

# Maclean High School

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## Newsletter

August 2025



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02 6645 2244



# Principal's Report

It has been a vibrant and exciting term here at Maclean High, and I am thrilled to share some wonderful highlights with you.

Firstly, our school shone brightly at the recent Public Education Awards, a statewide event celebrating excellence in education. Congratulations to Bruna Doma, who received the Secretary's Award for Outstanding Service to Education in recognition of her 28 years of dedicated teaching in languages at Maclean High School. We are incredibly proud of Bruna's commitment and impact over nearly three decades. Additionally, Year 11 student Eve McCarthy was honoured with the Minister's Award for Student Excellence. Eve's inspiring pursuit of her dream to become an astronaut has also been featured on local ABC radio, showcasing her dedication beyond the classroom. We also celebrate Alora Mahoney for her outstanding performance as a featured artist in the School Spectacular – a testament to the incredible talent nurtured here at Maclean High.

The submission of HSC major works is now well underway, with marking to commence shortly. The preview I have seen of these projects is truly impressive. Our students have demonstrated remarkable passion, creativity, and expert skills across a range of disciplines – from woodwork and performance to writing and beyond. Their achievements are nothing short of amazing, and we eagerly await their final results.

I am also delighted to welcome our new Deputy Principal, Mrs Rebecca Mace, who has joined us from Wadalba Community School on the Central Coast. Mrs Mace brings a wealth of experience and will be overseeing Year 7, 9, and 11. We are confident she will be a tremendous asset to our leadership team and school community.



As always, there is much more to explore in this edition of our newsletter. I encourage you to enjoy reading about the many exciting events and achievements across the school.

Finally, I want to wish our Year 12 students the very best of luck as they enter the final stretch of their HSC journey. With formal and graduation celebrations on the horizon, I remind all students to stay focused and strive to achieve their personal best in their final examinations.

Thank you for your ongoing support of Maclean High School.

James Witchard  
Principal



# NSW Department of Education Public Education Awards

What an amazing night, at the NSW Department of Education Public Education Awards, Maclean High was celebrated in so many ways! It was a privilege to see Ms Bruna Doma receive the Secretary's Award for Excellent Service and Year 11 student, Eve receive the Minister's Award for Excellence in Student Achievement.

These prestigious awards are given to few people across the state and are reflective of their outstanding dedication to our school and community.

Alora was also a featured performer on the night, singing with other featured vocalists from the School Spectacular to help close out the night.

## Important Dates

- 1 Sep
  - Yr 6 Transition Day
- 9 Sep
  - Captains for 2026 Announced
- 11 Sep
  - HSC Music Night
- 12 Sep
  - TAFE Taster Hairdressing
- 15 Sep
  - MHS Celebration Assembly
- 15 Sep - 26 Sep
  - Preliminary Exams
- 15 Sep - 19 Sep
  - HSC Music Practical Exams
- 18 Sep
  - Zone U14 Futsal Lismore
- 19 Sep
  - Zone 16's Futsal Lismore
- 23 Sep
  - Vaccination Catch ups 7 & 10
- 24 Sep
  - Year 12 Mystery Tour
- 25 Sep
  - Yr 12 Graduation Breakfast
  - Graduation Assembly
  - Formal



# NAIDOC 2025

Week 10, the last week of Term 2, was a busy week for our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. As a tradition, we always celebrate NAIDOC Week before the official start of NAIDOC as a positive way to end the term before the official celebrations that occurred this year from 6th- 13th July.

On Monday, June 30th, our Aboriginal Boys Dance Group visited Yamba Public School, where they showcased two traditional dances during the NAIDOC assembly: the Cleansing Dance and the Hunting Dance. Following the performances, our dancers hosted a workshop on creating beeswax wraps for the Stage 1 students. Beeswax wraps serve as an excellent alternative to plastic in lunchboxes and are a fitting example of a sustainable and reusable product.

The Stage 1 students chose their fabric for the wraps, and the Maclean High School students assisted by dipping the material into a hot mixture of beeswax and jojoba oil. Once cooled, they demonstrated to the Stage 1 students how to smooth out the wraps for practical use in their lunchboxes. Our dedicated Maclean High students worked diligently throughout the day, producing over 120 wraps for the Stage 1 students to take home.





# NAIDOC 2025



On Tuesday, 1st July, Maclean High School had its annual NAIDOC Celebration Assembly. This was a whole school assembly with invited guests from the community. After the principal's address and the Welcome to Country, the students were treated to two dances. Several Aboriginal students were then acknowledged by the school for their ongoing contribution to the school in terms of culture and leadership in line with the NAIDOC theme, The Next Generation: Strength, Vision & Legacy.

The music group performed two songs, My Future by Billy Eilish and a cover version of Troy Cassar-Daley's River Boy sung by Antwone Quinlin Randall.

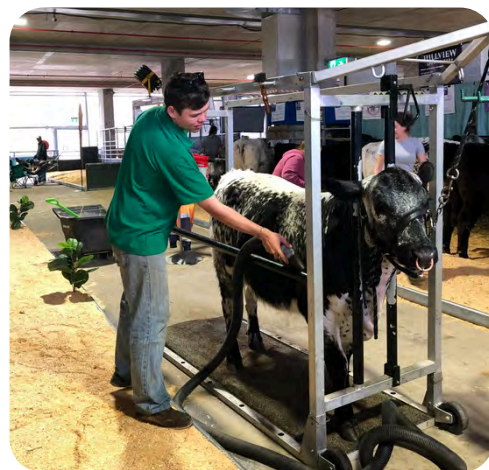
The school was then asked to participate in a quiz, testing everyone's knowledge of Aboriginal Histories and Culture on a national, state and local perspective. It was an elimination quiz; for each question, you had to put your hands on your head or your hips. Twenty questions later, the group of 700 was down to 16 competitors. It was a huge amount of fun, and congratulations to those students who won canteen vouchers. After recess, Year 7 students participated in some workshops organised by the Year 12 Aboriginal Studies class, where students were shown Aboriginal artefacts, participated in another quiz and did some art activities.





The 2025 Maclean High School EKKA Show team arrived in Brisbane on Saturday, 2nd August, for a week's competition amongst the nation's top breeders and cattle producers. The team consisted of 19 head of cattle, the youngest only seven days old, 12 students, three staff, three parents and volunteers.

The first day of competition was on Monday, 4th, with Maclean High School being one of 102 competitors competing in the School Paraders division 16-18 group. Each student was given an animal to parade in specific heats. Six students and their cattle qualified for this final. Maclean High School is coming in 6th against 25 finalists.



On Tuesday, after a very early start in the ring, our team was kitted out for team and individual judging of cattle in the School Division. Our students were required to appraise a 17-month-old Speckle Park heifer. Olivia, Lilly, and Lara formed the MHS team, with Lily serving as the spokesperson. She did an excellent job providing feedback to the crowd about the qualities and attributes they assessed in that particular heifer for its age group. The girls were awarded a highly commended for this team event.



# Brisbane EKKA

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On Wednesday, our team entered the Led Steer and Open Steer competition against some of Australia's best exhibitors. As soon as the competition finished, the steers were transported to the market. Their carcass results and data feedback provide the school with in-depth information on how to continue producing prime carcasses. The data already suggests that MHS did very well to produce the quality of carcass that we did in all weight divisions, considering all the challenges we have faced this year with higher-than-average rainfall and feeding.

On Thursday, the students were given some downtime, and Mr Kirkland led them from the showground to the Queen Street Mall via the Story Bridge boardwalk. Everyone enjoyed looking at all the shops in the Queen Street Mall, including a few Year 12 students who headed off to David Jones to try on some formal dresses.



On Friday, after an early morning downpour, the team had to look spick and span for Stud Day, which is when each stud or producer will present their cattle within the specific breed. The featured breed this year was Speckle Park, which meant that they were given the most prominent ring to parade. It also means that the students, when parading these cattle, must wear the breed uniform. MHS had some terrific results, coming second in the bull heat with Might and Power. In the class, a pair of females, MHS was awarded fourth place with Sara Lee and Lightning Lass.



# Brisbane EKKA

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In the Brahman competition, a Heifer 12 months and under 14 months, Jade was placed third, and Joelene, our heifer 16 months and under 18 months, came second.

In the Braford competition, Allure, who shot to fame last year as the reserve Champion as a calf, came second in the Heifer 12 months and under 14 months. It was also Elora's last time parading this animal, which she had led over a long period of time and had formed a very special bond with it and its mother.

A fantastic result for a team that worked very hard under trying conditions, which included unpredictable weather, logistical challenges in supplying feed and equipment between all the stalls that were in different venues in the showground, early starts and late finishes to ensure that the animals were clean and well presented as well as their stalls at all times. Congratulations to Elora, Neve, Lara, Bryson, Maya, Grace, Olivia, Ronann, Lilly, Ashley, Adelaide and Leya. Your teamwork and public relations skills with the public and in each event with other competitors and the stewards were exceptional.

A big thank you to our parent helpers and volunteers, Leigh-Ann, Shaun, Carly, Tim, Scott and Nash, for all your hard work and preparation behind the scenes to keep everyone fed and organised, including the washing and transport. A big thank you and recognition must go to Kirko and Peter Berger, who were always on hand to keep everything running smoothly and to keep encouraging the team, even when it was wet and muddy and chaotic in leading animals to and from their stalls. Thank you for all your efforts to make EKKA 2025 an unforgettable experience for our students.



# Brisbane EKKA

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# 2025 School Spectacular



We are so incredibly proud of Alora! She was chosen from students across the state to help launch the 2025 School Spectacular at the Telstra Building in Sydney. Alora represented her school and students in all of the regional, rural and remote areas of NSW with pride! Well done on a fantastic performance. We can't wait for the November show when more of our MHS students will take to the stage with her for this year's performance; Remarkable.



Congratulations to the Opens boys Rugby 7's team who went undefeated across two weeks of competition in the Alex Gibbons Cup. The boys won each game by significant margins. Well done also to the 16's boys and girls, who performed admirably, and the 14's boys who finished 3rd overall. To all students who participated, your behaviour and team spirit representing MHS were fantastic. Special thanks to Nungera Co-op for their support and sponsorship this year.

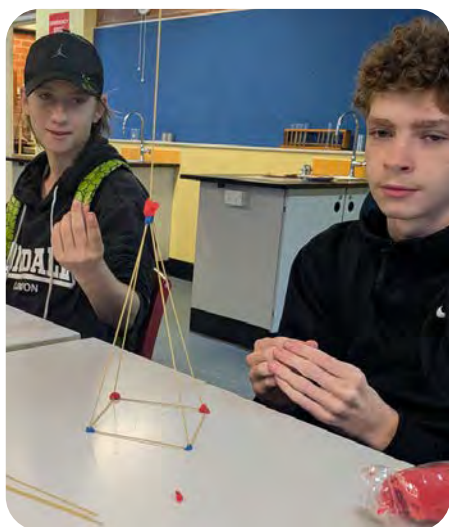


## Opens boys Rugby 7's team

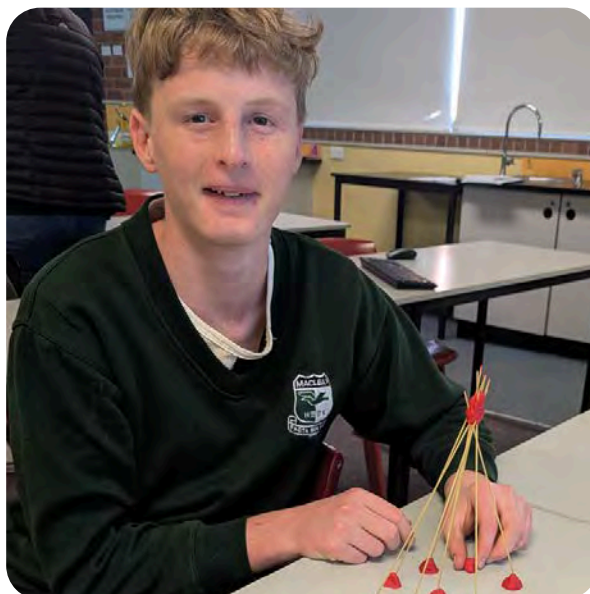
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Year 7 students have been modelling animal and plant cells. This activity gives students the ability to plan and carry out an important process in Science whilst working in group situations. Unfortunately a photo is all that remains, as these cells were phagocytosed by hungry little year 7 biologists.



Year 9 students have been studying earthquakes and volcanoes. During class, they put their engineering brains to work constructing building designs made from spaghetti to withstand a simulated earthquake. Despite some sturdy designs, we all concluded that spaghetti is better with Bolognese!



# Practical Science

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# Coffs Coast Classic School Surfing Competition

On Wednesday 18th June, Maclean High School sent 11 students to Woolgoolga to compete in the Coffs Coast Classic School Surfing Competition, held at Mullawarra Beach. This open event welcomed schools from across the Coffs region through to the Lower Clarence.

Conditions were challenging for some, with clean 1–2 ft waves and offshore winds for most of the day. As the onshore winds picked up later, the swell improved and became more surfable.

Two of our students advanced through multiple heats, with Dusty making it to the junior boys quarterfinals. Oliver impressed in the senior boys division, progressing all the way to the final and finishing 3rd overall.

Well done to all students who participated and helped make it a great day out. We look forward to sending another team to the event next year.



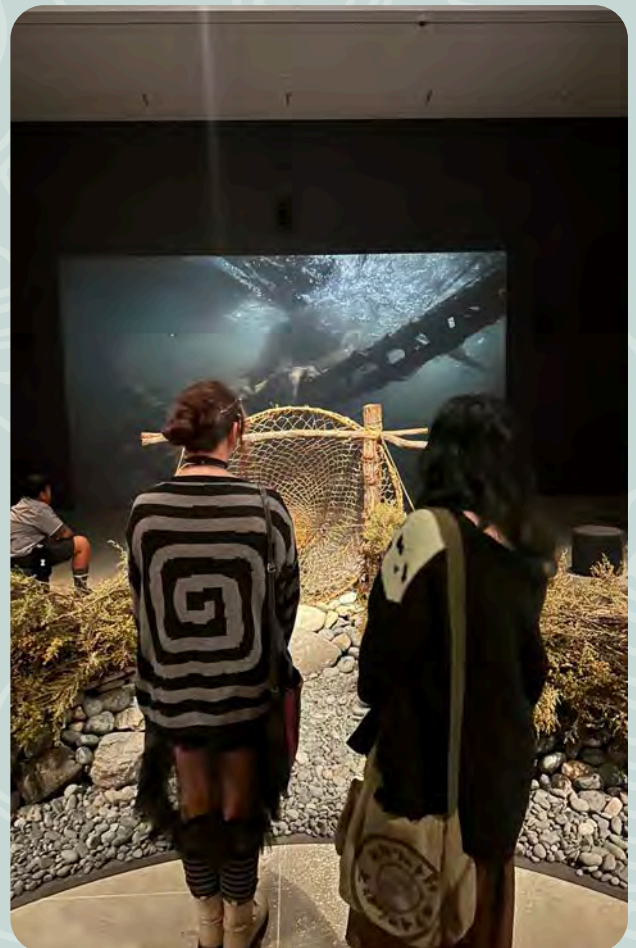
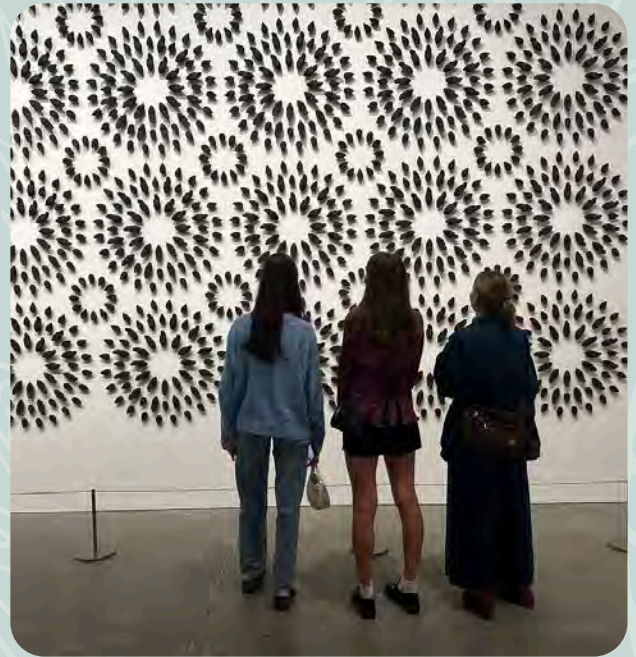


Our Year 12 Visual Arts students recently travelled to Brisbane for an enriching day of artistic exploration and career inspiration. The group visited the Gallery of Modern Art (GOMA) and the Queensland Art Gallery, where they experienced a diverse range of traditional and contemporary artworks.

A major highlight of the excursion was the 11th Asia Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art (APT11) an internationally acclaimed exhibition showcasing innovative works from artists across the Asia Pacific region. Featuring bold installations, video art, sculpture, and mixed media, the exhibition explored powerful themes such as identity, cultural memory, and sense of place. Students engaged thoughtfully with the artworks, asked meaningful questions, and represented our school with maturity and curiosity.

To enhance the experience, Careers Adviser Miss Fisher joined the excursion to offer guidance on potential pathways in the creative industries. She spoke with students about career opportunities in areas such as visual arts, design, animation, curation, and more. A key part of the discussion focused on the evolving nature of creative work in the age of technology. Miss Fisher encouraged students not to be discouraged by the rise of AI, reminding them that while technology can assist in many areas, it can't replicate the human imagination, emotional depth, and cultural insight that artists bring to their work.

The day was not only artistically inspiring but also empowering. Students left with a deeper appreciation of the art world and a clearer vision of how their passion for creativity can translate into fulfilling and sustainable careers.





# Byron Bay Writer's Festival

On Thursday, August 7th, the Bangalow Showground transformed into a vibrant hub of creativity and inspiration for the Byron Bay Writer's Festival. A bus-load of excited Maclean High students were treated to a day filled with engaging interview sessions, stimulating discussions on writing methods, and the opportunity to ask their favourite Australian authors some curly questions about storytelling. Thankfully, we managed to dodge the anticipated downpour and we stayed dry!

This year's festival featured an impressive array of authors, including literary luminaries such as Isobelle Carmody, Michael Robotham, Markus Zusak, Corey Tutt, Anita Heiss, Sarah Armstrong, Santilla Chingaiepe, and Maxine Beneba Clarke. Each session offered unique insights into each of the author's writing processes, their beliefs around the power of storytelling and the importance of fostering a love of reading.

Overall, the day was nothing short of heartwarming—a true cup-filling experience that left attendees inspired and eager to turn the pages of their next adventure. Budgets were overspent on beautiful books, authors were ambushed with student manuscripts, and imaginations were fired up with so many new ideas to be curious about. Thank you to everyone who joined us for this wonderful celebration of literature. We look forward to seeing you again next year!





# Flash Mob Safety Dance



At our recent assembly, staff surprised students with a flash mob to promote one of our core values: Safety. A fun reminder that looking after ourselves and others is always a priority.

[Flash Mob Safety Dance video](#)

Our junior boys AFL team recently travelled to Woolgoolga to take part in the AFL Gala Day — a fantastic experience for all involved. The day offered a great mix of competition and fun, with several students who regularly play AFL showing off their skills, while others had the chance to try the sport for the very first time. The team played three games throughout the day. While the first match saw us go down by a fair margin, the boys showed resilience and strong improvement in the following two games, narrowly missing out by just a couple of goals in each. Standout players for MHS included Bodhi, Eamon, Mostyn, Jarris, Oscar and Leo, who led by example and kept spirits high. A big thank you to all students for their sportsmanship and enthusiasm. The AFL Gala Days are open to junior and senior boys and girls, and we're looking forward to getting more teams involved next year!



## Junior Boys AFL

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# English as an Additional Language or Dialect (EAL/D) at Maclean High School

This year marks an important and exciting step for Maclean High School. We have the greatest number of students we have ever had from overseas who have begun their journey of learning English with us. And we are delighted to have them here!

This year we have been privileged to have students from India, Thailand, Vietnam and Brazil enrolled. All these students have been actively involved in the New Arrivals Program as part of the English as an Additional Language or Dialect (EALD) subject area.

EAL/D students are given 12 months of intensive English classes, in addition to studying mainstream subjects in their regular classes. As you can imagine, they are working incredibly hard to not only learn a new language, but to try to keep up with learning in the different subject areas in their year level. By the end of their first 12 months at the school, the students 'graduate' from the New Arrivals Program and enter mainstream classes full time.

Our EAL/D students have been doing an excellent job of not only learning English as a new language, but learning much about Australia, it's culture and social etiquette. We also have fun learning about Australia's flora, fauna and foods, while having the students share much of this information about their own country of origin and culture. This proves to be a rich, multicultural exchange for the students in the EAL/D community, as well as for the entire school community.

All of our EAL/D students are to be commended for their bravery, tenacity, good humour and determination to learn English as a new language. This is especially commendable as English is the third language for some of our students! We would like to extend congratulations, especially to Anh of Year 8, who has now graduated from the New Arrivals Program. Well done on completing this program Anh and all of us look forward to supporting you in your transition into the mainstream classroom.





Students who attended the 2025 Snow Excursion to the Perisher snow fields engaged in an enriching experience that they will remember for the rest of their lives! Facing the physical demands of snow sports such as skiing and snowboarding, they developed resilience by pushing through challenging conditions, adapting to unpredictable weather, and persevering despite initial difficulties.

We are so proud of the respect that students showed during our time away. Respect was evident in their interactions with peers, instructors, and staff, fostering a supportive and inclusive group where everyone felt valued. It was lovely to see so many students exploring Blue Cow in new friendship groups. When someone asked if they could join a group the only response that I heard was an enthusiastic 'Absolutely!'. Positive statements about our students were made by instructors, the bus driver, our accommodation and attending staff. When we attempted to choose a most valued player each, none of us could decide because there were so many deserving recipients!

Thank you to Mr Francis, Miss Watts, Mrs Lennon, Miss Fisher and Mr Mitchell, who all went the extra mile to make sure students safely enjoyed their time away.

Keep an eye out on Sentral for employment opportunities at the snow and on School Bytes for the expression of interest for next year.



## 2025 Snow Excursion

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# Screen Futures Day

Students across the region along with some from MHS recently got a behind-the-scenes look at the screen industry through the exciting Screen Futures Day. Held at Lennox Head this is an annual hands-on initiative run by the Regional Industry Education Partnerships (RIEP) program.

Designed to ignite interest and provide real-world insight into careers in film and television, the excursion offered students the opportunity to participate in interactive workshops across a variety of disciplines. From costume design and makeup special effects to filming for social media, sound effects, casting and auditioning, and storytelling, students were able to explore the many creative roles that make up the screen industry.

The workshops, led by experienced industry professionals, gave students a practical taste of the skills and teamwork involved in screen production. Whether crafting eerie soundscapes, designing unique character looks, or learning how to pitch a story, participants were encouraged to collaborate, create, and think outside the box.

A highlight of the excursion was a special guest appearance by Maia Mitchell, the Australian actor known for her roles in *Mortified*, *Teen Beach Movie*, and *The Fosters*. Originally from Lismore, Maia shared her personal journey from growing up in a regional town to making it on international screens. Her talk was both inspiring and relatable, offering students a glimpse into the dedication and resilience needed to pursue a career in the entertainment industry.

Screen Futures exemplifies how the RIEP program is bridging the gap between education and industry, especially in regional areas. By providing access to industry-standard experiences and role models like Maia, the program is helping students envision a future in creative industries and empowering them to take the next step.

Keep an eye on Sentral, your emails and Schoolbytes so you don't miss out on opportunities like these.





# Geography

The students of class MCC1 have been diving into the fascinating world of Geography, focusing on landscapes and landforms. To bring their learning to life, they embarked on an exciting hands-on project: creating a papier-mache volcano. With great enthusiasm and teamwork, the students crafted their volcano model, carefully shaping and painting it to resemble a real volcanic mountain.

The highlight of the project was the safe and controlled 'eruption' outside the classroom. Watching their volcano come to life with bubbling lava was both thrilling and educational, helping the students understand volcanic activity in a memorable way. This creative activity not only reinforced their knowledge of landforms but also sparked curiosity and excitement about the natural world.



It's been a busy time in the Inclusive Education Faculty's L Hub Classroom this term. On Thursday 7th August, Maclean High School hosted a dance workshop for students with disability led by the NSW Department of Education Arts Unit in collaboration with industry professionals. This exciting program gave our students with disability the opportunity to explore, discover and reach new physical limits through dance whilst engaging with teachers and students from Coffs Harbour High School.

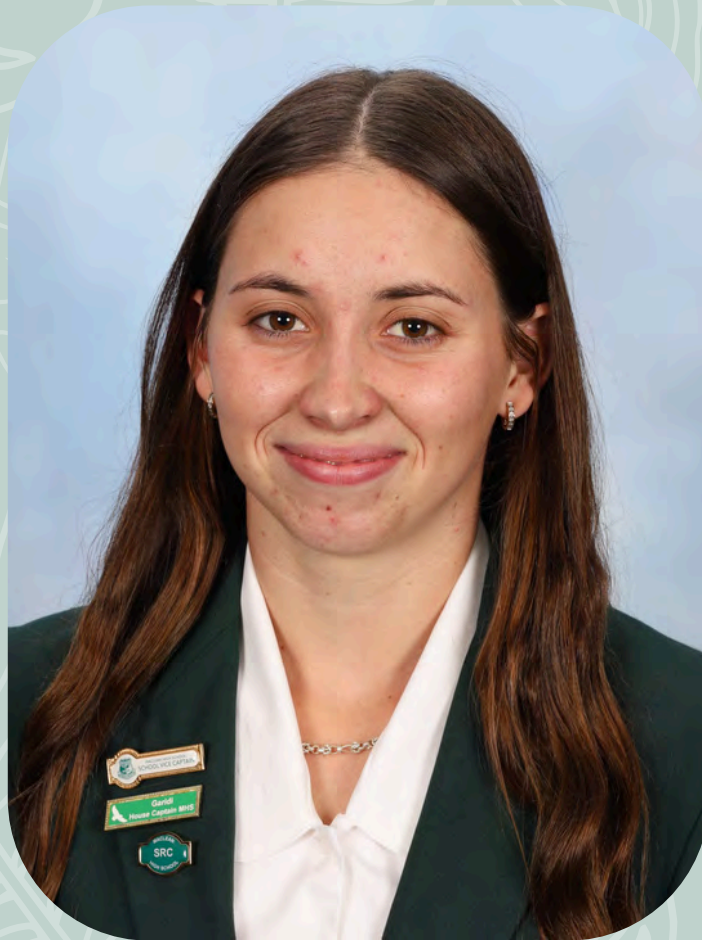
On Thursday 14th August, Tyreece, Rylee, Joe Den and Correy competed in the North Coast regional Ten Pin Bowling Competition run by the Disability and Inclusion Sport Unit. The boys performed amazingly well and finished 4th overall. These four students were fantastic representatives and should be congratulated for the way they conducted themselves at the competition.



## Inclusive Education

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# Zoe Qualifies for 2025 World Triathlon Championships



We are proud to announce that Zoe Snape, a dedicated Year 12 student, has officially qualified to compete in the 2025 World Triathlon Championships, which will be held in Wollongong in mid-October.

This is an extraordinary achievement and a testament to Zoe's hard work, determination, and athletic talent. Representing at a global level while also managing the demands of Year 12 is no small feat—especially as the event coincides with the commencement of the HSC exams.

We would like to extend our sincere gratitude to everyone who has guided and encouraged Zoe throughout her journey. Your understanding, flexibility, and support have played a vital role in helping her pursue excellence in both academics and sport. We wish Zoe the very best as she prepares for this prestigious international event and her HSC exams. She continues to be an inspiration to her peers and a shining example of what can be achieved with passion and perseverance.

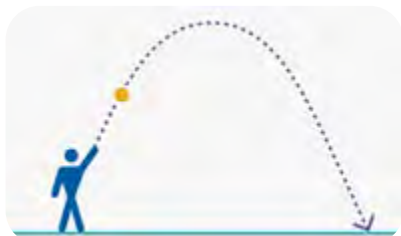


# What can I use Maths for??

Maths is used in numerous aspects of daily life and various professions. Thinking mathematically is essential with problem-solving, logical reasoning, and understanding the world around us

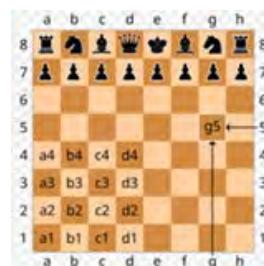
Algebra provides a powerful tool for representing relationships between unknown quantities and solving for those unknowns.

In sports like basketball or football, understanding the trajectory of a ball is crucial. You can use algebra to figure out the necessary angle and force to make a shot or hit. In other sports, you might use algebra to calculate probabilities or optimize player positions.



In chess, you can use algebraic notation to record moves and analyse strategies.

For example, Be5 (bishop moves to e5), Nf3 (knight moves to f3).



You can use algebra to figure out the final price of an item after a discount or sale, or the amount your money will grow to when saving it in a financial institution.

$$A=P(1+r)n$$



Learning algebra can improve brain function, memory, and cognitive abilities. It can encourage critical thinking and the ability to analyse information and make informed decisions. Algebra may enhance logical reasoning and problem-solving skills, which are valuable in all aspects of life.

Each week, a group of our motivated Year 9 and 10 students are taking a break from the regular classroom to pick up clippers and combs as part of the Start Your Future Barbering program. This exciting initiative is a collaboration between Maclean High, the Education Pathways Program, and TAFE North. Designed to give students a real taste of the trade, the program offers hands-on experience in barbering one day a week. From learning the basics of fading and trimming, to understanding hygiene, tool handling, and customer service, these students are getting a head start on a potential career in the hair industry. It's more than just cutting hair, it's about building confidence, gaining practical skills, and exploring career pathways in a real-world setting. For many students, it's their first opportunity to experience what working in a trade environment is really like.



Many of the students involved are now hoping to transition their new skills into our very own school barber shop program. This gives them the chance to keep building on what they've learned, offer haircuts to fellow students (and possibly staff), and continue developing their confidence and customer service abilities.

The EPP Start Your Future Barbering course is proving to be a valuable and engaging experience for students who thrive in hands-on learning. It's opening doors, sparking new interests, and showing students that there are exciting options outside of the traditional classroom.

If you know someone who might be keen to have a go at a taste of TAFE, keep an eye on your emails and Sentral. Students need to be 15 or older at the commencement of each session.

## EPP Start Your Future Barbering

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# Uni ATAR Alternate Entry

Many Year 12 students are now exploring early university entry programs—a fantastic opportunity to secure a place at university before final exams are even completed. These programs allow students to receive conditional offers based on more than just their ATAR, helping reduce pressure and provide clarity about what lies ahead.

## What Do Universities Look For?

While each university has its own application process, most early entry programs consider a range of factors, including:

Year 11 academic results

School recommendation or endorsement

Personal statements that explain your interests, goals, and motivation

Involvement in extracurricular activities, leadership, or community service

Commitment to study and learning

These programs are a great option for students who have shown consistent effort and engagement throughout high school, even if they are not aiming for a high ATAR.

## Why Apply for Early Entry?

Reduces stress – Knowing you have a place at university can ease pressure during HSC exams.

Rewards consistency – Recognises your hard work in Year 11 and across your senior studies.

Supports planning – Helps students and families make informed decisions about post-school options earlier in the year.

## What Should You Do Now?

Check Sentral – A list of currently open early entry programs is available. Stay up to date with deadlines and application requirements.

Book an appointment with the Careers Adviser – They can help you identify suitable programs, guide you through the application process, and review your personal statement.

**Be prepared** Gather your Year 11 reports, think about what makes you a strong candidate, and start your application early.

Early entry is not just for top academic performers, it's for motivated students with clear goals and a commitment to learning. If you're in Year 12 and considering university, explore early entry options now. It could be the first step toward a smoother, more confident transition into life beyond school.



# Southern Cross University Masterclass

Recently, a select group of Stage 6 students from Maclean High School had the exciting opportunity to attend a special Masterclass event hosted by Southern Cross University (SCU). MHS was proud to be one of only three schools invited to take part in this exclusive program.

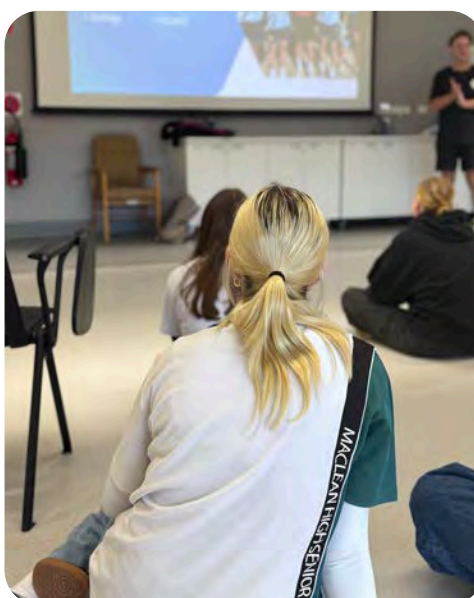
Throughout the day, students participated in a range of engaging, hands-on workshops across several key study areas, including Occupational Therapy, Exercise Physiology, Psychology, Midwifery, and Education. These sessions offered students a valuable insight into real-world university learning environments and career pathways.

Students also explored the SCU study model, which has been credited with improving learning outcomes for current students by offering a more flexible and supportive approach to tertiary education.

In addition to the academic workshops, students learned about various entry pathways into SCU, including Early Entry, diploma options, and the highly regarded Preparing for Success Program. These pathways are designed to make university more accessible and to support students in achieving their higher education goals.

To top it off, students were excited to discover a range of scholarship opportunities—some valued at over \$20,000—that could help them fund their studies and ease the transition into university life.

The SCU Masterclass was an inspiring and informative experience, and we thank Southern Cross University for providing our students with a glimpse into their future possibilities.





# Mural day with Frances Belle Parker



Students enjoyed a fun and exciting creative day working alongside local artist Frances Belle Parker and the talented Maclean High art staff to bring a vibrant mural to life. Inspired by the students' own digital artwork, the mural focuses on themes of environment and colour, capturing their creativity and passion. Set to be displayed in the newly painted canteen and toilet area, the mural reflects Principal Mr. Witchard's and the SRC vision of refreshing the space and inspiring student pride. The result is a stunning collaboration, with students showcasing their artistic talents through unique and meaningful imagery.

Representing Australia on October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025, for the World Triathlon Age Group Championships in Wollongong

- Zoe
- Angus
- Keanu
- Veronica Barker (P&C President)

Representing Australia on October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025, for the World Cycling Age Group Championships in Victoria Great Ocean Road

- Andrew Ford

The road to World Triathlon championships started 16 months ago as athletes needed to compete in qualifying races around Australia to gain qualifying points. The athlete's best 3 race results determined their qualification. Both Zoe and Angus were in the highly competitive 16-19 age group. The total number of athletes Representing Australia from our local Yamba Multisport Club is 10 athletes, and Yamba Cycling Club 3 athletes. This is a fantastic achievement.

Once our Australia uniforms arrive, we will have a group shot in Uniform, and this will be promoted in the newspaper and social media.



## Representing Australia at Upcoming Championships

[www.maclean-h.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.maclean-h.schools.nsw.edu.au) / 02 6645 2244



# Coffs Careers Expo

Recently, our Stage 5 students attended the Coffs Careers Expo, where they explored a wide range of future career and study options. The event featured stalls from universities, TAFE NSW, and various industry groups, giving students valuable insights into life beyond school.

Students spoke with university representatives about different courses and pathways, learning about subject selection, entry requirements, and campus life. TAFE NSW provided hands-on information about vocational training and trade qualifications, showing how students can build practical careers without needing an ATAR.

One of the highlights was learning about pathways into the NSW Police Force. Students discovered the requirements to join and the many roles within the force, including forensics and youth liaison. The Forestry Corporation of NSW also captured students' interest, showing how forestry combines science, conservation, and outdoor work.

The day helped students think more clearly about their futures. Many walked away inspired and informed, with a better understanding of the many options available after school.

As students prepare for senior subject selections, experiences like the Coffs Careers Expo play a key role in helping them make confident, informed decisions.



# Gold Coast Titans NRL club visit



Students participating in the Maclean High Footy Program were lucky enough to be visited by players and coaching staff from the Gold Coast Titans NRL club last Wednesday. The session focused on the positive choices and mental attitude needed to be successful in not only sport but also in schooling and future life. Opportunities like this are invaluable in providing students with positive modeling, reinforcing the values of discipline, teamwork, and resilience that are at the core of both the Footy Program and the wider school community.

For the past two terms, the Inclusive Education team has been diligently working on their garden program. This marks their first batch of tomato relish, made from the tomatoes and herbs cultivated by the students.



## Garden Program

[www.maclehan-h.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.maclehan-h.schools.nsw.edu.au) / 02 6645 2244

# ADF GAP Year

## For students considering their next steps

after high school, the Australian Defence Force (ADF) Gap Year Program offers a unique and rewarding opportunity to gain real-world experience, earn a salary, and explore life in the military—without making a long-term commitment.

The ADF Gap Year is a 12-month, fully paid program where young Australians can immerse themselves in various roles across the Navy, Army, or Air Force. From logistics and aviation to combat roles, administration, healthcare, and engineering, the program gives participants a first-hand taste of what a career in the ADF might look like.

It's more than just a job—participants build lifelong skills in leadership, teamwork, and resilience, all while forming strong connections with people from across the country.

Many who complete the Gap Year go on to join the ADF full-time, pursue further study, or use the experience as a valuable stepping stone to other career paths.

There are limited places available each year, and entry is competitive. Students must be aged 17–24 and have completed Year 12 to apply.

For those unsure of their next move, the ADF Gap Year offers structure, adventure, and personal growth—a unique way to start the next chapter with confidence and purpose.

You will be trained for the role so you don't need any experience, roles include

**Transport:** Spend your Gap Year in the driver's seat of a range of high-spec military vehicles, such as 4WDs, off-road forklifts, trucks and road trains to transport people and vital supplies.

**Communications Systems Operator:** Spend a year getting paid to learn how to use cutting-edge technology, including high-tech radio and satellite systems.

**Navy Officer Aviation:** Experience life and work in the Navy as an officer for 12 months, shadowing Navy Pilots, Aviation Warfare Officers and Remote Pilot Warfare Officers.

**Ground Crew:** Manage the movements of personnel, equipment, and supplies using specialist equipment.

**Mechanical Engineer Navy:** Shadow the crew who maintain the ship's mechanical and propulsion systems

**Electronics Engineer Submariner:** Experience a gap year like no other as an officer onboard a Navy submarine, working with engineers who maintain the submarine's electronics and combat systems.

**Movements Coordinator:** Help manage complex logistical operations, coordinating the safe and effective movement of troops, vehicles, equipment and supplies

**Air Force Security:** Make a difference contributing to the protection of aircraft, infrastructure and the people

**Aviation Operations:** Work in an Air Force flying squadron operations room and learn about aviation roles

**Chef:** Learn valuable new culinary skills and keep ADF personnel fit and firing while planning and preparing food in a variety of exciting environments

To learn more or apply, visit: <https://www.defencejobs.gov.au/students-and-education/gap-year>





# Year 11 Visual Arts



Our Year 11 Visual Arts students have been diving deep into a range of mediums and art-making techniques as they prepare to embark on their final year. With a strong focus on mark making and painting, their dedication has revealed some impressive emerging talents.

On Thursday 11th September Week 8, we invite you to join us for an evening showcase of their exploratory art-making practices. If you enjoy creativity and art, this is a wonderful opportunity to support our young artists and celebrate their progress.





# Study time in the Library



## MHS Library OPENING TIMES

### BEFORE SCHOOL

8:35 am - All students

### RECESS

10:55 am - 11:25 am

### LUNCH

1:05 pm - 1:35 pm

### SELECTED TIMES

Closed - THURSDAY - Recess

## NO FOOD OR DRINK IN THE LIBRARY

All food and drink to be consumed  
before entering the library.

## Library

### BREAK TIME ACTIVITIES

1.

Reading & Borrowing

2.

Homework & Assessments

3.

Chess, Checkers & Board Games

4.

Playing Cards & UNO

5.

Computer Games (Recess ONLY)







**OCTOBER  
HOLIDAY FOOTBALL  
CAMP**

Day 1: Sep 30 Day 2: Oct 1 Day 3: Oct 2

**JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT**  
12 - 16 YEARS  
9AM - 12PM

**MINI BALLERS**  
5 - 11 YEARS  
1PM - 4PM

**REGISTER**



Clarence Football Academy  
[www.clarencefootballacademy.com.au](http://www.clarencefootballacademy.com.au)



**open in  
Maclean on  
Thursdays**

8:30 AM - 4:30 PM  
5 Wharf St, Maclean

For young people aged 12-25  
We offer support with:

- ✓ Mental health
- ✓ Alcohol & other drugs (AOD)
- ✓ Work & study

Call us to book an appointment:  
02 6642 1520  
or  
Complete referral form online



## If I'm sick at school

### What you need to do:

- Let your teacher know that you feel sick
- Your teacher will write you a note to present to the attendance office
- The office will call your parents/carers to take you home

## I need to collect my child early

### What you need to do:

If you need to collect your child early from school, to reduce disruption during class time, it would be appreciated if you could send a note to school with your child to present at the attendance office before school.

## Book Packs

Available from  
Front Office  
As pictured  
- Including  
calculator \$69  
- Without  
calculator \$35



[www.maclehan-h.schools.nsw.gov.au](http://www.maclehan-h.schools.nsw.gov.au)

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# Jamba

AUGUST 29-31, 2025

YAMBA FESTIVAL PROGRAM



FRIDAY 29TH	TIME	VENUE	EVENT	FEATURING
	5AM-1PM	Pinewood Cafe	Art on the Corner	Artworks by Fallon Smith
SATURDAY 30TH	7AM-2PM	Gather	Gather For Art	Artworks by Greg Wilson & Annie Roberts
	9AM-3PM	Myoko	Artisan Jam & Food	Scott Bradley & Lupitas Mexican Food Truck
SUNDAY 31ST	10AM-6PM	Yamba Town	JAMBA Street Music	Local Artists & Buskers
	2PM-7PM	Yamba Distilling Co	Jamba & The LoV	Jasinta Fox
SATURDAY 30TH	4PM-8PM	Muse & Gather	Jazz & Oysters On The Hill	Sonny James & Zyla Murphy
	8PM-LATE	Jacko's Bar Yamba	Late Night Therapy	Late Night Therapy with Zoë Lok
SATURDAY 30TH	TIME	VENUE	EVENT	FEATURING
	5AM-1PM	Pinewood Cafe	Art on the Corner	Artworks by Fallon Smith
SUNDAY 31ST	7AM-2PM	Gather	Gather For Art	Artworks by Greg Wilson & Annie Roberts
	9AM-3PM	Myoko	Artisan Jam & Food	Scott Bradley & Lupitas Mexican Food Truck
SATURDAY 30TH	9:30AM-11AM	Yamba Distilling Co	Soul & Sound	Soul Sound Journey with Sharon Hale <b>BOOK NOW</b>
	10AM-6PM	Yamba Town	JAMBA Street Music	Local Artists & Buskers
SUNDAY 31ST	10AM-1PM	Yum Yum Angourie Cafe	Rhythm Acoustic	Hitch Hike The Down
	2PM-8PM	Yamba Distilling Co	JAMBA with Spirits	Tiago Titi & Maintenance Men <b>BOOK NOW</b>
SATURDAY 30TH	8PM-LATE	Sasafraz	Dinner with Pam	Pam Hata <b>BOOK NOW</b>
	7PM-10PM	Yamba Bowling Club	JAMBA at the Bowls	Ends of the Earth in the Boardroom
SUNDAY 31ST	9PM-LATE	Pacific Hotel	JAMBA at the Pacific	Swim Club
	TIME	VENUE	EVENT	FEATURING
SATURDAY 30TH	7AM-2PM	Gather	Gather For Art	Greg Wilson & Annie Roberts
	10AM-11AM	Chandil	Artwork in Progress	Karin Break Art & Artist Talk
SUNDAY 31ST	10AM-2PM	Yamba RSL	Sounds of Japan	Byron Talko, Workshops, Food & Market <b>BOOK NOW</b>
	10AM-12PM	Pinewood Cafe	Art on the Corner	Luke Vadari & Alex Salvestro
SATURDAY 30TH	10AM-6PM	Yamba Town	JAMBA Street Music	Local Artists & Buskers
	11AM-3PM	Yamba Ferry	JAMBA on the River	Doug Savage
SUNDAY 31ST	1PM-4PM	Just Enough Beach	Cocktails & Jazz	Peter Famulato, Cocktails & Drift Pizza <b>BOOK NOW</b>
	2PM-5PM	The Mexican & Revival	The Art of Tumbalism	DI Zah, Vinyl Collectors & Stalls
SATURDAY 30TH	2PM-5PM	Wobbly Chaok	JAMBA at the Chaok	Simon & Malfunkle <b>BOOK NOW</b>
	2PM-5PM	Yamba Golf Club	JAMBA at the Golfie	Boog on the deck
SUNDAY 31ST	4:30PM-LATE	Karrikin	The Send Off	Ngooni, Velvet Saade, Salad Fingers, Wata, Sally Sounds <b>BOOK NOW</b>

WWW.JAMBA.YAMBA.COM

## Term 3: MHS Creative, Performing Artists Gig Guide



### The Final Act- Week 6 Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> August, 7 pm

- Year 12 Drama Perform their HSC original works
- Individual and Group Performances
- All welcome to attend and be inspired

### Finnisage- Week 6 Thursday lunch

- Open to Year 12 students and staff only
- Year 12 Visual Arts Body of Work display



### The Farwell Tour- Week 8 Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> September, 7 pm

- Year 12 Music students perform their HSC performances
- All welcome to attend and be inspired

### "The Show that went wrong: Hamlet is a silly boy"

#### Week 9, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday

- Whole school Production- Years 7-12
- over 40 students for 3 shows over 1 week
- School matinee information available through schoolbytes
- singing, dancing, music and mini-golf
- Tickets available through front office

### Viewpoints

#### Week 8, Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> September Photography Visual Arts exhibition

- Year 11 Visual Artists original drawings and paintings
- Year 11 Photography capstone projects
- All encouraged to attend and be amazed at the talent and diversity of expression



Look for joy, you'll find it.  
Look for anger, there it is.  
Look for fear; you'll see it looking at you.  
Look for hope, and you'll feel like, "I've got this".  
Look for help, it's there.  
What are you going to look for today?

#saysomething #stymie #studentsfirst #kindnessalways  
#forthekids #safelearningspaces #wegotyou #wehearyou  
#healtheharm #nohateremate #cultureofcare





# Everyone deserves to feel safe at school

Please treat our staff and students with **kindness and respect**

Aggressive behaviour will **not be tolerated**

Together, we can create a **safe and harmonious environment** for our students and staff



## Is your child in year 7 or year 10?



Provide your consent for routine school vaccinations online.

At the beginning of the school year, your child's school will share the link to complete the online consent form.

### Benefits of providing online consent:

- easily update your child's details
- get SMS notifications when vaccinations are given
- faster upload of vaccination records to the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR)

### To provide online consent, you will need:

- the link provided by the school
- your Service NSW log-in details
- medicare details for you and your child

Scan the QR code to give your consent now.



For more information on vaccination visit: [health.nsw.gov.au/schoolvaccination](https://health.nsw.gov.au/schoolvaccination)

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**NSW Health**

[education.nsw.gov.au](https://education.nsw.gov.au)

## Helpline Numbers/Online Resources

**Kids Helpline:** 1800 551800 or [www.kidshelp.com.au](https://www.kidshelp.com.au)

**Lifeline:** 13 1114 or [www.lifeline.org.au](https://www.lifeline.org.au)

**Headspace:** 1800 650890 or [www.eheadspace.org.au](https://www.eheadspace.org.au)

**Beyond Blue:** 1300 224636 or [www.beyondblue.org.au](https://www.beyondblue.org.au)

**Reachout:** <http://au.reachout.com>

**Suicide Call Back Service:** 1300 659467

**Parent Line NSW:** 1300 1300 52 or [www.parentline.org.au](https://www.parentline.org.au)

**WayAhead Directory:** <http://directory.wayahead.org.au>

**Mental Health Telephone Access Line:** 1800 011511 (operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week).

It is staffed by clinicians who can provide advice, make referrals and link callers to the Mental Health Service in their local health district).

**School Counsellors:** Mr Andrew Allen & Ms Naydene Beaver

**Wellbeing & Health In-reach Nurse Coordinator (WHIN):** Ms Sally Loy (0484 648 062) Further Information for the WHIN program:

<https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/whinprogram>

