



BACKCHAT

Principal: Terry Griffiths
Deputy Principal : Bruce Collins

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Phone: 9477 3508
Fax: 9482 2546

www.abhs.nsw.edu.au

asquithboy-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Variety Night 2011

On a bitterly cold winter's night, Thursday 16 June, when only the hardened or dedicated ventured out, we held our annual **Variety Night for 2011**.

The program promised a night of exactly that, variety, and it certainly delivered to an intimate but dedicated audience.

The first half consisted mostly of piano pieces and stage bands; the second half of rock bands and ensembles.

Mt. Colah PS Concert Band, directed by **Matt Dalziel**, opened the show, with some fine modern charts including: Thriller, Don't Stop Believin', Flintstones, Spiderman and Tequila.



Coltrane Williamson from **Waitara PS**, wowed us with his tunes playing Midnight Snack (Sonny Chua), Mazurka in A minor (Chopin), and Allegro (Berkeley). **Jackson Besley & Will O'Donohue** played a thoughtful modern ballad 'Poison & Wine' (Civil Wars) on piano/bass and **Mizael Santos** with the difficult Nocturne (Chopin) on piano finished this part of the program.

Ex-student **Julian Cipollone** supported by Matt Daly & Joe Graham performed Preaching Change and Hope for my Happiness, both original compositions. **Year 11 Music Ensemble (Aiden Jarvis, James Dimento, Mizael Santos & Thomas Pedersen)** performed a rousing James Bond/Mission Impossible theme.

Sally Cao from **Waitara PS** then blew us all away playing Ballad No.1 in G minor (Chopin) on our elderly grand piano. Sally was truly amazing.

The ABHS Stage Band, directed by **Iain Howick**, finished the first half with an outstanding set of classics: Final Countdown, Family Guy, Goodbye My Heart, Stro's Place, and Hey Jude which featured a trombone solo from **Thomas Pedersen**. It's great to see the development that these guys have made in the 16 weeks of school this year!





The second half began with 'Nine' (the new sixes & sevens) comprised of **Kane Whittaker** and **Keegan Waters**, led by **Mr Thomsett**. They performed Crossroads and Olivia (an original composition about an ABHS student...but we want to know who can it be now??)

Mr Moscos and **MC Brett Riley**, maintained the suspense of the audience in drawing **the Guitar Raffle** with the major prizes going to some very enthusiastic recipient. The 'Tanglewood' electro/acoustic from Pro Guitar & Sound (Hornsby) was won by **Noah Szeto's family** and the electric guitar from Guitar Factory (Parramatta) was won by **Jarrad Jones**. Other prizes included 5 weeks of guitar lessons from Learning Lounge Turramurra won by **Mr French** (Maths), and T-Shirts and six haircuts from 'The Cut Above' (Hornsby). We expect to see far better hair around here now!



The final bracket of the evening was headed up by **Max Morris** with his amazing and transporting Original guitar composition. We just love to go on that journey with you, Max, every time you perform that piece! **Aiden Jarvis** and **James Dimento** performed Sound of Truth (As I Lay Dying) arranged for guitar & drums and also two originals 'Heartless' & 'Greyhound Nightwatch' with **Zac Coventry** – shredding guitar & double kick drums. The finale was our local award winning band fresh from success at Rock the Block – **The Usual Suspects** – performing Animal (Neon Trees), Seize the Day (orig) and an encore of Foxy Lady (Jimi Hendrix).

Thanks to **Ms Cooke** for her photography and witty commentary with **Mr Moscos** (who attended to represent the Senior Executive after **Mr Griffiths** had to take his horrible cold home). Between the two of them the entertainment was, as usual, funny and light. Huge thankyou to **Ms Foster** and **Mrs Crouch** who braved the cold and managed door sales of tickets and excellent raffle promotions and sales. Thankyou to **Ms Foster** for her role also as the tea lady!! Thanks must also go to **Mrs Wilson** who helped organise staff and equipment for the door. Thankyou (and congratulations) to **Mr French** and **Ms Cavanagh** for their support of the night along with **Mr R Murphy** and **Mr M Murphy**.

Big thankyou as always to the production team led by producer & musical director, **Mike Williamson** and also to stage band director **Iain Howick** and to **Pete Thomsett** for his multiple roles as always. Thankyou to **Maryanne Miller** for catering, stage manager/troubleshooters **Scott Guy & Zac Coventry** and production assistance/logistics **Dylan Northedge, Max Darwin & Ben Byfield**. Thankyou for art direction to **Ms Holder** and **Ms Mashman**. Massive thanks to **MC Brett Riley** who stepped into the role of keeping the night flowing. Thankyou. We expect to see a great deal more of you up on that big stage Brett!

Huge thanks and acknowledgement must go to all the sponsors: "The Cut Above" Hair Salon, Guitar Factory Parramatta, Pro Guitar, Sound and Learning Lounge Turramurra and BMJ Music Hornsby.

Biggest thanks of all must go to the amazingly professional and generous services of **AES (Zac, Tege, Ben)** for the amazing lighting and sound supplied on the night as well as the three days they spent setting up. Thankyou for donating your services for the three days towards our new grand piano. You are an outstanding community supporter of our boys!

Catherine Holder, Head of CAPA



VARIETY NIGHT - PHOTO GALLERY





FROM OUR RELIEVING PRINCIPAL

This term has been a very busy and successful one in a wide range of activities at the school. Some of the highlights included:

- The appointment of a former school captain, **Lloyd Babb, as the NSW Director of Public Prosecutions**. (See article below from Chris Kent)
- A joint **Disco** with Asquith Girls High that was well attended and from all reports a very socially successful night
- A very successful **Variety Night** put on by Mr Williamson and the Creative and Performing Arts staff
- **Formal assembly** this week was the highlight of June with boys being awarded for their participation in Athletics, Cross Country and Swimming not only at school carnivals but at zone and regional level
- **Year 7 Leadership Day** that is run by the Prefects and gives the boys leadership training (details on this event will be in the next BackChat).

I would like to take the opportunity of thanking **Mr Johnston** for undertaking the role of Year 8 Adviser whilst Mrs Schadel has been on maternity leave. He has guided Year 8 this semester outstandingly well and I thank him for his guidance and support for the Year 8 boys.

I would like to thank you all for your support of the school this year so far and as we progress into semester 2 all parents are reminded that Asquith Boys is a uniform school and all boys must wear correct school uniform.

Mr Bruce Collins
Relieving Principal

Congratulations to Lloyd Babb

Hopefully some will have seen the column referring to the impending appointment of the State's new Director of Public Prosecutions, Lloyd Babb, on the front page of last Friday's Sydney Morning Herald (24.6.11).

The article reflects well on Asquith Boys High School, where Lloyd was School Captain in 1984.



Lloyd joins several other former students of this School who hold high office in NSW and Australia. You will recall that Lloyd addressed students and staff of the School at the HSC & SC High Achiever's Assembly, in February 2010. Much of his address to our School is quoted in that news column.

Asquith Boys congratulates Lloyd Babb as the NSW Attorney-General's nominee to the position of the State's next DPP.

Chris Kent, ABHS Old Boys

OUR 2010 ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT is now available on the school website



2010 Annual School Report ASQUITH BOYS HIGH SCHOOL



www.abhs.nsw.edu.au

asquithboy-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Phone: 9477 3508

Fax: 9482 2546

Jersey Street Asquith NSW 2077

PO Box 242 Hornsby NSW 1630

School Code 8245

Staff vs Student Football Game



Fortunately the class of the teachers outshone the youth of the Invitational side in a 3-1 victory where even Matt Buwalda was made to look pedestrian compared to the experienced sharply dressed athletes on the teachers side. After a shaky start and some shaky refereeing the Invitational side took the lead and this time through Chris Easy's foot or was it knee? After the break the refereeing improved and immediately Mr French converted a penalty when he was cleaned up by a floundering defender (...was it Matt again???) Thereafter it was the staff mounting wave after wave of attacks, on a team built on solid defence, that threatened the most and two goals in the last 5 minutes by Drew Jones ensured that the crowd, reminiscent of a packed Fratton Park, went home happy, or in fact, to period 5.



Michael Blackwood, Proud Captain of the Teachers





On the 9th of June, after another postponement due to poor weather, the sun finally came out for the Athletics Carnival which was held at Foxglove oval.

The weather could not have been any better for the boys to show off their athletic ability in track and field events and have a fun time in doing it.

The turnout and participation of the boys, especially the juniors, was excellent and with the sun shining all day, some great performances were produced. As we always emphasise with our carnivals - You get back what you put in - with participation being the key in order to have a fun and successful day!

However, whilst I would like to award everyone who participated so well on the day, it is important to highlight and recognise those boys who excelled on the day and are our age champions for 2011.

And to become an age champion is no easy feat. It takes a high degree of skill across multiple events both in track and field. And once again, it comes back to that key word – participation.

The Athletics Age Champions for 2011 are:

- 12 years – Joseph Andonian
- 13 years – Christopher Allan
- 14 years – Zane Smith
- 15 years – Nathan Sedgman
- 16 years – James Thompson
- 17 years – Vincent Campbell



Lastly, the house competition is always a tightly contested battle and this year was no different. In Fourth place is last year's champion, Wandoo on 464 points, third went to Kurrajong on 570 points and in one of the tightest finishes in Asquith Boys History, only 3 points separated 1st and second! That's not even one event! At the end of the day Myall was on 663 points and Cooba finished the day on 666 points making them the house champion for 2011.

Well done to all the boys who turned up on the day to make the day one to remember!

Drew Jones, ABHS Sport Co-ordinator



ATHLETICS CARNIVAL – PHOTO GALLERY



YEAR 11 HOSPITALITY - TERM II

The Year 11 Hospitality students have been extremely busy this year. MasterChef has had a huge influence on students now aspiring to be like the chefs and contestants on the show.



The students first Multi-Skilling Assessment Practical – Minestrone Soup

This Assessment task taught the students how to prepare Mise En Place (everything in its place). The students were assessed on their skills in precision cutting; preparing food into uniform shapes and sizes, e.g. julienne, brunoise, jardinière, paysanne, macedoine.

The preparation began with students learning to make their own stock using meat and bones. Each student made a **bouquet garni** using a small piece of muslin and adding fresh herbs such as: thyme, celery stalks, pink peppercorns and a bay leaf. This was tied up like a bag with string and lowered into their stock pot and it intensifies the flavour of the stock. This stock was prepared a few days before and frozen.

The Units of Competency being assessed in the Multi-Skilling Minestrone Soup were:

SITHCCO01A Organise and Prepare Food

SITXFSA001A Implement Food Safety Procedures

The students also completed a case study and a written assignment.

All the students achieved competency in their practical task. Each chef worked diligently and enjoyed his Minestrone Soup for lunch.

Week 8: the students completed their second Competency Assessment Task - 3hrs.



Thomas Caladine

The students had to prepare two dishes: **Pad Thai** and **Saucy Chocolate Almond Dessert**.

The preparation began a week before when the students had a team meeting to discuss HACCP. What is HACCP you may ask? Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points: an internationally recognised food safety system. HACCP is all about predicting what could possibly go wrong with the safety of the food in a food operation from the time the raw materials or ingredients are received through to the time the food is served or sold. HACCP is a pro-active

system that aims to prevent, control and eliminate biological, chemical or physical hazards which may pose a danger to the health of consumers. HACCP was originally developed by NASA and the Pillsbury Company to prevent astronauts from getting food poisoning on the first manned flights to space. The students take this very seriously because they know that people can die from food poisoning. Each student is allocated a leadership role to ensure food safety 'Critical Control' points are adhered to throughout their assessment.

The students prepared their Mise En Place before woks were heated and the Pad Thai dish came together.

The Units of Competency assessed were:

SITHCCC001A Organise and prepare food

SITHCCC002A Present Food

SITHCCC004 Clean and maintain kitchen premises

SITHCCC005A Use basic methods of cookery.



Mizael Santos



Aiden Jarvis



Vincent Campbell



Jack Griffiths



Rory Bourke



Marcus Limbert



Saucy Chocolate Almond Dessert

The students all enjoyed the Pad Thai and the chocolate dessert was given MasterChef approval.

All the students performed to industry standards and they are to be congratulated on cleaning and maintaining their kitchen throughout the assessment. As we are all aware students like to eat but they do not like the cleaning up!

These students have learnt many different methods of cookery this year.

They were given a demonstration on making a Steamed pudding with caramelised oranges.

Another competency covered was the introduction to aeration (bicarbonate of soda reacts with the acidity in the cake mix to form carbon dioxide, which aids in the aeration of the product) with the introduction to the principle behind sponge making they all attempted a sponge cake filled with jam and cream. Very well done and enjoyed.



Steamed Pudding with caramelised orange

The students are currently learning poaching and the competencies covered in this Method of Cookery are:

- ✚ Introduction to poaching
- ✚ Preparation of sugar syrup
- ✚ Preparation of raspberry coulis
- ✚ Presentation & garnishing of dessert
- ✚ Preparation of a cartouche

They have poached pears in sugar syrup and covered them with a **cartouche**. What is a cartouche you may ask? Cartouche is a French term which basically means 'scroll' or 'packet'. It's a paper lid that is used to slow down the reduction of moisture in cooking. A lid only lets a little moisture escape, whereas no lid lets lots of moisture escape. Using a cartouche is a halfway house between the two and also stops things from colouring too much.

There is a technique to making a cartouche. If you would like to practice making a cartouche I have attached the website link below.

www.graspr.com/videos/Making-a-Cartouche

The last competencies for the term are:

Egg Cookery-Meringue

Using a Bain Marie – Lemon butter

Lemon Meringue Pie is one of my favourite desserts and I am sure the boys will love it as well. They will be making shortcrust pastry followed by the lemon filling which they will cook over a bain-marie. The students are well trained in using a bain-marie as they have had experience using this method. The final stage is the meringue and the skill of separating the egg yolk from the whites!



The students must constantly revise their theory work as there is a lot to learn and of course practice everything they have cooked in class. The Hospitality students are given the Assessment Competency task recipes one week prior so that they can practice at home. Please encourage them to do this.

Some Hospitality students are neglecting to wear a neck tie and a cap. This is part of their chef uniform which is essential for hygiene and they will be reprimanded whilst on work placement in industry if they do not wear full uniform.

I have enjoyed teaching Year 11 Hospitality students and imparting my passion for this subject. With the wealth of knowledge and experience these Year 11 students now have, they should go to their work placement next term feeling confident and proud.

I would like to thank Mrs Booth our wonderful assistant in the kitchen. The boys know that without her we would not function. She somehow magically has everything done so efficiently for the teachers to teach and the students to learn. Our department is a wonderful example of Quality teaching and learning.

Ms Avery-Williams

VET Hospitality & Food Technology TAS Teacher



2011 YEAR 7

HABITS OF MIND AND PIP



The introduction of Habits of Mind (HOM) through the Personal Interest Project (PIP) for our Year 7 of 2011, kick started with a HOM activity session on the 10th of June.

All Year 7 parents were informed prior to this via letters posted to their home address.

What is Habits of Mind?

Arthur Costa and Bena Kallick who developed Habits Of Mind see the intent of Habits Of Mind as a way to help students to develop a broad range of habits that they will be able to draw upon, not only whilst at Asquith Boys High but as they progress through into their adult life in years to come. They have identified 16 habits that will help students achieve the underpinnings to lifelong learning.

Four of the habits will be taught through the Personal Interest Project in Year 7, these being:

1. Creating, Imagining and Innovating
2. Managing Impulsivity
3. Persistence
4. Thinking, Communicating with Clarity and Precision

The rest will be taught in Years 8,9 and 10.



Why PIP at Asquith Boys High School?

Asquith Boys students in general are capable of doing many things, but PIP has the potential to make them better at everything they do.

With both the home and school environments working together, the student will receive constant assistance in achieving a rewarding, relevant and quality learning outcome.

History of PIP in Asquith Boys High School

PIP was introduced in 2006 by Ms Harrison, who was our Librarian. PIP continues to be well received each year by students and parents of Year 7 with great enthusiasm and 100% participation with products ranging from a Greek dish cooked and served by a stepmum and her son, to a very expensive Surfboard made from scratch. We are looking forward to seeing a variety of projects from this year's Year7.

What is needed to be done for PIP, and important dates to remember:

- The *yellow coloured Homework booklet* needs to be kept at home and to be returned on the **1st August** together with the project.
- The *class work booklet* will be kept at school and completed in class across the curriculum.
- The *PIP presentation* will take place during the Big Week Out, **11th & 12th August** where the students will get to present their project to their peers and be judged by a panel consisting of the Principal, the Year Advisor and a member of the P& C.
- The winning projects will be displayed at the Art and TAS Exhibition on the **25th August** in the school hall.
- Students will be rewarded with prizes and certificates and PIP will be listed as an outcome in their yearly report.

If parents or students have any concerns regarding their PIP please feel free to contact the school and be directed to the Year 7 PIP coordinator.



Ms V Tharmarajah
PIP/HOM Coordinator

Skate Them To The Curb!

By Isaac Orr-Green



Australia better prepare for the next big sport- **Roller Derby!** This extreme sport is sure to gain a lot of attention, and the 7E Bugle wanted all the news, so we invited Roller Derby Player (and Asquith Boys High School English teacher) Rebecca Kelly (A.K.A. Betty Scrapper) to tell us all the information!

In Roller Derby, there are 14 players in a rep. team and 50-60 players in the local club (The Central Coast Derby Girls). Because there are so many club members, the rep. team reselects its players every match.

On the team, the point scorer is known as the Jammer. The Jammer has to make it through the pack to score points. The team is allowed to push their own Jammer through the pack. The Pivots are basically the team bosses on the track.

We also found out, thanks to Ms. Kelly, that Roller Derby contestants don't use their real names on the track. For example, Ms. Kelly is Betty Scrapper (a joke of Betty Draper from the show Mad Men) and the most famous Roller Derby player, Beyonslay (a joke of music sensation, Beyoncé). If you realised that the names are jokes on famous people's names, you are right.

Roller Derby, although it seems new as it is not the most popular sport and rarely talked about, Roller Derby dates back to the 1950's! It was very popular back then, and was a televised event. Unfortunately, Roller Derby lost its popularity as it was too violent, so the rules were made more strict and the event was no longer televised.

On behalf of 7E, I would like to thank Ms. Kelly for coming in and teaching us about Roller Derby.

FROM CREATIVE & PERFORMING ARTS (CAPA)



THANKYOU, THANKYOU, THANKYOU

to Brad Green and family

for the generous donation of a Minolta SLR camera, 2 flashes and a tripod. Your equipment has been welcomed into the fold of our collection to be used by the PDM class this term.

Thank you very much!

If there are any other families who have a superseded SLR or DSLR that is looking for a new home, we welcome all contributions gladly. It helps us to offer equipment for use to as many of our students as possible.



HORTICULTURE – NO DIG

Although the boys in Mr. Yates’ horticulture class like to get outdoors and work with tools that require a lot of physical effort, why bother when you can let nature do the work for you?

In addition to the conventional garden beds already stocked with beans, peas, tomatoes and potatoes, they are building an experimental ‘No-Dig Garden’.

Developed by Sydney gardener Esther Dean in the 1970’s, this is basically making a garden above ground from layers of organic matter that rot down into a nutrient-rich soil. The first layer will be thick newspaper. Then you need a layer of carbon rich material such as straw, and finally nitrogen in the form of chicken manure. Each layer is watered to keep it moist. Some of the students commented that “it’s like making lasagne”.



It is a perfect solution to growing in poor soils and avoids having to import soil from outside. It can be created on any surface: rock, heavy clay, even lawn and concrete.

The photo above shows Jive Johnston and Jamie Warren of Year 8 next to the empty frames they built ready to fill.

Compost: The school has taken delivery of another compost bin as part of Hornsby Council’s *Ready Set Grow* program. Tom Pierce and Tim Yoo of Year 8 in the photo on the left, have just placed the green waste from the canteen in the bin in the background and are now weeding the garden after the recent heavy rains.

NATIONAL TREE DAY – 29TH JULY

Finally, the environment team are planning to plant over 100 trees for National Tree Day on Friday 29th July.



They ask that students bring in \$2 to offset their travel to school, for which they will receive a certificate to prove that they have had a tree planted in their name.

SUNDAY 28TH AUGUST - ABHS WORKING BEE

Grab some old clothes and dust off your gardening tools, our school needs your help! On Sunday 28th August, we are running a working bee to tidy up our gardens and outdoor areas.

We have received a higher than usual amount of rainfall this autumn and as a result our school is struggling to keep up with the general outdoor work required to maintain the neat and tidy appearance we all expect.

The major pieces of work will be completed by our school staff but we will need plenty of hands to put the finishing touches on the pathways, garden edges and garden beds.

So if you love trimming, edging, weeding and all round cleanup work, please bring your tools and come along on Sunday 28th August.

YEARS 11 & 12 - VISUAL ARTS EXCURSION TO ART GALLERY OF NSW

How fabulous it was to escape the confines of school life and take Years 11 & 12 to the Art Gallery of NSW. It was the final days of the Archibald, Wynne and Sulman Prize Exhibition for 2011. The Year 11 students have been very busy studying the concept of portraiture and have been engaged in creating their own self portrait thus the relevance of the Archibald exhibition.

Ms Holder decided it was about time that we took on a mature, art college approach with our visit to the AGNSW. The boys were allowed to attend wearing their civilian clothing. First prize would have to go to Max Morris who looked the epitome of an art college student. Several of the other boys could have also blended into the scene at Paddington or Roselle!



The boys were absolutely engaged at the Archibald and impressed by all the work that was submitted. All agreed that Ben Quilty's portrait of Margaret Olley was a well deserving winner. The students were also able to visit the permanent Australian Collection and see firsthand works by Ian Fairweather, John Olsen and John Passmore. This proved very helpful for upcoming assessment tasks.

Early refreshment was sought in the überglam or überattitude art gallery café by BL, MM and GB. I was relieved to see our boys' down to earthiness had not been poisoned, as GB demolished his packed lunch at the tables outside. The rest of us sought café culture over the road, though some, BL, GB, BY, JH, MM, RM, TC and TB could not resist the call of fast food. The boys enjoyed "cafe society" in The Domain and the sights and sounds of the city (including the local joggers).

The day was finished in the newly constructed and opened John Kaldor Family Collection gallery. This is an enormous, purpose-built part of the gallery which has been excavated into the site beside and joining onto the existing gallery. It contains exciting and groundbreaking artworks collected by one of if not THE most important Australian art collector of our time. He has generously given his art collection to the AGNSW for the public to view and experience. This includes works by Christo, Sean Gladwell, Gilbert and George and many other important Australian and international artists. This gallery has added the contemporary edge that the AGNSW has lacked for many years.

The boys all commented that they had a great time and want to go on another excursion soon! It is fabulous to see our boys enjoying the culture that Sydney has to offer. Even more importantly, Ms Holder and Ms Cooke are keen to take the boys out again as they were great ambassadors for the school and brilliant company on the day. Thanks boys!

**Ms Cooke, Visual Arts Teacher (as seen with Puppy by Jeff Koons)
& Catherine Holder, Head Teacher CAPA**



ROCK THE BLOCK FINALS



CONGRATULATIONS TO 'USUAL SUSPECTS' & 'STOLEN SIGNS'

Friday night 3 June our music boys again proved their local supremacy at the Rock the Block Finals at Berowra Community Centre.

One judge's prize and a people's choice prize; a program listing six highly competitive bands; only five bands able to play on the night; high tension rose higher; great performances put in by the three bands NOT from ABHS before interval = extreme suspense.

Stolen Signs and Usual Suspects were scheduled to close the show but would they be able to wow an audience who had already seen three earlier bands who impressed them? Would the audience have made their decision or could they be convinced to stay to the end and hopefully be wowed by our boys?

STOLEN SIGNS lit up the stage with a blistering performance that had the ABHS mosh heaving along front of stage. Max Morris, Liam Jones, Ben Lancaster and their amazing front man Chris Nabung stole the night with a polished and energetic stage presence and rock band sound that seemed unbeatable. Liam and Chris interacted with the audience while Max and Ben took us all on the rock journey with them.



USUAL SUSPECTS were placed in the unenviable position of closing the night after Stolen Signs. This band, consisting of Jackson Besley, Will O'Donohue, Alex Powys, and bass player Andrew Stevens, though still developing the polish, confidence and presence of their older brothers, wowed the judges and audience alike with their own compositions and a memorable and convincing performance of "Foxy Lady". Jackson's vocal maturity and the progress demonstrated over the Rock the Block heats made competition for first place fierce.

In the end it was improvement that moved the judges with their decision and Usual Suspects grabbed the major prize for their development during the program. Stolen Signs were rewarded for their onstage maturity, energy and polish with recognition in the People's Choice award.

Both bands have been rewarded for their entry with great prizes to help with their bands' development including a \$300 gift voucher, photo shoot and a studio session.

Congratulations to Usual Suspects and Stolen Signs for stealing the night and asserting ABHS continued rock supremacy! This should set both bands up for future rock n' roll stardom and countrywide success! From little things big things grow....



Many Thanks to the parents, teachers & supporters who helped to make it happen!

Michael Williamson (Music) & Catherine Holder (Head of CAPA)



NB: Regretfully Stolen Signs were unable to perform as scheduled at Variety Night as front man Chris Nabung suffered nasty workplace injuries and is receiving surgery. We can only hope that he is well enough for Stolen Signs to enter JJJ Unearthed High in late July!





THE WORD FROM ENGLISH

Recent Highlights: Congratulations to Mrs Riedstra, who just 2 days after taking her maternity leave gave birth to a lovely little girl. She is 5 weeks early and mum and babe are both doing well.

Mrs Bodley and Ms Schadel were guest speakers at the *English Teachers' Associations Modules Study Day* at UTS. This catered to HSC students from both private and public schools in NSW. Hopefully our expertise will help prepare students for the HSC in October.

Student of the Month: Year 8 explored Aboriginal Culture and Experience through their poetry and this culminated in an essay response. Congratulations to Samme Masudi of 8C and Zachary Duncan of 8H for excellent pieces of writing. Well done!

Well done to Daniel Whiting and Max Morris of Year 12 Standard English for putting in a great effort in their recent assessment tasks on *The Global Village*. Congratulations to Stephen Wilson and Alex Marokky of Advanced English for their essays on the *Conflicting Perspective* in Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar* and other related texts. Well done boys!

What's Happening Around the Classes:

Year 7: Students in Year 7 have enjoyed exploring aspects of Extreme Sports. In this unit they have researched different extreme sports, focusing mainly on non-fiction texts. In the final week of term students will be assessed by giving a speech on an extreme sport that they have created. That should be extremely exciting!

Year 8: 8E and 8H have embarked on a study of Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, in the form of a graphic novel. They feel the rigor of dealing with such a challenging text and are rising to the call. The other Year 8 classes are engaged in a study of the great sleuth Sherlock Holmes. They are reading some of Arthur Conan Doyle's classic whodunit stories and will enjoy viewing a modern version at the end of this term.

Year 9: Students have been dissecting the nuances of advertising as a persuasive text. This unit is mainly interactive and delivered via student laptops. Their assessment is due in the last week of term and focuses on students creating their own advertising campaign and justifying their choices.

Year 10: Our future School Certificate participants are engaged in a unit on "Gender". Their study of the representation of gender in a

wide range of texts will culminate in an exam. Good luck gentlemen!

Year 11: The Year 11 Standard and Advanced classes are finishing up their units on "Poetry". They are both preparing for their upcoming essay in the last week of term. Brush up on those thesis statements boys!

Year 12: Standard students are starting a Module on "Speeches". First up is the prodigious "I have a dream" speech by Martin Luther King Jr. Hopefully I'll be able to get through the class without shedding a few awe-inspired tears! The Advanced boys have just started a unit on Kenneth Slessor's poetry.

The time has come to begin studying hard. The HSC is only four months away. Have fun!

Mrs N. Bodley
Head Teacher English



Science

Science Competition: The annual ICAS International Science Competition was held Wednesday 8th June. Over 70 of our top Science students sat the demanding test aimed at assessing students' knowledge and skills in all aspects of Science and Technology. Results will be available in Term 3.

Year 8 bread making: Mr Murphy's Year 8 class is studying microbes and has made some bread using the micro-organism yeast. After some careful preparation and kneading, the dough was baked to perfection in the canteen oven. Next on the menu is cheese making followed by beer brewing.....well maybe a few years down the track.

Year 9 BHP Steelworks Excursion: During the Big Week Out all Year 9 students are invited to attend an excursion to Wollongong to visit the Science Centre and BHP Steelworks. The Wollongong Science Centre gives students an opportunity to have a fun and educational experience by using hands-on equipment as well as a session in Australia's best planetarium. The visit will also include a Liquid Nitrogen show which is one of the coolest (-196°C to be exact) shows they will see.

The Port Kembla Steelworks Tour will lead the boys through the process of making steel and give them an understanding of one of New South Wales major industries. A BBQ lunch will be provided for the boys. The cost of the excursion is \$45 and places will be limited so please be prompt with payment.

Year 10 Science Research Project: All Year 10 students need to complete a major investigation that makes up 20% of their assessment mark in Science. All students should have submitted their Preliminary Report and be well advanced in their projects. The final submission is due in August.

Year 12 Chemistry Maritime Excursion: Mr Murphy's HSC Chemistry class have visited the Sydney Maritime Museum in relation to their Shipwrecks topic. The boys looked at saltwater corrosion and preventative protection such as sacrificial anodes as used in modern ships. A trip to the maritime museum would not be complete without a tour of the submarine HMAS Onslow which caters for anyone without claustrophobia.

Mr S. Robertson
Head Teacher Science



Maths

Australian Mathematics Competition - We are still chasing up students who need to pay \$5 for the Maths Competition. As mentioned in the last Backchat, all students in 7E, 8M1, 9M1, 10M1, 11M1 or 12M1 are entered in the competition. It is considered a vital part of the extension program for our top classes.

Maths Online: This has been mentioned before, but I wanted to remind people again. This is a free service to students. The website contains excellent tutorials on a wide variety of Maths concepts. I would encourage all students to look up Maths Online on the internet and make use of it, particularly those students who need a little extra help or another explanation. All students at Asquith Boys High are registered with the site and have a login name and password. If for some reason they do not know their password, they should see their maths teacher.

Problem of the month

How can you arrange seven coins in six rows so that there will be exactly three coins in each row?

First to me with an answer wins a prize. Parents/friends welcome to participate.

Answer to the problem in May Backchat:
six 9s to make 100 $9 \times 9+9+9+9/9$
seven 6s to make 120 $66+6 \times 6+6+6+6$

Winner: Shannon Grimson-Smith

Mr D. Arblaster
Head Teacher Mathematics



HSIE

Another Semester has been completed.

As we speak, teachers are organising work for the **Senior Students** during the holiday break and I would ask all parents to check with their sons as to what needs to be done by the start of term three in the Senior Subjects.

A reminder to the **History Extension** students that a study day has been organised for you in the holidays. Do not forget to come. This day will be spent on Essay writing and Major Project Presentation so I am sure the students will find this day with me personally rewarding.

We, as a Faculty, are becoming more concerned that especially in the three Senior years – 10, 11 and 12 – the students are not all working to their potential. For most boys, interest is not enough – effort is required and if your son's report indicates this phenomenon, I would strongly advise you to talk this over with him.

We have some excellent students in our Faculty who are, to put it mildly, "coasting through" and doing the bare minimum when they are capable of so much more. Please boys, from all of us, put in the required effort as it will be much easier in the long run and your achievements will be more personally satisfying.

In stating this, I also wish to go to the other end of the spectrum and congratulate those boys who have put in a great effort this semester. At the beginning of Term 3, I shall be writing to parents of students in all years with letters of commendation for their outstanding efforts. Please do not treat these lightly as only a few are written and teachers will be giving me a list of the deserved ones.

Finally, as Year Master of **Year 7**, I have been very pleasantly surprised by their progress – their approach to work, their manner and their uniform – have overall been most impressive both to Miss Foster, the Year 7 Year Adviser and to myself. Well done boys and a good holiday to all!

Mr G. Moscos
Head Teacher HSIE

P&C Association

Parents and Citizens working together for our School

Hello ABHS community,

The last few months have proven to be an extremely busy period for our school.

Over this time ABHS has completed another successful **Soccer Tour**, this year to Singapore & Malaysia. Our boys competed extremely well against much older and more experienced competition. Mr Moscos, along with Mr Blackwood & Mr Jones, has again led a group of exceptional ambassadors of our school. Well done to all involved and the wider school community looks forward to next year's tour of Turkey & Gallipoli.

On June 8th our school hosted the combined girls & boys high school's **Disco**. The night was a great success, despite the very cold weather, as over 300 students attended. As with the arrangement with the girls school all of the proceeds are kept by the hosting school, with over \$2000 raised on the night. Well done to the student representatives involved in organising a successful event.

Shortly we will see some changes to the **Oval and surrounds** with the completion of the new scoreboard and grandstand. This work is being undertaken by our boys as part of their school work. Your P&C have provided funding for a line marker which has been purchased and we will start to see the lines being drawn. The completion of the Oval work will mean the boys will be able to lay the **50th Anniversary Commemorative Path**, with the pavers purchased by our "Old Boys", current & former students & members of staff.

At our May meeting the P&C were given presentation on the use of new technologies in the classroom and the effect these are having in how our teachers manage lessons & homework, and how our boys interact & learn. Ms Woolley & Ms Foster gave us a fantastic insight into these technologies which was greatly appreciated by the large number of parents in attendance. Thanks you very much.

Also during this meeting your P&C approved the funding of the "Quicksmart" Literacy programme for our school. This programme will assist in improving the literacy results across our school and improve the overall literacy capability of our boys.

Grab some old clothes and dust off your gardening tools, our school needs your help! On **Sunday 28th August**, we are running a **working bee** to tidy up our gardens and outdoor areas. We have received a higher than usual amount of rainfall this autumn and as a result our school is struggling to keep up with the general outdoor work required to maintain the neat and tidy appearance we all expect. The major pieces of work will be completed by our school staff but we will need plenty of hands to put the finishing touches on the pathways, garden edges and garden beds. So if you love trimming, edging, weeding and all round cleanup work, please come along.

Your P&C, in conjunction with the ABHS Old Boys, are planning a **major community day on Sunday 11th September**. We are building the day around the commencement of an annual "Festival of Football", where we will play several games of Soccer. This is a continuation of the great day we had on the 50th Anniversary weekend and will become an annual event. The Soccer games will feature current and former elite players from our school, as well as "Old Boys", current & former staff members, and selections from our "feeder" Primary Schools. The games will culminate with the presentation of the "Moscos Cup" for Football Excellence. We are also planning heaps of food, activities, entertainment & fun! Again lock this date in your diary; more details will be released soon.

The next P&C Meeting is scheduled for 23rd August, so please come along.

Thanks,

John Koellner

ABHS P&C President

President:	John Koellner
Vice President:	Margaret Gibson & Jacqui Taylor
Secretary:	Kim Pinnock
Treasurer:	Nicole Cunningham
Ground Maintenance:	John Koellner
School Council Reps:	Marg Gibson, Leanne Dalziel, Kerry Limbert, Jenny Williams.

**The next P&C
meeting 8:00pm
Tuesday 23 August
@ 8pm in the Library**

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ABHS 2011 Community Open Day

Sunday 11th September 2011

Your P&C, in conjunction with the ABHS Old Boys, are planning a major Community Day on Sunday 11th September.

We are building the day around the commencement of an annual "Festival of Football", where we will play several games of Soccer. This is a continuation of the great day we had on the 50th Anniversary weekend and will become an annual event.

The Soccer games will feature current and former elite players from our school, as well as "Old Boys", current & former staff members, and selections from our "Feeder" Primary Schools.

The games will culminate with the presentation of the "Moscos Cup" for Football Excellence.

We are also planning heaps of food, activities, entertainment & fun!
Lock this date in your diary; more details will be released soon.

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IN PARTNERSHIP WITH
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FREE In-Depth Seminar for PARENTS/SUPERVISING DRIVERS together
with YOUNG DRIVERS

MONDAY - 12 SEPTEMBER 2011

6.00 PM for 6.30 PM

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President, Australian Driver Trainers Assoc NSW Ltd

Member National Executive Committee of the Australasian College of Road Safety

Member of K'gai Police & Community Safety Committee, MD Trent Driving School

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Contact: Ros at Centacare Broken Bay
on 94882531 or ros.lloyd@dbb.org.au

Sow a thought, reap an action;

Sow an action; reap a habit;

Sow a habit, reap a character;

Sow a character, reap a destiny.

Samuel Smiles

What are our teenagers thinking?

All behaviour, whether it be that of children, adolescents or adults is influenced by the way they think. We all have values, viewpoints and morals that shape our thinking. It is hard to change the way we act, if the way we think about our behaviour doesn't change.

As parents of adolescents we often wonder "What were they thinking?!" when we hear about the kinds of choices that they have made. In many families this is likely to be a fleeting question uttered in frustration, followed by a lot of advice or an instruction about how they should behave.

Parents can help shift the way teenagers view situations, so that they see it from a different perspective and have a better understanding of their choices and the potential outcomes. Young people tend to respond better when we show curiosity, ask questions and try to understand their point of view rather than asserting our parental authority or offering advice immediately.

At Parent Line we have professional counselors on hand to talk through the concerns you have about how your teenager is thinking and thus behaving. There is no magic wand that helps change perspectives but there are some things we can do that assist.

One of the best things you can do to influence your son or daughter is modelling the behaviour you would like them to develop. Some of the ways you can encourage them to think differently and consider other perspectives is to:

- behave in a way that invites feedback from others
- try to look at a range of perspectives when considering a situation
- ask good questions (e.g. open questions that invite a genuine response from the "What do you think about that? How did you feel when that happened? What was that like for you?")
- listen to understand, rather than listening to respond (listen intently to what is being said, and not being said, to the content and the feeling and then repeat back what you have heard)
- create an environment where teenagers can safely express alternate view points.

Changing the way we think about a situation changes how we respond to it and in turn changes how others respond to us. Thoughts are also the stepping stones to behaviour change, they are the foundation of habits and help mould the person who we are and who we want to be.

You can discuss any issues related to raising children with one of our professional counsellors, by calling 1300 1300 52 or visiting our website www.parentline.org.au for tips, information and stories about other parents' experiences.



ASQUITH BOYS HIGH SCHOOL CALENDAR TERM 3 2011

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	Sat/Sun
Week 1A	July 18 Staff Development Day SASS Conference	July 19 Students Return	July 20	July 21 Formal Assembly (Recognition of outstanding reports)	July 22	July 23 24
Week 2B	July 25 Syd Nth Athletics Carnival Day 1 Parent Teacher Interviews	July 26 Syd Nth Athletics Carnival Day 2	July 27	July 28	July 29 Schools Tree Day	July 30/31
Week 3A	Aug 1 Trial HSC Yr7 PIP Due	Aug 2 Trial HSC	August 3 Trial HSC	August 4 Trial HSC Australian Mathematics Competition	August 5 Trial HSC Jeans for Genes Day	August 6 7
Week 4B	August 8 Trial HSC PIP Presentations start	August 9 Trial HSC REACH Foundation Workshop for Yr9	August 10 Trial HSC	August 11 Trial HSC	August 12 Trial HSC	Aug 13 14
BIG WEEK OUT						
Week 5A	August 15 Yr11 VET Work Placements (back up date all week)	August 16	August 17	August 18	August 19	Aug 20 21
Week 6B	August 22 Keep Australia Beautiful Week	August 23 School Council & P&C Meeting	August 24	August 25 ART/TAS/PIP Exhibition Opens	August 26	Aug 27 28 Sunday 28 Working Bee
Week 7A	August 29 National Literacy and Numeracy Week	August 30	August 31	September 1 Formal Assembly (Winter Grade Sport) Premiers Reading Challenge Finishes	September 2 Walkathon Duke of Ed - Silver Medal	Sept 3 4
Week 8B	September 5 Duke of Ed	September 6	September 7	September 8 AGHS DISCO	September 9	Sept 10 11 Sunday 11 Community Day incl. Festival of Football Sept 17 18
Week 9A	September 12 Yr11 Exams start	September 13 Yr11 Exams	September 14 Yr11 Exams	September 15 Yr11 Exams	September 16 Yr11 Exams	Sept 17 18
Week 10B	September 19 Yr10 Trial SC Exams start Yr11 VET Work Placements	September 20 Yr10 Trial SC Yr11 VET Work Placements School Council & P&C Meeting	September 21 Yr10 Trial SC Yr11 VET Work Placements	September 22 Year 12 Graduation Ceremony & Reports Issued Yr11 VET Work Placements	September 23 Yr11 VET Work Placements End of Term 3	Sept 24 25

Please note dates of events may change and you should check with Reception if in doubt. Updated calendars will be printed in ABHS Newsletter (Backchat) each Term. Updated 29/06/2011