

Callaghan College Waratah (02) 4968 1939 waratah-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au



PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE

Ms Hayley Macdonald, Principal

We've certainly ended the 2022 school year on a high note at Waratah with a wonderful week of celebrations. Thank you to all the families who joined us for our Year 7 to 9 Award ceremonies and Year 10 Graduation Ceremony. These events are an important opportunity to recognise our students' achievements across all areas of their education. We are truly a diverse school community with many different talents and skills and we support, celebrate and encourage them all. Congratulations to all our award winners!

The Year 10 ceremony was also an opportunity for us to formally farewell our 2022 Year 10 cohort and celebrate this significant milestone in their education. Year 10 – it has been a joy to witness the enthusiasm you bring to your learning and friendships and I have no doubt that Waratah has prepared you well to shine in your senior schooling and beyond. We will miss you and look forward to following your progress at Jesmond Senior Campus next year.

I would like to especially acknowledge and thank our outgoing senior leadership team, Dexter, Paddy, Tesla and Barrirah. We are immensely grateful for your service to our school community. You are wonderful young leaders and we look forward to seeing where your next leadership journey takes you.

I'd also like to acknowledge Chelsea Young who represented the Hunter/Central Coast with excellence at the NSW Junior Debating Championships last week. The team was the only non-Sydney team to make it to the semi-finals and Chelsea was especially excellent, receiving comments from the state coordinators for being a great speaker. Congratulations Chelsea!

I wish you all a very happy Christmas and a fabulous break together with your family and friends. Thank you for your great support over the year. I look forward immensely to 2023 – we have many exciting projects install





After a long absence due to Covid restrictions, our Gotcha Draw returned with a bang this year. And what an amazing time was had by all.

The Gotcha Draw involves the whole school coming together, with staff and students participating in fun activities, watching performances, gift giving and some jokes from teachers and students thrown in for good measure.

Thanks to our team of little helpers that organised the morning, got everyone on their feet and helped us celebrate the year that was. We did not realise how many great dancers we had in the school!

Our Sports House Winners were also announced, with the result decided by only one point! Congratulations to the Vipers, winning with 500 points. The Sharks achieved 499 points, the Tigers 475 points and the Devils achieved 398 points.

Thanks for a great morning everyone!















PRESENTATION CEREMONIES

Celebrating our achievements

This year we welcomed our Callaghan community back to the school for our presentation ceremonies.

Separate presentations were held for each year group and it was wonderful to have families, friends and special guests join us for these special events.

It is important we celebrate the achievements of our students in all aspects of education and these ceremonies provide the opportunity for this recognition. Congratulations to all our award winners.

We also wish our departing Year 10 students all the best for their senior years. Stay focused, continue your curiosity, your grit and determination, explore new ideas and collaborate with both teachers and peers to enhance your learning.

















DEBATING SUCCESS

Chelsa excels in the NSW Junior Debating Championships

Chelsea Y. (Year 10) represented the Hunter/ Central Coast with excellence at the NSW Junior Debating Championships last week.

The team was the only non–Sydney team to make it to the semi-finals and Chelsea was especially excellent, receiving several comments from the state coordinators for being an especially great speaker.

Congratulations Chelsea! We look forward to following your debating journey in senior high school.



FINAL FRIDAY LIVE FOR 2022

Year 10 give their final performance at Waratah

On the last day of term, Year 9 and 10 music students treated staff and students to the final Friday Live for 2022. It was the farewell performance for our Year 10 music students and they certainly didn't disappoint.

Thank you to George M, Miguel S, Dexter B and Amielle C (Year 10) and Zac S, Cage G, Fraser H, Indyanna H, and Bonnie G (Year 9) for your incredible performances and thank you Ms Salter for all your behind the scenes support and organisation.

It was the perfect way to wrap up a great year!







SERVICE NSW VOUCHERS

NSW Government helping with Back To School vouchers

The Premier's Back to School NSW program is offering parents and carers \$150 worth of vouchers (3 x \$50 vouchers) to help pay for school supplies such as school uniforms, shoes, bags, textbooks and stationery.

The vouchers program will be effective from 1 January to 30 June 2023 and each child who attends a primary, secondary school or homeschooling in NSW is eligible.

Parents and carers can apply for the vouchers via the Service NSW app, and for more information, visit service.nsw.gov.au, call 13 77 88 or attend a Service NSW Centre.

Please note that our uniform supplier The School Locker is only accepting these vouchers for in-person uniform purchases from their Newcastle University store or our school campus store from the 9th January 2023. Vouchers cannot be used for online uniform purchases.

To read the terms and conditions visit Service NSW.

2023 STATIONERY AND EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS

A list of stationery and equipment requirements for 2023 can be found out our website -

https://waratah-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/content/dam/doe/sws/schools/w/waratah-h/family-information/2023/2023_Year_8-10_stationery_and_equipment_requirements_R2.pdf

KMART WISHING TREE

Helping those less fortunate

Thank you to everyone who has supported our Student Representative Council's KMart Wishing Tree initiative.

As a school community, we have been able to donate a range of STEM products, toys and stationery to KMart Waratah.

For more information about the KMart Wishing Tree please see –

https://www.kmart.com.au/kmartwishingtree/



Holiday Help

If you need to talk during the holidays -

LINK 2 HOME: 1800 152 152

BEYOND BLUE: 1300 224 636

KIDS HELPLINE: 1800 551 800

LIFELINE: 13 11 14

SUICIDE CALL BACK: 1300 659 467

Thank you to our community supporters

On behalf of staff and students, we extend our sincere gratitude to the following organisations for their ongoing support -

Baker's Delight Waratah, Harris Farm The Junction, STARTTS Newcastle, Settlement Services International, Mosaic Multicultural Connections, Back Pack Venture, Foodbank Australia, Wesley Mission and Amnesty International.

DIARY DATES

JAN

31

First Day 2023 - Year 7 only Connection Point. Year 10 Peer Support Leaders will assist on **FEB**

01

27

First Day 2023 - Years 8, 9, 10

FEB

13

Year 7 Family Welcome and Information Evening

FEB

the day.

20

RoSA Information Session for Year 10 families.

FEB

Year 8 and 9 Parent/Carer Information Session

MAR 20-22

Year 7 camp



STAYING IN TOUCH

Wondering who to contact for any learning or wellbeing issues relating to your child?

Visit our communication flow charts on our school website at https://waratah-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/contact-us.html

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