



Asquith Boys High School Community Newsletter

BACKCHAT

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September 2012

25TH Annual SPRING WALKATHON

The 2012 Walkathon on, 31st August, was another great success with over 350 boys completing the 10 Km walk from School to Apple Tree Bay. Luckily we had fine weather which added to the success of the day. Funds raised from the Walkathon will be used for whole school programs such as technology implementation and a donation will be made to the Royal Flying Doctor Service.

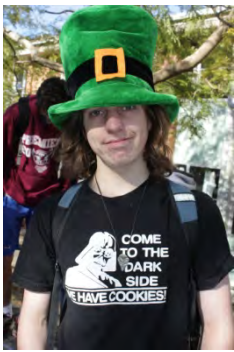
I would like to thank all the sponsors of our event, especially Aussie Hire who donated a truck for the day and Schofields Flying Club who donated the first prize for the student who raises the largest amount of money.

The boys left school at 9am and walked to the start of the Gibberagong Track at North Wahroonga. They made their way down the ridge-line to the creek and worked their way to Bobbin Head. From Bobbin Head the boys walked to Apple Tree Bay for a BBQ lunch and a music and dance session featuring Mr Williamson and Mr Thomsett with many more student performances, as well.

I would like to thank all the parents who helped with the BBQ on the day. Without their help the Walkathon would not be possible. An extra special thank you to Sunita Smith who co-ordinated the purchase of food and drinks and ran the set-up of the BBQ at Apple Tree Bay. Many teachers also helped especially Ross Johnston with pre-planning and the BBQ, Mr Murphy, Mr Buckley and Ms Kenney with the marking of the track, Ms Robinson with the buses, and Ms Schadel with sponsorship cards. Every other teacher who completed their duty helped make the day a success.

Mr S Robertson, Walkathon Co-ordinator





PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Year 12

This year's cohort leaves us this week. They have been a terrific group of young men and have been well led by School Captain Max Sharkey, Vice-Captain Jeff Rodrick, Senior Prefect Sam Gibbons and the rest of the Prefects. Best wishes to Year 12 for the HSC exams and beyond. I look forward to hearing of their future progress.

School Review

A few weeks ago ABHS participated in a comprehensive whole school review. A team of principals and deputies from outside the school interviewed staff and students, conducted on-line surveys, examined educational documents and visited classrooms. I am pleased to report that the conclusion of the review team is that Asquith Boys High is a "wonderful, wonderful school". The team commented very favourably on the happy tone of the school, the friendly nature of our boys, the passion and commitment of the staff, and the success of our many educational and welfare programs for boys. I will be receiving a comprehensive written report on the review next term. I intend to make this report public.

P & C Community Day

This day, held on Sunday September 9th, was a tremendous success. With perfect weather there was entertaining and high quality musical performances all day, a number of very competitive soccer matches, great food and interesting stalls. The event was very well supported by our community with hundreds of visitors throughout the day, including local federal Member of Parliament, Mr Paul Fletcher. We believe that this event will now become a regular annual feature on our calendar. Many members of the P & C were involved in organising this day and were ably led by School Council President Dr Kim Pinnock. Mr Jim French was the staff co-ordinator. Congratulations to everybody connected with this outstanding event.

Art/TAS Exhibition and Walkathon

These two traditional ABHS annual events were held over consecutive days and both were very successful. Many parents and students attended the opening of the exhibition on the evening of August 30 and were treated to a display of high quality visual arts, musical performances, and Year 12 Industrial Technology major works. Congratulations to Ms Holder, Ms Cooke, Ms Mashman, Ms Ryan, Mr Williamson, Mr Philip and all the students who contributed to this event. Equally successful was the Walkathon on 31st August. Excellent attendance, participation and behaviour by our boys made the event a fun day out for everybody. My thanks to the parents and volunteer helpers who made a valuable contribution to the success of this day and the overall co-ordinator, Mr Robertson.

Financial Contributions

It pains me to once again have to write about parents who have not yet paid school contributions (what used to be called "school fees"). At this stage of the school year only approximately 60% of contributions have been paid. If this situation is not significantly improved by the early part of Term 4 it will have a serious impact on our school budget for 2013. I remind parents that we are very dependent on parent contributions to fund our educational resources and programs. Payments can be made in several ways or by instalments. In the event of financial hardship we still have some funds left in the Students' Assistance Scheme. Please contact the school office for payment details and options. I can assure all parents that every dollar contributed goes towards educational resources for your sons. If you would like to personally discuss this issue or your own individual circumstances, please contact me at school.

Terry Griffiths, Principal



*Joel Swan (7) and
Damien Zhu (9)
receiving their
Principal's Award*

National SASS Recognition Week 2012

SASS Recognition week is the chance for the school to acknowledge the hard work done by School Administrative and Support Staff (SAS Staff).

Every day of the school year SAS Staff face new challenges in the running of our public schools and the provision of the quality education which children will need for life in the 21st century. They are constantly adapting to change so that children can have the best education possible.



At Asquith Boys High School the SAS Staff are a dedicated group of professional workers who play a vital role in students' learning by assisting teachers with implementing educational programs, maintaining records and assisting in producing newsletters, and maintaining the grounds to keep our school safe.

School Administration Manager - Karen Ronald

Reception– Joan Wilson, Sue Hill, Evelyn Drummond

Cashier – Pam Noulton, Debbie Seifert, & Vanessa Machon,

Print Room & Attendance – Debbie Seifert & Vanessa Machon

Library Assistants – Pam Noulton & Kirsten Dudley

Science Assistant – Julie Polson

Kitchen Assistant – Kerrie Booth

Back Office Administration – Lauren Simms & Inez Beckerleg

General Assistant – Steve Sonter

School Learning Support Staff – Michelle Anthonisz, Louise Tapner, Carol Barlow, Cassandra Batey, & Irene Michas



Children's Medicine Use Questionnaire

If you are a parent/carer with a child aged 0 – 15 years old, you are invited to help researchers from The University of Sydney understand issues around children's medication use by filling in the Children's Medicine Use Questionnaire.

Parents are typically the primary agent in managing their children's health and medication especially when they are young. Parental attitudes and behaviour influence their children health and lay the foundation for their lifelong health beliefs and behaviours. As parents can provide critical input that is irreplaceable, researchers would very much appreciate it if you would take your time to fill in the questionnaire by clicking on the link below.

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/FC5XMX>

It will take about 15 - 20 minutes to complete the questionnaire. All aspects of the study are strictly confidential.

The study is being conducted by Dr Rebekah Moles and colleagues from The University of Sydney

JAZZ CHARITY FESTIVAL 2012

This is a music festival which occurs every two years and celebrates jazz performances across primary and high school as well as at a professional level. It provides opportunities for our local student bands to work with internationally recognised performers to stage a musical event. It is also an event staged to support the Royal Flying Doctor Service with the aim of making a significant donation.

Saturday 18th August was the ABHS Stage Band's night to shine....AGAIN. This was the night of our Jazz Festival shared with local and international bands.

MC for the evening, Sam Gibbons, managed the evening and led us through the evening with dignity and well-practiced ease. We welcomed Asquith Public School Concert Band led by the energetic Matt Dalziel for a buzzing opening set featuring many familiar and fantastic pieces. Mary Bentley was warmly welcomed to the stage to talk to us about what the Royal Flying Doctor Service does for our nation.

Following Mary we were charmed by the jazz funk of sparkling Thornleigh West Public School's Funk Band led by David Bell (who is also a long time music tutor at ABHS). Our own Stage Band played a lengthy, fantastic and dynamic set which lit up the room.

It was easy to see the energy which gained the silver and gold recognition at Eisteddfods.

Interval saw a cake festival provided by the baking skills of Iain Howick. What looked like a sea of baking was soon reduced to crumbs by the horde of hungry audience members who were not put off by Iain's "I Don't Share!" apron.

Following interval we were launched into the world of Big Band Jazz by John Morrison's Swing City and vocalist Emma Pask. A blistering set travelled through familiar pieces and arrangements written by different band members. We were treated to solos by band members whose musical talents were extraordinary. Emma's voice rang through the hall with an old fashioned swing, transporting us to somewhere else.

The evening closed with John Morrison's favourite drum solo....THAT DRUM SOLO...the one we had been waiting for.

Thank you to so many for making this night a success.

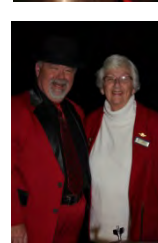
Stage Band: Iain Howick (Director) Sam Gibbons, Mick Knochs, James Sheridan, Harry Tuynman, Kane Whittaker (absent), Tom Vanderlaan, Keegan Waters, Cooper Fitzgerald, David Mays, Joel Winch, Andrew Morrison, Joshua Chapman, Alec Drummond, Noah Szeto and all their supportive and longsuffering parents.

ABHS Staff: Steve Sonter, Maryanne Miller, Inez Beckerleg, Debbie Seifert, Joan Wilson and all the Reception Staff, Caroline Cooke, Leanne Ryan, Laura Mashman, Mike Williamson, Ray Elkin, Terry Griffiths, Kirsten Dudley & Rachel Lee.

Asquith Public School Concert Band led by Matt Dalziel, and all their parent helpers.

Thornleigh West Public School Funk Band led by Dave bell, and all their parent helpers.

Ms C Holder, Charity Concert Co-ordinator



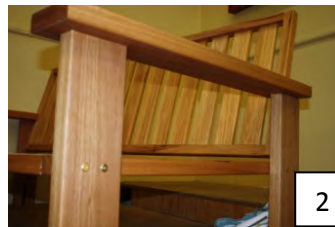
INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY STUDENTS STAR

Industrial Technology Timber HSC students have worked overtime to finish their major projects, impressing everyone with their standard of work and commitment. They have worked Sundays and late nights in the workshop at school, filling the weekend silence with the sound of hammer and chisel, and inspiring their younger peers in free periods and at lunchtimes. They have struggled with sticky drawers and crooked doors as well as finding imaginative ways to solve unforeseen problems caused by innovative design and rapidly approaching deadlines. Although some of them were slow to start, they ALL managed to finish by the due date courtesy of some very determined but high quality work into the early hours of August 13th, the day the markers from the Board of Studies arrived. Now begins the long wait for their results that they will receive in late December, along with the rest of their HSC results. I want to take this opportunity to congratulate the boys on their achievements this year, as well as the way they have all worked hard, not only for themselves but for each other. They really have been a pleasure to teach and I can say with all sincerity that I will miss them when they leave. I wish them all the best for their exams and their lives beyond school.

Craig Philip, Intech Teacher, Head Teacher TAS



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7



9

- 1 - Lounge Table by *Lachlan Parkinson*
- 2 & 3 - Daybed by *Jack Everingham*
- 4 - Les Paul Guitar by *Max Sharkey*
- 5 - Hall Cupboard by *Rhys Tattersall*
- 6 & 7 - Tall Boy by *Sam Miller*
- 8 - Cot by *Ben Garrett*
- 9 & 10 - Media Unit by *Harley Jackson*



10

OUR NIGHT OF NIGHTS...

THE VISUAL ARTS EXHIBITION 2012



Thursday 30th August was the culmination of a year's work for boys and their teachers in Visual Arts. Works from Semester 2 2011 and Semester 1 2012 were revealed in a glorious exhibition in the ABHS hall at the Opening Ceremony at 7pm.

The hanging of this exhibition was by far the smoothest and least stressful for all concerned. Mr Sonter and his trusty hall crew helpers had the exhibition space set and ready for hanging, allowing, for the first time, a student curating team to be created and employed to put the exhibition together under staff guidance.

This team worked solidly under the tutelage of Ms Cooke and Ms Holder over a four day period to transport, sort, hang and construct hanging methods and provide labelling for hundreds of student works. In a mature way they worked independently and in partnerships of two around the many different areas of the exhibition. This team meant that all the art staff REMAINED smiling throughout the hanging processes, from start to finish...UNHEARD OF!

2012 was another first in that we included the wonderful In Tech Projects from Mr Philip's Industrial Tech Class of 2012. It was wonderful to showcase the Year 12 Bodies of Work from the Visual Arts Class of 2012 by Tom Caladine and Ricky Micali.

A crisp evening hinted at spring and invited huge numbers of friends of ABHS to celebrate with us. We welcomed huge numbers of award winners with their parents, siblings and friends. Wonderfully for us, too, we welcomed back many, many old boys from years gone by who have moved on and become beautiful young men. Mr Griffiths commented on the wonderful buzz in the hall which had a truly celebratory quality to it.

The CAPA Staff awarded the most outstanding students from every class taught in Semester 2 2011 and Semester 1 2012. About 150 boys were awarded certificates, some of whom were recognised up to three times. This is a reflection of the ability and engagement of boys in the Creative and Performing Arts at ABHS as well as the dedication of staff and the quality of the relationships they maintain with our boys.

Mr Williamson organised his Year 11 and 12 Music Class to perform their HSC pieces which took us on a journey from classical through to rock music throughout the evening. It was a huge pleasure to have a small showcase of the boys' musical talents. Thank you to Mike, James, Aidan, Thomas and Mizael. Thank you also to Jackson and Will for entertaining us again with your wonderful sounds.

Huge thanks to Mrs Beckerleg for providing boundless support with invitation letters to award winners and their families as well as printing the beautiful certificates for them. Thanks also to Mrs Miller for providing such wonderful catering which we all enjoyed on the night. Thank you to Ms Cooke for her energy and vision in curating the space as well as organising beverages and fantastic photography.

It was a beautiful night and we want to recognise everyone who was involved. Thank you to all who participated, helped, attended and celebrated with us. This was the best attended exhibition over the three days of opening in six years.

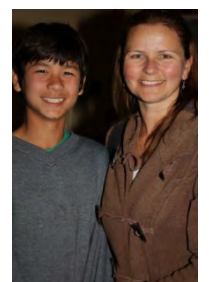
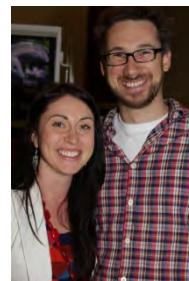
Student Curating Team: Ben Gibson, Jacob Sheldon, Matt Claydon, Craig Belcastro, Aidan Heap, Liam Harris, Joshua Allen, Ciaran De Kort, Michael Cowell, Jake Bartley and Keegan Waters.

ABHS Staff: Steve Sonter, Maryanne Miller, Inez Beckerleg, Joan Wilson and all the Reception Staff, Debbie Seifert, Caroline Cooke, Leanne Ryan, Laura Mashman, Glendon Fletcher, Warren Fisher, Mike Williamson, Ray Elkin, teachers who released our curating team over the four days, Terry Griffiths,

We would like to invite boys from Year 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 2011 and Year 7, 8, and 11 2012 to collect their artworks from rooms 31 and 33. We are holding onto all Year 9 and 10 art and ceramic works from 2012 for an upcoming Stage 5 exhibition when all students will show their works in later in Term 4.

Ms C Holder, Head Teacher CAPA





Photography by Ms C Cooke

FOOD TECHNOLOGY TERM 3



This term Year 9 have studied the ever changing landscape of food in Australia from the early Indigenous and early Settler's days to the modernisation of multi-culturalism of food influences today.

At the Year 9 Excursion to the Royal Botanical Gardens the students had a chance to research, investigate

and taste different indigenous plants, spices and kangaroo which they thoroughly enjoyed. They made food products that they would eat generally in daily life and modified the recipes using indigenous ingredients to explore new flavours.

The excursion was a resounding success and enjoyed by all.



The recipe modification was then put into practice in the kitchen by modifying old Aussie breakfast recipes. In their modernisation of the old eggs and bacon into delicious "Corn Fritters with Bacon and Bush Tomato Chutney" both Zane Smith and Cameron Clarke excelled, as did William Van Egmond Jones with his "Vietnamese Rice Paper Rolls".



Mr T Josephs, Food Technology Teacher

YEAR 7 FOOD TECHNOLOGY AND FIFTEEN MINUTES OF FAME



Early this month we were lucky enough to have the people from the game show Kitchen Whiz visit our school to audition several Year 7 Food Technology students. Fourteen students displayed their knowledge of food and I am happy to announce that eight students have been selected to participate on the show!

The recording will take place on October 19th at Fox Studios and some fellow food technology students will accompany the successful students to cheer them on! The show will air some time later on channel nine at 4pm.

Mrs K Bird

ENGLISH EXCURSION – THE YARD

On Tuesday 28th August, 8E went to the Riverside Theatre in Parramatta to see a performance called *The Yard*. *The Yard* is based around secondary school students' daily lives, cleverly interpreted through street dance. 8E went to see *The Yard* as part of their unit on William Golding's classic novel, *Lord of the Flies*. They gained insight into the theme of exclusion of other students and the nastiness from one group of students to another. There were constant scene changes, from kids playing basketball to cheerleaders practicing their routines. The dancers in *The Yard* demonstrated amazing skill which enhanced their performance. The choreography cleverly interpreted what it was attempting to convey, whilst still showing off amazing feats of talent. One of the performers showed off the items that many kids and teenagers use in their daily lives, such as pogo sticks and chairs, by balancing them on his head whilst dancing. Other performers used soccer balls and basketballs in their dances, and it was incredible to see how they managed to use them in their performance. They seemed flawless in their dance moves, even when doing

side activities such as balancing and using sporting equipment. The performance was created and directed by acclaimed choreographer Shaun Parker. The students of 8E enjoyed the show, and we wish the performers luck in their upcoming tour, which will commence in the near future.



By Isaac Orr-Green





ASQUITH
**ABHS Inaugural
Masterchef
Competition**
GROW IN WISDOM **2012**

When: Term 4

Where: Kitchen 1

Cost: \$15 entry

Teacher: Mr. Josephs

Compete for the inaugural ABHS masterchef winner, for prizes and fun. Compete in the quarter, semi and grand final.



YEAR 9 & 10 TEAPOT EXCURSION



Although teapots aren't very commonly associated with teenage boys, the Year 9&10 Ceramics class recently visited a contemporary art exhibition comprising abstract teapots. This was an excellent opportunity for the boys to enlighten themselves with new experiences.

The boys' day started with a train trip to Town Hall, where they caught a bus to Glebe. False directions were the cause of a slight detour (they walked the wrong way for 1.5km) which meant that they were a little behind schedule. When the boys finally reached their destination, they were astonished by both the variety and quality of the art on display.

Although, to many, this exhibition was seen as a show, to the artists it was a very fierce competition. There were many categories including "Koala Tea", "Wattle they think of next?" and of course the overall prize. The winners were as follows:

- The Best Overall- Keith Yeo (2)
- Wattle They Think of Next?- Keith Yeo (1)
- Koala Tea- Mandy Wolpert
- Green Tea- Marion Mewburn
- What the Dickens?- Heather Fisher
- The Silk Road- Serena Horton
- High Tea- Denise McDonald
- People's Choice- TBA (26th August)

Along with Ms Tapner and Ms Holder, the Ceramics Class saw some wacky, eye-opening and beautiful pieces of art, some more unusual than others (we recommend that if you are at the exhibition, that you check out Sunnee Scharrer's entry in the "What the Dickens?" category). For the boys of the 9/10 Ceramics class, this was an unforgettable experience, in more ways than one.

by Griffin Sleigh and Zac Duretto

WORLD SKILLS EXCURSION – YEAR 10

'World Skills' is all about showcasing Australia's best apprentices and High School's Vocational Educational and Training (VET) students. There was a range of trades that students could peruse including Hospitality, Hair Dressing, Jewellery making, Construction, Automotive, Landscaping, Street Art signage and employment with the Defence Forces.

The fourteen year 10 students had a fantastic time watching all the trainees and apprentices compete for the honours of Apprentice or Trainee of 2012. They had the opportunity to watch these young and enthusiastic people compete to such a high standard they were all enthralled with the skills in front of them. They also enjoyed all the free show bags and competing in the chin-up competition, of which I can honestly mention I did not do as well as the students.

I would strongly recommend for all interested in pursuing a trade, a visit to this exhibition when its next in Sydney.

I would also like to thank the students who made the day such an enjoyable one for both myself and Mr McCubbin.

Mr T. Josephs



TEAPOTS, THE BIENNALE & COCKATOO ISLAND

...CAPA EXCURSIONS TERM 3 2012

Term 3 has been an exciting one in that students from Year 7, 11, 9 and 10 have all had opportunities to move beyond the classroom walls for more direct learning experiences.

We have explored the notion of the exhibition on a small and huge scale, in a small collective run gallery for a local competition to a major world event, the Sydney Biennale 2012, staged in traditional galleries the AGNSW and MCA as well as historical sites

Years 9 and 10 Ceramics students attended a fun excursion to the **Sydney Teapot Show** at the Innercity Clayworkers Gallery in Glebe on Thursday 9 August with Ms Holder and Ms Tapner. We travelled by train and then bus to the bohemian centre of Glebe to the Innercity Clayworkers Gallery. This tiny space hosts an annual show and competition where potters from around the country create works to suit particular criteria and categories and sponsors award prizes to winners. The teapots exhibited ranged from the whimsical, to wonderful and weird. Some were inspired by the theme of Australiana, others by writer Charles Dickens, producing some very interesting and wild teapots. The boys were fascinated by the opportunity to see the close workings of an art competition as well as the gallery itself. This day provided an enormous inspiration to all of us in our own designing process as well as in understanding galleries. The boys also introduced a new ball game which involves propelling the ball from many viewpoints and positions on the ground!

Year 11 Visual Arts students went on a mystery tour of contemporary art with Ms Holder on Thursday 23 August. We explored the **2012 Sydney Biennale** at both the AGNSW in the Domain and the MCA at Circular Quay. We were treated to a discussion tour of the AGNSW Biennale exhibits, which started us thinking about the works on show and their connection to the theme "All Our Relations". Following this and a swift lunch and brisk walk to Circular Quay, we explored the Biennale over the two floors at the MCA. At these galleries we observed the exhibition of contemporary, postmodern and topical artworks from artists gathered from around the world. There were five particular works of interest which employed technology which the boys studied in relation to their final artmaking and artwriting unit in Year 11, relating to film, photography and landscape.

The final outing in the Creative Arts Department's "get into art outside the classroom" program for Term 3 was the trip to **Cockatoo Island** and the 2012 Sydney Biennale for all of Year 7 on Friday 7 September. Ms Cooke, Ms Holder, Mr Williamson, Mr Fisher, Ms Tapner and Mr Buckley travelled by Transdev bus to Circular Quay first thing, ready to catch the ferry across the Harbour. Nothing could have prepared us for the surprise which met us on the Quay...every boys' dream and every teachers' nightmare...FREE CHIPS BY THE PALETTE! The boys were showered in them from multi directions and Ms Cooke likened the sight to seagulls squawking for hot chips.



Our next challenge was to get on a ferry. In spite of all the planning in the world, nothing prepared Sydney Ferries for the volume of passengers and as a result the wait for the ferry was long. We were rewarded however, by the efforts of the ferry company who put on a special service so that we could delay our return. Cockatoo Island was exciting and inspiring. Year 7 split into 4 groups who explored different parts of the Biennale exhibition on the island in a howling gale. The boys were fascinated by the many and varied artworks made from materials not usually associated with artmaking.

We survived gale force winds and had a day that inspired a new interest in art for all of year 7!



Thank you to Caroline Cooke, Craig Buckley, Mike Williamson, Warren Fisher, Catherine Holder, Louise Tapner and all the staff who covered lessons. Thanks for allowing us to move our classrooms into the artworld!

Ms C Holder, Head Teacher CAPA



GIFTED AND TALENTED STUDENTS

Mathematics Competition

Following the outstanding results of the Science Competition our brightest students have also performed at an exceptional level in the UNSW Mathematics Competition. Our boys achieved 1 High Distinction, 11 Distinctions and 34 Credits. Over 40% of boys who entered received a Credit or better which is an exceptional result reflecting the high standard of our students and Maths teachers.

Boys who gained a distinction or better will receive their certificates at the next formal assembly where the school proudly celebrates the academic success of all students.

Ms Laffer

Gifted and Talented Science Experience to Questacon in Canberra

Boys from our Year 7 and 8 enrichment classes will be offered a chance to go to Canberra to visit the Questacon Science Centre in Term 4 as part of our Gifted and Talented Program. Questacon, The National Science and Technology Centre, is a hands on science centre where the science experience fun, interactive, and relevant. More information will be distributed in early term 4.

Waitara Public School Science Experience

The final visit from Ms Naylor's Year 5 Opportunity Class from Waitara Public School was a great success. The students completed a session on Biology that included using microscopes to view onion cells, blood cells and chromosomes. The highlight of the afternoon was dissecting a bulls eye to view the lens, retina and optic nerve. The eye combines light (physics), rods and cones (chemistry) and cells (biology) and is a great overview of science for young minds. I would like to thank the Year 9 boys who gave their time to help out.

Mr Robertson



Year 6 and Year 9 Shared Writing Project

A writing project to foster positive relationships between Asquith Boys High School Year 9 students and Year 6 Primary School Students was conducted through a shared writing project and in turn promoting Gifted and Talented education at Asquith Boys.

The students worked together to collaboratively write a story (by Year 6 and Year 9 students) that will be published in ABHS *Backchat* and Primary School Newsletters. There have been 2 sessions so far, one at ABHS and the other at Mt Colah Public School.

ABHS 9E English class has worked in groups to create different narratives for the primary school boys to help their literacy skills that are so valuable in high school and beyond.

Ms Chapman and Ms Schadel

WALKATHON PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

Walkathon is a highlight of the year for many students and teachers. The Environment Council members enjoy the day as it allows them to spend time appreciating nature. To encourage others to appreciate their surroundings, the Environment Committee holds the annual Walkathon Photography Competition. Students can submit up to three photos each and the best three photos receive prizes of a digital camera, \$50 Westfield voucher and \$30 Westfield voucher. This year, the photos were particularly impressive and the Environment Council sought the expertise of art teacher Ms Cooke to assist in picking the winning photos. The field was narrowed to the following group of photos.

Benjamin Adams (8)



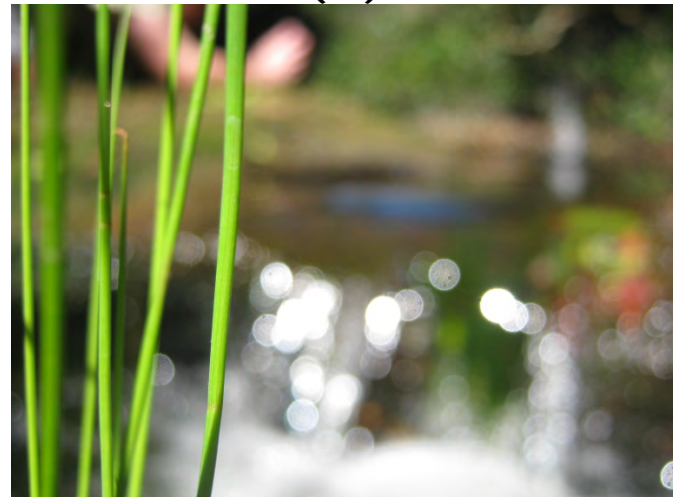
Cory Cheung (10)



Shannon Grimson-Smith (10)



Edward Harrison (10)



Harry Gibbons (10)



Callum Johnston (10)



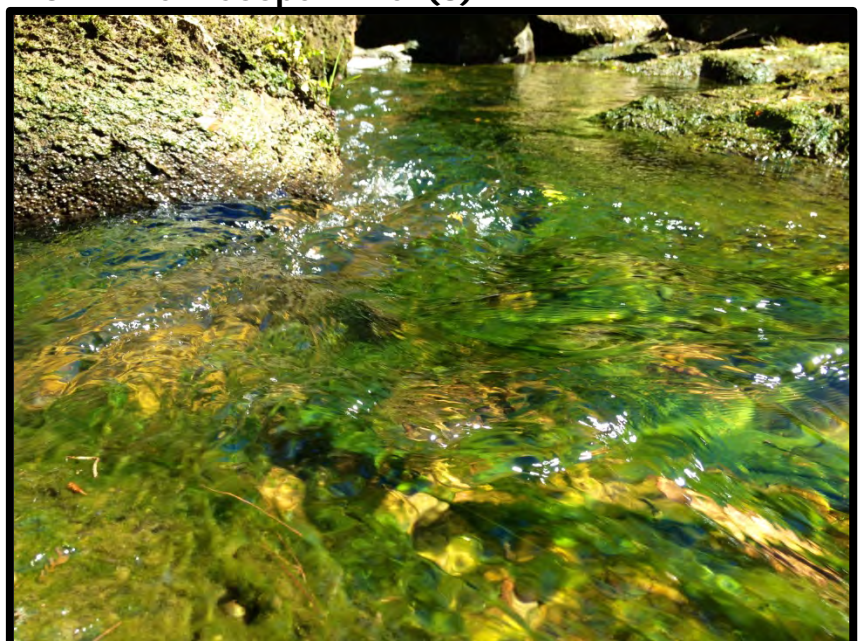
1st Prize – David Williams (11)



2nd Prize – James Sheridan (11)



3rd Prize – Cooper Thiel (8)



WINTER GRADE SPORTS RESULTS

In the 2012 Winter Grade season Asquith Boys entered 32 teams across 7 sports. This meant we had around 400 students participating in grade sport every week, which just goes to show the popularity and value of competitive sport at this school.

By the end of the home and away fixtures 13 of our teams had made the semi finals and from these 13 teams we had 5 teams progress to the Grand final which was a great effort! This included:

- 15's Rugby
- 2nd grade Soccer
- 4th grade Soccer
- 13a Soccer
- 14a Soccer

RUNNERS UP

13A soccer team coached by Mr Blackwood

Alen Aganovic
Benito (Ben) Albace
Bilal Belkadi
Zakariya Belkadi
Nicholas Fowler
Harry Frederick
Riley Gibson
Daniel Jollie
Oliver Langley
Cameron Munro
Benjamin Parnell
Michael Patterson
Christian Sinicco
Joseph Andonian

2nd grade soccer team coached by Mr Laing

Samuel Corcoran	Cameron Nicolas
Benjamin Gibson	Eden Percival
Nicholas Gibson	Alastair Powell
Edward Hollis	Arman Shahdosti
Joseph Hulse	James Thompson
Dwayne Leverett	
Angus Morton-Stroud	
Graham Pinnock	
Tim Verduin	
Jeffrey Williams	
Jordan Jarrett	
Joshua Mawhinney	
Michael Muirhead	
Christopher Marfleet	

ZONE PREMIERS

14 A Soccer coached by Mr Jones

Ryan Ball	Matthew Griffin	Finley Scott
Zachary Duretto	Cameron Hanna	Griffin Sleigh
Callum Fenech	Samuel Henson	Warren Spencer-Scarr
Frederick Fordyce	Christopher Rourke	
Aynsley Gaveston	Chris Savidis	

4th grade SOCCER coached by Ms Kelly

Oliver Campbell	Ben Garrett	Reece O'Sullivan
Vincent Campbell	Rishi Halkhoree	Lachlan Parkinson
Joseph Cotton	Harley Jackson	Rawin Rangsiyawaranon
Nicholas Ellem-Smith	Richard Johnson	Hamish Spinney
Jack Everingham	Sam Lopes-Bullock	Rhys Tattersall
Sam Every	Jack Mineo	Jake Zwan

15's Rugby coached by Ms Ryan

Jake Alipate	Deacon Mirabile	Connor Scott
Jake Bartley	Joshua Monk	Josh Stuart
Dylan Besley	Lewis Morrissey	Matt Graham Robinson
Adam Grant	Tim Murphy	William Van Egmond-Jones
Brad Harris	Easton Pollard	Jonathan Whittaker
Liam Harris	Sam Powell	Nathan Sedgman (helper)
Dominic Hewes	Brandon Scott	Jackson Virtue (helper)
Jive Johnston	Tufunga Fahamokioa	Matthew Shakeshaft
Darren Leverett	Harrison Fox	(helper)
Blake Milner	Billy Jackson	

ASQUITH BOYS HIGH SCHOOL - ZONE FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS

Congratulations to all students and teachers involved with Football during the 2012 winter season as Asquith Boys High School has claimed the prestigious title of Zone Football Champions!

How it works: All results are taken for each school's first grade, 15a, 14a and 13a soccer teams over the home and away season and they are added up in order to determine the winner. Therefore, to win it requires a consistent effort across all age groups in the school.

A much deserved result for Asquith Boys! We have some high calibre footballers at the school and the time and effort put in by coaches has really enabled students to develop their talent.

Credit must also go to our fantastic International Football tour, which would not happen without Mr Moscos and Mr Blackwood, as it has provided many students with exposure to international football and allowed them to gain invaluable experience which accelerates their development as both footballers and young men.

ASQUITH BOYS HIGH SCHOOL BEST AND FAIREST 2012 WINTER GRADE SPORT

1 st Grade Tennis – Christopher Bissett	1 st Grade Table Tennis – Adhish Panta
2 nd Grade Tennis – Brandon Lukich-Yang	2 nd Grade Table Tennis – Benjamin Gunther
15's Tennis – Mohammad (Javad) Kobraee	
14's Tennis – Bryn Lom	15's Table Tennis – Jack Smith
	14's Table Tennis – Noah Szeto
1 st Grade Soccer – Luke Smith	
2 nd Grade Soccer – Graham Pinnock	
2 nd (2) Grade Soccer – Oliver Parry	15's Rugby – Harrison Fox
3rd Grade Soccer – Matai Koroï	14's Rugby - Joshua Bower
4 th Grade Soccer – Oliver Campbell	13's Rugby – Thomas Doherty
15 A Soccer – Aaron Fulwood	
15B Soccer - Zachary Smith	Snr Lawn Bowls – Harry Gibbons
14A Soccer – Christopher Savidis	Jnr Lawn Bowls – Michael Pratama
14B Soccer - Lachlan Anderson	
14C Soccer – Alec Drummond	Snr Hockey – James Seidl
13A Soccer – Bilal Belkadi	Jnr Hockey - Michael Cowell
13B Soccer – Konrad Morton-Stroud	
13C Soccer – Benjamin Bigham	1 st badminton – Sin Fu (Corey) Cheung
	2 nd Badminton – Mitchell Koellner
	15 Badminton – Zackary Smith

ATHLETICS UPDATE

After the school athletics carnival which was all the way back in June, Mr Jones and Mr Broome took a group of students to Homebush for the Zone athletics carnival. After a great day of competition we had 15 boys qualify for the Regional Athletics carnival which was held in late July. They are:

Oliver Parry	Thomas Bostelman	Sam Fox
Timothy Buwalda	Joseph Andonian	Somoe Ferris
Jimmy Hawkins	Christopher Allan	Jayke Browne
Harry Frederick	Nathan Sedgman	Joshua Mawhinney
Lachlan Gammie	Harry Fox	James Thompson

At this carnival we had some great results:

Joshua Mawhinney – 1st in opens Triple Jump
Jimmy Hawkins - 3rd in 12 years High Jump
Chris Allan – 2nd in 14 years Shot Put and the 100m Hurdles
Harry Frederick – 1st in 12 years Shot Put
Timothy Buwalda - 3rd in opens 1500m.

Well done to these boys!

Furthermore, Joshua, Chris and Harry have all qualified for the NSW Combined High School Athletics Championships which are to be held in September at the Sydney International Athletics Centre in Homebush and we wish them all the best!

Mr D Jones (Grade Sport Co-ordinator)



Putting in the long Kilometres for MS



Year 8 Student Joel Winch is currently spending all his spare time riding for hours and hours. Joel has set himself the goal of completing the 90 kilometre MS Society, Sydney to Wollongong bike ride in November. Joel says it's going to be hard but it's for a great cause. The ride involves up to 10,000 riders all raising important funds to support research for a cure to MS.

MS stands for Multiple Sclerosis, a disease of the central nervous system affecting more young adult Australians than any other neurological condition. It is a lifelong disease for which the cause and a cure are yet to be found. With a healthy person the body's immune system normally defends itself against attacks by viruses and bacteria. In the case of MS, however, the body's immune system attacks it's defence system, affecting people in many different ways.

Joel has been building up hours every weekend and says he is now up to 50 kilometre rides. We hope he is also trying some hills because there a couple of large ones on the way to Wollongong.

If you would like to make a donation to help with the research into MS and encourage Joel along you can visit <http://www.gongride.org.au/> and donate to "Team Joel".

WINTER GRADE SPORTS ASSEMBLY



Formal Presentations of Science Competition Distinction winners

7 students were presented their Distinction prizes from the 2012 UNSW Science Competition. The boys were tested on their scientific problem solving skills as well as interpreting and extrapolating data. The boys who received distinctions are Luke Alexander, Brandon Lukich-Yang, Thomas Vanderlaan, Andrew Morrison, Nicholas Berryman, Zac Duretto and John Martin.

Well done to all these boys for a fantastic achievement.

Mr Robertson, Head Teacher Science





THE WORD FROM ENGLISH

Currently, all the classes are incredibly busy preparing for Assessment Tasks. It is really important that all boys place substantial emphasis on achieving a good result in these tasks. Assessment Tasks offer the opportunity for the boys to showcase what they have learned during the term and gain the satisfaction of knowing they have done their very best.

How can students prepare for Assessment Tasks in English?

- Make the most of the time allocated in class for preparation and drafting.
- Use the scaffolds and sample answers provided by the class teacher to ensure that responses are shaped in the most academically advantageous way.
- Remember that a well-structured response is essential for success. Use ToPEEL in every paragraph.
- If there are any questions or concerns – ASK your teacher, who will be delighted to help you.
- Write drafts and work towards a perfectly polished, final response.

Year 11 are presently completing their Final Preliminary Examinations. This is a huge undertaking for all students who are, in the most part, completing 4 hours and 15 minutes of English exams. The English Faculty wishes all classes the best of luck in these exams.

Excitingly, 8E has recently attended a performance of *The Yard* at Riverside Theatre with Mr Kennedy. The production was a modern appropriation of William Golding's 1954 novel, *Lord of the Flies*. 8E reported that it was confronting and engaging, offering a modern dance interpretation of the novel they studied in class.

Should you have any questions or concerns about the progress of your son, please contact me by email (Jessica.schadel@det.nsw.edu.au).

Ms J. Schadel
Head Teacher English



SCIENCE

Year 12

Our HSC boys have completed all of their classwork and now ready to complete their final exams in October. We have seen a significant increase in effort and intensity of our HSC students and wish them all the best of luck in their HSC. A special mention to Blake Chen who was our most outstanding student in Physics and Chemistry with assessment results over 90%.

Year 11

The boys have just completed their Preliminary HSC courses in Biology, Physics, Chemistry and Senior Science. They will start their HSC courses in Term 4 which means all assessments from now will contribute to their final HSC mark. This means all boys need to increase their commitment and study so they can compete against all other students in the state for University or Trade entrances.

Surfing Scientist

The Surfing Scientist, Ruben Meerman, presented 2 Science shows on Sept 7 in the Library. The first show for Years 8 and 10 was his general science show and the second show for Years 8 and 9 was on climate change and weather. His contemporary style and entertaining experiments kept the boys engaged and hopefully convinced the boys that science does not just happen in the lab but occurs every minute of every day around us. His show included simulating the production of a cloud by using liquid nitrogen and boiling water, using a vortex to produce smoke rings and viewing infra-red waves with a mobile phone camera.

I would like to thank Ruben as he was under the weather and had very little voice but conducted the shows with great enthusiasm and professionalism.

Mr S. Robertson
Head Teacher Science



Greetings from HSIE!

Hi to all our Community!

Well, much has happened in the last month to keep us very busy in HSIE.

Year 12 are coming to the end of their journey at this fantastic place and we in the Faculty wish them all great success in the coming examinations.

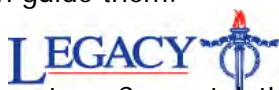
I know that a number of teachers are having special classes during the holidays and I know that the boys will prosper from these final opportunities. We have enjoyed your company over the last six years gentlemen and wish you all the very best in your future endeavours. The cohort of 2012 has been very special to me - indeed, as their first Year Master. Mr Blackwood and I saw a great evolution in the young fresh faced juniors we welcomed into the school in 2007 and have been proud of the way they have developed over time.

Good luck to you all and be proud to carry the Asquith name.

Year 11 students are presently doing their exams and I feel confident that some excellent results will be on the cards. I have just marked the Ancient History Paper and have sighted some impressive responses, especially in the area of extended writing. I have every confidence that our other subjects will yield similar solid student efforts.

Year 10 are also proceeding well in the Mandatory Courses of History and Geography – there is however a concern that we are relying greatly on computers to write responses. Our policy is to have students prepared in all facets and I encourage all parents to make sure that the boys are extending their research and professional expression in all areas – through book research, internet access and especially written response as these are the key components of our pedagogy. The National Curriculum is still in the Planning stage but it will be implemented in our Faculty in Years 7, 8 and 9 next year and we will be stressing the research and quality of writing that is required to complete the course.

Well done to **Years 7 and 8** – I have seen the work that is being carried out by the boys and their teachers and it is most impressive. PIP Projects have started and if the boys are pursuing a Humanities-based assignment or project I am sure we can guide them.



On another note - Congratulations to our Year 9 **Legacy collectors** as well as the Year 10 volunteers and Year 11 and 12 Prefects who collected over the last week. In all, Asquith Boys set another record, collecting over \$10,000 for this very worthy Charity. A great effort!

Have a great holiday – we all need it after a very solid terms work, and come back energised for the term ahead.

Mr G. Moscos
Head Teacher HSIE



Australian Mathematics Competition

Well done to all our boys who participated in the Australian Mathematics 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.

It was our most successful outcome in recent years and the results, which the school has just received are extremely pleasing. We had 47 students this year who attained an award, 35 of which were at a credit level, 11 achieved a distinction and 1 received an outstanding High distinction award. This is consistent with our continual improvement across all areas of the Faculty.

However, we are still chasing up students who need to pay \$5.50 for the Maths Competition. They will receive their awards when all balances have been settled.

National Numeracy and Literacy week

As part of this celebration of all things numerical, we issued every year 7 and 8 student at the start of the week with a puzzle sheet containing 4 challenging Maths puzzles. The winning entry was the first correct answer sheet out of the box. Many boys have returned their sheet and we are currently awaiting the name of the student who wins the 1st prize of a Graphic Calculator.

Year 11 Exams

It's that time of year again when the year 11's embark on their major exam of the year. The students have been working hard on revision for their exams over the last week or two. It is with this in mind that we remind parents and students alike of the fantastic resources available to study with access to the internet. The Board of Studies website has a substantial store of past papers, going back more than 10 years, with solutions. There is also access to Moodle via the school website. Each student should have a password which allows him to use this valuable resource. Traditionally of course, students are still encouraged to buy practice papers from the main wholesalers in the high street.

Problem of the month

On September 1st, Mr. Lappas started saving 10c a day.

Eight days later, Ms. Zhou started saving 15c a day. On what date would they have the same amount in savings?

Answer in the October Backchat.

Last months Answers : 4246, 4287 or 4369 are just a few possibilities

Hope you all have a great September.

From the Faculty of Mathematics
Mr J French



CAREERS

Recent Highlights

A new team of students were trained as baristas on Monday 31st July and Tuesday 31st July. They have learnt quickly and are gaining valuable experience in running the café every Tuesday at lunchtime. They have also been able to host 2 visits by residents from Christophorus House Retirement Village for a morning tea.

Coming Events

Year 10 Work Experience

This will be held in the 2nd week of Term 4, from Monday 15th October to Friday 19th October 2012

Royal Military College Information Session

This will be held at Manpower Head Quarters, level 22 Tower 2, 201 Sussex St, Sydney on Wednesday 26th September at 6.30pm and Wednesday 10th October at 6.30pm. To book your place call 131901 or RSVP to joking@dfr.com.au

Information Sessions on Traineeships and Apprenticeships - Australian Training Company

The Australian Training Company will be holding information sessions concluding with one-on-one interviews on the following dates.

Traineeships:	Monday 19 th November 2012
	Wednesday 23 rd January 2013, 9.30am to 12 noon
	Monday 18 th February 2013
Apprenticeships:	Wednesday 21 st November 2012, 9.30am to 12 noon
	Monday 21 st January 2013, 9.30am to 12 noon

Venue is 30-32 Pomeroy Street, Homebush www.austrg.com.au

Important Information

1. Motor Traders Apprenticeships Plus have many apprenticeships in auto industry. E.g. Light Vehicle Mechanics, Heavy Vehicle Mechanics, Spray Painting, Panel Beating, Parts Interpreting, Tyre Fitting and Transmission. Expression of interest forms are available from Mrs Fry
2. Modern Apprenticeship Program also has many automotive apprenticeships with Volkswagon, Audi, Jaguar, Landrover, Volvo, Renault Mazda and Subaru. Visit www.vantageautomotive.com or see Mrs Fry for more information.
3. Local mechanic at Killara is also offering motor mechanics apprenticeship.
4. The Aust Govt has launched the MYUniversity website aimed at providing students with information that allows students to determine their own areas of interest and features location of universities, course information etc. Visit myuniversity.gov.au

Year 12 and application for university - There have been 2 sessions for students on step by step applying on the UAC website. Closing date is 28th September and late fees apply after that date.

Enrolment for TAFE courses in 2013 is online through the TAFE website www.tafensw.edu.au or www.nsi.tafense.edu.au

There will be a free careers advisory from 20th December to 24th December 2012 from 9am to 5pm provided by Department of Education and Communities. Students can either ring 1300300687 or visit www.cas.det.nsw.edu.au

Reminder of the excellent careers website; www.mhscareers.com. Log on as student or parent and the password is "outlook"

Mrs J. Fry
Careers Adviser

P&C Association

Parents and Citizens working together for our School


The P&C organised and staged another Fantastic Community Day on 9 September. A full report on the day's events will be the focus of the next Backchat.

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 23 October
in the Library.
All welcome.

ASQUITH BOYS HIGH SCHOOL CALENDAR TERM 4 2012

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT/SUN
Week 1A	October 8 Staff & Students Return	October 9 Formal Assembly (Student leaders Investiture)	October 10	October 11	October 12	Oct 13 14
Week 2B	October 15 HSC Exams Begin	October 16	October 17	October 18	October 19	Oct 20 21
Year 10 Work Experience						
Week 3A	October 22	October 23 School Council P&C Meeting	October 24	October 25	October 26	Oct 27 28
Week 4B	October 29	October 30	October 31	November 1 HIGH SCHOOL EXPERIENCE DAY	November 2 Backchat Issued	Nov 3 4
Week 5A	November 5	November 6	November 7	November 8	November 9	Nov 10 11
Week 6B	November 12 Year 7 Hep B (Dose 2) Vaccinations	November 13 Yr 8 ESSA tests	November 14	November 15 Year 12 Formal (Mandlay Hotel)	November 16	Nov 17 18

Week 7A	November 19	November 20	November 21	November 22	November 23	Nov 24 25
Week 8B	November 26 Leadership Camp	November 27 Leadership Camp School Council P&C Meeting	November 28	November 29 Yr 10 Exams	November 30 Yr 10 Exams	Dec 1 2
Week 9A	December 3 Yr 10 Exams	December 4 Yr 10 Exams	December 5 Yr 10 Exams Yr7 2013 Orientation Day	December 6 Formal Assembly (Leadership Induction))	December 7	Dec 8 9
Year 12 VET Placements – all week						
Week 10B	December 10	December 11 School Council Finance Meeting	December 12	December 13	December 14 Backchat Issued	Dec 15 16
Week 11A	 December 17 PRESENTATION NIGHT	December 18	December 19 End of Term 4 Years 7, 8, 9, 11	December 20 Staff Development Day	December 21 Staff Development Day	

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 17/09/2012



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Register online at www.berowrarslswimclub.org

Registration fees are \$70 for an individual or \$120 for a family
Pool entry is \$4.00 per person or \$15 for a family of four or more

Summer is coming and so is the Berowra RSL Swim Club for the 2012/13 season. It's the perfect opportunity to swim and compete in a friendly, relaxed atmosphere.

We are a fun club for swimmers of all ages who want friendly competition, to go beyond swimming lessons, prepare for school races or learn more about swimming as a sport.

Competitors enjoy swimming in handicapped races against other swimmers with similar abilities and times. There are also opportunities throughout the season for competing at Zone and State levels.

The Club's aim is not to turn out potential Olympians but to give swimmers the confidence in themselves and their abilities.

Come and give it a try with the first two weeks free for new members.

The season starts on Sunday 7th October, 9:00am – 11:30am
Abbotsleigh Aquatic Centre

If you have any queries please contact Michael McAllister (Club President) on 0403 750 900 or Elizabeth Russell (Club Vice-President) on 9456 0195.

For further information and to download the registration form please visit our website at www.berowrarslswimclub.org

Michael McAllister
President, on behalf of the Committee

Information for Parents/Carers
Living with Teenagers
FREE SESSIONS



Transitions, Body Image, Stress, Technology
Parents and carers are warmly invited to attend the free information sessions.

When?

Tuesday, 11 th September From 7pm to 8:30pm	The Butterfly Foundation	BodyThink for Parents
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Where?

Community Health Centre - 17 Arcadia Road, Galston

Who?

Dove BodyThink for Parents has been designed to inform and educate parents about self-esteem, body image, media literacy and the many factors that influence and impact children growing up in today's world.

Enquiries/Bookings...

Please contact CAFS (Mission Australia) on (02) 9482 1366 during business hours. Bookings are essential.



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6.00 PM for 6.30 PM - 8.30 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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YOUTH DRIVING SEMINAR

6pm Young Drivers - What's the Issue? [Surviving Driving, Julieanna Bridges]
6.30pm Motor Vehicles - Purchase & Repairs [NSW Department of Fair Trading]
7pm Break
7.15pm Buying a Car & Managing Your Money [NSW Department of Fair Trading]
7.45pm Presentation by Paramedics [First Response]
8.30pm Finish

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SEMINAR 1
Wednesday 3 October 2012 | 6pm
Castle Grand Community Centre
Castle Grand and Gosford Street, Jarvis Hill
RSVP Online: www.thehillsnsw.gov.au

SEMINAR 2
Thursday 4 October 2012 | 6pm
Vinegar Hill Community Centre
29 Main Street, Riverview Town Centre
RSVP Online: www.thehillsnsw.gov.au

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