

# Kurri Kurri High School Newsletter

*Making the Best of Ourselves*

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## The Principal - Mrs Breese

Children who learn together learn to live together.

This is a statement that I believe sums up what we are all about at Kurri Kurri High School. This year has been brimming with exceptional opportunities to extend our young people. Just reading this newsletter reveals how jam packed our term has been with outstanding learning opportunities that allow our kids to grow and thrive. Our new wellbeing framework operates around the three words: Connect, Thrive and Succeed. This will have a refreshed focus in 2017. Watch out also for our School Values and some involvement in this part of our school. Many of you are familiar with the three core values of the school of Excellence, Respect and Safety. We will be working hard with students next year to frame our awards system around these words and reward students accordingly.

Next year, we will face new challenges in our engagement of students in our school. A new way of teaching will be introduced and begin with Year 7. Why Year 7? Well, they are the 'new breed' of technology natives. They have grown up in a world where technology is synonymous with learning. It is not an add on, but an essential tool for creating new ways of demonstrating learning. We will share their journey with you in new and exciting ways in 2017. What an exciting place to work.

A wholehearted thanks must go to the staff who work tirelessly for their students. The world of teaching has shifted immensely in the last 12 months. Teachers and the expectations on them are at times, untenable, but our crew has risen to the challenge. Thanks to those staff who are moving to new journeys next year. Donna Owen has been an amazing TAS teacher and will leave us for a permanent position. We wish her all the best. Mr Wakewood has secured a HT CAPA position at Canley Vale HS for 2017.

Congratulations to Amy Stewart who has achieved a permanent position here in English and is our Year 7 Year Adviser for 2017. Mrs Tina Pratt will be our DP for the next three years. Mrs Lisa Scobie and Mr Jeremy Rennex who will both be Head Teacher Teaching and Learning in 2017. To Michelle Weir who will be our permanent HT Wellbeing. We will welcome Alex Newman in HSIE as a permanent employee. She has much to offer and will be an excellent addition in HSIE. We will also welcome Miss Danielle Trayhurn to the PDHPE Faculty where she will be revamping the CAFS Course in Year 11.

Can I take a moment to thanks Mrs Belinda James-Cliff. She has been relieving as Deputy Principal and is the most compassionate and empathetic person in her dealings with students and parents. Her work this year has been amazing and I thank her most sincerely. She has decided to return to the role as HT HSIE as she misses the connections with her staff. A very lucky staff indeed!

What a fabulous team I get to work with every day.

I wish all of you a restful, relaxing and happy Christmas, surrounded by love and peace.

Keep safe on the roads and remember to be thankful for the small things like good health, family and harmony. I look forward to welcoming your family back to school in 2017.

**Deputy Principal Stage 6 - Mrs Glasson**

Congratulations to the following 2016 Year 12 students who have received early University entry offers:

*Hayley Sim, Tiarn Offen, Danielle Field, Caprice Woolley, Stephanie Eades, Demi Crowe and Madeleine Jones.*

These students have always demonstrated commitment and enthusiasm and have been fabulous school leaders throughout their time at Kurri Kurri High School! Good luck in your future endeavours!

Throughout the final week we will celebrate our senior students' achievements at their merit assembly or at the Annual Awards night. It has always been with immense pride that I congratulate so many award recipients. I hope to see many families and friends at the awards night.

Lastly I would like to wish all students, families and community members a fabulous Christmas and I trust that everyone has a safe and relaxing holiday. Thank you for a wonderful 2016.

**Important Dates**

|                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| <b>27 January 2017</b>     | Staff return                                |
| <b>30 January 2017</b>     | Term 1 commences Yrs 7,11 & 12              |
| <b>31 January 2017</b>     | Term 1 commences Yrs 8,9 & 10               |
| <b>6-10 February 2017</b>  | Yr 12 Work Placement - Metals & Engineering |
| <b>7 February 2017</b>     | School Photos                               |
| <b>9 February 2017</b>     | Swimming Carnival                           |
| <b>13-17 February 2017</b> | Yr 12 Work Placement - Hospitality          |
| <b>16 February 2017</b>    | Belvoir Street Theatre Excursion            |
| <b>20-24 February 2017</b> | Yr 12 Work Placement - Hospitality          |
| <b>27 Feb - 3 Mar 2017</b> | Yr 12 Work Placement - Construction         |
| <b>28 February 2017</b>    | P&C Meeting & AGM 6PM                       |
| <b>2 March 2017</b>        | Business Breakfast                          |

**Deputy Principal Stage 5 and Aboriginal Education Report- Mrs James-Cliff**

**“I have no doubt that this new area will quickly become a very popular teaching and learning resource in our school”**

As you would expect Term 4 has been very busy as we move closer to the end of the scholastic year. All assessments and exams are finished and reports are almost finalised too. Merit Assemblies this week saw many deserving students recognised for a variety of achievements in support of our school values - excellence, safety and respect. Year 10 students are to be congratulated on their participation in Authentic Assessment last week and a massive thank you is extended to the Year 9 students, community members and staff who contributed to the success of this extremely valuable program. Likewise, MADD Night last week was an excellent opportunity for our students to showcase their creative talents and we thank staff, parents and community members who attended this evening to support this event.

Thursday December 8th will see the culmination of many months of formal preparations as Year 10 students attend their Citizenship Celebration marking the attainment of this significant academic milestone. I am looking forward to sharing this special evening with such a wonderful group of young people.

Wednesday December 7th will mark the official opening of our new Aboriginal outdoor education area which comprises of an Aboriginal Yarning Circle and bush garden. This project has been three terms in planning and development and was made possible through a funding grant secured from Hunter Local Land Services. A group of enthusiastic Year 9 and 10 students completed the majority of the work in constructing these areas as a weekly sports option under the supervision of HSIE teacher Mr Reese Scarcella. I have no doubt that this new area will quickly become a very popular teaching and learning resource in our school, as well as a visible celebration of Aboriginal culture. This area will continue to be developed in to 2017 with some exciting art projects in the pipeline.

In closing, I would like to wish all of our students, staff and members of our extended community a very merry Christmas and a safe, prosperous New Year. Warm regards, B James-Cliff.



### STARS Gold excursion

In 2016, the STARS rewards program saw two thirds of our student body receive at least the Bronze level. The goal of course is to attain Gold and then receive an invitation to the best excursion of the year, the GOLDS REWARDS DAY.

This year, Ms Douglas planned everything – including the weather forecast – to perfection.

100 students and staff headed off to Port Stephens for a day of water fun. It began with a dolphin watching cruise around Nelson Bay. Students, even those a little bit tentative about boats couldn't help but relax as we cruised out onto the bay and it wasn't long before the first pod of dolphins was spotted. The thing about dolphins is that you can not help but be drawn in by their nature and that was evident from all of us eager to see more.

Dolphin watching may have been the aim of the cruise but the real fun came when the boom net was dropped into the bay and students had the chance to get in and swim. Squeals and screams were a common reaction as the captain gave a burst of the engines, and you can be sure it was all because of how much fun was being had.

From the cruise we headed to Tomaree Water Park for lunch, swimming and some water slide fun. It's hard to tell who was having more fun the teachers or the students, regardless the whole day was a great day out and plans were already being thrown about as to how to top the event next year.

Thank you to all the staff who came along on the day, Ms Douglas, Mrs L'Green, Mrs Weir, Mr Buswell, Mr Turner and Mrs Sutherland. Looking after such a group of well behaved students made for a very "cruisey" day out.

**Click on the dolphin below to see a full photo album of the fun**



### Halogen Leadership Day - Jessica Eades School Captain

On the 25<sup>th</sup> of November, 10 SRC representatives travelled down to Olympic Park Sydney to attend the 2016 Halogen Day. Attending the day were over one thousand students from all over NSW, keen to learn about what it takes to be a good leader and how to effect change.

Hosted by Scott Tweedy and Gem Knight, both successful young people in their own careers, we heard from five motivational speakers. The speakers included: 16 year old pro skater, Abdul Abdulla - an award winning artist, Tom Loud AKA Hot Dub time machine - a successful DJ, Alex Malley - a successful businessman and author of 'The Naked EO', Samantha Skinner—General Manager of Halogen Australia and my personal favourite Melissa Doyle. Melissa's speech truly gave me perspective, and I quote: "the day you stop feeling emotion is the day you should hang up the note pad and pen".

All of the speakers spoke about the obstacles they overcame when in pursuit of their dreams and all 10 students representing Kurri Kurri High School walked out of the seminar room feeling inspired and ready to make a difference.





**Authentic Assessment 2016 - Miss Taylor**

## Now in its 18<sup>th</sup> year, the program is going from strength to strength

During Week 8 161 Year 10 students completed their Authentic Assessment Interviews. Once again, we reached our goal of 100% participation from eligible students. Held over a very busy three days, students had the opportunity to discuss how their learning at Kurri Kurri High School has contributed to a unique skill set which would equip them for their future work or study pathways. Now in its 18<sup>th</sup> year the program is going from strength to strength, with an array of community members once again giving their valuable time to support our students.

It was particularly pleasing that students from our Special Education classes were involved this year, completing some fantastic interviews. In particular, Ben Sydenham highlighted the immense value of the program. Ben was particularly nervous about the process but delivered a confident interview discussing how he has learned to be determined to complete tasks and how this newly developed skill will support him after school in the work place. "If I can do this, I can do anything!" Thankyou to Mrs Atkinson and Ms Kermode who facilitated the interviews and supported our Special Education students.

Year 9 students are to be commended for their professionalism; they were an excellent team to work with and were tireless in their support of Year 10. From meeting and greeting community representatives, running front of house, conducting panel interviews and even washing up our Year 9 students were exceptional.

Authentic Assessment would not run so successfully if it wasn't for a great team of people behind the scenes; our mentors who work throughout the year to support our students, Ms Knox for her wonderful catering in conjunction with the Canteen staff, Mrs Sutherland for her tireless work with our Community Reps, Mrs Field and Mrs Gibbs for their multiple panel interviews and Ms Stewart the amazing 2IC who ensured the whole program ran smoothly. Lastly, but not least, congratulations to all Year 10 students who were involved. The program ran incredibly smoothly, students were on time and professional in their conduct. Congratulations on a most successful Authentic Assessment.

**Let's break the silence around violence - Mrs Weir**

## Kurri Kurri High School as a whole, are taking the pledge to make a difference when it comes to Domestic Violence.

Sadly, Domestic Violence in our region is way too common. Through the Drop the Beat Program and the White Ribbon Program, students and staff are taking a stand against this issue.

Drop the Beat is a part of the Cessnock's Youth Development Project. Joining with our own Community Positive Behaviour for Learning initiative, BASA's Drop the Beat brought Playground Sounds silent disco to KKHS. This whole school event not only created awareness, but also helped to gather insight into Domestic Violence as students participated in a large scale survey as well as taking the White Ribbon pledge. While this is a very serious issue, it was dealt with in a positive way as students put on their headphones and danced and sang along with the silent disco to round the whole event off.

Following on from Drop the Beat, representatives from our SRC attended an annual White Ribbon breakfast. The breakfast triggered in our SRC the desire to see all males in our school to take the pledge as part of a school assembly. The pledge was led by Year 10 student Cameron Parker and we are proud that we have a student body so eager to see an end to an issue that is sadly way too prevalent within our community.

### School Counsellor's Corner - Toni Falk

Holidays can be a wonderful opportunity to spend time with family and friends. It can also be a challenging time for those who have lost loved ones and feel their absence more intensely on traditional occasions. Kids can get bored and up to more risky business in an effort to entertain themselves and parents can start pulling their hair out thinking that the school holidays will never come to an end.

In case you, one of your children or family members need a little extra support in the weeks ahead, remember that we have some amazing services that will lend a helping hand:

**Lifeline Newcastle & Hunter:** Phone: 13 11 14

**Online chat:** <https://www.lifeline.org.au/get-help/online-services/crisis-chat>

**Beyond Blue** – For help with depression, grief & loss: Phone: 1300 22 46 36 (24 hrs)

**Online chat counselling:** <https://www.youthbeyondblue.com> (3pm to 12am)

**Domestic Violence Service:** Phone: 1800 810 784

**Hunter Domestic Violence support & Advocacy service:** Phone: (02) 4990 9609

**Drug & Alcohol Triage & Referral Service.** Phone: 1300 66 00 59

**Sexual Assault & Family Violence Counselling Service.** Phone: 1800 737 732 (24 hrs)

**Headspace online counselling:** <https://www.eheadspace.org.au> (9am to 1am)

Congratulations to all of the students and staff at Kurri High who have completed another action-packed year. Emmet and I would like to wish all members of the school family and local community a very safe and magical holiday. We will look forward to seeing you in 2017, refreshed and ready to embark on an even more exciting and rewarding year as the school continues to grow and evolve. **Merry Christmas !**



### Peer Support - Mrs L. L'Green



Late last month, forty Year 9 students attended Kurri Kurri TAFE to participate in Peer Support Training. Students learnt about how to establish relationships. What leadership entails and the importance of how you interact and communicate with others. Students completed activities around how to support their co leaders and the benefits of having people in groups that can provide different perspective and assistance with group management. We then looked at strategies and planning and the importance of evaluating each session to improve.

Year 9 students will begin peer mentoring sessions next year with 2017 Year 7 students. This program is invaluable as it provides supportive role models to our incoming students and leadership opportunities to Year 9 students. Thank you to Sharen Lysaght for her help during the two days.

### Year 9 Student Report for 2016 - Olivia, Ebony, Malakye and Jacob

With organisation from Mrs L'Green, Year 9 students have had a fun and enjoyable year. The Year 9 CAPA students have had an adventurous year with many excursions and performance opportunities such as going to Aladdin and the Shakespeare play A Midsummer's Night Dream, dance showcases including Starstruck and the Hunter Dance Festival, music performances in MADD night and art students attending Sculpture by the Sea and their artworks being displayed at Edfest.

In English we have learnt new techniques and writing strategies to help better our understanding of multiculturalism and an eye opening topic of youth issues within today's society. Movies such as Shrek and The Blind Side have been viewed to introduce students to film techniques and angles.

Algebra, trigonometry and linear relationships are all topics we have been learning in maths. Although the topics have been challenging the teachers have pushed us all to complete our work to the best of our abilities and given us skills that will help us into our HSC years.

In Science we have studied the atmosphere, electrical circuits, continental drift and many more interesting topics and doing some fun practicals.

Overall Year 9 was an amazing and enjoyable year full of exciting events and lots of memorable moments. All the effort and time put into all class work and organisations are much appreciated. Thank you to all students and teachers for another great year and we're excited to take on Year 10 together!



## Support Faculty Happenings – Head Teacher Toni Atkinson



The end of semester two has come so quickly due to our staff and students being so busy working on personal learning projects, work experience, community participation and supporting our year 6 – 7 student transition. Many achievements have occurred this semester and we congratulate all of the term 4 award winners: Jake, Brayden, Alyza, Jo, Peter, Ethan and Aggy.

We are also excited to announce that our new support class building has arrived and it is being prepared for the 2017 school year.

There will be some changes happening in 2017 that we are preparing our returning students for:

- the IO class will be moving into the new classroom,
- the new MC class will be set up in the existing IO class room,
- all faculty students requiring support before school in 2017, are to be dropped off to the faculty (not the main quad) for daily check-in
- Mrs Rylie Conway is taking a well-deserved break in 2017 and Miss Beth Kermode will be teaching the IO class full-time. Best wishes from us all Mrs Conway.
- Mr Steve Quodling and Ms Lisa Williams will be teacher and SLSO for the new MC class
- Ms Kerrie McGrath will be joining us to teach across the faculty for teacher relief
- As well as lots of new programs and opportunities being developed for our students

I would like to take the opportunity to wish all of my fabulous staff and students a very safe and happy Christmas and New Year. Mrs A X

### *An Acrostic Poem - Support Class Mrs Conway*

**C**lever Jessica  
**E**nergetic Ethan  
**L**ucky Luke  
**E**asy going Lloyd  
**B**rave Brock  
**R**omantic Hayden  
**A**wesome Aggy  
**T**echnological Tony  
**E**xtra-ordinary class!

## Special Ed Faculty

### Volunteer/Transition program to Endeavour Day programs - Miss Kermode



A group of our Special Ed students have been volunteering for an hour every Thursday morning at the Endeavour day Program in Kurri Kurri. They participate in a range of activities including basketball, board games, music and interacting with the other clients. This program is designed to prepare our students for post school life and introduce them to some of the programs available to them.

### International Day of People with a Disability - Miss Kermode

It was the International Day of People with a Disability on Friday the 2<sup>nd</sup> of December and a lucky group of Special Ed students participated in the 'Come and Try' day at Cessnock PCYC. They got to try their hand at indoor cricket, Oz Tag, wheel chair basketball and Zumba. There were horses, karate demonstrations, a sausage sizzle and free show bags full of goodies to take home. It was a wonderful day to be a part of and the students and staff thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

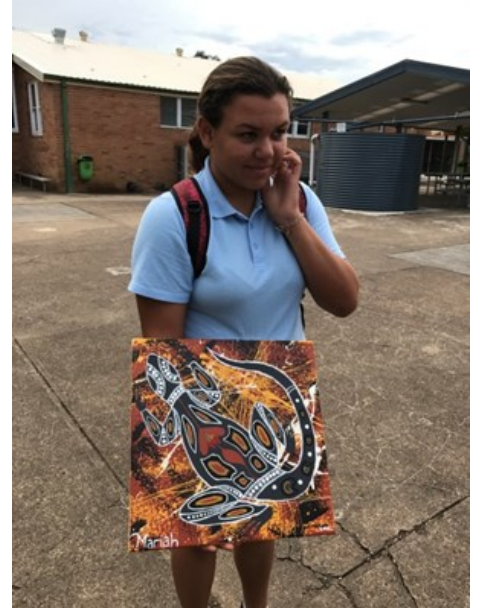


### IM Support Class Happenings - Mrs Atkinson

This semester the students from the IM class have enjoyed successful learning experiences in their elective subjects. Our students have produced a range of quality products and have gained valuable knowledge, skills and understanding of their chosen elective. Here are just two of our students and their end products. Caleb Smith in Year 10 manufactured a bench vice in Metal and Denver Kearney in Year 9 produced a hacksaw in Metal.





**Sistaspeak – Mrs L. L'Green**

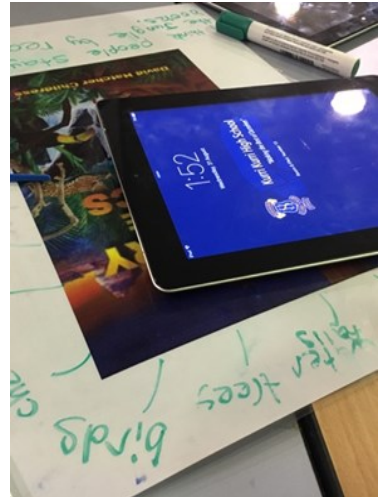
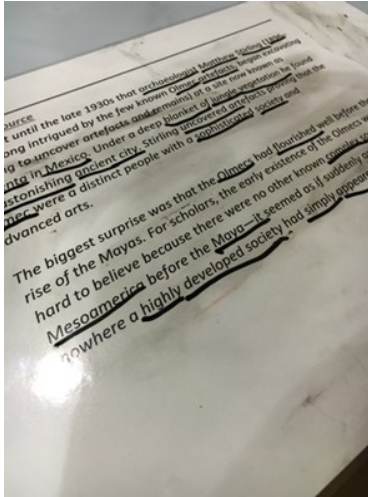
Aboriginal girls have been busy decorating cupcakes to sell at lunch time to raise money for the school and Mariah in Year 9 has been participating in art lessons with local artist Glen Dennis and produced the excellent painting shown above.

**Western Sydney University Rural Indigenous Visit - Miss Rubie**

This week Emily Lloyd, Steven Ahoy, Cobie Hudson and Dylan Andrews visited Western Sydney University for a Rural Indigenous visit. Students participated in many workshops such as Engineering, Nursing, Chemistry, Policing and many more. Students had the opportunity to meet other students from rural parts of New South Wales and share their aspirations for further education after school. What was most rewarding for our students this week was watching them grow and share their goals with a large group of people they had only just met. It was so amazing seeing them present in every moment of the camp, interacting with new people, making new friends, getting involved and trying new things, speaking up, being respectful and taking on everything with an open mind. This week was an opportunity for our kids to be proud of their culture and show that to other people. As they say, the strength of a culture isn't in the quality of the people, it's in the quality of the relationship between the people - and that's something our kids displayed this week.







**Congratulations Year 6 2016!**  
**We had a great time at transition.**

**See you at KKHS in 2017.**

**From Miss Tucker, Ms Stewart  
 and all the other teachers & staff  
 at KKHS.**



## CAPA News

Wow, what a year it has been! We have had so many fantastic events, excursions, workshops, projects and fun in CAPA this year, you only have to look back on our facebook page and past newsletters to see how busy we have been. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the CAPA staff for all their hard work this year and congratulate them on their success creating innovative, engaging programs that link to real world experiences, also for creating so many wonderful opportunities for our students to develop their skills and love of the arts.



A huge congratulations to all CAPA students whose talent, creativity and commitment to the arts is awesome. The community loves your work! Thanks you to all the parents, carers and community who support us in a variety of ways throughout the year. We appreciate it.

Belvoir Street Theatre came all the way from Sydney to KKHS to work with talented year 8-12 Drama students. Students had the opportunity to develop their performance skills to create a monologue and worked collaboratively to further develop their knowledge and understanding of the playbuilding process. Students were engaged for 4 hours and enjoyed **working** with a professional practitioner.



A lovely way to end the year was a trip to Sydney's beautiful Capital Theatre to see 'Aladdin' the musical. It was a fantastic, colourful, sparkly, magical show that had the kids mesmerised, singing and dancing in their chairs! The kids had such a wonderful time and they are still talking about it. Miss Berni and I were so proud of our students, they displayed all our PBL values, respect, excellence and safety. I had a number of members of the public compliment me 'on the beautiful, well mannered, polite, nice kids'. Well done Kurri Kurri High.

The following students received CAPA awards for their contribution and commitment to the Arts.

**Dance:** Ebony Holmes Yr 9 & Chloe Musgrave Yr 11

**Drama:** Olivia Page Yr 9 & Melissa Hickey Yr 11

**Music:** Jacob Irving Yr 9 & Jack Anderson Yr 11

**Ceramics:** Natasha Findlay Yr 11

**Visual Arts:** Chelsea White Yr 9 & Isadora Pearson Yr 11



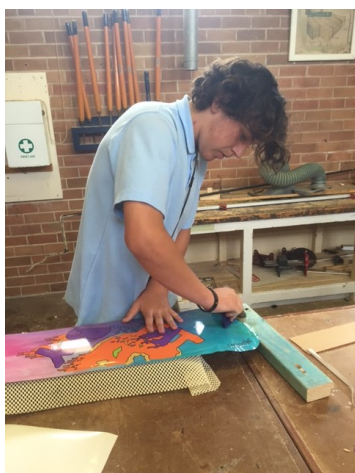
To end the year we always go out with a celebrations of our talent with MADD Night. Congratulations to all students and staff involved, it was a terrific show.

Year 9 Visual Arts students had the opportunity to exhibit their artworks at Cessnock Regional Art Gallery. This tied in nicely with our focus on 21<sup>st</sup> Century Teaching and connections to the real world. Ms Van's class appropriated images from popular culture to design skateboard decks and created a blog and Ms Underwood's class focused on developing their technical skills in a range of media producing portraits and microscopic imagery. Congratulations to everyone involved.

[Click here to go to the full MADD Night Photo album](#)

CAPA would like to wish you all a wonderful Christmas and festive season. Have a safe and happy summer holiday and we will see you in the New Year to do it all again!

Best wishes, Ms Dunlevie HT CAPA





## Careers - Mr McKinley

2016 is coming to an end at Kurri Kurri High School but that does not mean that our work is done. There are a variety of activities to keep in mind over the coming months, especially with those students who have just finished Yr 12 and their HSC Exams.

Are you looking at University? What about TAFE? Have you applied at a private provider such as Whitehouse Institute of Design or SAE? Have you got your enrolment sorted, are you moving away from home to undertake further education? Make sure that you are on top of things early so that you do not leave everything to the last minute in a mad rush.

### ***Need a Tax File Number?***

Applications are now made online. Visit the Australian Taxation Office website (<https://www.ato.gov.au>) click on the individual tab and follow the links to "apply for a TFN". Once you have completed the online application you will need to take a copy of your receipt along with 100 points of identification to the Post Office for validation.

### ***Career and post school option resources!***

Students looking for information on post school options can now find a variety of information on display in the Careers Office. Students can peruse information on University course and entry requirements from universities around Australia, information on TAFE courses as well as an array of information from private providers including the Whitehouse Institute and the Australian Defence Force.

Congratulations to those students who have already gained Early Entry into University for 2017, your hard work has paid off. Please don't hesitate to contact me in the holidays if you need assistance with your planning.

Remember, if you are on Facebook you are more than welcome to "like" the "Kurri Kurri High School Careers" Page. There are regular updates of Career opportunities as well as information about training opportunities and post school options. Click the Facebook logo to go to the page directly and share it around.

All the best to all students and family members for the festive season, may it be a fun filled summer break with plenty of laughs and adventure. Please be safe as well and I look forward to your return in 2017.

**Please click here for a look at some future Career activities that may be what you are looking for.**

## Sports Report - Mrs T Gavenlock



Year 7 have been busy over the last few weeks being great representatives of KKHS at the Year 7 Netball and Cricket Gala Day, Year 7 Soccer Gala Day and the NSW Goalball Championships in Homebush. Once again our students displayed our school core values of EXCELLENCE, RESPECT and SAFETY whilst achieving some excellent results.

Our Year 7 Netball team played some great Netball in hot conditions show casing their talent and sportsmanship to be named joint winners of the Coalfields Gala Day with Grossman High School. Our girls played some great Netball which was reflected by some of our impressive wins defeating Rutherford High 21-0, Cessnock High 19 – 0 , Maitland Year 8 team 8-4 and a draw against Maitland Grossman 6 all.

For the first time in our school's history four Year 7 students represented KKHS at the NSW Goalball Championships in Homebush. Tyson O'Neill, Will Stothard, Joshua Williams and Abbie Hemsworth were fierce competitors who showed loads of potential seeing as those this was their first competitive event. A special mention goes to Abbie Hemsworth who was the sole female participant in our playing pool. In our first game we defeated Smith's Hill High 11-3, we then had a closer result with Dapto High 13-10. Our two wins in the pool progressed us to the Semi Finals where we faced a much older Galston High Team losing 11-1. A special thanks to Mr Croker and Mrs Robson for taking the students on the day!

On Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December Mrs Breese and myself attended the Regional Blues Awards held at Wallsend Diggers to recognise the outstanding sporting achievements of two of our senior students. Aiden Harvey for Shot Put and Lauren Gardner for Lawn Bowls. These two senior students have managed to maintain busy training and tournament schedules whilst still achieving academically. Well done to you both we at KKHS are extremely proud of you!

**Year 7 and 8 Cricket Gala Day - Representative Sports - Mrs Owen**

**Year 7 Team:** Marty Williams, Joshua Bacon, Jordan Wells, Pahn Wichai, Alex Trotnar, Lucy Bacon, Jye Kelly, Will Stothard, Blake Boughton and Hudson Fitzpatrick.



**Year 8 Team:** Mitchell Newton, Cooper Vassella, Brodie Linnane, Luke Trotnar, Eain Harris, Braydon Harris and Dusty Callaghan.

I had the wonderful privilege to coach a Year 7 and Year 8 cricket team this term. Both teams competed in the Hunter Cricket Gala Day in the picturesque Maitland Park. Our Year 7 team were supportive and focused for all the games played against the other high schools in the hunter region. Each student was able to assist in the decision-making process as to the batting, bowling and fielding positions on the day. Although, we lost three games we did win the last game where everything came together perfectly on the field for the team.

Our mighty Year 8's, under the co-coaching supervision of Lachlan Vassella and Sam Whyburn, were strong in all aspects of the game and as a result won all of their matches. I was watching the last game and I am proud to say, that each player worked well together as a team and it is to this cohesive attitude that our team experienced the level of success they did on the day.

**National Schools Futsal Championships - A very Proud NNSW SCHOOL FUTSAL COORDINATOR - Mr Cameron Hall**

It has taken a while for this news to filter through, yet it needs to be told how last holidays 5 KKHS students were involved in the NNSW Futsal squads who attended the National Schools Futsal Championships in Brisbane.

Quite simply, we had excellent results. Our only female representative, Ainsley Childs (pictured) was NNSW captain in the U/14 competition and finished the preliminary games in second place. Then came out and blitzed Queensland Country to make the national final. This pitted us against the home team in Queensland City in the Grand Final. Although our team dominated possession and shots on goal the scores were locked at 1-1 and extra time saw QLD snatch an unlikely run away for their only shot in 10 minutes to win 2-1 deep in the game.

The majority of our squad, including Ainsley, were noticed by selectors and offered places in the Australian Futsal Squad to tour Barcelona, Spain in 2017.

The U/13 boys were divided into two pools, with Matthew Brown involved with NNSW who climbed to 5<sup>th</sup> out of eight and 9<sup>th</sup> overall in their age group. Their best result a 6-1 victory over QLD Country. A great result for Matt after being introduced to this version of the sport 6-7 months ago in the Kurri Kurri gymnasium.

Last but not least were the U/16 boys, who performed admirably against vastly more experienced squads from Sydney and Brisbane. However the team, including Angus Lathan and Sam Whyburn and Tristan Aspinall had a great win over their neighbours at the central coast 8-2. Congratulations to all these boys who were targeted to join Australian squads to tour Brazil and Italy in mid 2017.

Thanks firstly to our Principal Tracey Breese plus also to Mr Mick Derry & Tracey Gavenlock for the continued use of the Gymnasium, the school teachers who volunteered their time to assist, and the KKHS school community for supporting our futsal champions.

