Welcome to the start of a new school year and a special welcome to all the new students and their families. It has been an exciting time for Year 7 students as they settle into high school life and they are looking forward to the Year 7 Camp held at Lennox Head, 17 – 19 February. Photographed below are Year 7 students involved in a variety of lessons this week.
**House Captains**

Congratulations to the following students who were voted in as the captains and vice captains for their sport houses. They play a vital role in helping organise, encourage and motivate their house team in each of the school carnivals. The Twilight Swimming Carnival was held on Thursday 4th February.

**Banks**
- Captains - Liam Baker & Courtney Collis
- Vice Captains - Matt Bend & Tyana BOUNDY

**Cunningham**
- Captains - Sam Everest & Jade Jeffery-Prestwich
- Vice Captains - Ryan Everest & Emily Hickey

**Cook**
- Captains - Patrick Power & Marli Mulheron
- Vice Captains - Matt Marshall & Chloe Payne

**Oxley**
- Captains - Noel Rostron & Audrey Spence
- Vice Captains - Cormac White & Emily Reynolds

**Captains** - Noel Rostron & Audrey Spence

**Vice Captains** - Matt Marshall & Chloe Payne

**Vice Captains** - Ryan Everest & Emily Hickey

**Captains** - Sam Everest & Jade Jeffery-Prestwich

**Captains** - Liam Baker & Courtney Collis

In February, their house team in each of the school carnivals will organise, encourage and motivate the captain and vice captains for their sport. Congratulations to the following students who were voted in as the house team captains.

**February**

Congratulations to Elizabeth Kirk (photograph below left), who was named Young Achiever of The Year at the Tweed Shire Australia Day Awards ceremony. This award was given to Elizabeth in recognition of the enormous contribution she has made to the community in a variety of ways, including Scouts, Cool Heads and Navy Cadets.

The Twilight Swimming Carnival held last night was a great success and it was pleasing that so many parents were there to cheer on the competitors. Thank you to the teachers who organised the carnival, especially Mr Stuart Elder. There will be photographs and more details in the next newsletter.

**Update 2016**

The Maths department has welcomed Mr Stephen Wemm as the new Head Teacher Maths, replacing Mr Chikosh who retired at the end of 2015.

Each student has been given an outline of their course which should be glued into the front of their work booklet. This gives an overview of topics that will be covered over the coming year. It indicates, for the junior school, that there is a 10% assessment component that is made up of home work assignments and may include Maths Online assignments. This timeline also sets out the dates for major assessments.

Using “Gonski” money, the school is able to provide free access to each student to the excellent online resource Maths Online. Each student will be issued with their new 2016 Maths Online login and password shortly and this will allow them to access lessons and practice sheets for all topics. It is a valuable tool that can be used for clarification and consolidation of classwork or for revision.

A reminder that all students should come to school prepared with all equipment including a covered workbook, pens, pencils, ruler and a scientific calculator. These are available from the canteen for the very reasonable price of $2.50 and should last the student all through their high school years.

All students are issued with a textbook and an electronic copy is available for them to access set work at home without having to carry the text back and forth to school. Students just need to ask their teacher to load a copy of the text onto their USB.

For any further questions or information please contact the Maths faculty.
**Canteen News**

Canteen Volunteers Needed

As the main fundraiser for the P&C the Canteen needs more volunteers.

If you can help out in any way – even for a few hours – please ring Marilyn on (02) 6672 2170. If you don’t have any spare time through the week you might be able to help out at our other events which we cater for throughout the year.

We are always looking for that special person who can volunteer their time. If you have 5 hours once a month or term to spare please call me on (02) 6672 2170. We supply your morning tea and lunch and you get to meet other parents and find out what’s happening at the school. We require volunteers on the following days so if you are free please phone me.

**Mondays**
- 30th May
- 29th August
- 31st October

**Tuesdays**
- 29th March
- 30th August
- 29th November

Marilyn Butters  
Canteen Manager

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**EFPoS NOW AVAILABLE AT THE CANTEEN**

**Canteen Roster**

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<tr>
<th>Monday 8th February</th>
<th>Monday 15th February</th>
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<td>Isabelle Hall</td>
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<td>Ros De La Motte</td>
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<td>Valerie Newell</td>
<td>Bianca Luxford</td>
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<td>Heidi Plater</td>
<td>Coral White</td>
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<td>Sharon Callaghan</td>
<td>Alison Crafts</td>
<td>Mary Smith</td>
<td>Abigail</td>
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<td>Sharon Duffy</td>
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**Absence Notes**

If your child has been absent from school, you can write a note with the following information:

- include your child’s full name and roll class;
- include the date(s) and number of days your child was away;
- explain why your child was away;
- include other information as needed.

All absence notes should be given to the roll call teacher within 7 days of the absence.

The student’s absence is unexplained or unjustified if no notice has been provided by parents within 7 days of the occurrence of the absence. If the absence has been explained by the parent but the provision of schedule, e.g. shopping trip, birthday, is not accepted by the Principal.

Leave for more than 10 days requires a minimum of one month’s notice and a Decl. exemption form to be completed. Leave for less than 10 days requires at least three weeks notice and a letter to the Principal seeking approval.

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**Leaving School Before The End Of Day**

If a student needs to leave school early then they must bring a signed note from a parent to the Deputy Principal before 9am explaining their reason for leaving early. Please be aware that early leave is not to be used for lunch or for things that can be done outside school time.

Leave will not be granted without a note or parent contact.

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**EFPoS NOW AVAILABLE AT THE CANTEEN**

**The next P&C Meeting will be held on Tuesday 16th February at 6pm**

We encourage parents/caregivers and other members of the community to attend and we especially welcome the parents of our new Year 7 students.

Our P&C is very active and plays a key role in making decisions about the direction and running of the school.

Meetings are held in the Staff Common Room. Enter through the door to the Front Office and continue along the balcony on the same level. Supper will be available during the evening.

Have a say and make a difference to your child’s education.

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**NSW SCHOOL VACCINATION PROGRAM 2016**

Year 7 MHS students have their vaccination scheduled for the 31st March.

Parent Information Kits will be sent home to parents/guardians.

Parents/guardians who wish to withdraw their consent for any reason may do so by writing to the school Principal or phoning the school. The Procedure for Withdrawal of Consent is available on the NSW Health website at: [www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation)

More information in upcoming publications of the Endeavour.