Dear Parents/Guardians & students

This past week we enjoyed a Week of Spiritual Emphasis (WOSE) here at school and the theme was ‘Saved to Serve’ - God doesn’t need talented people to do his good work, He just needs willing people and there is nothing you have done that makes you ineligible.

WOSE week simply means that we made some minor changes to our timetable to allow us to have a slightly longer worship every day for the entire week. Our guest speaker for the WOSE was Pastor Ashley Smith the current Pastor at Murwillumbah SDA church and former student of Blue Hills College. He did a fantastic job every day. He was engaging and had some interesting stories. We would like to say a huge ‘Thank you’ to him, the music and sound team and Rosie our new chaplain for making all the arrangements and treating us with such a wonderful program. It was a great combined effort from all involved.

Kind regards

Carel Neuhoff (Principal)

Calendar

- **WOSE**
  15-19 Feb
- **Dedication Service**
  19 Feb, 7pm
- **Mufti Day**
  22 Feb
- **School Photos**
  23 Feb
- **NCIS Swimming**
  1 March
- **Clean-up Aust Day**
  6 March
- **NCIS Soccer**
  9 March
- **Casino Church Service**
  12 March
On Thursday, 11 February, Blue Hills College held their annual swimming carnival at the Alstonville Pool. Staff and students came with the newly formed house colours, all dressed in green and orange ready to support their new teams Richmond and Wilson.

Both primary and high school students competed in a variety of events in the 50m pool while the infants competed in novelty events in the children’s pool. Year 12 competed in a novelty race during the lunch break to celebrate their final swimming carnival, which proved to be entertaining for everyone.

The highlight of the day was the Primary and Secondary relays. Primary students swam hard and had two to three teams per house. Secondary had excellent relay teams as well with the addition of a staff and parent team. This was great to see students, staff and parents battle it out in the pool. In the end the staff/parent team were victorious.

It was great to see teachers and parents supporting students throughout the day. Blue Hills College would like to thank parents who attended and supported the event as well as all the teachers and the students who put in their best effort.

We look forward to our next sporting event which is the cross country at the end of this term.

Mr. Ward, House Captains and Vice Captains.

Students can access piano lessons at school. Ms Lisa Pirlo (AMusA, LMusA, TMusA) an excellent tutor with 20 years experience offer lessons at a reasonable fee of $30 per half hour on Tues & Wed during school hours. Please contact Mr Neuhoff, or Mrs Pirlo directly on 0434997371 if you are interested as soon as possible.

A letter will be forwarded to all parents early next week to inform you of our Hot Cross Bun Drive in leading up to Easter weekend. We will be purchasing Hot Cross Buns from a local quality bakery at a reduced price. The letter will include all the necessary details. There will also be a prize for the student who sells the most packets of buns. Thanks for your support.
## School Canteen

Please note that the College Canteen will operate as usual on **Tuesdays** and **Thursdays**. It will also be open on Wednesdays, but only for snacks.

## Immunisations

**Year 7 Vaccinations - woooooohooo!!!**

Last week I handed out vaccination packs to the Year 7 students and am requesting them back this Friday so we can have all the paperwork sorted for the approaching date. Please get students to hand these in at the office.

## Casino Church Service

Every year the school visit our local churches to run a special program. Our churches make financial contributions towards our school and this is an opportunity to thank them for their contributions and for them to enjoy the lovely program our talented students present. We try to visit at least one church every term and our first visit is scheduled for **Saturday, 12 March**, at 11am at the Casino Church. A number of our primary and secondary students will be involved and we would like to invite you to come and join us. It will be an opportunity to see our students in action. There will be a combined luncheon afterwards and everyone is invited to come and enjoy a meal before you head back home. The program should only take about an hour and everyone is welcome to come and join us.

The church is located at 140 Centre Street, Casino.

Please come and join us on the day!

## School Photos

The school photos will be taken on **Tuesday, 23 February**. All the necessary information has been forwarded to you. Family photos needs to be ordered separately. We would appreciate it if you could check that your child comes to school with the correct uniform. We don’t have additional uniforms to help kids. You will notice that we scheduled a Mufti Day on the Monday to ensure that the school uniforms will be nice and clean for the photos on Tuesday.

Thank you for attending to this important event.

## ICAS Competitions

In the past these exams/competitions was organised for all students to participate in. However, we have found that not all students are too happy to sit these competitions because of their level of difficulty. A decision was therefore made not to continue with these competitions for all students, but rather on a user pay system. Your children will still have the opportunity to do these exams/competitions at school. A letter outlining all the details and future exam dates will be forwarded to you shortly. Please don’t hesitate to contact us, should you have any questions.

## Book Club—Primary School

Please check your child’s bag for all the documents in regards to the Book Club and when the orders and payments are due.

## English Tutoring—Years 7-12

**WANT A HEAD START IN ENGLISH IN 2016???

Experienced English teacher/tutor available for students in Years 7 to 12. Reasonable rates. References available. Contact Toni mob. 0432287156**

## School Carpark—Please be careful!

School Carparks - they can be a dangerous place as everyone rushes to pick up their children in the afternoons. While we have a Kiss and Drop zone to pick up students, we recognise that the main carpark can be hazard, especially when you might be in a hurry and where there are cars reversing. So please be patient, careful, check your mirrors and go slow so no one gets injured.
Clean-up Australia Day

Our first Home & School activity is scheduled for Sunday, 6 March. Please put this date in your calendars. We will all meet at a designated spot and from there go out to pick up some rubbish as part of Clean-up Australia day. A good group of people turned up last year and we hope that we can improve on that this year. More details will follow in the next newsletter and a letter will be forwarded to you as soon as we receive all the final details.

Sponsors

If you have a business, know of a business, or are working at a business who may want to advertise their services in our newsletter for a small fee, please let us know. However, if you would like to sponsor part of our school newsletter, we would appreciate it very much. Please contact Mrs Ann-Marie Harrison (Financial Officer), or Mr Neuhoff for more information in this regard.

Thank you very much for your ongoing support.

Prayer List

At Blue Hills College, we believe in the power of prayer. Please contact us if you would like to share specific prayer requests with our staff. We ask you to join us in praying for specific individuals, both students and staff.

“Don’t fret or worry. Instead of worrying, pray. Let petitions and praises shape your worries into prayers, letting God know your concerns. Before you know it, a sense of God’s wholeness, everything coming together for good, will come and settle you down. It’s wonderful what happens when Christ displaces worry at the center of your life.” (Phil 4:6-7, MSG)

Prayer List:

- 22 February  MaryJane Geaghan
- 23 February  Domenic Haysom
- 24 February  Toby Lynch
- 25 February  Harry Penfold
- 26 February  William Pratt
- Staff  Toni Strong

- 29 February  Noah Rapmund
- 1 March  Abbey Tickner
- 2 March  Arly Cook-Mackay
- 3 March  Aaron Fayers
- 4 March  Abby Hicks
- Staff  Tony Coombs

Contact Us

- www.bluehills.nsw.edu.au
- (02) 6625 6000
- reception@bluehills.nsw.edu.au
- (02) 6625 2637
- 17 Blue Hills Avenue, Goonellabah NSW