas as our learning platform and students following their current timetable online.

We encourage all our families to also become familiar with and check out the parent [resources from the e-safety commissioner](#)

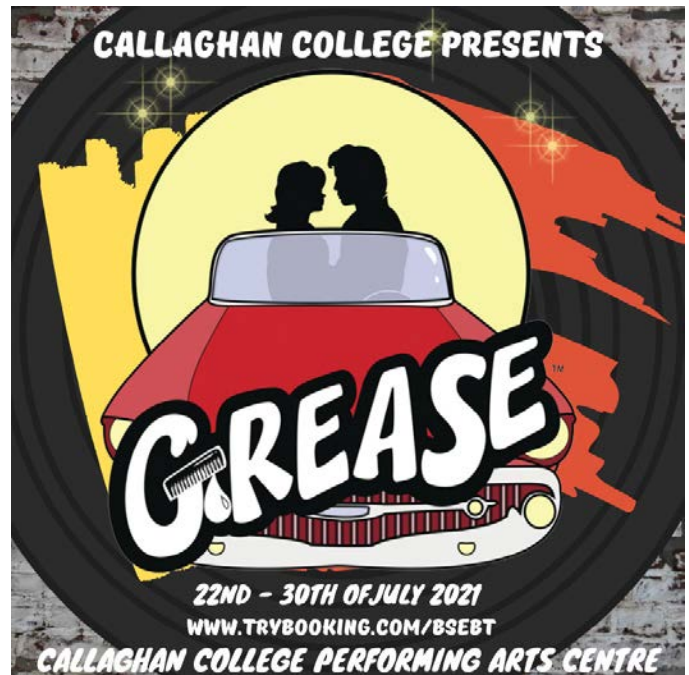
Grease is the word!

Join us at our first-ever College musical combining students from Callaghan College Jesmond, Waratah, and Wallsend Campuses.

Experience the friendships, romances and adventures of a group of high school kids in the 1950s. Welcome to the singing and dancing world of "Grease," the most successful movie musical of all time.

Shows run from Thursday 22 July 2021 6:30 PM to Friday 30 July 2021 6:30 PM.

Purchase your tickets now through [TryBooking](http://www.trybooking.com).



IMPORTANT: Our school canteen is closed on Friday 25 June and our Administration Office will only be accepting EFTPOS payments due to End of Financial Year procedures.

Save the date

18-19
June

Star Struck 2021

A performing arts extravaganza presented by school students across the Hunter, including Waratah's Aboriginal dance group and campus dance troupe. Purchase your tickets through Ticketek (Cast B).

22 - 30
July

Callaghan's Grease Musical production

Join us at our first-ever College musical combining students from Callaghan College Jesmond, Waratah and Wallsend Campuses. Tickets available through [TryBooking](http://www.trybooking.com).

14
July

NAIDOC Assembly

Waratah Campus will celebrate NAIDOC Week with a whole school assembly and awards ceremony.

28
July

CEP Community Carnival

Grease-themed carnival 4-6pm at Jesmond Senior Campus. Live entertainment, food, prizes and more.

See the events calendar on our school website for all the details of upcoming events.

NSW GOVERNMENT

star struck **RISEUP** 2021

Newcastle Entertainment Centre

On Sale NOW

Friday 18 June
11.30am (Cast A)
7pm (Cast B)

Saturday 19 June
1.30pm (Cast B)
7pm (Cast A)

★ Tickets through Ticketek – phone 4921 2121 ★

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