



**CALLAGHAN
COLLEGE**

Waratah Campus

WARATAH CAMPUS NEWS

**TERM TWO 2023
WEEK 6 EDITION**

FANTASTIC FRANKI

Great achievements in sport

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STUDENT-LED CONFERENCES

We are introducing new conversations about learning at Waratah Campus. Student-led conferencing will replace our Traditional Parent Teacher Evening, with students taking the lead in exploring their strengths and future possibilities in their learning. For more, see page 6.

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SNAPSHOTS

Out and about at Callaghan Waratah.



Callaghan Waratah students took their learning into the air last week, with a number of students participating in the Lifesaver Drone Outreach Pilot Program. Students explored the applications of UAV technology, with learning extending across Digital Technologies, Humanities and Social Sciences, Maths and Science. This was a great way for students to gain hands-on experience, whilst learning about the real world applications of drones. The program also provides students with pathways into casual employment opportunities with Surf Lifesaving NSW.



It's been great to see so many students accessing our new After School Study Centre. A variety of teachers are on hand to assist students with their homework, assignments and learning questions. The Centre is open each Thursday from 3-4pm in our campus library.



Congratulations to our Chess team who won the NSW Hunter Regional Junior Chess League Knockout this week. We'd also like to thank our Year 7 ASPIRE ushers who did a wonderful job welcoming students and families for their 2024 ASPIRE interviews.

PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE

Ms Hayley Macdonald, Principal

It's hard to believe we are already mid way through term 2! Our students have had a full and rewarding few weeks and its been wonderful to witness their growth across many aspects of school life.

I'd particularly like to acknowledge the efforts and achievements of many students who have made strong contributions to our school's co-curricular and extra-curricular program:

- Fanki R. (Year 7) took out silver in the 100m backstroke at the Combined High School's State Swimming Championships.
- Eight Year 10 students were inducted into our Student Leadership team as our 2023 House Captains and are working hard to build house spirit in the lead up to our Athletics Carnival on Monday.
- Our EALD Student Leadership team hosted a visit from 23 students and support staff from Armidale High School as part of the MOSAIC Youth Cultural Exchange.
- Our Chess team won the Hunter Regional Junior Chess League Knockout.
- Our Cross Country team represented our school with pride at the Zone carnival, with Matty, Jack and Harry progressing to the Hunter Region Championships next month.
- Our boy's soccer team have progressed to round 3 of the Bill Turner Cup after an exciting win against Saint Clemente.
- Our StarStruck dance groups have been working hard to finalise their routines in the lead up to their performances next month.
- Our Year 9 Peer Support Leaders did an outstanding job welcoming and supporting our future students at our Square 1 High School Transition event.

I'm also excited to share with you about some new initiatives we are introducing in our school:

Yondr Program

Earlier in the week I emailed families more information about the Yondr Program which we are introducing from week 1 of term 3. This correspondence outlined some of the procedures supporting the program, as well as answers to FAQs. I encourage families to read through this material together and to get in contact if you have questions.

Student-led Conferences

Consistent with our school vision of strengthening student agency, we are initiating the beginning stages of Student-led conferencing later this term, starting with Year 8. These conferences will replace our traditional Parent Teacher Evening and provide a longer time-slot for students to meet with their carer/s and a staff member to have a structured conversation about themselves as a learner. Students will participate in a series of workshops to support them to confidently lead their conference. To find out more, please read the article on page 6.

Ngaarr Dhuwi

Our school has been chosen as one of six Newcastle schools to participate in the brand-new Ngaarr Dhuwi program offered by the NSW AECG. The Ngaarr Dhuwi program is an on-site mentoring program for Aboriginal female students which aims to strengthen partnerships between our families and the school and support participants to be culturally strong in their educational and life journeys. We look forward to welcoming our 55 student participants and their families to the program later in the term.

Enjoy the remainder of the term everyone!



SQUARE ONE

Welcoming Callaghan Waratah 2024 students

Recently we welcomed over 200 students from our partner primary schools for Square One.

To help with their transition from Year 6 to Year 7, students got their first taste of high school life. Students participated in a range of activities in creative writing, navigating the school and team building, opening opportunities for learning and socialising with new friends.

Students were supported by their primary school teachers, whilst also getting to know their future high school teachers. With students coming from 10 partner primary schools, Callaghan College Waratah enjoys a large and diverse student cohort each year.

Transition events such as Square One provide a supportive and fun pathway for students to leave primary school and enter high school.

To all our future students, we can't wait to see you at Callaghan College Waratah in 2024.



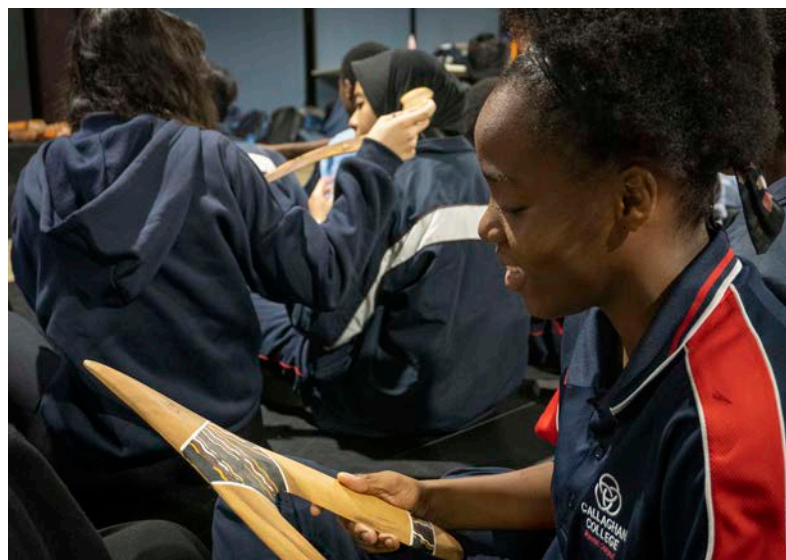
SHARING OUR CAMPUS

MOSAIC Youth Cultural Exchange

Recently Waratah Campus hosted a visit from 23 students and support staff from Armidale High School as part of the MOSAIC Youth Cultural Exchange.

The students have resettled in Armidale from Iraq and have spent a week touring our local schools, the University of Newcastle and the careers expo, meeting Australian students and experiencing life on the coast.

Our EAL/D Leadership team students delivered an icebreaker activity, Uncle Darren taught the group about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artifacts, Cafe Obsidian provided BBQ lunch and Ms Blight delivered a fun volleyball session to finish off their visit.



ASPIRE 2024

ASPIRE Interviews and Selection Process

The ASPIRE Program at Callaghan College Waratah Campus is designed to enable high potential and gifted students to thrive and fulfil their potential in a stimulating and supportive environment.

Applications recently closed for ASPIRE 2024, with Callaghan Waratah receiving a record number of applicants.

The application process included both a written application, along with an in person interview where our Year 6 applicants met with either Ms Panozza or Mr Densham to discuss their learning

styles, their achievements, their passions and why they wanted to be part of ASPIRE 2024.

All our applicants were of a high calibre and we were extremely impressed by both their current learning achievements, along with their desire to excel as they move into high school.

Places have now been confirmed for ASPIRE 2024 with letters of offer being sent home this week.

We look forward to welcoming our ASPIRE 2024 students into our learning culture where there is high challenge and high support.

STUDENT LED CONFERENCES

Changing the way we talk about learning



Callaghan College Waratah Campus is changing the way we talk about learning.

Traditionally Parent-Teacher evenings have been held on one evening during term 3 and a timeslot of 5 minutes allocated to each subject teacher. Only about 15-20% of parents attend these interviews. Last year several parents questioned the effectiveness of this process and we have spent this year researching other models and systems.

This term we are initiating the beginning stages of Student-led conferencing: a much longer time slot where a student, their carer/s and a teacher mentor have a structured conversation about the student as a learner. In this setting the student takes the lead in the discussion (with prior preparation) to explore strengths and future possibilities in their learning.

These sessions will be 25-20 minutes long and Year 8 will be the first student group to participate on the 19th and 20th of June. Families will be able to book a suitable timeslot via the Sentral Parent Portal from the 29th May.

Student-led conferences form one part of our school's feedback, assessment and reporting system.

We also provide semesterly School Reports, teacher feedback on assessment and class tasks via Canvas, as well as individual communications with class teachers. This means families can find out holistic information about their child as a learner, as well as the more traditional feedback on their child's progress in each key learning area.

Student-led conferences are empowering for students and encourage them to take greater ownership of their learning and growth through self-reflection, self-evaluation and goal setting. In the lead up to the conferences, teacher mentors will facilitate workshops and give students resources to support them prepare and feel confident about the process.

Student-led conferences are also about collaboration, and we are excited about having families actively involved in the process. It's an invaluable opportunity to be present for your child, provide encouragement and share noticeable areas of growth or improvement in their learning.

We look forward to welcoming families on Campus to participate in this important initiative to further develop your child's learning at Callaghan Waratah.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Exciting opportunities to explore career options

Registrations are now open for the Girls Fire and Resilience Camp being held in August.

The purpose of this program is to introduce teenage girls (Years 10–12 aged 15–18) to career and volunteer opportunities in the NSW Fire & Emergency Services, along with building community resilience and capacity.

Participants will gain an overview of emergencies and how they are managed in NSW, make connections with firefighters and learn about firefighting career opportunities, along with hands-on activities that demonstrate the physical and teamwork demands of being a first responder.

The program will be held at Carrington Fire Station on 8th August. As only 20 places are available, we encourage interested students to register via this QR code ASAP.



HEALTHCARE

Pathways to nursing

Students interested in the healthcare industry are encouraged to attend upcoming information sessions to learn more about nursing pathways in the aged care sector, along with information on accessing training and work experience within the sector.

There are currently 28 school-based trainees and full-time traineeships with Opal Care Communities on offer. This is an important opportunity for students to hear from Opal's current employees and find out how you can become part of their program.

Sessions will be held on Monday 19th, Wednesday 21st and Friday 23rd June.

Please see Mr Mayall for registration details and further information.

EQUINE CARE

Have a passion for horses?

The Thoroughly Schooled program is taking place in Scone in September of this year.

This is an immersive career program focused on the racing and thoroughbred breeding equine industry. Held over six days in Scone NSW, students will acquire skills through practical training, classroom lessons, excursions, career talks and three work-experience mornings on a stud farm and racing stables. This is a program that supports students in gaining casual employment with school-based opportunities including CII Racing Industry (Stablehand) and post-school opportunities including Traineeships in Horse Breeding and/or Racing.

Interested Year 10 students are encouraged to talk to Mr Mayall for further information and registration details.

COACH 2 COPE

Helping families with mental health and wellbeing tips

Are you concerned about your child's mental health and well-being? Would you like to improve the support you provide your child to develop their coping, resilience and positive ways of seeking help?

This is your invitation to join many other parents and carers in our community to learn better ways to respond to your child when they are struggling.

With a range of guest speakers, this event will be held at NEX Newcastle on 13th June from 5.30pm to 8pm.

Registrations can be made on this [link](#), or scan the QR Code opposite.



MULTICULTURAL FIESTA

Celebrating diversity

Multicultural Fiesta is happening at Hunter Multicultural Communities on Saturday 24th June 2023.

Join in the fun to celebrate our diverse cultural community with music, dance, food and arts. There will also be food vendors, cooking demos and kids activities.

Our Callaghan Waratah Aboriginal Dance Group will also be performing. Come to support our students and join in the festivities to celebrate our wonderfully diverse and culturally rich community.

Entry is free, with tickets available via the QR code below.



MULTICULTURAL Fiesta

Presented by  **hmc**
Hunter Multicultural Communities

Funded by NSW Government  **Multicultural NSW**

SATURDAY 24 JUNE

11AM – 5PM
@ Hunter Multicultural Communities
Waratah Community Reserve, 2a Platt Street, Waratah

With MC – Sean Murphy

- Multicultural music, dance, food & arts
- Festive stalls and vivid cultural entertainment
- World food vendors, cooking demos & tastings
- Great coffee, cakes, sausage sizzle
- Indigenous dance & arts
- Kids face painting, jumping castle & petting zoo

FREE ENTRY

Tickets through Eventbrite

Celebrating our diverse cultural communities' unique music, dance, food and arts, promoting social cohesion and cultural harmony!

Find out more on  [@huntermulticultural](#)
Connect with us on **4960 8248**

SPORTS REPORT

Outstanding achievements in sport

It has been another outstanding few weeks of sporting achievements:

- Fanki R. (Year 7) took out silver in the 100m backstroke at the Combined High School's State Swimming Championships.
- Our Cross Country team represented our school with pride at the Zone carnival. Special mention to Matty, Jack and Harry who will progress to the Hunter Region Championships next month.
- Our boy's soccer team have progressed to round 3 of the Bill Turner Cup after an exciting win against Saint Clemente.
- Our College 15's Rugby League team and Girl's Hockey team showed great spirit at their respective gala days.
- Rowan, Levi and Bailey represented our school with pride at the thrilling Hunter Mountain Biking Championships.

Thank you to all the families who have returned permission notes and fees for our Athletics carnival. It is always a fantastic day in the school year and we look forward to seeing which House will take home the glory today!





SPORT HOUSES

How do our houses and rewards work?

All students are placed in a House group for sporting competitions. Our four Houses are: Devils, Vipers, Tigers and Sharks. Students are allocated to a House according to the first letter of their surname.

There are several ways in which students can accumulate points for their House -

- By participating in our school swimming and athletics carnivals
- By representing the school at a representative sports event (1 point for Zone, 2 points for Region, 3 points for State)

- By playing in a school team for a knockout sport or gala day (1 point)
- By participating in campus based school sport challenges.

Each year we announce and celebrate our Champion House at our Year 10 Presentation Ceremony.

Points accumulated by individual students through their representative sport participation also goes towards the annual Sports Age Champion awards.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2023 HOUSE CAPTAINS

TIGERS - Tilly A. and Tim C.

DEVILS - Ruby P. R. and Elly N.

VIPERS - Bobby H. and Sam K.

SHARKS - Chloe W. and Zepplin W.

DIARY DATES

MAY 29

Bookings open for Year 8
Student-Led conferences

MAY 29

Campus Athletics Carnival

JUN 06

Zone Athletics Carnival

JUN 14-16

Year 8 Camp
Point Wollstoncroft

JUN 19-20

Year 8 Student-Led
Conferences

JUN 21

Refugee Week Assembly

EXCURSION PAYMENTS

A reminder that excursions and camps must be paid for in full prior to students attending.

Payments can be made via your School Bytes Parent Portal or at our Administration Office. Payment plans are offered for our school camps.

Please refer to your online account for your up-to-date account balance.

YONDR PROGRAM

Our Yondr Program will commence in term 3 of this year. Communication has recently been sent to families around this program and how Yondr will assist with mobile phone bans on school grounds.

We encourage families to discuss this further with their children and to contact our school should you have any questions.

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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