



**CALLAGHAN  
COLLEGE**

Waratah Campus

WARATAH CAMPUS NEWS  
TERM THREE 2023  
WEEK 2 EDITION

# JOURNEY TO CALLAGHAN

## Celebrating Refugee Week

*In this issue -*

Star Struck

Elective subject selections

Explore your career options

## NAIDOC WEEK

A jam packed week of activities at Callaghan Waratah celebrating NAIDOC Week.

Welcoming our partner primary school students, performances, activities and more.

Check it out on Page 8.

Callaghan College Waratah  
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# SNAPSHOTS

Out and about at Callaghan Waratah.



Our new After School Study Centre has been a great success, with the library full of students on Thursday afternoons. During the sessions, teachers from various faculties are on hand to assist students with their homework, assignments and learning questions. The Centre will continue on Thursday afternoons this semester.



A community member contacted Ms Macdonald last term to commend 3 Year 10 girls on their efforts in rescuing a lost puppy on their way to school. They said, "These girls are a great representation of the wonderful students you have at your school."

Thank you to Laura, Chloe and Ivy for your good deed. Callaghan Waratah students are easily recognised in the community when in school uniform. It is important that we represent the school in a positive way whenever that uniform is worn.

And for all those wondering, the puppy was safely returned to its very grateful owners!



During NAIDOC Week, students participated in various activities across the campus to explore and learn more about Aboriginal culture, art, craft, cooking and games. See page 6 for more details.

# SNAPSHOTS

Out and about at Callaghan Waratah.



Across two days, Year 8 students and their families and carers participated in Student-led conferences. This was an important event for Year 8 students to reflect on their learning and create goals for the semester ahead. Student-led conferences are empowering for students and encourage them to take greater ownership of their learning. We look forward to supporting Year 7 students to prepare for their conferences later this term.



Our revamped classroom 8 is in full swing, with classes having access to a new kitchen fitout, new tables and chairs and improved learning facilities.



Classes 7R and 7W combined recently to explore the wonders of Ancient History. Coming together, they were able to collaborate on activities, bounce ideas off each other and hear different perspectives.

# PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE

Ms Hayley Macdonald, Principal

Welcome back to Term 3. I hope students had an enjoyable break and are ready to embrace another term of learning and co-curricular opportunities with enthusiasm.

We finished term 2 on a high note with a wonderful week of NAIDOC celebrations. I'd like to thank our Aboriginal Education Team for their hard work in organising these events and congratulate students for their wholehearted participation. For highlights, see page 8.

I'd also like to congratulate all the students who received attendance awards in the mail over the holidays. It was very pleasing to see the huge numbers of students recording over 90% attendance last semester and I encourage everyone to strive for 95% and above for semester 2. School attendance is an important contributor to academic achievement - everyday matters! For more, see page 19.

The Yondr program commenced on Thursday this week. All students were given their personal

Yondr pouch during roll call on Wednesday and are expected to bring this pouch to school each day, even if they choose to leave their phone at home. Teachers will check that phones are pouched at the beginning of each lesson.

I ask for your support in reminding your children about the revised school entry procedures (outlined on our [website](#)) and contacting the front office if you need to get an urgent message to your child throughout the school day.

We have another full term ahead with elective subject selections for 2024, our Year 7 ASPIRE Deep Dive presentations, our Year 10 Snow Trip, the Hunter Dance Festival, chess, debating and public speaking, the return of Friday Live performances from our Music students, Year 7 Student-led Conferences, Regional Athletics, representative netball and rugby league and so much more! Please see the calendar on page 19 for upcoming event dates and details.

Have a wonderful term everyone!



# A TASTE OF GREECE

## Transporting taste buds!

A group of special and inclusive education students and staff visited a local Greek restaurant on Friday the 16th June to experience traditional Greek food.

Students have been studying Greek culture and history and connecting this with sampling Greek cuisine was a wonderful way of transporting our student's taste buds and extending their learning beyond the classroom. Imagine spanakopita, pitas, dips and more!

Many thanks to Cyrus and Bailey from Zeus Green Street in Hamilton for a very tasty experience!



# ATTENDANCE

## Striving for higher attendance

At the start of our most recent school holidays, many of our students would have received a surprise in their mailbox.

Congratulation postcards were sent to students that achieved greater than 90% attendance throughout terms 1 and 2.

We encourage all families and students to strive for a high level of school attendance. By attending school regularly, our students will learn more, build more friendships and further develop important life skills.

Missing just 5 minutes of school each day sees them missing 3 whole days of school a year. Missing 30 minutes a day accounts for 18 days a year!

We encourage families and students to work together to improve school attendance where needed, along with explaining all absences via the Sentral Parent Portal, calling our Admin Office or sending an email.

*Congratulations*

*Attendance Award*

Congratulations on achieving **98%** attendance

Your attendance matters.  
Achieving this attendance record shows you are committed to your learning and are developing important life skills.

A record of high school attendance is important in so many ways.

If you are absent from school, ensure that your parent or carer notifies the school, informing the reasons why.

Absences can be explained via the Sentral Parent Portal, a call, text, email or note.

# STAR STRUCK

Igniting Our Talent!



Star Struck lit up the stage again this year, living up to this year's theme of Ignite!

With almost 40 students from Callaghan Waratah involved, our talent shone brightly and we congratulate all our students for their outstanding performances, as well as their dedication to the performing arts.

Coordinating our student's participation in the event is a mammoth task. We'd like to acknowledge Mrs Freeman for her efforts in the lead up to and during the performances, along with our families and carers who included student's rehearsal time into their busy schedules. We're sure it was all worth it once you saw them take the stage.

Star Struck provides many social, educational and artistic opportunities and fosters an appreciation of the performing arts. We are proud to be part of this yearly event and to see our students blossom as a result.



# STUDY SKILLS

## Learning workshops

On Friday 28th July, all students in Years 7, 8 and 9 will participate in a 60-minute workshop on 'Study Skills'.

The workshops will be run during normal school hours and will help students refine their study and learning in the following areas -

- Dynamic Reading - How to read a text and pull out the key points, not just summarise every sentence.
- Note Taking - How to get ideas that students have extracted from their readings into an organised set of notes that help effective learning.
- Conceptual Learning Skills - Teaching students how to break information into its relevant parts.
- Independent Learning - What this means and how to get it done.

Developing and refining skills like these will greatly assist in each student's learning journey.



# ELECTIVE PROGRAM

## Exciting subjects on offer

Waratah Campus' elective program is designed to give students the opportunity to explore and discover beyond the core curriculum.

There are a wide range of choices on offer for all year groups for 2024, from Photography and Digital Media to Psychology, Languages, Forensic Science and Engineering with Minecraft.

Course information and selection instructions will be emailed to students in the coming weeks. Students will be required to submit their choices this term. Year 10 students will participate in Year 11 course information interviews at Jesmond Senior Campus on the 17th and 18th August 2023.

Elective choices are stepping stones to further important decisions about what students may want to study in senior school and what they may want to do when they leave school. For this reason, it's important students make the right choice.

Teachers are here to support students with their decision making so please encourage your child to approach their teachers if they have any questions.

Families will be notified once 2024 elective course descriptions are available to view online.



# SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS

Celebrating the triumphs of our student athletes

Our students have represented our campus and College with dedication, skill and sportsmanship in a number of sports in recent weeks:

## AFL Boys Team - Winning Streak!

We are thrilled to announce that our AFL Boys team were unstoppable at the Hunter 15's Boys AFL Gala Day, winning all their games convincingly. Their passion, skill and teamwork made them a formidable force on the field. Congratulations boys!

## College Girls AFL - A Display of Tenacity

Our Girls AFL team displayed great tenacity and sportsmanship at the CHS AFL Gala Day. Though they faced fierce competition, their determination and commitment to developing their skills never wavered. Well done girls!

## College Girls Hockey - Unlimited Potential

Despite a valiant effort, our College Girls Hockey team were narrowly defeated 3-2 by an experienced Whitebridge HS team at the Open Girls Hockey Gala Day. We are proud of our girls for fearlessly taking on their older opponents and showcasing their immense talent on the field. They have huge potential and we can't wait to see them in action again next year!

## College Touch Football

Our College Touch Football teams battled through a series of challenging matches at the Regional Finals Gala Day. Their dedication to working cohesively and improving their skills is to be commended and we applaud all the students involved for their accomplishment in representing our school at a regional level.

## Athletics - Wishing Our Athletes the Best of Luck!

With the NSW CHS Cross Country and Hunter Region Athletics Championships taking place in weeks 1 and 2 of term, we extend our heartfelt best wishes to all the students who will be representing Waratah Campus at these events. Your hard work, perseverance, and commitment to your respective disciplines have earned you the opportunity to compete at this high level. Well done Harry, Oliver, Hayden, Domonick, Myah, Archie, Kulan, Harmony, Jemima and Kagombe!

Continued over page.





# SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS

Celebrating the triumphs of our student athletes (continued)

## College Volleyball Teams - State Finalists!

The NSW CHS State Volleyball Championships were a sight to behold this year, with our very own College making waves as one of the three schools that had both their girls' and boys' teams qualify for the event. It was a day filled with intense competition, thrilling moments, and a celebration of true sportsmanship. Our athletes displayed not only exceptional skills but also unparalleled teamwork, work ethic, grit, and persistence.

Both teams had convincing wins, as well as nail-biting, heart-rate-elevating games that went to the third set and were lost in dying points. Our boys played Evans River HS, Canobolas HS, Armidale HS, Ulladulla HS and Cumberland HS, and our girls played Woolumbin HS, Armidale HS, Fairfield HS, and Murrumbidgee HS.

Each and every player gave their all, leaving nothing to chance and making our College proud with their valiant efforts. The growth of many players was clearly evident from match to match with many beginning players stepping up to the intensity of high-level games. Well done Natalia S. Isabella L., Anne C., Tanatswa N. and Hantz T.

Stand-out players for the girls were Ruby D. (captain- serving, defensive passing, and hitting), Janelle P. (setting, hitting, and serving), Dakota M. (middle blocker, hitter, and serving). Stand-out players for boys were Bailey N. (serving, passing, and hitting), Raymond M. (passing and hitting) and Corey R. (setting, serving, and blocking).

Of course, we must acknowledge the incredible guidance of our two super coaches, Mrs Blight and Mr Sharland. Their expertise, unwavering support, and ability to bring out the best in their players played a crucial role in our teams' success. Their dedication to fostering not just skill development but also unity within the teams have resulted in an outstanding display of sportsmanship throughout the competition.

We eagerly anticipate the 2024 competition and are confident that our students will continue to shine brightly in upcoming representative sport competitions this term.



# NAIDOC WEEK

A wonderful week of NAIDOC activities

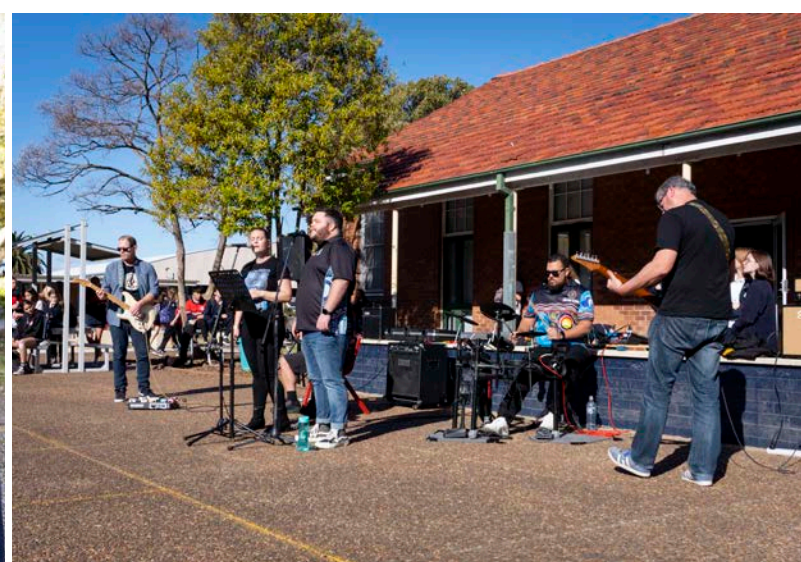
It was a massive week for Callaghan Waratah as we celebrated NAIDOC Week throughout the school.

This year, activities extended beyond Years 7 to 10, with students from our partner primary schools attending our campus for a fun-filled day of learning, culture and activities. This provided valuable opportunities for our incoming First Nations students to explore the school and interact with their future teachers and peers.

And for our current students, activities were held throughout the week across various faculties and locations across campus. Johnny cakes were prepared and cooked, students tried their hand at weaving and crocheting, got creative with an art installation, learnt about Aboriginal artefacts and enjoyed a lunchtime concert performed by our teachers and leaders.

We'd like to thank our Aboriginal Education Team and our School Learning Support Officers for hosting a wonderful week of insightful, educational and fun activities.





# DEADLY AWARDS

Recognising Excellence



The Callaghan College Waratah Campus Deadly Awards are held each year in recognition of the achievements of our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

Categories for the awards include Academic Excellence, Commitment to Learning, School Cultural and Sporting Representation, as well as Student Leadership.

We are proud of the initiatives, programs and focus we have for our First Nations students and the staff that nurture their educational pathways. With an exceptionally large cohort receiving awards this year, it is a great reflection of our students embracing their opportunities and putting in the hard work to succeed in their learning, sporting and leadership activities.

In addition to Waratah's awards, five of our students also received College Deadly Awards at the Jesmond Campus awards presentation.

We thank our families and the extended community that attended the awards and hope the day created many proud moments and wonderful memories.





# REFUGEE WEEK

Learning from each other

Refugee Week was recognised this year with various events and activities across our campus.

Former Callaghan Waratah student Arman shared his story and a beautiful musical performance at our all school assembly.

We also held a food and craft fundraiser for UNICEF's projects for rebuilding and resourcing schools in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Students visited Callaghan Jesmond for their community afternoon, where various stalls, performances and activities were held.

Leading up to the week, many students participated in the production of the 'My Journey' book, which was published in time for distribution and purchase during Refugee Week.

A big week that saw our community interact, celebrate who we are and come together!



# MY JOURNEY

Our personal journeys to Callaghan Waratah



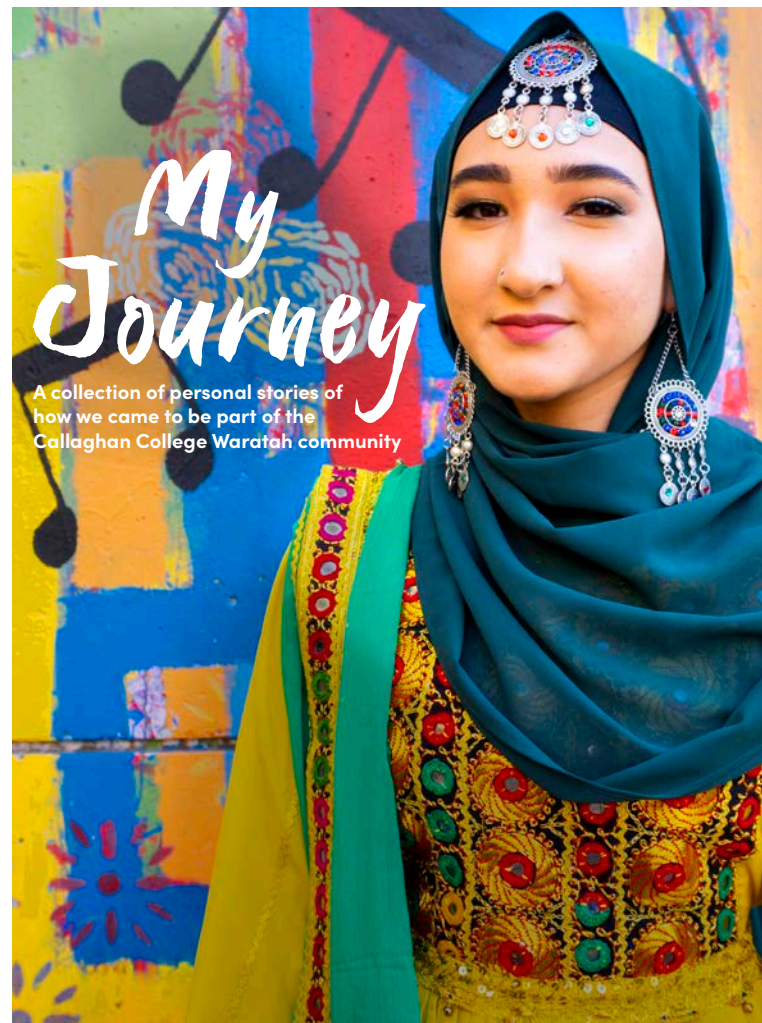
At Callaghan Waratah we strive to build a campus that has empathy and compassion for others. We also celebrate the cultures and backgrounds that make us unique.

This year for Refugee Week, we delved deeper into our own personal journeys that landed us at Waratah, through the publication of 'My Journey'.

This book features a collection of stories from students, teachers and support staff, of their life experiences that led them to the corridors of our school. From tragic to triumphant, the stories show we've all walked different paths that have led us to the same destination.

Reflecting on the stories, our students and staff are able to gain a greater understanding of each other and how we can use life experience to learn from each other.

We would like to thank all those that were courageous to share their stories and pose for portraits, along with our EALD department who coordinated the project. The following pages are a short excerpt from the book.



# Jalal

*He is so happy, like new.*

This story is about Jalal Mirzai, Year 10. It was written by Salma Afghanyar, Year 7.

In Afghanistan, Jalal went to school. Then he went to Pakistan for 5 or 4 years, but he did not go to school in Pakistan.

Sometimes he went to English class in someone's house. Jalal did not like this because he did not like the teacher.

After English class he went to the park with his cousin. Sometimes he played soccer in the park.

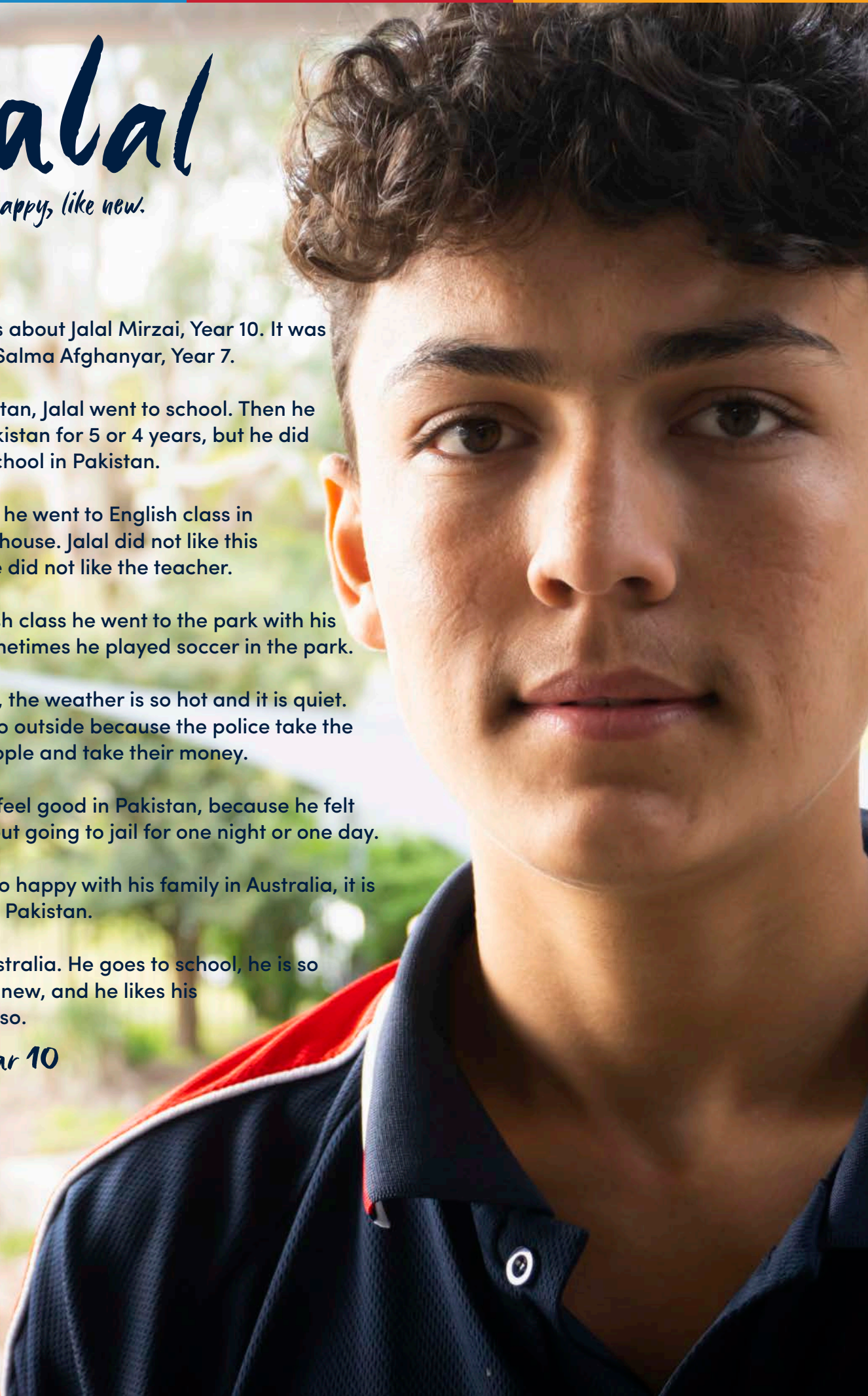
In Pakistan, the weather is so hot and it is quiet. He didn't go outside because the police take the Afghan people and take their money.

He did not feel good in Pakistan, because he felt scared about going to jail for one night or one day.

Now he is so happy with his family in Australia, it is better than Pakistan.

He likes Australia. He goes to school, he is so happy, like new, and he likes his teachers also.

*Jalal, Year 10*





# Aya

*I was born in Syria*

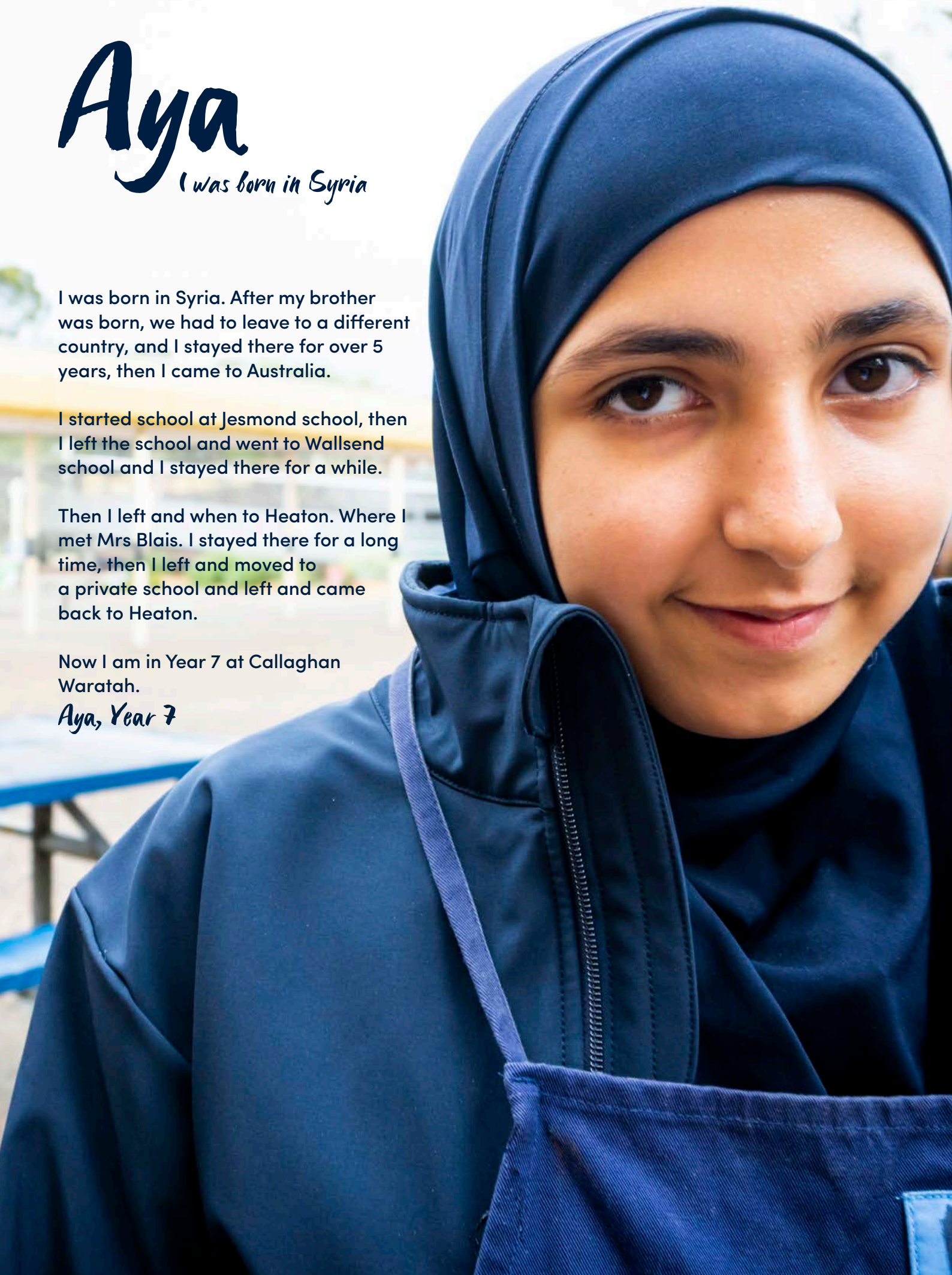
I was born in Syria. After my brother was born, we had to leave to a different country, and I stayed there for over 5 years, then I came to Australia.

I started school at Jesmond school, then I left the school and went to Wallsend school and I stayed there for a while.

Then I left and went to Heaton. Where I met Mrs Blais. I stayed there for a long time, then I left and moved to a private school and left and came back to Heaton.

Now I am in Year 7 at Callaghan Waratah.

*Aya, Year 7*



# Dale

*I get to meet and learn about young people and families from so many different cultures*

I first came to Waratah Campus when I worked as Youth Activities Officer for Newcastle City Council between 2001-2013.

Mostly this was to promote youth music events and school holiday programs at the whole school assemblies.

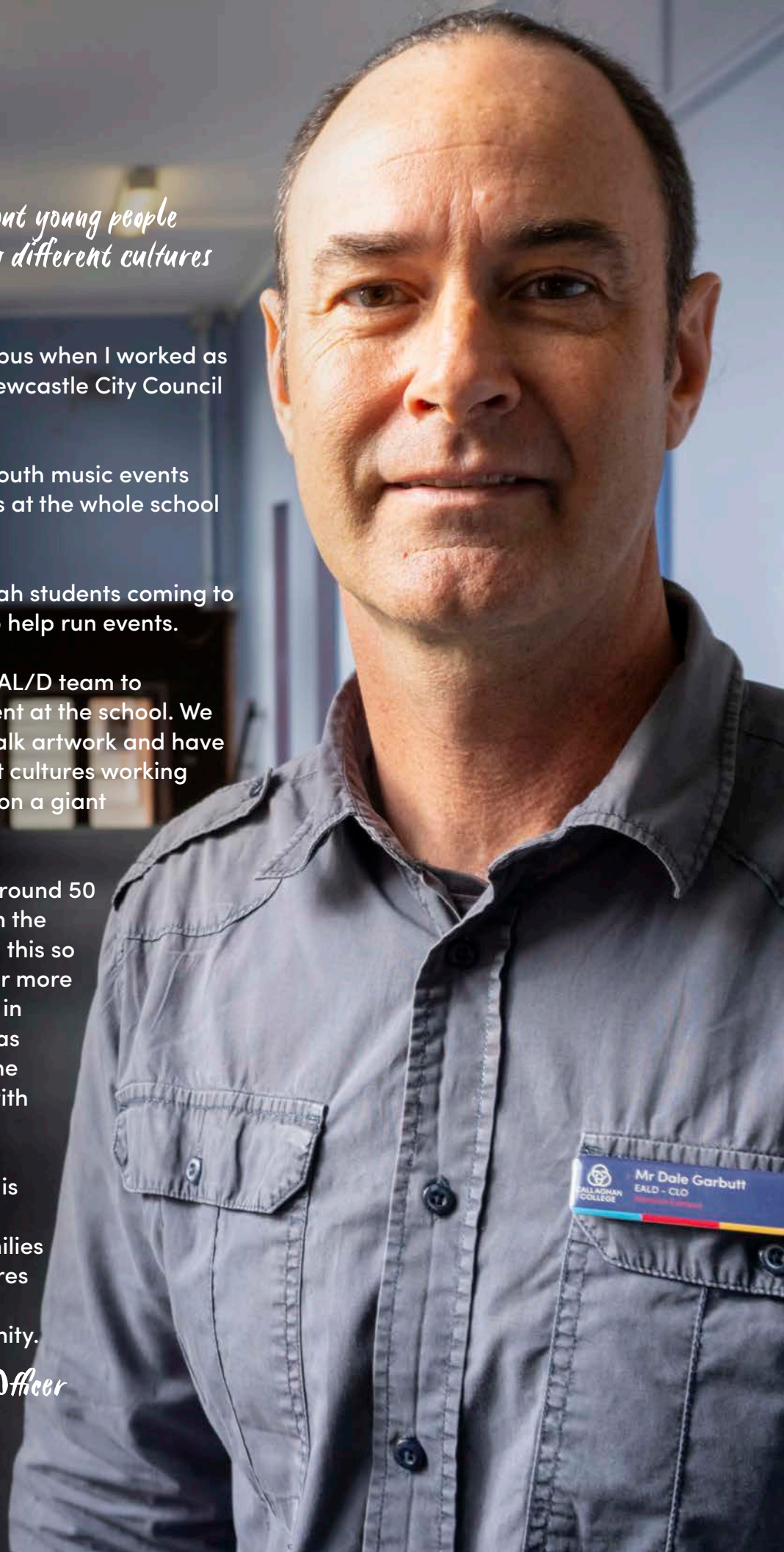
We always had lots of Waratah students coming to activities and volunteering to help run events.

In 2014 I was invited by the EAL/D team to organise a Harmony Day event at the school. We decided to create a huge chalk artwork and have students from many different cultures working together to decorate panels on a giant rainbow serpent.

The day was amazing with around 50 students and staff involved in the project. I enjoyed working on this so much that I started to look for more opportunities to get involved in supporting the school and was eventually offered a job as the Community Liaison Officer with the EAL/D faculty.

The best thing about this job is that I get to meet and learn about young people and families from so many different cultures and to try to help them feel welcome here in our community.

*Dale, Community Liaison Officer*



# CAREERS

## JUMPSTART - Mentoring the next generation

30 female students from the Hunter Region are participating in the Regional Industry Education Pathway (RIEP) 2023 Multiplex Jump Start program at the John Hunter Health and Innovation Precinct undergoing a 5 year \$600 million expansion.

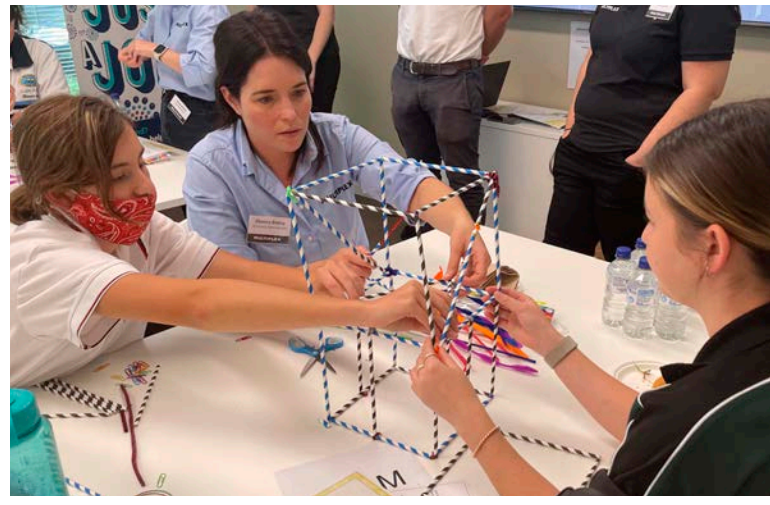
### What is Jump Start?

- Mentoring program to encourage young females to consider a career in the built environment.
- Includes a range of interactive workshops, site visits, and industry events
- Creates a safe space for young women to explore career options
- Full school year program for 30 female students

For this program, the team focused on Design and Planning.

This workshop involved Multiplex's architects BVN and landscape architects Black Beetle presenting to the students their roles and how they got into the industry.

The group then participated in planning activities focusing on the user experience in planning hospital bedrooms, followed by potting native plants for the landscaping activity.



# SBATs

## Various SBAT Opportunities Now Open

### EARLY EDUCATION

St Nicholas Pathways are hosting information sessions around SBAT (School-Based Traineeship) opportunities in Early Education.

Completing an SBAT can provide students with valuable vocational training and real-world work experience, opening doors to exciting career pathways.

Information sessions are being held at -

St Nicholas Pathways' Training Facility, Maitland  
25th July, 5pm to 6pm

St Pius X High School, Adamstown  
26th July, 5.30pm to 6.30pm

St Nicholas Pathways' Training Facility, Maitland  
27th July, 5pm to 6pm

Interested students should speak to Mr Mayall and register for the event [here](#).

### BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

If you see yourself progressing into Business Administration, there is currently an opening at Callaghan College Jesmond.

Administration opportunities also exist for Aboriginal students with Hunter New England Health.

### SPORT & RECREATION

Work your way to a Cert III in Sport and Recreation with opportunities now available with Leisure Employment Australia.

For these opportunities and more, please see Mr Mayall.

### MICROSOFT WORK EXPERIENCE & SKILLS

Learn more about tech careers, AI and coding in the Microsoft Work Experience and Skills Program. Students interested in these fields should speak to Mr Mayall to find out more about taking part in this short course.

# DIARY DATES

**JUL 26-28**

Little Shop Of Horrors  
Jesmond Senior Campus  
Get your tickets at  
TryBooking.com

**AUG 01-04**

Year 10 Snow Trip

**AUG 14**

College P&C Meeting  
See information below

**AUG 15**

Year 7 ASPIRE  
Deep Dive Presentation  
Evening  
5.30pm - Campus Hall

**SEPT 7-8**

Year 7  
Student-Led Conferences

**NOV 20-22**

Year 9  
Urban Challenge

## EXCURSION PAYMENTS

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

Payments can be made via your School Bytes payment login 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.

## CANTEEN PRICE LIST

Updated items and a few small price amendments have been made to our canteen list. The updated price list is available [here](#).

Also a reminder that students need to pay with either cash or a physical EFTPOS card. Mobile phone payments are not accepted.

## 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>

ATTENTION parents & Carers  
you are **INVITED** to our **TERM3**  
**CALLAGHAN P&C**  
MEETING on **MONDAY 14 AUGUST @ 5.30 PM ON ZOOM**

WHY would I want to go to a P&C Meeting?  
P&C Meetings are a great way to find out whats going on at the campuses and the principals are happy to answer your questions.

WHAT else DOES THE P&C DO?  
We are a **NON-FUNDRAISING P&C**. We have opportunities to promote the college and represent the community in various ways including on **INTERVIEW PANELS**.

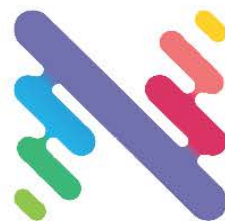
LOOK OUT for our email and **FACEBOOK** invite with **ZOOM DETAILS** or **EMAIL CALLAGHANPANDC@GMAIL.COM** to JOIN our **MAILING** list.

Callaghan College Waratah  
(02) 4968 1939

[waratah-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:waratah-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au)



Presented in partnership with



City of  
Newcastle



Wednesday, 2nd August  
5:30pm-6:30pm

Newcastle Digital Library  
12 Stewart Avenue,  
Newcastle West



Share your experiences  
and concerns about  
the cost of living.

We will ensure your  
voice is heard by the NSW  
Government and together,  
help identify solutions to  
lessen the impact.



Scan here to  
register!

Wait... what's an ACYP?

Zoë Robinson is the NSW Advocate for Children and Young People and at this event, we'll act as her eyes and ears on the ground to bring your ideas to government decision makers. If you have any questions, please email us at:

[participation@acyp.nsw.gov.au](mailto:participation@acyp.nsw.gov.au)



Zoë Robinson  
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