# Cowra High School

## **News**letter

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**Principal**Helene Hamilton





Deputy Principals
Louise Rowston
Megan Robinson



**Deputy Principal - Wellbeing** 

**Anthony Hamer** 

**Year 7 Advisor** 

Danielle Le Page

Year 8 Advisor

Kathyrn Keefe

Year 9 Advisor

Kyle Mugridge

Year 10 Advisor

Casey Brien

Year 11 Advisor

Megan MacKenzie

Year 12 Advisor

Di St Clair

**Careers Advisor** 

**Prue Williams** 

School Counsellor

Simone Hua/Darrin Yates

Student Representative Council Leader

**Amy Young** 

#### Principal's Message

Term 1 Issue 1 7th February 2020

Dear Parents and Caregivers of the Cowra High School Community.

Welcome back to out wonderful school forTerm One 2020 in particular to our Year 7, new students and staff.

New staff to Cowra High School for 2020 are:

Kristy Tabone - English

Bernadette Tait - English

Fiona Beattie - English

Nicole Pearce - Science

Linden Hopson - Mathematics

Lauren Bates - Casual relief and TAS

Simone Hua - School Counsellor

Many schools across the state have not been able to find staff, we are very fortunate that so many quality applicants are applying for positions to work at Cowra High School.

Our strategic focus for 2020 is reading and numeracy. All staff throughout the year will be undertaking deep professional learning to ensure that every child in their classroom is provided with individualised learning opportunities. This will ensure that all students will achieve more than one years growth for one year of learning.

The Year 7 Meet and Greet evening saw many students and their parents come to the barbeque on the schools front lawn. This was a valuable opportunity for us all to connect and communicate to our new parents Cowra High Schools high expectations and how passionate and motivated we are to provide their children with a world class education. Thank you to all the staff who attended the evening and helped cooking the barbeque.

Year 7 Best Start was conducted this week where all our students were assessed in literacy and numeracy. These results are invaluable for our staff to identify areas for skill development in our students and adjust their programs and classroom teaching. Providing a seamless entry into high school for Year 7 is important and maintaining high levels of student engagement. Thank you to our LAST Team who have lead this testing to support whole school teaching and learning.

At the Year 11 Information Night students were provided with their assessment booklet for 2020 and provided information about what Year 11 and 12 looks like for a student. There is no question that the conclusion of high school can be stressful and exciting. The evening provided students the opportunity to ask questions and for parents to be informed about how to





best support their child's learning.

Some of our Year 12 students have travelled to the University of Wollongong to experience a day in the life of a university student. This opportunity has motivated many of them to return to school and work hard in their subjects to ensure they achieve results that allow them to access such amazing post school destinations for tertiary studies. Thank you to Mr Damien Johnson and Mrs Louise Rowston for supporting Cowra High School students to attend the Discovery Day.

Congratulations to Joshua Pokoney who was selected in Canberra Raiders SG Ball Squad for 2020. Leroy Murray and Jacob Haeata selected were also in the Canberra Raiders HM Squad for 2020. These opportunities are outstanding for the boys and Cowra High School wishes them all the best.

Congratulations to Kaili Buckley who performed at the Australia Day Ceremony in Cowra, singing the National Anthem. The community enjoyed your performance and we look forward to watching you perform in the future.

Congratulations to Ky Garratt, who in the school holidays competed at the ACT Athletics Championships. Ky was successful in gaining a 1st in Hamer and 2nd in Discus. He then went on to the Country Championships where he gained the same results. Ky will now head off to state in the next few months, hoping to qualify for Nationals. Well done Ky!

To begin our journey in 2020 staff are passionate about caring for our students, challenging them in all areas of learning, to be confident in who they are and seek opportunities where they strive for success. Cowra High Schools vision promotes a holistic and inclusive education for all learners, fostering resilience and creating curious, confident, respectful and responsible lifelong learners. Our vision informs our community and beyond about what makes us unique as well as acknowledging the state strategic direction and Premiers priorities.

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All the best for the commencement of 2020 and please don't call the school if you require support for your child.

Kind Regards

**Helene Hamilton** 

From the Deputy

R/Principal

Welcome to Cowra High School for the 2020 school year.

A warm welcome to our new Year 7 students and those families who have joined our school community this year.

The term is off to an extremely busy start with Year 12 students participating in Discovery Day excursion at the University of Wollongong and Year 7 students heading off to their Year 7 camp next week with Year 11 Peer Support leaders. These excursions are not possible without the time given by staff to attend with time away from their own families to enhance the educational experiences offered at Cowra High School.

I am currently responsible for students in Years 8, 10 and 12 and would encourage you to contact me if you have any concerns that I may be able to assist with – we often here the expression "it takes a village..." – I look forward to working with families of these students to enhance the educational outcomes of your students.

In the next few days Year 12 students will be encouraged to participate in the "10% on top program" where they are encouraged to work with a teacher mentor to assist with each student achieving their absolute best with their HSC results. No matter the pathway a Year 12 student chooses to follow it is important to remember that they are one of around 80000 students completing their HSC this year and it is our role to ensure that all of our Year 12 students finish school well prepared for higher education, training and work.





We encourage all of our students to avail themselves of all of the opportunities offered at Cowra High School whether academic, cultural or sporting so that they have confidence in their ability to learn, adapt and be responsible citizens.

Louise Rowston

**Deputy Principal** 

#### **Deputy Principal - Wellbeing Report**

A very warm welcome back to the new schooling year and all the very best to all of our Cowra High School families as we begin to share the learning journey of all of our students. I would particularly like to offer an extra special welcome to all of those families who have a student joining us in Year 7. Whether this is your first child, one of many, or indeed your last child, we look forward to working with you to ensure your child is known, valued and cared for, and, receives the support necessary to achieve their potential and enjoys the broad curriculum and wellrounded education that the school is very proud to offer. It was wonderful to see so many families join us for the Year 7 'Meet and Greet' on Wednesday evening I look forward to continuing to engage with such a motivated and energetic group of parents and carers.

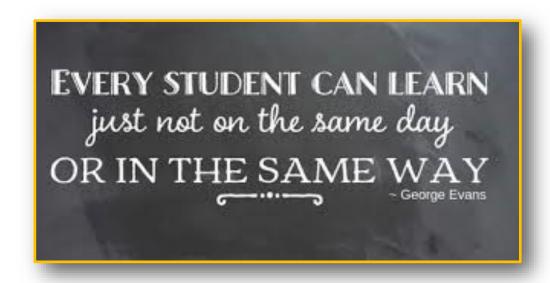
I would like to welcome Kyle Mugridge to the Cowra High School Wellbeing Team. Mr Mugridge will take on the role of Year 9 Student Adviser while Mr Le Page completes a temporary engagement in Sydney. I look forward to working with such an attentive, efficient and caring member of the Cowra High School team.

Cowra High School will continue to expand our external agency partnerships and involvement, and we would like to welcome back CINC, RYMH, Yoorana Gunya, CAMHS and Cowra Community Health Services. The school is also continuing to plan for the implementation of our much anticipated Health Hub and I look forward to being able to bring you further updates on this initiative.

All the very best to our Cowra High School learning family as we dive into the new year and decade!

**Anthony Hamer** 

**Deputy Principal Wellbeing** 





#### **Keeping Up-To-Date**

What's coming up?	
FEBRUARY	
11th	Roads to Regions
12th-14th	Year 7 Camp
14th	Small Schools Swimming Carnival
14th	TVET/VET Work Placement Induction/ Registration
18th	Swimming Carnival
20th	P & C Meeting
26th	CSU Senior Session

#### **Clothing Pool**

If you have any unwanted school uniforms please drop them into the front office so that they can be added to the school clothing pool. If you require any items please contact the school office on 63421766.



Cowra High School would like to invite you to our P & C Meeting, held in the school Library at 6pm. The first meeting for 2020 will be on Thursday 20 February.

**ALL WELCOME** 



#### SO MANY WAYS TO KEEP UP TO DATE AT COWRA HIGH SCHOOL





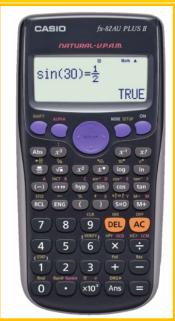








#### Learning in MATHS



Welcome back! All of the Mathematics teachers are looking forward to another enjoyable year.

This year, we welcome Mr Linden Hopson to the Mathematics faculty. He is excited to teach students in years 7 to 10 and support them with their learning in Mathematics.

It is essential and expected that all students come to each and every Mathematics lesson

with the correct equipment. For all students studying a Mathematics course in Years 7 to 12, this includes a grid exercise book, a pen, ruler and a scientific calculator. All students in Years 7 to 12 must have a scientific calculator and bring it with them to every Mathematics lesson. If your child

> does not own a calculator, the Mathematics faculty recommends you purchase the Casio FX-82AU Plus

calculator. These can be purchased from the school's front office for \$21.50.

During Week 9 this term, Years 7 - 11 students will be completing their first assessment task, which will be an in-class test. During Week 6, Year 12 students will be completing their first assessment task, which is also an inclass test (except for those student studying Extension 2, who will be doing an investigation task). In the weeks prior to these assessment tasks, the

Mathematics teachers will be providing students with revision and strategies to best prepare for these in-class tests.



If you have any questions in regards to your child and Mathematics, please do not hesitate to contact me at the school.

Elicia Yates

**Head Teacher Mathematics** 







#### All About The Learning Support Faculty



exciting announce establishment of a new Faculty at Cowra High, with the amalgamation of the Support Unit and the Learning Hub towards the conclusion of 2019. The new Faculty will have the title of Learning Support.

There are a number of reasons for this merger. In short it will enhance the level

of support students receive both in mainstream and discrete withdrawal settings. In the past there has been a large degree of overlap between the two areas, the amalgamation will remove this problem and streamline the support process across

the whole school. It will help us gather specific data on students in terms of their literacy and numeracy so we can set



targets and goals. Support Learning Officers (Aides) will be an integral part of this process as the year unfolds. The discrete support classes for those students with more intensive needs still exist and will operate as usual with the same staff.

The merger means the new Faculty will be by far largest area within the school in terms of personnel. Whilst there

are some relatively new members of staff, the Faculty is one bursting at the seams in terms of experience. In terms of myself I have been at Cowra High since 1994 when the initial support class was established. I have filled the role of Head Teacher Support since 2003 when the Support Unit evolved into a larger entity. Prior to working at Cowra High I spent eight years teaching in the Eastend of London. During this time I spent a number of months

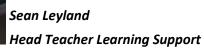


in Bangladesh in exchange. In addition I have also spent time teaching in New York City and Chicago. My own two sons, both born and bred in Cowra were educated at Cowra High and went on to

University and now full time jobs. Cowra High is

wonderful in this regard too.

There are too many staff in the Faculty to list them all here, however I must make mention of Ms Di St Clair who is 2<sup>nd</sup> in charge; Ms Kerrie Smith and Ms Casey Brien both of whom help establish the vibrant and well respected Learning Hub.







### Cowra High School's Amazing Students

Congratulations to Joshua Pokoney who was selected in Canberra Raiders SG Ball Squad for 2020. Leroy Murray and Jacob Haeata selected in the Canberra Raiders HM Squad for 2020.









Congratulations to Kaili Buckley who performed at the Australia Day Ceremony in Cowra, singing the National Anthem.





Congratulations to Ky Garratt, who in the school holidays competed at the ACT Athletics Championships.







#### Cowra High School's Amazing Students

#### WANDOO



**CAPTAINS** Josh Pokoney Maddie Stone



**VICE CAPTAINS** Jakob Walker **Ashleigh Saunders** 



**CAPTAINS Daniel Barlow** Chelsea Apps

**BRIGALOW** 



**VICE CAPTAINS Brock Dalton** Cailtin Boswell



MYALL



**CAPTAINS** Luke Kinsey **Tess Roberts** 





**VICE CAPTAINS** Colby Turner-Turnball Hannah Reid



**KURRAJONG** 



**CAPTAINS Ethan Funnell** Ruby McKeown





**VICE CAPTAINS** Blake Williams **Bella Pangas** 





#### **All Things Careers**

#### UNIVERSITY OF WOLLONGONG 2020 DISCOVERY DAY

Fifteen Year 12 students set off to Wollongong on Wednesday to attend UOWs Discovery Day.

Five discovery days are held during the week with around 5000 students (many of whom live within an hour of the university) attending each day; so our students are able to experience exactly what it is like to be part of a student body all exploring their options post school.

Discovery Day at UOW gives Year 12 students the opportunity to experience firsthand what a day of university life is like.

Students receive a personal timetable and attend lectures as if they were a UOW student where they can explore courses and careers available related to their chosen areas of interest.

Discovery Days provide an opportunity to experience, for a day, life as a university student. For example, finding your way around the campus, reading timetables and attending classes and staying overnight in the on campus accommodation at Kooloobong Village.

The key note address was delivered by David (ex-school captain from Camden High School) who addressed the relationship that exists between Cowra and Camden High School with some students even catching up with their friends from the exchange.

Congratulations to these students who firstly engaged with this amazing opportunity and the way they displayed our core values of respect and responsibility at all times. We hope this experience inspires them to keep working hard toward their goals and aspirations.

These excursions take many hours to organise and thanks must be given to Mrs Williams who has organised this excursion from a distance as she is currently incapacitated and to Mr Johnson who ensured that all students were accommodated for appropriate workshops.





#### **Community News**





COWRA Ruby League Black and White Ball are calling for interest. Date - Friday 3rd July 2020 Contact Vanessa Browne 0413228283





