



BACKCHAT

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**June
2012**

MAD NIGHT A HUGE SUCCESS



The annual Variety Show has now been successfully 'morphed' into MAD NIGHT, an expose of the creative talents of both the Music and Drama faculties.

The show featured our own Stage Band as well as Chatswood High School Stage Band who are renowned in international circles and often get invited to perform at Jazz Festivals in Europe and America. Year 11 music class presented a traditional drum piece from Africa. The new Yamaha C3 Grand Piano was one of the highlights of the evening with many performers demonstrating the impeccable quality of

this fine instrument (notably Andrew Morrison, David Mays & Mizael Santos). Jackson Besley and Will O'Donohue along with "The Usual Suspects" provided a contemporary slant to the night with their original items and 'Coldplay' numbers. Also on the bill was a raft of Year 8 Ensemble items predominantly in the rock genre which featured a mixture of old & new – Peter Thomsett & Miss Caroline "Diviny!" Cooke. The Year 12 students were represented with a modern re-working of the classic 'James Bond' film theme and some grungy metal, complete with shredding guitar and machine gun drums.

Previous ABHS students Geoffrey Limbert (piano) and Zac Coventry (drums) performed original material that reflected the modern themes of our present eclectic musical world.

Stefan Taitin performed an original dance item which showed his natural talent for 'moonwalking' and Austin Carey displayed his prodigious talent on the kazoo with a rendition of 'Eye of the Tiger'.

The second half featured Miss Mashman's dedicated Drama students in all sorts of humorous and quirky situations (see detailed report on next page).

The evening was a total success and will undoubtedly be repeated next year but only bigger and better!

Many Thanks to all the students and staff who participated in this first MAD NIGHT show. A special thank you to AES, the Sound & Lighting guys (ex-students) who did a remarkable job bringing everything to life.

Mr M. Williamson, Music Teacher



ARE YOU MAD?... THE PERFORMANCES DEFINITELY WERE!

What a "MAD", crazy and entertaining Night it was, at Asquith Boys High School on Thursday 14th June. The Music and Drama department joined forces to produce a night of music to the ears and laughs all round.

First half was set aside for musical items, whilst the second half was allocated to the wonderful Year 10 Drama class. These boys had been working solidly on their scripts for the majority of term. It was part of their term 2 assessment and they were wholeheartedly involving themselves in the action...so to speak.

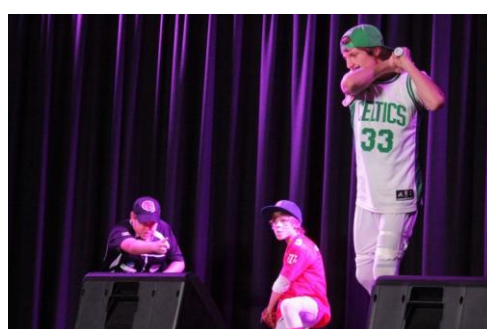
The plays ranged from:

- A story about Adam and Eve, "In the Beginning", where the consumption of an apple margarita caused an overload in knowledge.
- A dull party where the blokes learned about the art of "Hitting on Women 101", with a surprise twist at the end.
- "Prince Charming's Complaint" about women in general and what he has learnt from his three wives. By the way, have you seen a woman missing a shoe?
- A baseball game, "Pitch and Catch", where the English language was sophisticated and bogan at the same time.
- And the tale of mystery and illusion, "Carmen Dick: Feminist Private Eye", where nothing was as it seemed. Nothing at all!

The boys wholeheartedly embraced the art of costume, and portrayed many of the female characters almost too convincingly! That said many laughs were heard from the audience and giggles had to be suppressed backstage.

I want to congratulate the Year 10 Drama class on their commitment and effort in rehearsals and on the night. They had so much fun and cannot wait to perform again in next year's MAD night. Something I will look forward to!

Ms L Mashman, Drama Teacher





2012 JAZZ FESTIVAL

Headlined by John Morrison's Swing City

See local school bands perform with jazz legends

SWING CITY *featuring the gorgeous
jazz vocals of Emma Pask*



**ASQUITH BOYS HIGH SCHOOL HALL
7pm Saturday 18 August 2012
Tickets on sale from August 6 94773508**



*Supported by performances from:
Yamaha Award Winning ABHS Stage Band*

**PRESENTED BY ASQUITH BOYS HIGH SCHOOL STAGE BAND
IN SUPPORT OF THE ROYAL FLYING DOCTOR SERVICE**

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Mr Collins

Our Deputy Principal, Mr Bruce Collins, will be retiring on July 18th. Mr Collins has had a long and distinguished career in public education, including the last 12 years as Deputy Principal at Asquith Boys High. This edition of Backchat contains a special feature on Mr Collins career. During his time at ABHS Mr Collins has had a positive effect on the lives of hundreds of young men in our community and leaves a huge legacy in the form of many successful educational and welfare programs. On behalf of our entire ABHS community I thank Mr Collins for his outstanding service, dedication and commitment to public education and wish him and his family a long and happy retirement.

Half Yearly Reports/Parent Teacher Night

Year 11 and 12 Half Yearly Reports will be handed out before the end of Term 2. This year we have decided to hand out Years 7 to 10 reports on the first day of Term 3 instead of the last day of Term 2. We have made this change as we feel that during the holidays parents and students sometimes lose their focus and forget or overlook some of the teachers' recommendations that are contained in the reports. Parent Teacher Night for all Years will be on Monday July 23rd. For the first time we will be using an on-line booking system for parent interviews for this event.

Student Welfare Officer

The P & C have now confirmed the appointment of Ms Colleen Sweeney as our new Student Welfare Officer (SWO). This is a casual appointment for three years funded by the federal government. The SWO supersedes the previous School Chaplain position and is a non-religious position. The SWO will work with our Welfare Team to support our welfare programs and take on some management of individual students. Under the conditions of the SWO federal agreement any contact that parents or students have with the SWO is entirely voluntary. Ms Sweeney will be commencing duties on June 28th and I welcome her to the ABHS community.

MAD Night

MAD (Music and Drama) Night (formerly known as Variety Night) was held last week and was a stunning success. We had three hours of top quality musical and drama performances from many students. One of the highlights was the excellent performance of the ABHS Stage Band. Over the weekend the Stage Band also performed at the Yamaha Eisteddfod and was successful in winning a medal. This is a fantastic achievement. Congratulations to everyone connected with the band and the organisation of MAD Night, notably Mr Williamson, Ms Mashman, and Bandmaster Mr Iain Howick.

Year 7 Leadership Day

This annual event was held on May 31st and involved all of Year 7 and all the Year 11 and 12 prefects. The event is organised by former ABHS parent, Mrs Liiband, assisted by Prefects Co-ordinator, Mr Laing. This year the boys did a range of fun and challenging activities designed to develop leadership and teamwork. Mrs Liiband has been working with our prefects and ABHS staff over several years developing a Leadership Capability Framework for students Years 7 to 12. This program is getting bigger and better every year and we are very fortunate to have the expertise and commitment of Mrs Liiband.

School Contributions

Once again I urge all parents to make arrangements to pay any outstanding school contributions. Early in Term 3 another round of invoices will be posted, showing the balance of your account. If you wish to pay via internet banking please contact the school office for details on how to do this. At this stage of the year only about 50% of due contributions have been paid. I ask parents to make this financial commitment a high priority. All funds received go directly to resources for your sons' education.

Terry Griffiths, Principal



SRC REPORT

On Wednesday 30th May, Asquith Boys and Girls came together and organised the school disco. The SRC students spent many an afternoon discussing and organising dates and times for the event. A special thanks to all those involved with organising and helping at the disco.

It was a very successful night with lots of dancing and grooving, and many smiles. The SRC raised \$1990 and the profits will be divided with the girls' school.

The next disco will be organised by Asquith Girls and held at Asquith Boys. The date is to be advised.

Miss Mashman, SCR Coordinator

Parent Teacher Interviews

Our Term 3 Parent-Teacher Interview Evening will be held on **Monday July 23rd**. There will be a new arrangement in place for Parents to book interviews over the internet. Early in Term 3 information will be forwarded to parents about the website and school code they will need to use to log into the ABHS link.

As well as the internet there will still be the option of asking your son to book a time with his teachers. We hope the new arrangements will provide an easier way of booking Teacher interviews with more flexibility to change times if needed.

Please contact me if you need more information.

Mr Stuart Robertson
Head Teacher Science

A message from Westfield Shopping Centre for ALL students shopping in their Centre



Westfield
IT'S ALL ABOUT RESPECT

OUR EXPECTATIONS OF YOU

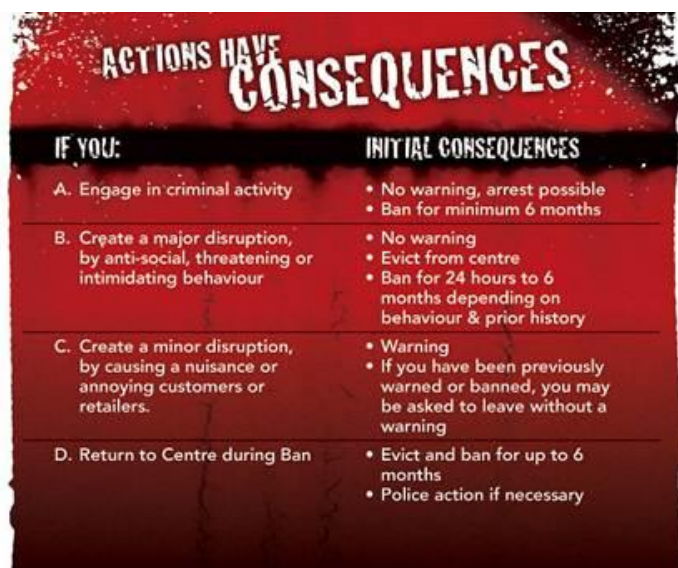
- Respect other customers
- No bikes, scooters, skates, etc
- No smoking or drinking alcohol
- No playing on escalators, etc
- No running or chasing
- No throwing objects
- No yelling, cursing, spitting
- No blocking entrances, corridors, shop fronts
- No pushing, fighting or mucking around
- Footwear and shirts are always required



Westfield
IT'S ALL ABOUT RESPECT

OUR COMMITMENT TO YOU

- We will respect you
- Call you by name
- Not judge you by your look or dress
- Ask you politely to do something
- Explain why we want you to do something
- Listen to you
- Give you a chance to change
- Not raise our voices at you



ACTIONS HAVE CONSEQUENCES

IF YOU:	INITIAL CONSEQUENCES
A. Engage in criminal activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No warning, arrest possible• Ban for minimum 6 months
B. Create a major disruption, by anti-social, threatening or intimidating behaviour	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No warning• Evict from centre• Ban for 24 hours to 6 months depending on behaviour & prior history
C. Create a minor disruption, by causing a nuisance or annoying customers or retailers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Warning• If you have been previously warned or banned, you may be asked to leave without a warning
D. Return to Centre during Ban	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Evict and ban for up to 6 months• Police action if necessary

OUR 2011 ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT is now available on the school website



2011
Annual School Report
ASQUITH BOYS HIGH SCHOOL
'EXCEPTIONAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR BOYS'

www.asquithboy-h.schools.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

MR BRUCE COLLINS

AN INTERVIEW WITH A MAN WHO MADE HIS MARK

When Bruce arrived here at the beginning of 2000 – an Olympic Year – he was unaware of the Marathon in mentoring and counselling efforts he would have to perform as the boys – especially those with difficulties and personal issues – continually entered and left his office.

As the only Deputy Principal in such a multifunctional Comprehensive Boys High School, Bruce has left an indelible mark on many of his charges and colleagues. He confessed to me that he knew a great deal about the school and its needs prior to his arrival. For two years, he had worked closely with previous Principal Chris Bonnor, as Head of the Boys Literacy Program on the Central Coast, from his previous appointment at Lisarow High School.

Bruce's teaching career has been extensive. He began as an English teacher at Ashfield Boys High in the 70's and went from there to Northmead High in 1979. Whilst there, he also filled the role of Sports master. Country experience beckoned and his appointment at Wee Waa Central School was his promotion to Head Teacher - English/ History. Family life and a love of the "big smoke" brought him back to Sydney and a position at Blacktown Girls. In 1995, Bruce moved to the Central Coast, again as Head Teacher, to Lisarow.

In his time here, Bruce reflected on a number of achievements and experiences. Working with Chris Bonnor – albeit for a short stint, empowered Bruce to undertake an overhaul of the Welfare and Learning Team of the School although he stresses this was a real team effort. Indeed, Bruce wants it recorded "...it's not what I have done but what **we** have done." He looks back at a school that has always had a real team culture and one that has achieved through working for and with each other with colleagues, students and community participants united in our programs and causes. In my opinion, this has been Bruce's great strength. In fact I remember remarking as we worked on the Welfare Review in 2002, "Bruce, as Deputy you're the best Welfare Head Teacher we have ever seen!"

His successes are numerous – especially in the Welfare area. A great number of troubled boys that he has dealt with have gone on to be the solid citizens of this generation – many completing Trades, owning businesses and becoming caring parents. Many he still has contact with. Many teachers he has mentored through the teacher training schemes have developed their skills further and have become confident and successful teachers and Head teachers. We both applauded the great staff we have at present – all working in the same direction for the benefit of the boys – Bruce's main aim. As he puts it "...everything we do here is for the boys first and foremost."

He paid great tribute to the three Principals he worked collaboratively with – Chris Bonnor, David Short and especially Terry Griffiths.

"Terry arrived knowing the needs of the school and developed, in consultation with staff and myself, a plan for the future. His great strength in understanding the boys, working with staff and relating to the Community are things that I have admired. We have always had a similar philosophy and worked solidly as a team"

Bruce proved his worth as a school leader in his own right by taking on the difficulties faced by another High School as Relieving Principal in 2010 – a job he did most successfully.

A final statement by the interviewer:

"Bruce has been a great and loyal friend – who can forget the crash tackle on the deranged intruder intent on inflicting damage? OR the Staff/ Student Football Matches? OR the mud soaked Bruce at the Year 7 Camps? And always your smiling demeanour."

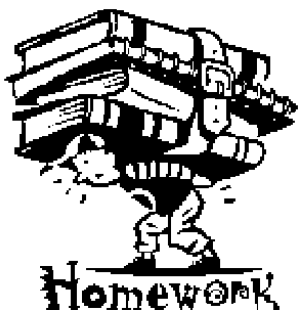
Bruce, Asquith Boys will miss your efforts terribly – but we know that you are never far away!

Mr George Moscos



Scholarship Luncheon 2009

Ethan Percival, Mr Bruce Collins (Deputy Principal) & Brett Riley



“Don’t you have any homework?”

How many times have you asked your son that question?

The school has a policy requiring students to use their planner to record the dates and requirements for all homework and assignments. While this is a good way to organise the students, it sometimes leaves parents wondering whether or not homework has been given.

We are trialling a system for Years 11 and 12 where the staff will post a notification of all homework and assessment to an electronically available calendar. The homework entries will be recorded on the calendar at the due date.

Parents are invited to look at this resource to see upcoming work.

Accessing The Calendar: The calendar can be accessed by accessing our school website at

<http://www.asquithboy-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/>

Then select the “Useful Links & e-Learning menu” and then the “SENTRAL – Homework Calendars” Link. *Once there, you should bookmark it to avoid this procedure in the future.*

Finally, select the appropriate year calendar from the list provided.

Sample: An example of part of the resulting calendar is shown below.

Look through the calendar for entries related to your son’s subjects. For example on Feb 15, there are three entries. Mr Razzaghi’s Yr11 Maths class has homework due on that day. The details of the homework will appear in the black box when you hover your mouse over the entry.

Feb 6 11 SDD (Bennett)	Feb 7 • Physics Homework Due 7 Feb	Feb 8	Feb 9 • biology homework - rui
Feb 13	Feb 14 • Physics Homework due • 11 SDD (Bennett) • 11 SDD (Bennett)	Feb 15 • 11MAT2(FRENCH) • 11G1 (Hogg) • 11.MAT (Razzaghi)	Feb 16 • biology homework - Rui • 12MG(FRENCH) • 11MAT1 (Razzaghi) • 11G1 (Hogg)
Feb 20 English Standard Kelly	Feb 21	Feb 22 Note Ex 1. 15 + Challenge Questions	Feb 23 • Biology homework - Rui

What about Years 7 to 10?

At this stage of the trial we are concentrating on Years 11 and 12.

However staff have been given the option of also using the calendars in the junior years. Some, but not all staff are using the calendars for the junior years.

2012 ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

The 2012 Athletics carnival at Foxglove oval was held on the 3rd of May and the weather could not have been any better for the boys to show off their athletic ability in track and field events.

The turnout and participation of all the boys was the best it has been in recent memory 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!

Records set at the carnival

12 years 80m hurdles

Record was set in 2010 by Christopher Allan at 16.29.

The record is now held by Jack Ryan at **16.15s**. Well done Jack!

12 years shot put

Record was set all the way back in 1971 by G. Atkins at 10.3m.

It has been smashed by Harry Frederick who threw an amazing **11.71m**.

17 years triple jump

Record was held by R. Cahill with 12.17m in 1970.

The record is now held by Joshua Mawhinney with **12.59m**. Well done!

2012 AGE CHAMPIONS

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.

- **12 years – Jimmy Hawkins** (3rd in SHOT/ 2nd in 100m/2nd in JAV/ 1st in 200m, 1st HJ/ 1st LJ)
- **13 years – Konrad Morton-Stroud** (2nd 100m/2nd HURD /1st 200m/1st LJ)
- **14 years – Christopher Allan** (2nd 100m/1st SHOT/1st LJ/1st HJ/1st DIS/1st HUR)
- **15 years – Zane Smith** (1st 100m/1st 200m/1st DIS/1st LJ)
- **16 years – Harrison Fox** (2nd 100m/1st LJ/1st 200m)
- **17 years – Joshua Mawhinney** (3rd HJ /1st 100m/1st 200m/1st LJ/1st TJ)

ATHLETICS HOUSE COMPETITION

The house competition is always a tightly contested battle and this year was no different. If you can recall last year, Cooba pipped Myall by 3 points!

In an exciting finish, the 2012 Athletics House Champion was decided by only 1 point!

4th – Kurrajong on 349 points

3rd – Myall on 389 points

2nd – Wandoo on 427 points

1st – Cooba on 428 points



Following on from the school carnival, I will be taking out a large group of our athletes to the Zone athletics carnival which will be held next Monday 18 June out at the Sydney International Athletics Centre in Homebush. I look forward to seeing how our boys go as we have some great athletes here at Asquith Boys and I will get back to you all later in the term with, hopefully, some very pleasing results!

INDIVIDUAL SUCCESS

Harrison Endycott (Year 10) in Golf

- 2011 – qualified for NSW open and selected in NSW golf team squad
- 2012 – undefeated major pennant
- 2012 NSW All Schools Champion (shot at 71 and a 5 under par 65)
- Selected to play in a NSW vs Canberra event
- Runner up in 2012 NSW schools match play championship
- Qualified to compete for NSW school team which travels to Perth in August and has also qualified to compete in the World Junior Titles which will be held in America next year.
- To top it all off, Harrison has been selected to be part of the Australian national Training program.

Luke Alexander (Year 9) in Sailing

For the last two years Luke has skippered Flying 11's at Hornsby PCYC sailing club. This club sails out of Brooklyn each Saturday from September to April. Luke sails his boat called "Relentless" with Charlie Parry (who goes to Gosford High School).

They won the PCYC club championship for flying 11's and they came second in both the spring and summer points scores as they needed to miss three races in order to compete at state level.

At the State championships Luke came 14th in the silver fleet. Some of these races were conducted in 24 knot winds which gusted up to 38 knots (which is about 70 kilometres an hour).

In the Easter holiday Luke and Charlie competed at the Combined High Schools Championship held at Belmont 16ft sailing club on Lake Macquarie, where they won medals for coming:

- 2nd in division at NSW CHS Championships.
- 3rd in the flying 11 class at NSW All Schools.
- 3rd in the Australian division at NSW All Schools

Anthony Woodward (10), Jeffrey Featherston (10), Jacob Mandy (11) and Christopher Allan (9) in AFL

Both Anthony and Jeff were selected as part of the NSW CHS northern Division squad whilst Anthony, Jacob and Chris have been identified and are a part of the Sydney Swans Academy. This is a great achievement as this academy is an elite training program that runs in conjunction with the AFL talented player pathway.

Let's hope that one day we see them out there playing for the Swans!

YEAR 8 JOURNALISM CLASS ARTICLE & PHOTOS

Term 2 Hits the Ground Running

Great organisation, exemplary participation and extraordinary abilities summed up the overall quality of what was an incredibly successful Athletics Carnival.

For that handful of committed students and teachers, Thursday 3rd May started with a challenging 1500 metre run. Throughout the day, students participated in several field events including high jump, long jump, shot put, and javelin just to name a few. While for those boys who prefer a run, there were various sprints and long distance runs to suit their proficiencies.



Foxglove Oval in Mount Colah played host to this astonishing occasion yet again. Foxglove was more than capable of providing all facilities needed on the day. A fully-stocked canteen sold a diverse array of food and beverages. To compliment this, the Year 12 boys ran a superb barbeque serving sausage sandwiches as well as bacon and egg rolls.

By end of the event, it was impossible to pick a winner, as there were victors across the board. Mr Kennedy said shortly after the event "I've got no clue, very close. Hopefully it's Wandoo."

Although all participants gave it their all, one house had to prevail. Congratulations to Cooba who took it out with an overall score of 428 points. Great effort all round from all contestants and well done to the winning house.

By Zac Duretto, Luke Gruber, Griffin Sleigh and Angus Lord



DUKE OF EDINBURGH @ ABHS

GET INVOLVED, WHO KNOWS WHERE IT COULD TAKE YOU?

Be part of Australia's inaugural "Youth4Youth Challenge" on the 14th October and help raise \$50,000 to brighten the lives of seriously ill teens. Get a team of four together tackle a 20km bushwalk through the Kuring-gai National Park in an effort to raise vital funds for Starlight Children's Foundation. By taking part in the Youth4Youth Challenge it can count towards your Volunteering Section for your Duke of Ed! Visit www.dukeofed.com.au to learn more.



James "Cas" Castrission is a young man who knows a lot about adventure. Along with his best mate Justin "Jonesy" Jones, Cas recently caught the world's attention by successfully completing the first ever unsupported return journey to the South Pole. Together, they are the youngest ever team to reach the bottom of the world. James is the official event ambassador and encourages you to get involved.

"My very own first step towards becoming a professional adventurer was bushwalking in our beautiful National Parks. The Youth4Youth Challenge is going to be a great event; not only will it benefit both those who take part, but their efforts will enable to Starlight Children's Foundation to help kids impacted by illness who often are not in a position to enjoy the simple pleasures that many of us take for granted".

Mr C Yates

Duke of Ed Co-ordinator

BRONZE PRACTICE EXPEDITION 2012

During this hike we walked from Hornsby train station to Cowan train station. We did this on the 20th and the 21st of May, 2012.

When we started at Hornsby, we realised quickly that our heavy bags contained things you don't need, such as in one of them, a solar panel! We walked for six hours on the first day. Some of the highlights were watching Kaito tear his pants and having to phone through for a new pair to be delivered to Crosslands, where we were to stay the night. After we set up our tents, ate and made the fire, we played spotlight and tried to do whatever we could to make time move.

When we woke up the next morning we were in a rush to eat breakfast and pack up our gear. Then we went walking from Crosslands to Cowan. Most of the way was up or down hills, compared to yesterday's flat walk. Some of the hills were torturous but our group was still setting a good pace and we ended up getting to our destination early.

I had a great time and I highly recommend it to other people who want an adventure.

Cooper Fitzgerald (Year 9)



Thank you to the following teachers who assisted us on the walk and gave up their time to be adventurous with us:

Mr M Murphy, Ms K Kenney, Mr D Bennett and Mr C Yates

GIBBERAGONG EXCURSION



At the beginning of this term, Friday the 4th of May, Mr Yates's Senior Science and Ms Tharmarajah's Biology Year 11 classes headed down to Gibberagong Environmental Education Centre at Bobbin Head in the Kuring-gai National Park to undertake a practical study of the local environment.

The boys enjoyed the tour of the mangroves and managed to conduct a group investigation of this habitat at low tide. We measured the humidity, light, temperature and soil moisture and identified the distribution of plants using transects.

The most enjoyable part of the day was the crab race, the winner of which was

trained by Carwyn Murphy. After we had estimated the abundance of crabs in different parts of the swamp and beach, we each chose a crab and put them in the middle of a small square drawn in the mud. The first crab to make it to a larger outer circle won the race for their respective owner.

We now have an appreciation of the importance of mangroves along the Hawkesbury River.

Carwyn Murphy (Year 11)

FRIDAY CAFÉ CLUB

Café Club is a great experience for year 7's & 8's to talk to teachers about how they're doing at school. It enhances our speaking abilities with other people and we learn how to order the food and drink you want.

This was my first time and I had a ball. We got great food and a beverage. We talked about lots of topics; some that are related to school or just random stuff. I am now trying to be better so I can go again.

Beau Thierry Lukich-Yang (Year7)



I was lucky enough to attend Café Club on a Friday morning. I really like Cafe Club not only because you get to talk about any problems you are having in or out of school, but you also get to have food of your choice and a drink and then walk back to school at the end of Period 2 and continue your day.

Ben Albace (Year7)

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS



In late June our International Students will be celebrating the annual Chinese Dragon Boat Festival. The boys will bring in some traditional food including dumplings to share with fellow students and staff.

In China a public holiday is declared to celebrate this traditional event.

Ms A Evans (ESL Co-ordinator)
& Mr S Robertson (International Student Co-ordinator)

GIFTED AND TALENTED STUDENTS

Debating

Our most talented debaters, under the expert guidance of our debating coaches, Ms Schadel and Ms Chapman, have been pitting themselves against some of the best debaters from the local area. Six teams from Years 7-12 have had debates against Hornsby Girls, Normanhurst Boys and Asquith Girls. Topics that have been debated included - That offensive lyrics in songs should be banned, that aboriginal languages should be taught in schools and that victims of natural disasters should be forced to relocate to safer areas. Our boys are really showcasing their public speaking skills, ability to think laterally, logically and on their feet as well as growing an awareness of current social and political issues. Well done.

Unleashing the Creativity in the Digital Age

One of main challenges in teaching Gifted and Talented Students is not to stifle their creativity. This might seem obvious but in a world dominated with exam results, many students are becoming risk adverse and fear the consequences of failing. At ABHS we allow our boys to express themselves in an atmosphere where lateral thinking and creativity is encouraged. In a nutshell, we allow our 'boys to be boys', which is not always the case in a co-educational school environment where boys will often hold back their thoughts so they don't embarrass themselves in front of the girls.



Creativity is one of the highest orders of thinking. It requires lower order skills such as understanding and applying as well as higher order skills like analysing and evaluating and putting these all together to synthesise something new and original. With the digital era comes a new challenge. How do we keep our boys creative and engaged in the classroom with all of the electronic gadgets distracting them from all angles? Can we use these gadgets (Mobile phones, iPods, iPads, laptops, video games) to let the boys express themselves in a medium that is all consuming to them.

Here are some ideas we are using to make learning more authentic to their world. Instead of just writing a story, how about creating a podcast, photostory or voice recording. Sure, this would require a camera, video camera and sound recorder but these are all standard on modern phones and laptops and of course iPads are a multi-media workhorse.

Here is another example.

Question: Write a page outlining the positives and negatives of genetically modified foods.

Alternative: Make a short video, animated movie or cartoon strip of two people discussing the positives and negatives of genetically modified food.

The same content can be presented in a way that develops creativity and hopefully engages the boys by challenging them to use 21st Century tools to present information. The great thing is that there is a load of great tools (generally free) on the web to help students' present ideas and information that was only a few years ago only accessible by using expensive software programs.

So where do you find all of these great creative tools.

<http://edorigami.wikispaces.com/> or search for blooms digital taxonomy on Google. This site has an enormous amount of information on 21st Century teaching tools. It is a must for any parent or student who wants to keep up with digital education in the today's world and develop skills for tomorrow's workplace.

Mr S Robertson
Gifted and Talented Co-ordinator



Blazing In Green

Asquith Boys Prefects

LEADERSHIP DAY 2012 – REPORTS FROM SENIOR LEADERS

Thursday 31st of May was a day of leadership and teamwork. The morning was filled with a rush of unbridled excitement and energy, obviously coming from this year's year 11 and 12 Prefects as they awaited the arrival of the younger years. The year sevens, when they had entered the hall, were perfectly normal in the way they acted and looked unlike the older boys, who were dressed in a variety of bright or absurd clothing. Collected as a whole, they eagerly listened to Mr Griffiths' speech of his perspective of what made a leader and what Leadership represents. Then all attention was turned to our School Captain, Max Sharkey, who announced how the day was going to be organised. Activities like Water Retrieval, Spiders Web and my exercise Trivia, would be split into two groups.



I retrieved my first group for the day, who were a little anxious of what to do. Little Tom and I luckily had some lollies such as Ghost Drops to give them whenever they had the correct answer in the quiz. The exercise ran like this; one group is split into two smaller groups where group one was where everyone worked on their own, group two was the opposite, they worked as a team to answer ten questions. Then the two teams would reverse positions as individuals and team. The point of the game was to decide what worked better, as a team and as an individual. Also it gave the Year Sevens the chance to see what skills they possess to be a leader or a team member. With some of the questions, few Year Sevens couldn't answer with accuracy. For one example, they answered one question of 'what galaxy do we live in' with 'rocky road' or 'earth'.

I really appreciate observing the quirky empirical methods that the Year Sevens have quickly developed throughout the game. Some muttered suspiciously to themselves or to team mates while others have shouted to each other their own version of the correct answer. I noticed that they would often shout the wrong answer to throw others off the scent, an interestingly survival tactic that just seemed to appear on that day. Some of younger students were surprised of the real answers and I myself was surprised with some of the answers. The day was fulfilling in the way that the students had worked as a team to answer the questions and the way they lit up when they received the announcement of their marks and prizes at the end of the game.

The day was really fantastic and the boys learnt a lot of trivia information and they experienced skills that they would need in the later future. As leaders, Tom and I enjoyed and learnt necessary skills that developed during the day, from the handling of the Year Sevens and observation of them. After the day, we developed new ideas that could be used next year's leadership day. Next year we hope to build further on this successful day. I look forward to it and I hope the new Year Sevens will enjoy it too.

Marcus Limbert, Year 12 Prefect



The day was a huge success; the year seven boys were excited and couldn't wait till the activities started. The whole day was about teaching the boys all about *Leadership*. Both years 11 and 12 prefects worked together planning since November 2011. On our leadership camp the year 12 prefects did a trial run to get all the kinks and holes resolved. Our activity was *Water Retrieval*. The aim of our activity was to get the boys to work as a team and communicate and lead each other in resolving on getting the bucket of water safely without falling into the toxic waste. During the course of the day the boys loved our activity as we

gave them second go when we put lollies in the bucket of water. The boys all worked together and most of all enjoyed the day and had a BBQ lunch provided by the school.

The year 7 boys were really excited when they went back to period 5. I think that we ended up achieving our goal in teaching the year sevens about leadership. It was fun being on the teaching side of the day instead of being on the student side. I know that we the prefects will not be able to do all the preparation and making the day run smoothly without Mr Laing's constant nagging, support from all teachers and the help and knowledge of Mrs Aime Liiband. Next year will be bigger and better. Let's keep the goal of keeping "Leadership Day" an annual event on the school calendar.

Nicholas Bepper, Year 11

Nick Bepper and I ran one of the two Water Retrieval Activities. The Year 7s would arrive to the activity seeing myself and Nick dressed in lab coats, a skeleton - Rex, (kindly loaned to us by the PE department for the day), a platform of drama boxes and a scattering of equipment.

The task was simple use the equipment to grab a bucket (about 5m from the platform) while staying on the platform and without touching the grass. Surprisingly every group leapt into the challenge and they all seemed to enjoy it. After a slow start and some promoting by us each group showed excellent teamwork and leadership skills. I am glad to say that we enjoyed running the activity as much as the Year 7s enjoyed participating.

Sam Gibbons, Senior Prefect Year 12

As Games Master, it was my job to ensure the smooth running of the day, timing was maintained throughout, everyone was where they needed to be, scoring was consistent, and most importantly, everyone had a good day.

The twelve activities were co-ordinated by 26 enthusiastic prefects. There were six different activities in each circuit to ensure a variety of skills and challenges were posed to the year sevens.

At the conclusion of the day, myself and the deputy game master Tim Buwalda, debriefed the young participants. From all reports, the Year 7's had a great day and learnt a lot about teamwork and leadership. It was also a valuable learning activity for the prefects, who I am sure, learned nearly as much from the Year 7's as they did from us.

A big thank-you to Mrs Aime Liiband, who is a professional Leadership Consultant, who has helped us develop and run this successful day over the past 3 years.

Max Sharkey, School Captain

On Thursday 31st May, ABHS conducted their leadership day for the Year 7, Michael Fuary and I were the facilitators at an activity called Spider Web. The objective of the activity was to get all the team members from one side of the spider web to the other, but there were a few challenges that they must overcome to achieve this objective. First, while going through the web, one must not allow touching the spider web or they would have to restart again, this requires teamwork of all the members to get one of their teammates going through the more difficult holes as they proceed. After one member has been through a hole, the other members cannot go through the same hole, so careful planning and preparation must be presented in order to overcome this.



The activity was very challenging and I was very surprised that every team were able to get at least half of their members across to the other side with a few team came very close of finishing it in the amount of time that they had. All the teams showed great enthusiasm as they went through. Leadership and teamwork were shown greatly by each team. Overall it was a fantastic day for the Prefects and I'm sure the Year 7 felt the same as well.

Leo Pham, Year 12 Prefect



Leadership day was a great day and ran perfectly. All students cooperated very well in every single activity. Showing great skills like taking leadership, team work, complementing each other and discussing with each other a strategy constantly. For great team work and showing leadership several Year 7 students from each group received a voucher.

One activity which most of the year 7 enjoyed the most was "river crossing". The activity demanded more than just leadership and discussion. It demanded teamwork, thinking and communication skills. Some of the Year 7 group realized it straight away but other took some time due to lack of communication skills. Overall in this activity in no particular individual was a leader but everyone in then team was a team player and made it across through teamwork and communication to achieve a common goal which was to get everyone across. Each group demonstrated their own type of method for crossing. This was amazing to see.

Raj Gahlain, Year 12 Prefect

The exercise known as the 'toxic waste retrieval' involves reaching for a bucket of water or 'toxic waste' with the use of certain equipment such as planks of wood, sticks, and rope. It was interesting to see the different methods the year7's tried to use in order to complete the task at hand. There were one or two individuals who would step up and take initiative to encourage other in their group to work as a team. In the end, it was evident that it could only be done through proper team work and communication.

Mizael Santos, Year 12 Prefect



On the Leadership Day, everything was well prepared. The day gives the Year 7 boys the opportunities to develop their abilities and skills that needed to be success in role of a leader in future. The Year7's had to work together and communicate to each other to get through the activities. For example in "Spider Web" , they were required to work together, they had to talk and use their strength to go through the higher holes, they could have failed if they didn't talk and work together. Furthermore, they might have fallen on the ground if they worked independently. After the game, the boys sat down with the prefects and debriefed about the game and how to

improve their results. One of the boys said "I could never do it if my friend didn't encourage me because I am afraid of heights and the game was great - I loved the feeling when I made it through the gap".

David Ngo, Year 12 Prefect

Leadership day was full of fun and excitement. The Year 7 students went through various checkpoints and learnt all sorts of leadership and teamwork skills. By far the best checkpoint was "Charades" which for those of you who don't know, you give someone a word and they have to mime it out. The boys seemed to enjoy sitting back and watching their peers miming out and having a good laugh. Some of the mimes included hair straightner, hulk, whopper and subway foot long sub...just to name a few. On our checkpoint we started off by getting some feedback about what they had done so far and then we told them what we were going to be doing with them, some of the first time 'Charaders' were some of the best in the day. Throughout the day we handed out vouchers to some of the better 'Charaders' as well as the boys who put in a good effort, something they were proud to receive.

Ben Garrett and Vincent Campbell, Year 12 Prefect

My activity, Team Challenge, comprised of a course in which the Year 7's had to race another team through to win. They had to utilise leadership skills such as team work, forward thinking, initiative and most importantly the ability to be able to listen to one another. First there was the plank run, whereby the Yr 7s had to synchronize their movements to get the planks off the start line. They quickly learned that communication and listening is vital. Next up was the bicycle tyre race. In this activity the boys had to form a circle and then think about how they were going to get multiple tyres



around the circle without letting go of each other. Teamwork and thinking about the task ahead was needed for this one. Finally was the bridge race. In this challenge the entire team must select one individual, who cannot touch the ground, and get him up to the cone and back. First team wins. Using sticks the team needs to coordinate itself so that each pair the person walks across they quickly rearrange to the front to make a continuous bridge. This was particularly good at encouraging the Year 7's to use all of the above mentioned leadership skills. Everyone involved had an enjoyable day and picked up a range of new leadership skills.

Jeff Rodrick, School Vice Captain



LEADERSHIP DAY 2012 – REFLECTIONS BY SOME YEAR 7'S

On the 31st of May we had Year 7 Leadership day. It was a day with activities prepared by our senior students.

The activities required teamwork and leadership skills; there were many senior students as leaders and many Year 7 students who participated. At the end of each activity the senior leaders would give vouchers to the best team worker or team leader. The day was fantastic full of fun activities to test a team's leadership skills and team work. It ended off with a nice BBQ.

Wilford Zhang



On Thursday the 31st of May, Asquith Boys High School had a Leadership day. The day was made up into six events. My favourite event was the mine field - the first thing that happened was the two leaders explained the rules and how to accomplish it. You had three paper plates and you needed to cross across a mine field. You could go two at a time. One of your teammates has broken legs so you need to carry. In the end we got everyone across. Everyone had a good time and we learned a lot about leadership.

Mitchell Cox



On Thursday, the 31st of May, year 7 had a leadership day run by the prefects. It started off when we all got invited in the hall to get informed about the day and selected in the teams. We then moved to the activities. We had to pick a team name. We went to a few activities like spider web, bucket collector and team challenge. We then had lunch.

After we finished all the activities we added the points we got and found the winner. Overall it was a awesome day and would love to do it again.

Riley Gibson

On Thursday the 31st 2012 year 7 were lucky enough to be able to enjoy a fun leadership day. This day was held by the Year 11 and Year 12 prefects and captains. Firstly they split us into groups of eight and gave us our leaders. For our first activity we did Charades, this was my favourite activity because I had to act out Harry Potter, Transformer, Barack Obama, and Sponge bob.

It was a great day and I want to do it again.

Mitch Claydon

On Thursday 31st of May, the Asquith Boys High School Prefects organised Leadership day. All of Year 7 was split into different groups and different activities. My group was called Doggies. We did Charades, an activity where couldn't touch the ground, a Spiderman activity, Team challenge, Trivia and Border Crossing- my favourite was team challenge. The day was really fun.

Ben Bigham

On Thursday 31 all of Year 7 participated in a leadership day. We were put into different groups and sent off to our first activities. We named our group: "Sheepies". Our first activity was 'water retrieval'. We had to use a large plank, a pipe a smaller square plank and a rope. We finished it in two minutes due to our powerful skill of counter weights. We then went to a spider web activity. We did another activity then we did a few more activities after recess before we all went to the hall for the winners to be announced. My team came fourth.

Nicholas Roscarel



On Thursday 31st May 2012 the Year 11&12 prefects organized a fun leadership day for Year 7. We were put into groups of 8, each group would do 6 different activities which included charades, river crossing, water retrieval, trivia, spider-web and team challenge. All the activities were fun and included leadership. Throughout the activities we got rewards for participating or being a good leader. At the end of the day we got a sausage sizzle.

It was a fun day and it was well organised by the prefects.

Nick Fowler



On the 31st of May, Year 7 went to a variety of activities led by the prefects. The activities involved communication teamwork and leadership. The tasks involved were climbing through a rope web, collecting a bucket that was metres away without touching the ground, using two wood planks with rope to get from one side to the oval to the other, answering tricky questions, charade and cross from one side of the river to the other using plates.

The day was great, every one enjoyed it and we got

rewarded at the end of the activities, we got a free sausage sizzle and soft drink. A memorable day for us all!

Michael Goodman

On Thursday the 31st of May, 2012, Year 7 of ABHS had the official leadership day, organised by the prefects. The day ran from period 1-4 and the day was meant to get the groups working together. There were 6 activities: spider web, trivia, charades, water retrieval, river crossing and team challenge. Spider web was about strategy, trivia focused on mind power, charades is about imagination, water retrieval was a team challenge, river crossing and team challenge were impossible without 5 or more members.

Jack Ryan



SYDNEY WRITERS FESTIVAL

It was a sunny day as myself and my cohort of fellow writers strolled into the bustling streets of Sydney city, on our way to the Sydney Writers Festival.... Ya know what? No. This is not just going to be some boring linear recount like so many others. I was asked to recount to the school community the excitement and frivolous joy that was experienced by me and my compadres at the festival, but instead I'll just tell you about the things I got out of it; and the god of fiction writing that I had the opportunity to meet.

If there is one thing that I picked up from the festival on how to improve my writing, it was the concept of 'exploring the moment'. The ability to focus an entire story on a single moment in both time and space, a moment of complete clarity where everything seems to stand still. I had the fortuitous chance to experience a moment such as this at the festival. You see I was not only there to learn some nifty tips about improving my writing, no, that was just an added bonus. I was there to meet one of my favourite authors OF ALL TIME and one of my personal idols, Eoin Colfer. Author of the acclaimed 'Artemis Fowl' book series and several outstanding stand-alone novels, Colfer could be said to be one of the most prominent young adult authors of our era. And I got the chance to meet him! I shook his hand, got my photo taken with him and got my favourite Artemis Fowl book signed by him. It was truly one of my best days this year.

So that's that, done and done. Meeting Eoin Colfer was really the highlight of the trip and certainly made my day. The festival opened up my eyes to the potential I could achieve as a writer and has already inspired me further to take up a career in creative writing.

Cheers for reading, Live Long and Prosper. Austin out.

By Austin Carey (Year 11)



SUNDAY 26TH AUGUST WORKING BEE

Grab some old clothes and dust off your gardening tools, our school needs your help! On Sunday 26th 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 these last months 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 26th August from 10am – 4pm.

P&C Association

Parents and Citizens working together for our School

Hello ABHS community,

Your P&C met for June on Tuesday 19th. Normally our June meeting, in the cold, dark, wet depths of winter is our least attended, this year we have achieved another milestone, our biggest winter attendance over the last five years. *A big Thank You to all those you came along to the meeting.*

This month we opened with a presentation by our Head Teacher Science, **Mr Stuart Robinson**. Mr Robinson presented to us on the topic of **“Boys Schools & Technology”**. The presentation was a fantastic insight into how our boys can utilise the technology “in their hands” (smart phones) for undertaking class work & completing assignments. The discussion covered, creating audio and video, flowchart and cartoons, and presentations. The examples looked great, and were an excellent way in being able to link what our boys like to use technology wise, with completing their school work.

Also Mr Robinson covered the **ALARM** model – A Learning And Responding Matrix, which provides boys with a learnable strategy to enable them to improve their written skills. As our boys move into the senior years to tackle the Higher School Certificate, this strategy will prove invaluable in supporting their short & long answer responses and also their essay writing.

Thank you Mr Robinson, for an very informative and extremely relevant presentation.

Our school has experienced an increased in interest the **Duke of Edinburgh Award** process.

The Duke of Edinburgh Award is an enriching program inviting young people aged 14-25 to participate in a number of activities over a set length of time. The participants design their own unique program centred on their interests and passions, and is entirely voluntary. There are three levels of achievement, Bronze Silver & Gold. At each level you must complete and be assessed in the following areas; Physical Recreation, Skill, Volunteering, Adventurous Journey, & Residential Project. This program is great for boys and it is very encouraging to see increasing levels of interest and involvement.

More details can be found at: <http://www.dukeofed.com.au>

Some key dates for your diaries:

The next “Working Bee” day is set down for Sunday 26th August, so lock it into your calendars.

The Community Fun Day is set down for Sunday 9th September, so also lock it this day into your calendars.

Once again thanks to all those who attended the P&C meeting for June, the next one is Tuesday 7th August.

Thanks,

John Koellner

P&C President

President:	John Koellner
Vice Presidents:	Jacqui Taylor Fiona Wilson
Secretary:	Kim Pinnock
Treasurer:	Jenny Williams
Ground Maintenance:	Michelle Roscarel
School Council Reps:	Kim Pinnock, Kerry Limbert, Linda Stanford, Jenny Williams

The next P&C meeting
8:00pm
Tuesday 7 August
in the Library.
All welcome.

ASQUITH BOYS HIGH SCHOOL CALENDAR TERM 3 2012

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	Sat/Sun
Week 1A	July 16 Staff Development Day SASS Conference	July 17 Students Return Formal Assembly (Outstanding reports)	July 18	July 19	July 20	July 21 22
Week 2B	July 23 Visit by Japanese students from Nanzan (till 19 Aug) Parent/Teacher Night	July 24	July 25	July 26	July 27	July 28 29
Week 3A	July 30	July 31	August 1	August 2	August 3	Aug 4 5
HSC Trials						
				Australian Maths Competition		
Week 4B	August 6	August 7	August 8	August 9	August 10	Aug 11 12
HSC Trials						
PASS Alpine Excursion						
		School Council P&C Meeting				
Week 5A	August 13	August 14	August 15	August 16	August 17	Aug 18 19 <i>Sat 18</i> Charity Concert
Week 6B	August 20	August 21	August 22	August 23 Formal Assembly (Winter Grade Sports) <small>Backchat Issued</small>	August 24	Aug 25 26 <i>Sunday 26</i> P&C Working Bee
Week 7A	August 27	August 28	August 29	August 30 ART/TAS/PIP Exhibition	August 31 WALKATHON	Sept 1 2
Week 8B	September 3	September 4 School Council P&C Meeting	September 5	September 6	September 7	Sept 8 9 P&C Community Day Sunday 9
Week 9A	September 10	September 11	September 12	September 13	September 14	Sept 15 16
Week 10B	September 17	September 18	September 19	September 20	September 21	Sept 22 23
Year 11 VET Placements – all week						
			Yr12 Graduation Assembly		End of Term 3	
				<small>Backchat Issued</small>		



Asquith Boys High School
Community Fun Day
 Sunday 9th September 2012
 10am - 4pm
 organised by: ABHS P&C



The Community Fun Day is returning after the first successful event in 2011.

This year we will support the School Technology Fund and are celebrating with:



fantastic music from the local schools, solo performances and rock bands



sport including some novelty games and culminating in the Blackwood Shield and Moscos Cup



stalls to browse, including a book stall



a variety of delicious food for breakfast and lunch
 plus tasty treats from the ABHS kitchens



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!



Volunteers are needed to ensure the success of the day.

We are desperately short of volunteers to assist on our stalls.

Please send an email to let us know what times you can help.
 Don't forget your boys can help also!

abhs.communityfunday@gmail.com



Raffle: please contact us via email if you have any donations

We need **BOOKS!**



We are having a Book Stall and need donations.

Start collecting unwanted books and magazines that we can sell.

Donations can be left at the school office from 1st August onwards. If you need to move them out before then, or are unable to deliver them to the school, please call Jenny on 0432 271546 to arrange collection.

The organising committee can be contacted through a dedicated email address:

abhs.communityfunday@gmail.com



THE WORD FROM ENGLISH

Term 2 has been an academically rigorous and enriching term for our boys in English. All year groups have continued to develop their skill in extended, structured writing with the goal of striving to achieve their personal best in English and (hopefully) build a lifelong love of literature and learning.

There is no doubt that Term 2 is an incredibly busy time of the year for our students in English and all their other subjects. Therefore, some students can find it very stressful trying to keep up with the demands placed on them by their teachers. The holidays provide a wonderful opportunity for 'mental regrouping' to get back on track and stay focused on strategies to achieve academic success. I encourage all our boys to take the time over the holidays to organise themselves and set positive learning goals.

A holiday organisational to do list may include:

- Cleaning out the bag!
- Pasting in any sheets that are floating around or shoved in the back of books (you WILL need these for revision).
- Repairing or replacing books that are in a state of disarray (KEEP your old book, you will need these for revision).
- **Students with Laptops:** Organise your digital files into subject folders as well as topic area folders and BACK UP ALL FILES.
- **Senior students:** Read over prescribed texts, re-read class notes and get started on your study notes and perfect paragraphs (time ALWAYS passes quickly in the lead up to exams).

It's actually a wonderful feeling to be **organised** and helps attain the **mental clarity** needed to be a successful student. It would be fantastic to see all our boys making a real effort to stay on top of organisational issues and make the commitment to further academic successes in Semester 2.

Mrs J. Schadel
Head Teacher English



SCIENCE Year 12

Mr Robertson's HSC Physics class have been studying silicon chips and photovoltaic cells (solar panels). The boys set themselves a challenge to make the most powerful solar circuit they could by linking up to 10 smaller solar panels together. They used their electrical circuit's knowledge from Year 11 to link the solar panels in series to produce over 12 volts.

It was more than enough to light up some LED lights. Well done boys.

On the 1st May Mr Yates's Senior Science and Ms Tharmarajah's Biology Year 12 classes visited the Museum of Human Disease at the university of NSW. The students were repelled by some of the specimens but probably became resolved as a result, to not take their own health for granted. Of great interest to the Senior Science students studying bionics, were the artificial heart exhibits. The boys gained an insight into the relevance of biomedical research and its important role in understanding of disease prevention for the wider community.

Year 10

The Science Research Project should be in full swing for all Year 10 students. A reminder that the preliminary report is overdue and that the boys should be collecting results for their projects that is due in August.

It is that time of the year again when the boys need to choose their subjects for Year 11. The Science Faculty offers a great range of subjects in the HSC Course. This includes Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Earth and Environmental Science and Senior Science. All of these are ATAR courses. While all boys are encouraged to do at least one Science subject in the HSC Course it must be stressed that Physics and Chemistry are highly demanding and require strong mathematical skills. If you would like more information on any Science course, please contact me.

Junior Science

Years 7, 8 and 9 have completed their Half-Yearly exams and most boys did very well. The Half Yearly exams are mainly skills based meaning they concentrate on scientific methodology, interpreting data, problem solving and graphing. The results of these tests show us where the boys are struggling and lets us modify the boys learning to focus on areas of weakness.

Because the exams do not require the students to regurgitate large amounts of science content they may think the exams contained nothing about what they learnt directly in class but what is valued in later years and especially as they move into employment is the underlying skills built early in their school life.

Science Competition

The annual UNSW Science competition was run on Wed 6th June. Over 100 boys sat for this test and this is a great experience that helps the students think outside the square and develops their problem solving skills. Results and certificates will handed out in August.

Mr S. Robertson
Head Teacher Science



Greetings from HSIE!

Let me take you on a journey through the maze of Education in the Humanities as it stands at present.

History, Geography, Legal Studies, Economics, Modern History, History Extension and Commerce have always been the subjects most chosen by many students at Asquith Boys over the last decade. In 2013, we are offering a new subject that has been Board Developed and gaining popularity – Society and Culture.

Society and Culture, as the Syllabus determines is a subject that appeals to many. As with all the others in the Senior School, it is a 2 Unit Course. We now have a qualified teacher in Miss Evans who has experience in teaching the Course and has been encouraged by the number of students interested in Society and Culture. It will not replace any other Course that we offer but we hope it may appeal to students.

In the selection process, let me advise students: Select the subject that you are interested in; that appeals to your tastes and requirements and not because you like the teacher or your friend are doing it. Choose it wisely – speak to teachers and parents – but make your choice.

This term we have been extremely encouraged by the work produced by many in the **Junior and Senior School** as regards to three specific areas:

- Work in the classroom and engagement of students with teachers
- Class Project and Assessment work
- Essay writing and extension Writing based on evidence supplied and research

Particularly in the **Middle school**, our students have embraced extension Writing and have utilised the PEEL system to plan and complete their written assignments. It has been very encouraging the structure of writing responses and the finished articles. Clearly our Literacy and Numeracy efforts have been bearing the fruits of our labours!

Senior students are now coming into the most rigorous part of their Year and we wish them good luck in their studies but remind them that efforts now can be adequately rewarded in the HSC with diligence in class and that revered word – STUDY!

Finally, it would be remiss of us not to wish our long serving and good mate Deputy Principal Bruce Collins all the very best in his "Separation" from the Department of Education.

Bruce's wise counselling, time and effort have been monumental in the involvement and

recovery of many troubled boys in this school and his personal drive has led to many a positive outcome in all facets of education. To Bruce and Deb, enjoy!

Mr G. Moscos
Head Teacher HSIE



MATHS

The Maths Department has continued to evolve since welcoming our 2 new members of staff Mr Lappas and Ms Zhou. We have been blessed with a brand new carpet in the staffroom which allowed us to have a much needed clear out of old "stock". This is currently on-going.

The Australian Maths Competition is on the horizon again and takes place on Thursday 2nd August and will involve challenging questions for our top Maths classes as well as problem solving. It is one of the largest competitions in the world and Asquith Boys has a tradition of participation in the AMC since its inception over 30 years ago. The aim is to encourage and sustain interest in the study of Mathematics amongst secondary students and to recognise excellence. Prizes include cash and certificate of merit. There is a minimal cost of \$5.50 for each student which should be paid to the front office as soon as possible.

Year 10 have completed their half-yearly exams and staff are busy marking all student papers. In the absence of the school certificate exam the results will still go towards an overall grade for each student. The new system is named RoSA otherwise known as the Record of Student Achievement.

Finally we like to encourage parents in the learning process wherever possible so our challenge to you is, can you get the answer to our June backchat Maths puzzle before your son???

Maths Challenge:

Taking the numbers '1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9' place a plus or minus between the digits 1 to 9 so that the answer is equal to the sum of 100.

The Answer will appear in the July backchat, if required, of course!! Have a nice holiday

Mr J French
Maths Teacher

CAREERS



Recent Highlights

Western Sydney Careers Expo

About 30 Year 12 students visited this expo to gain further information about tertiary and training courses, career and employment opportunities, HSC subjects, study skills and gap year programs. The 120 exhibitors included all of Australia's major universities. There were also seminars to attend and it was pleasing to see Asquith Boys High students listening to the UAC seminar on the ATAR and applying for university.

Coming Events

Free Apprenticeship and Traineeship on Wednesday 25th July from 4pm to 7.30pm at the PCYC Performing Arts Centre, Corner Edgeworth David Avenue and Waitara Avenue, Waitara. Many employers will be in attendance and students looking for an apprenticeship or traineeship are encouraged to attend with copies of their resume. Parents are welcome to attend.

School Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships Information Evening will be held on Wednesday 15th August from 6.30pm to 8pm at Checkers Conference Centre, 331 Mona Vale Road, Terry Hills. Hear from Australian Apprenticeship Centres, registered Training Organisations, Employers, Department of Education & Communities and Current school Based Apprentices/Trainees

A Year 12 Careers Night "Focusing on University Options" will be held on Wednesday 22 August at Cherrybrook Technology High School from 5-9pm. There will be a speaker on Pathways to University, gaining Scholarships, and a talk on the university applications process through the University Admission Centre. Most universities will be in attendance.

Participating schools are Asquith Boys High, Asquith Girls High, Castle Hill High, Epping Boys High, Galston High, Normanhurst Boys High, Oakhill College Pennant Hills.

I would urge all ABHS students to attend with their parents. Further information will follow.

Important Information

Year 10 Work Experience

This will be held in the week from **Monday 15th to Friday 19th October 2012**. All Year 10 students have been issued with the necessary paperwork and should be actively looking for suitable employers.

All placements should be finalized by the beginning of Term 3.

Year 12 Careers Interviews

All Year 12 students are urged to make an appointment with the Careers Adviser to ensure they are planning their career options for 2013.

Mrs J. Fry

Careers Adviser

Free Apprenticeship and Traineeship Expo

When? Wednesday 25th July, 4pm - 7:30pm

Where? PCYC Performing Arts Centre, cnr Edgeworth David Ave & Waitara Ave, Waitara

For: Young people and their parents

Come and discuss your career options with the experts!

- Meet training organisations and employers
- Pick up job application and interview tips
- Find a career that suits your interests

Remember to bring several copies of your resume and a pen. Parents are welcome to attend.

For more information, please contact **Rachelle Elphick on 0439 041 020**.

Supported by Hornsby Shire Council, Mission Australia, Hills Schools Industry Partnership, Families NSW and Hornsby Ku-ring-gai PCYC



Kickstart your Career

Apprenticeships & Traineeships can be done as part of your HSC!!!

Richard Johnson and Alex Pearson are Year 12 students undertaking School Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships at Asquith Boys HS.

Richard is an apprentice in Horticulture who, after completing the TAFE component of his course at Ryde TAFE during Year 11 as part of his HSC pattern of study, is working 2 days each week at the Asquith Golf Club.

Alex is an Automotive apprentice with Cremorne Prestige Service who completed his TAFE component through Hornsby TAFE during Year 11 and is currently working 2 days each week.

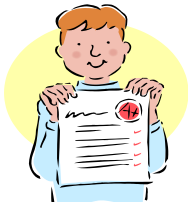


Richard and Alex are among more than 115 students across the Northern Sydney Region combining school, training and paid work as part of their HSC pattern of study. Their school timetables have been structured to support this pattern of study and employment.

There are many different career areas to choose from such as Carpentry, Hairdressing, Tourism, Electro-technology, Automotive, Retail and Hospitality. Students incorporate a Vocational Education and Training course into their HSC pattern of study. They complete a minimum of 100 - 180 days of **paid work** over two years, but this varies depending on the Industry area.

Securing a supportive employer is essential to the program. Most students do work experience in Year 10 in an area of interest. Often as a result of successful work experience a School Based Apprenticeship or Traineeship can be organised. Stuart, Richard's employer commented "**Richard was a work experience student which led to the apprenticeship and all is going extremely well**" Alex's employer commented "**Alex is doing well; he is keen and has initiative and motivation.**"

As well as working during term time students can work occasionally on Saturdays and during the school holidays. Richard commented, "**It's all good. I'm handling it really well and work and TAFE are working out really well. It's really good as it gives me a head start in life as well as doing the HSC.**" Alex commented, "**It spreads the week out and makes the week go fast.**"



On successful completion of the HSC and the School Based Apprenticeship and Traineeship at the end of Year 12, Richard and Alex will have the HSC, a Nationally Accredited Industry Qualification and gained credit and a pathway to further employment and study. They will also have become part of an adult team in the workplace and gained valuable industry skills. See your Careers Adviser for more information.

The screenshot shows the NowLearning website interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with categories like Undergraduate, Postgraduate, TAFE - Diplomas, TAFE - Certs, IT Courses, and Online Courses. A search bar is prominently displayed with fields for 'Area of Study' and 'Location'. Below the search bar, there's a list of 'Popular Searches' including Business Courses, Financial Planning Courses, Healthcare Courses, Photography Courses, MBA Courses, Education Courses, IT Courses, Management Courses, Marketing Courses, Design Courses, Excel Courses, Engineering Courses, Aged Care Courses, MYOB Courses, Hospitality Courses, Accounting Courses, Finance Courses, and Aromatherapy Courses. There are also links to Counselling Courses, Beauty Courses, Tourism Courses, Project Management, and Photoshop Courses. The 'Featured Course Providers' section includes logos for Deakin University Australia, Integrity Education Group, The University of Sydney, Open Universities Australia, and Open Colleges. On the right side, there's a 'Government Funding' banner with a 'Find out if you're eligible Now!' button, and a 'SIGN UP TO OUR NEWSLETTER' form with an email address field and a 'Sign Up!' button.

asquithdental

DENTISURE™ Free Tooth Insurance

Asquith Dental has partnered with DENTISURE™ to provide complimentary tooth insurance for students aged between 5-19.

DENTISURE™ offers free cover for dental injuries for any school related activities.

DENTISURE™ can be used in conjunction with any other health cover plans.

p | (02) 9477 3906
e | info@asquithdental.com.au
w | www.asquithdental.com.au

*Please refer to our website for further information and eligibility requirements Terms and Conditions: Prices are subject to change. Appointments subject to availability. Offer only valid subject to practices participation in DENTISURE™



New Patient Offer (\$195)

(Valued at \$435) including:

- Comprehensive Examination
- Diagnostic X-Rays
- Professional Clean and Polish
- Fluoride Treatment
- Oral Hygiene Instruction
- Oral Cancer Screening

go wild this winter: Vision Valley holiday camps are on!

Adventure day camps
Horse riding camps
Overnight camps
Snow camp

Climb a rock face, fly through the valley, ride a horse along a rugged trail, or try to stay dry in a canoe.

Our camps are packed full of fun and adventure, and are designed to promote confidence and give every individual the chance to grow.

Camps are for kids aged eight and up, and are on this July school holidays.

Don't miss out: book your place now by calling (02) 9655 2600 or go to our website for more details www.visionvalley.org.au

Childcare rebate is available



lifeline

Harbour to Hawkesbury

Huge Annual Book Fair 2012

Thursday 12th & Friday 13th July, 9 am – 9 pm

Saturday 14th & Sunday 15th July, 9 am – 5 pm

at Knox Grammar School Hall,
Pacific Highway, Wahroonga

All funds raised help maintain Lifeline's essential services to the community.



Parent Forum 25 June 2012

“Internet – Tool and Weapon”

Ku-ring-gai Youth Development Service (KYDS) and the Ku-ring-gai Council Youth Services Team will present a seminar dealing with teenage internet use on 25 June 2012 from 6.30 pm to 8.30 pm at Ku-ring-gai Council Chambers (Level 3, 818 Pacific Highway, Gordon).

The forum will focus on:

- Bullying in the digital age
- Sexting and adolescence in the age of social media
- Young people, technology and the law
- Online addictions
- Privacy and Safety
- Technology contracts
- Tips and practical ‘take home’ strategies

Bookings are essential - contact Ku-ring-gai Youth Services on 9424 0837 or email youth@kmc.nsw.gov.au (entry fee is via a \$5.00 donation to KYDS)

For more information on the forum contact KYDS on 9416 9824 or visit www.kyds.org.au

About the Speaker : Nina Funnell is a freelance journalist and social commentator who writes regularly for The Sydney Morning Herald, The Melbourne Age and The National Times. Nina appears regularly on ABC radio’s Life Matters program and Channel Ten’s Breakfast show. Nina currently sits on a number of boards and councils including The Premiers Council on Preventing Violence Against Women, The National Children’s and Youth Law Centre board, The NSW Rape Crisis Centre board and the expert advisory board to the NSW Commission for Children and Young People. Nina’s current research looks at cyber bullying, sexting and the ways in which young people are incorporating social media and digital technology into their dating, courtship and other relationship practices. Nina has also trained NRL football players and other elite athletes on their attitudes towards women. In 2010 Nina was awarded the Australian Human Rights Commission Community (Individual) award for her work in violence prevention and was a finalist for Young Australian of the Year.

Healthy Relationships Forum

A forum for local people wanting professional information for themselves or a friend.

Presentations by services on:
Healthy / Unhealthy Relationships
Family Law, Children’s Health & Wellbeing,
How to keep your family safe

Forum Details:

Thursday 9th August, 2012

9.30am – 2.15pm

1186 Ku-ring-gai Town Hall Pacific Highway Pymble

Limited parking available but just a short walk from Pymble train station

FREE Admission

FREE Access to Professional Information

FREE Lunch & Refreshment

NO CHILDCARE AVAILABLE

Bookings are essential

Please RSVP to Centacare

94882400



HOW TO ENROL

PLEASE READ THE BOOKING CONDITIONS CAREFULLY BEFORE PROCEEDING

COMPLETE the Application Form;
MAKE cheques/money orders payable to:
Northern Sydney Central Coast Health
POST the completed Application Form and the fee to:
Child & Adolescent Parenting
PO Box 142
NORTH RYDE NSW 1670

or fax forms, using Mastercard or Visa to:
FAX: 9887 2941

Staff Concessions:
20% discount for staff of Northern Sydney Local Health District on courses only.

Childminding:
We regret we cannot provide childminding.

Public Holidays:
Classes are **NQT** held on public holidays.

Receipts:
Receipts and confirmations are posted after your enrolment has been processed. Please allow adequate time before enquiring.

Refunds/Credits:
Select your course carefully. Refunds and/or credits cannot be given unless a course is cancelled.

COURSE VENUES

Chatswood Community Health Centre,
57 Hercules St
Cremorne Early Childhood Centre,
108 Parraween ST

ALL OUR LEADERS ARE PARENTS & PROFESSIONALLY QUALIFIED

Couples discount available for courses only. We regret that we cannot provide child minding.

Parenting Education
for Mums,
Dads and Carers

TERMS 3 & 4
2012

August to December



CHILD & ADOLESCENT PARENTING
9887-5830

www.nscchah.health.nsw.gov.au/caparenting.htm



Health
Northern Sydney
Local Health District

