



Asquith Boys High School Community Newsletter

BACKCHAT

Principal: Terry Griffiths
Deputy Principal: Andrew Skehan
Phone: 9477 3508
Fax: 9482 2546
www.asquithboy-h.schools.nsw.edu.au
asquithboy-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

**November
2013**

COMMUNITY FUN DAY Sunday 8th September 2013

The morning of the annual Community Fun Day was grey and cloudy and everyone was hoping that the rain would stay away as the event co-ordinators had put a lot of work in getting the day to this point. School staff, pupils, Mums and Dads and other volunteers started arriving at 7.30am to get the stalls ready. Everyone was high in spirits as we eagerly awaited the start of the Community Fun Day at 10am.

As people started to arrive they were able to look at the "Concourse of Cars Display" set up in the quadrangle, before moving down the stairs to the variety of stall holders and our school stalls. There were soccer games on the go, as well as musical entertainment throughout the day from Public School Bands, Vocalists, and Rock Bands. When feeling hungry, the school BBQ stall was cooking up a storm; it was great to see the boys cooking and serving in their cooking attire. Snacks were also popular with cakes and slices available (with thanks to the School Kitchen), Coffee, Soft Drinks, Fairy Floss and Mini Melt Ice Creams.

Raffle tickets were drawn throughout the day and people were choosing great prizes, thanks to all the businesses that donated to the day; we appreciate your generosity. The hall was also busy with people looking at the Art exhibition and several of the Year 7 PIP projects; thanks to Steve Sonter for organising to get the display set up again for the day.

A special thank you goes to Dr Kim Pinnock who was the driving force behind the day as well as Kirsty Berryman and Jenny Williams who also worked behind the scenes. To Rizwan Ali who arranged the inaugural Concourse of Cars Display, Tim Andersen for organising the Porsche for the Advocate editorial, Michelle Roscarel for organising the cake stall and Fiona Johnson for the Fairy Floss stall. There are so many others who helped behind the scenes to get the day organised on time and throughout the day - we appreciate your help very much. Thank you to Mr Terry Griffiths (Principal), Mr Andrew Skehan (Deputy Principal), teachers and office staff who have supported the P&C for our special day.

In the end we have raised \$ 3400 for the school which will go towards the building of an outdoor café to be used by the hospitality (TAS) Faculty.

The committee has already had a meeting after the fun day to see how we can improve for next year. Hope you will join us all again in 2014!

Dianne Stoddart
P&C Publicity Officer



THANK YOU TO ALL OUR SUPPORTERS

Asquith Boys High School would like to thank the following businesses for their support of our Community Fun Day which was held on Sunday 8th September 2013.



Proudly Sponsored by

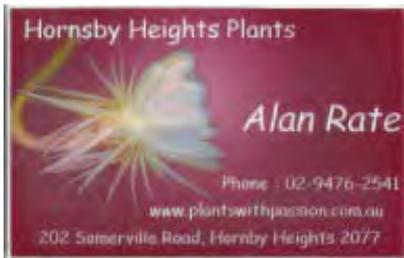


Asquith Bowling Club



Asquith Golf Club

LORD STREET, MT COLAH, SYDNEY, NSW



Make your job *EASY!*



Confidently Easy



Established 1968

181 Pacific Highway, Hornsby, NSW, 2072
Phone (02) 8376 1434

Kirsty Berryman - Hand Made Quilt



Photography by Ms Cooke, Mrs Stoddart, Mr French & Mr Kent

COMMUNITY FUN DAY 2013 - FOOTBALL REPORT

The weather conducive, the crowd anticipatory, the football excellent – what more could you ask for?

Once again, the matches played in the 2014 Community Day at Asquith were up to expectation, although it must be admitted, the pitch was rugged, bumpy and hard due to the lack of rain. Still, the matches were strenuously fought and competitive throughout the day.

Hornsby North Public School defeated Asquith in the first match with some excellent long range goals by both sides. Fine goalkeeping kept both sides in the match and in a very clean and competitive game, 3-2 to the Visitors was the outcome. Well done Hornsby North.

Game two saw a depleted Mt. Colah Girls' team take on next year's Junior Tourists from Asquith and although the score was high, it was not a true indication of the closeness of the match and thanks once again to Simon Cant's team for their solid participation on the day.

The Blackwood Shield saw both sides really come to grips with the conditions and football flowed from end to end. Mr French's side really turned it on and an excellent goal from Mr Thomsett saw them take an early lead only to be negated by the Asquith Invitational side. As much as both sides tried to unblock the stalemate, the game ended in a 1-1 draw and the points were shared.

The final match of the afternoon, the Moscos Cup was a thriller. Mr Jones brought together a really formidable side from past "Internationals". It was great to welcome the likes of Luke Smith, Matt Smith, Daniel Rojas, Shaun Johnston, Mitchell Ansems, Michael Solling and Ali Beck. Indeed, it was Ali who scored two goals on the day, reliving the excellent Tour of Thailand in 2007; but for the first time, Tim Buwalda's First Grade was too good and a 5-2 to Asquith was recorded. Well done Jayke Browne on a hat trick!

Thanks to all for an excellent and memorable day. This is what Asquith is all about – a Community proud of its heritage and its outcomes – a fine group of men playing football and handshakes all round at the end.

Congratulations to all on a great day and thank you!

Mr G Moscos



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

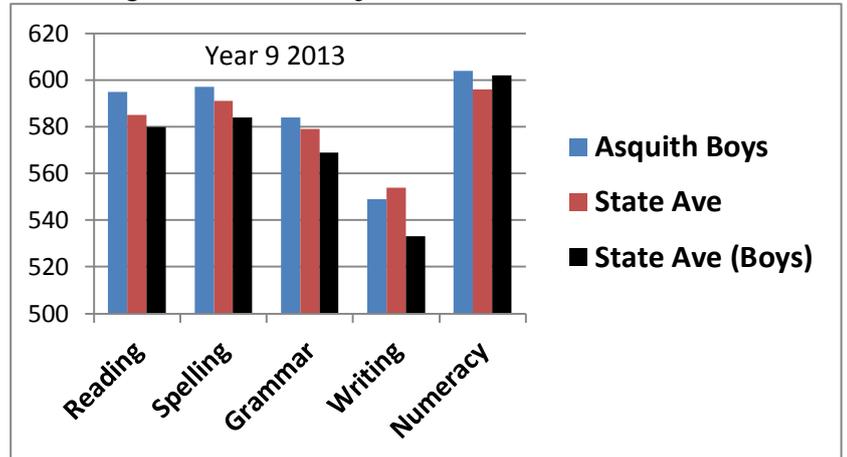
NAPLAN Analysis

We have now had a chance to analyse 2013 NAPLAN results for Years 7 and 9. I am pleased to report that this year's Year 9 cohort has registered very significant improvement on their 2011 Year 7 results. This is now happening every year, as our long-term whole school learning programs are proving very effective in boosting students' results in literacy and numeracy.

This is especially true when ABHS students are compared to the progress of boys across all schools in NSW (public and private). Our overall mean score gain across all five NAPLAN categories was 44.2 marks as against 39.3 marks gained for all boys in NSW.

This means that students at ABHS are consistently doing 13.5% better than boys at all other schools. This has happened now for the last three years. This is clear evidence that boys at ABHS have a distinct advantage over boys in other schools.

The table (on the left) shows the results of this year's Year 9 compared to boys across NSW.



Grounds Project

Head Teacher TAS, Mr Craig Philip, has initiated a plan to upgrade the old basketball court area that is near the Pacific Highway entrance to the school. The plan involves the removal of the court surface and the brick wall, some landscaping, and the creation of an outdoor learning space. This will make the area much more attractive and we will be able to utilise a new learning area. The P&C have agreed to contribute towards some funding for the project. We have also emailed parents asking for any technical or financial assistance to the project. The first step is the removal of the old wall, which has been re-painted by Asquith Boys over the years. Old Boys have been contacted for a "memory wall" morning tea at 8:30am on Friday 15th November. Photos will be taken and we will have a permanent reminder of the wall in a prominent area of the school.

High School Experience Day

On Thursday 7th November we staged the annual High School Experience Day. About 150 Year 5 boys from 18 local primary schools spent a full day at ABHS experiencing a range of lessons. Year 10 prefects accompanied groups of 20 boys all day. Feedback we have received from student and parent evaluation sheets has been extraordinarily positive, and it is clear that our visitors immensely enjoyed their day at ABHS. My thanks to the primary schools for their co-operation, our staff who taught lessons, and the main organisers, Mr George Moscos and Mrs Inez Beckerleg. *(A detailed report & photos will accompany the next Backchat)*

Year 10

Year 10 students will be having exams in Week 8 this term, which will contribute to their grades for the Record of School Achievement (RoSA), that has replaced the old School Certificate. I have written to all Year 10 parents with an explanation about the RoSA and end of year activities. I would like everybody to understand, however, that the RoSA is only issued to students by the NSW Board of Studies when students finally leave school (for most students at the end of Year 12) and only if they have met course outcomes in the mandatory subjects.

Terry Griffiths, Principal

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

It has been great to see the way Year 12 have approached their HSC examinations this year. We have been complimentary of the boys in the way they have worn their uniform to each exam and conducted themselves in an exemplary fashion. This shows the maturity and seriousness that we have come to expect from this year group. Our best wishes are with all of the students as they complete their remaining papers and begin the period of waiting for results.

On another matter, I feel it is important to again remind families of the requirements for Wednesday afternoon sport, particularly in relation to early leave passes. Early leave will not be granted to students on Wednesday unless they have a medical appointment or an urgent matter to attend. If students come to school with a pre-existing injury or illness, they must report to non-sport where they are supervised until 2:30pm (normal end of sport). In this time they may work on assessments, study or read. Whilst the majority of students understand this process and work extremely well within it, there is still confusion among some of them. I appreciate your support in this matter, and please contact me directly if you wish to discuss it further.

Mr Andrew Skehan
Deputy Principal

OUR 2014 STUDENT LEADERS



School Captain
Benjamin Cant



School Vice-Captain
Mark Wilson



Senior Prefect
Liam Szabo



Sports Captain
Matthew Evans



Sports Vice- Captain
Liam Stone



Year 12 (2014) Prefects

Max Andersen, Christopher Bissett, George Blackwood, Liam Covey, Matthew Di Bernado, Jeffrey Featherston, Harry Gibbons, Daniel Griffin, Edward Hollis, Paris Konstantopoulos, Matai Koroj, William O'Donohue, Oliver Parry, William van Egmond-Jones & Joshua Wiercinski

Year 11 (2014) Prefects

Nathan Bartley, Michael Cowell, Max Darwin, Hayden Dudfield, Zachary Duncan, Matthew Evans, Benjamin Gibson, Jacob Hamilton, Kaito Isobe, Brandon Lukich-Yang, James Seidl, Jacob Sheldon, Michael Sheldon, Liam Stone, Harry Tuynman & Keegan Waters

TAS NEWS

TEXTILES

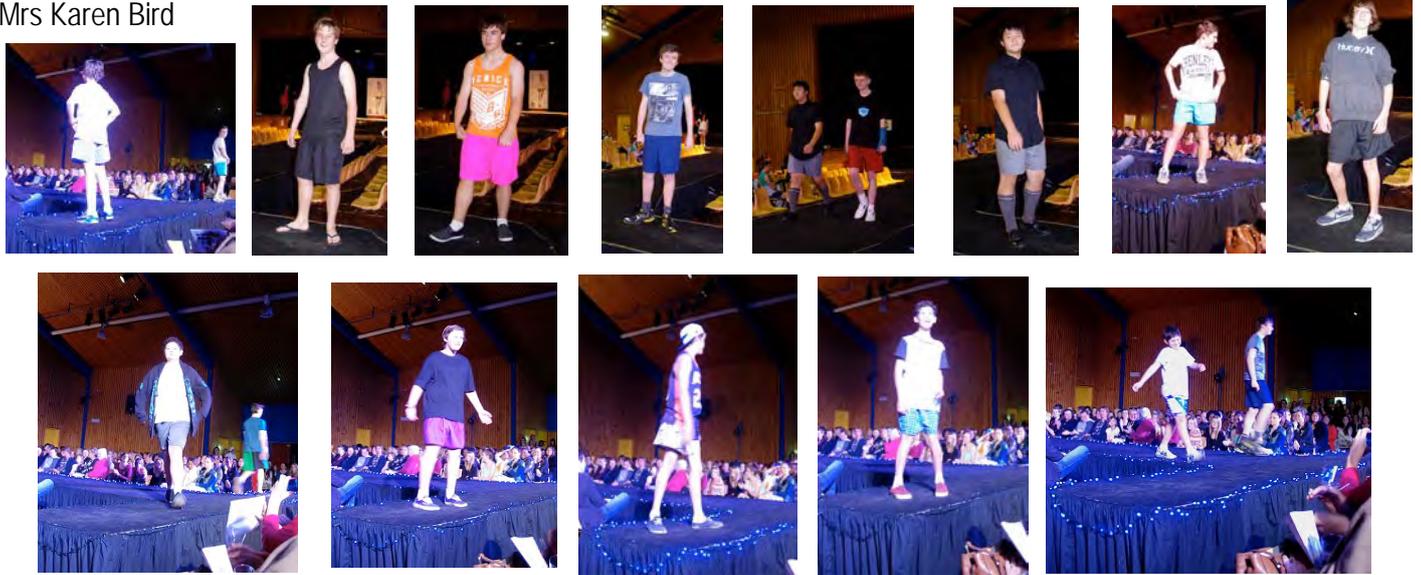
It was with great trepidation that sixteen Year 8 textile technology students approached Asquith Girls' High School to rehearse for the girls' annual fashion parade. On Monday 21st September the boys spent the morning nervously rehearsing their style down the catwalk in the AGHS hall. Tuesday 22nd September saw them spend the entire day rehearsing with the students from Asquith Girls' before the big night.



Tuesday evening came around and the boys were a sensation! They displayed their modeling skills on the catwalk with confidence, showing off their sewing skills with their boxer shorts. I could not be more proud of how these students conducted themselves while at the girls' school. I would like to thank AGHS for allowing us to participate in their parade. The AGHS head teacher of TAS, Mrs Dawe said 'It looks like we have started a new tradition'.

I would also like to thank Mr Philip and all the parents and families who came along to the parade to support the boys. The photos below are from the rehearsal and the evening's show.

Mrs Karen Bird



Food Technology - Year 9

This term the students are studying 'Food Service and Catering' where they learn about employment opportunities in the hospitality industry, menu considerations, recipe development, and food service. The boys are eager to practice their cooking skills and enjoy the taste testing afterwards!



Food Technology - Year 12

While these Food Technology students had a lot of theory to learn and comprehend they were still able to develop their practical skills through their assessment tasks. Below are photos of their final assessments from the topic 'Contemporary Nutrition Issues'. They have worked hard and I wish them every success in the future.

Mrs Karen Bird



Kitchen Whiz Update

Prizes for the students who appeared on the show finally arrived and included many vouchers from Luna Park, Time Zone, ice skating and games.

Congratulations again to those students involved.



MUSIC NEWS

Jarrad Jones blows audience away with his solo Marimba performance in the Sydney Opera House

On Monday 14 October, Jarrad Jones performed in the Sydney Opera House "Rain Dance"(Alice Gomez & Marilyn Rife); a solo marimba composition to an audience of several thousand with outstanding success. The Argyle concert was one of a series of four produced by TAU (The Arts Unit) which featured massed choirs and state music ensembles (Symphonic Wind Orchestra and TAU Stageband). Jarrad was selected by audition to perform as an individual item due to the unique quality and sound of the marimba and the contemporary nature of the chosen work. This piece was also included in his HSC Music Performance program completed for the BOS (Board of Studies) examination in September. Mention was made of Jarrad's participation in ensembles of the Central Coast Conservatorium of Music and his love of percussion both tuned and un-tuned. Jarrad looked and sounded the consummate professional in his smart suit/trendy attire coupled with his dreadlocks. His performance held the audience captive and spellbound with the intricacies of this extended variation-structured four mallet piece. Asquith Boys High School was clearly identified in this stellar musical firmament as a force to be reckoned with now and in the future. Performing in the Sydney opera House is something one will never forget! Congratulations Jarrad and ABHS for producing such an outstanding result!

Michael Williamson, CAPA



NEWS FROM ENGLISH ...

8E Claymation Day

The day started off with an instructional talk with Ian from digi ed which included an example of a Claymation. We then moved on to working on our story ideas and creating them into storyboards, after which we began producing them. All of our stories were different and we all had fun making them into fully fledged movies (well, almost). The last part of the day was for editing and adding sound effects and jingles. The best part of the day was forming the clay figures.



The hardest part was moving them in between photos with the limbs of the characters falling off with the slightest of bumps. Ian was a great help, giving us new ideas and ways of shooting, as well as being at our aid whenever we had a problem. So, all in all it was a great day and everyone was happy with their result.

By Ben Parnell (8E)

P.I.P. (Personal Interest Projects) Presentation

On Thursday 31st October a presentation was held in the Asquith Boys High Library to recognise the outstanding Personal Interest Projects completed by the Year 7 students. Selected students received certificates and JB Hi-Fi vouchers courtesy of the Asquith Boys High School P&C. Families, caregivers and friends of students attended and were treated to food created by Asquith's own talented chefs.

While only a few students were selected it must be noted that the quality and range of projects created by Year 7 was exemplary and all students are to be congratulated for their efforts. As always, it has been an absolute pleasure to be able to see the work produced by students undertaking the P.I.P.

Students selected for awards were:

Aidan Waters, Joseph Parry, Cameron Beale, Liam Iverson, Anderson Pendrick, Jordan Smylie, Michael Pak, Tom Edwards, Kefah Farache, Robert Campbell and Sean Bell.

Congratulations Year 7 Excellent Work!

Ms R Kelly (PIP organiser)



CANTEEN BANDANA DAY

The following boys were involved in collecting money for Kids with Cancer on Friday October 18 at Hornsby Railway Station. As a result of their efforts \$429 was raised in a little over two hours. It was a great effort and they were a great advertisement for the school.

Scott Williams, Matt Griffin, Zac Duretto, Griffin Sleigh, Chris Rourke & Riley Gibson.

Well Done Boys!



'What's your poison?'

That phrase above pretty much sums up for what I have learnt about the sustenance that some people fondly imbibe in the darkest, full-blooded hours of the night. The drink that is morphed into several different versions of itself-beer (which can range from low to mid), wines, spirits and pre-mixed spirits-offers the vast majority of adults relaxation and as a means of social entertainment. For others, it is drink that turns into the drug they misuse to extreme levels. The RSA course that I attended on the 3rd of July, 2013, illustrated that fact.



On the day of the course, the speaker with a remote in his hand and a slide show behind him spit-fired questions that tested our concept of the alcohol issues in today's society. Did you know that it is estimated that 3200 people die as a result of excessive alcohol? I sure didn't. After that, other students and I who attended the one-day class were instantly pulled into the intricacies of the required steps of identifying, selling and monitoring the alcohol to various people. The speaker also illustrated ways on identifying the level of toxicity in people. If a person has a debate against an inanimate object and loses, it's best to say that person needs to be "cut off". Other indications were if people stumble or they slur their words.

In other topics, the speaker would illustrate the problems with alcohol abuse. He used slides that depicted newspaper clippings of a variety of deaths caused by the over-consumption of alcohol. This was reinforced with a visit from a police-transitional officer who had videos that depicted fights that ended quite badly on both sides. It was a deeply concerning topic that I found quite shocking because we, as a young generation, have left this unaddressed. For these deaths to happen, because of the abuse of alcohol is senseless and wrong.

As part of the course, three representatives of a youth organisation entered into our class to talk about the problems with alcohol abuse and addiction. Combined with that, they discussed ways with us on how to combat these in schools and on the outside world. In one part of their discussion, they showed us a weird-looking device called 'beer goggles'. They were supposed to give us the impression of the effects of being drunk. The representatives asked for a volunteer to wear a goggle that was altered to 0.05 on the BAC scale and another volunteer to wear another goggle that had 0.02 on the BAC scale. It was quite interesting and hilarious to see the different movements of the volunteers as they tried to move in one single line.

At the end of the course, I felt I was truly informed on the effects of alcohol on society and on people. It was an amazing experience and I would recommend the class to anyone who wants to get into the hospitality business. I would also recommend the class to mainly everyone. It is important to know what you are drinking, especially how much you are drinking.

Marcus Limbert (Year 12)

SPORT NEWS... OUT OF SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENTS



Last month Oliver Williams (Year 9) reached a milestone of 1000 runs for the Mt Colah cricket club in graded competition. He is only the second current junior player to have done this. His career total is currently is now 1234 runs.

On Sat 14th Sept he scored his maiden century at Mt Kuring-gai oval against Kissing Point with the under 15 team. The following week he scored 60 runs for the Mount Colah C Reserve Grade senior team. He also represents the Hornsby, Ku-ring-gai & Hills District Cricket Association U15 President Cup rep squad, his 3rd year with this team.

Oliver is currently ranked 63 for the highest scores in NSW junior boys and 74 in Australia.

At the same club, Nick Fowler (Year 8) also has grade career run score of 643. As Oliver's opening partner in the same match (14th Sept) Nick posted 59 runs.

NATIONAL TREE DAY

On Friday 26th July, our school participated again in the National Tree Day by adding some more fruit trees to the food garden. Previously only native species featured, but this year any variety was accepted.

We now have a lemon, mandarin, peach, mulberry and olive tree. Students in horticulture also checked the health of the native plant regeneration areas planted in previous years.

Chris Yates, Science & Horticulture



YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE

Year 10 work experience was a great success for the many students who enjoyed and benefitted from their week long exposure to the world of work. Placements were arranged across a whole range of occupations. To mention a few.....Nathan Bartley and Brad Harris had an exciting week at the NSW Fire & Rescue Training College at Alexandria experiencing the activities for a trainee firefighter, James Seidl learnt about Tourism-Harbour cruising with Sydney Tall Ships located at White Bay, Christopher O'Rourke and Jamie Warren spent the week outdoors at the Broken Bay Sport & Recreation Centre learning to be recreation officers for the small primary schools who attended that week, Michael Sheldon had a fantastic week at the Australian Reptile Park and Sam Hanley enjoyed his experience with the Central Coast Mariners immensely. A big thank you to staff who helped out with the supervision of students and a special mention to Ms Evans who made the trek out to Richmond Air Base for an early morning meeting with Michael Cowell who was observing engineering with Australian Aerospace. My favourite visit was to see Jonathan Rapson who was immersed with mixing ricotta cheese as filling for the fresh pasta made at the Pasta Gallery, Hornsby. (I can recommend their fresh pasta - very delicious!)

I am impressed by the number of employers who praised the boys' efforts and said they were a credit to their parents and the school. Well done to all students who have secured part time work or apprenticeships from their placement.





THE WORD FROM ENGLISH

Term 4 is a time for reflection and evaluation as we begin to consolidate our goals for 2014! We have said goodbye to Year 12 of 2013 and wish them all the best for their future endeavours. Year 11 have started the HSC English course and are investigating 'Belonging' with enthusiasm.

Year 7 are exploring the structure and form of short stories, so please encourage them to visit your local library and find additional examples to read.

Year 8 are in the process of creating a picture book. Students are able to draw upon their imagination or real life experiences to construct a narrative.

Year 9 are studying Romeo and Juliet and will be creating a movie trailer representing aspects of the text.

Year 10 are examining a range of films building their visual literacy skills in order to prepare them for senior English courses.

Year 11 have transitioned into the Year 12 coursework and are exploring the concept of belonging.

As always, should you have any questions or concerns about the progress of your son in

English please do not hesitate to contact his class teacher or me (Rebecca.Kelly60@det.nsw.edu.au) as a collaborative effort between the home and school is incredibly beneficial.

Ms R. Kelly

(Relieving Head Teacher English)



SCIENCE

HSC

With the 2013 HSC now complete we say well done to all Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Senior Science students. We hope you get the marks you require to get into the courses of your choice.

Year 11

All Year 11 boys have now started their HSC Course. I encourage all boys doing a science course to do extra reading and past exam questions to complement their normal homework. This extra work will pay dividends in the long run.

Horticulture

The boys have completed their personal interest projects (PIP) on growing plants at home. They were required to grow and study plants and present their findings on a poster. The best project was completed by Mitchell Robertson who grew carnivorous plants, bonsai and cactus.

Year 8

The annual ESSA Science Assessment will be conducted in early November. All year 8 students will complete a computer based logic test and the results will help guide our teaching and learning into the future. These tests help us target areas of weakness and focus our boys learning where it is needed most.

Mr S. Robertson

Head Teacher Science



Greetings from HSIE!

At this crucial stage of the year, all of our teachers are intent on assessing students so as to best determine their RoSA outcomes.

Significantly for **Year 12, the HSC Examinations** have concluded and I know from personal discussions that most of our students have found them testing but fair. Teachers have been quite satisfied with personal endeavours and hope that students have worked to their expectations. We will wish them all the very best of luck at their Formal next week. They have been a very memorable and united group.

Year 11 (now Year 12) are already hard at it and teachers have all remarked that the changes in application have been on the whole, consistent and positive. Year 12 Ancient History have begun to examine the catastrophe and reawakening of the Cities of Vesuvius, Pompeii and Herculaneum, both narratively and visually. Year 12 Modern History are pursuing an examination of the world in World War 1. Year 12 Geography, Legal Studies and Economics as well as Business Studies, who have just returned from a Field Study at Luna Park, are all hard at task also.

Our **Year 10** cohort in both Mandatory History and Geography are progressing in their RoSA outcomes, with Assessment Tasks due in both areas. A Field Study of the Local Area of Hornsby will be delivered soon. **Year 9** Australian Studies have just completed a Field Study to both the Museum of Sydney and Hyde Park Barracks organised by Mrs Stopford. **Year 8** are going to the Taronga Park Zoo soon – organised by Ms Woolley. **Year 7** are going to the IMAX and Darling Harbour in early December, organised by Mr Laing.

All in all, a very busy Term!

Cheers to all!

Mr G. Moscos

Head Teacher HSIE

MATHS

Year 6 to Year 7 transition program:



At the end of last term the Maths staff from Asquith Boys High met up with Year 6 teachers from our local primary schools. The aim of the meeting was to share ideas in improving student outcomes in Year 7 by reducing the stress of transition from primary to high school Mathematics. We looked at how Mathematics is taught in primary classes in comparison to high school. We discussed how Asquith Boys could assist the primary teachers in preparing their students for high school. As a result of the meeting, over the coming weeks the Maths staff will visit Year 6 classes and conduct one lesson as it would be taught in high school. The primary teacher will then conduct three similar lessons in Mathematics. Early next year we will evaluate the program to measure its effectiveness with the hope that it will become a permanent link of support between us and our local primary schools.

Examinations

The big exams for this term of course are the HSC exams. This year we have very capable candidates and are hoping for excellent results in

all courses. Year 10 students will be starting their program in preparation for their selected HSC course. Other year groups will also be facing end of year tests in the next few weeks. It is very important that all students begin to revise now so that they are well prepared and can show the skills they have developed over the semester. We wish all students every success in the exam period.

Problem of the month

This is a famous problem and is quite a challenge.

You are given twelve coins. All of them are the same weight except for one which is a fake and is not the same weight as the other coins. You have to find out which coin is the fake and whether it is heavier or lighter than the others using no more than three weighings on a pair of scales. How do you do it? Explain the method.

*Mr D Lappas
Head Teacher Maths*

CAREERS

Defence Force Recruiting

Parramatta Info Sessions are:

1 Year IMPS Information Session - Tuesday 12th November - 4.30pm

Army Reserve Information Session – Tuesday 12th November - 6.30pm

The Information Sessions will be held at Defence Force Recruiting Parramatta – Level 4, 9 George Street, Parramatta.

These information sessions will be attended by an ADF member who will give specific presentations on the night relating to the particular aspect of the Australian Defence Force.

If you wish to attend please RSVP to cptnsw@dfr.com.au specifying the NAME of the Information Session and the DATE they wish to attend, and you will be booked in.

Recent Events

Year 10 Work Experience

This was again a very successful week – please read the detailed Year 10 Work experience article in this Backchat.

Important Information

TAFE Mainstream enrolments, Semester one 2014

I have included information in this newsletter for school leavers re enrolling in TAFE courses next year. Luckily the Vet reforms, Smart and Skilled, have been postponed till 2015 so fees will remain roughly the same as this year. There is also a list of the fee schedule for 2014. However costs will go up in 2015 so my advice is to start your TAFE courses next year!

Year 12 Careers Advisory Service is available from Thursday 19th to 24th December 2013 9am to 5pm. This free service is available by phone on 1300 300 687 or through the website www.cas.det.nsw.edu.au. The Careers Advisory Service website contains helpful information to assist students in clarifying course choices, employment opportunities, career pathways and training options.



The Good Universities Guide 2014

This book is now available in the library. It rates the quality of institutions and the degrees they offer against a comprehensive list of criteria. Such as Teaching quality, Student retention, Getting a Full-time job, and Graduate Starting Salary. Now there is also an electronic version which students can download free of charge at ebook.gooduniguide.com.au. This is an excellent resource for senior students and takes up where Job Guide leaves off. By the way, I have some spare copies of the Job Guide 2013 for interested students.

teach.Rural Scholarships Closes 15 November

\$6,000 per year, guaranteed permanent employment and \$5,000 bonus. Teach rural for three years. Contact: 1300 301 435 or scholarships@det.nsw.edu.au
<http://www.dec.nsw.gov.au/about-us/careers-centre/school-careers/teaching/our-programs-and-initiatives/teach-rural-scholarships>

Agriculture to Become Boom Industry in Australia

This article details recent research that suggests that agriculture and agribusiness will be one of Australia's boom industries in the coming years. Experts have predicted that agriculture will soon require 6000 tertiary-qualifies graduates per year.

Please visit <http://sydney.edu.au/news/84.html?newsstoryid=12512>

Agrifood Careers & Rural Skills Australia

This website provides information to students, parents, career advisers & teachers about the agricultural and horticulture industries in Australia. Students interested in pursuing a career in these industries should visit this website. <http://agrifoodcareers.com.au>

New Department of Education Careers website-- www.seek2b.com Version 2. To access this website you now need the password "gorilla".

If you are wondering what career might best suit you go to "Find My Career" You can gain a better understanding on a career by watching a video about it. There are 4 handy quizzes you can also try. The UNI section has the following drop down menu options – Open Days, Scholarships, Bonus Points, alternative Entry, Educational Access Scheme, Deferment etc . There is lots of great information in employment for vacancies, Resume builder, Interview videos etc.

www.careersworks.com Careersworks is an organised grouping of careers resources for students, parents and teachers. This valuable information is under the headings of Resources, HSC, ATAR, Bonus Points, University, TAFE, News & Events Scholarships, Jobs, Students, International Common questions. The password is "plan".

Mrs J. Fry
Careers Adviser



HSC & TPC
Course Information Evening
Monday 11 November, 6pm
Cameragal Building, J Block, Ground Floor
St Leonards Campus, TAFE NSW
(formerly North Sydney TAFE)

We will once again be offering students the opportunity of studying units in the Certificate IV in Tertiary Preparation (TPC) and Higher School Certificate (HSC) in 2014.

We encourage potential students and their parents/guardians to attend the information session where both HSC and TPC options will be discussed.

Timetables and course information will be available at this session.

Teaching staff will be available on the night to answer any questions you may have about both these Year 12 equivalent courses.

THE Northern Sydney Institute Part of TAFE NSW
For more information, please contact the Coordinators on 9942 0732
Unlock your potential. It starts here.



TAFE FEES 2014
VET REFORM ALERT

131 674 • www.nsi.edu.au

VET REFORM ALERT

- The NSW Government is undertaking a staged implementation of Smart and Skilled which includes an entitlement to government subsidised training, commencing from 1 January 2015.
- Advice on prices and fees for 2015 will be released in 2014.
- In 2014, students will enrol in vocational training with TAFE NSW and private and community providers as they have done previously, paying annual or semester student fees.

TAFE NSW 2014 FEE SCHEDULE

| Qualification Level | Fee for enrolments of one semester or less | Annual fee |
|---|--|------------|
| Advanced Diploma | 909 | 1,818 |
| Diploma | 757 | 1,514 |
| Certificate IV | 570 | 1,140 |
| Certificate III | 419 | 838 |
| Certificate II | 267 | 534 |
| Certificate I | 267 | 534 |
| Statements of Attainment/ Short Courses | 267 | 534 |
| Apprentices and Trainees | 253 | 506 |
| Individual Concession Students per enrolment | 106 | 106 |
| Individual Fee Exempt students | 0 | 0 |
| Course Exempt Students (Special Access Courses) | 0 | 0 |

P&C Association

Parents and Citizens working together for our School

Hello ABHS community,

Your P&C met for October on Tuesday 22nd. It was great to see several new faces at our meeting, and thank you to all of those who attended.

Congratulations to our 2013 Year 12 Boys who are at the end of their secondary education. As usual, this group of young men are the pride of ABHS, and have been great leaders for our school, as well as in the broader community. As observers to the growth & development of these young men, the P&C is sure that they will be successful in their future educational and career efforts.

The P&C thanks you for your effort during your time at ABHS, and wishes you all the very best in your future endeavours.

Our boys have again made an exceptional contribution to this year's Legacy fundraising surpassing \$12,000, Last year ABHS were the first ever school to reach the Legacy "10,000 club", and now in 2013 the boys have achieved over the \$10K benchmark for second year in a row. The only NSW school, both public & private, to achieve and exceed this target.

Congratulations to Harry Gibbons, who has received an "Order of Australia" award for Citizenship, from the NSW Governor. Only 20 of these are awarded each year, and it is great recognition for Harry who is heavily involved in many community activities.

Once again, thank you to all those who have attended this month's P&C meeting.

Our November meeting is Tuesday 26th, which is our last regular meeting for 2013.

Thanks,

John Koellner

P&C President

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| President: | John Koellner |
| Vice Presidents: | Kim Pinnock Kerry Limbert |
| Secretary: | Nicky Morrison |
| Treasurer: | Jenny Williams |
| Ground Maintenance: | Michelle Roscarel, Kirsty Berryman & Kerry Limbert |
| School Council Reps: | Linda Stanford, Kim Pinnock |

The next P&C meeting

@ 7.30pm

Tuesday 26 November
in the Library.

All welcome.

ABHS CALENDAR OF EVENTS TERM 4 2013

| | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SAT/SUN |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|---|--|--------------------------------|--------------|
| Week 6B | November 11 Backchat Published | November 12 | November 13 | November 14 Year 12 Formal | November 15 | Nov 16/17 |
| Week 7A | November 18 | November 19 | November 20 | November 21 Yr 7 & 9 Vaccinations HPV Dose 3 & Hep B Dose 2 | November 22 | Nov 23/24 |
| Week 8B | November 25 Leadership Camp | November 26 Leadership Camp School Council P&C Meeting | November 27 | November 28 Yr 10 Exams | November 29 Yr 10 Exams | Nov 30/Dec 1 |
| Week 9A | December 2 | December 3 | December 4 ORIENTATION DAY YEAR 7 2014 | December 5 Formal Assembly (Leadership Induction) | December 6 | Dec 7/8 |

| | | | | | | |
|-----------------|---|--|--|---|--|-----------|
| Week 10B | December 9 | December 10 School Council Finance Meeting | December 11 | December 12 Yr 8 Gerringong Excursion | December 13 Primary Schools Football Gala Day Backchat Published | Dec 14/15 |
| Week 11A | December 16 PRESENTATION NIGHT  | December 17 | December 18 Yr 7-10 Reports issued End of Term 4 | December 19 Staff Development Day | December 20 Staff Development Day | Dec 21/22 |

2014 DATES

Term 1 – Tuesday 28th January till Friday 11th April

Years 7, 11 & 12 start Wed 29th January, Years 8, 9 & 10 start Thu 30th January

Term 2 – Monday 28th April till Friday 27th June

Term 3 – Monday 14th July till Friday 19th September

Term 4 – Tuesday 7th October till Friday 19th December

Staff Development Days (ie Pupil Free Days)

Tue 28th Jan, Mon 28th April, Mon 14th July, Thu 18th & Fri 19th Dec

TAFE Mainstream enrolments post school

Mainstream course offerings, Semester One 2014

Semester one and full year 2014 mainstream course offerings are visible on the TAFE NSW courses website or Northern Sydney Institute website. A "Register now" button allows students to register their interest in a course offering.

When you register you will receive confirmation of your registration and be notified of further enrolment / selection procedures and any specific entry requirements eg: an interview / information session. You will also be sent correspondence acknowledging your registration and details of next steps to be undertaken.

You will be given a Username and Password

You will then be able to log onto Student e-Services to view your registration.

Go to www.tafensw.edu.au and click on e-Services, then select "Student"

Log on to Student e-Services to view the enrolment



Once TAFE NSW fees have been set for 2014, Northern Sydney Institute Customer Service staff will contact you regarding fees and payment arrangements.

Some TAFE courses for example apprentice / Trainees will still require students to attend enrolment days.

For further assistance contact:

Course enquiries

For information about courses, enrolment procedures or if would you like to speak to a careers counsellor about study options contact us on:

Phone: 131 674

[Enquire now](#)

Campus enquiries

Do you know which campus you would like to study at? Call us today. Our campus staff are only happy to assist you.

Phone: 131 674

[Enquire now](#)



HOST FAMILIES NEEDED!

MORE INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS ARRIVING IN FEB 2014

October 2013 Latest news...latest news...latest news... latest news...latest news...latest...



From France

Exchange student Anna, 15, has an eye for art and a fine sense of balance and rhythm. The good gymnast that she is, she is also musical. She sings, plays the guitar and wants to explore Australian culture and natural environment, and share her culture.



From Italy

Alberto, 17, has led his soccer team to success at top levels. He also enjoys playing basketball and is very friendly and independent. Living near Milan, he works hard at school and hopes to achieve his ambition of becoming a doctor one day.



From Austria

Theresa, 16, is from Vienna and, not surprisingly, music flows in her veins. She plays both the flute and guitar, and is with a brass band. A keen cyclist, she wants to make use of her skills for medical and humanitarian work one day.



From Germany

Jennifer, almost 15, spends time gazing in the sky as she is fascinated with astronomy. She is an excellent student and interested in foreign cultures and sports, including cycling and horse-riding. She plays the violin and flute, and is fluent in English and French.



From Japan

Miki, 16, lives close to the mountains in Kobe and particularly enjoys the outdoors and visits to hot-springs. A pleasant and caring girl, she is a well-rounded student who enjoys sports and has been to England.



From USA

Liam, 17, from Vermont is adaptable and athletic, and enjoys a raft of activities including soccer, tennis, swimming and trampolining. He has travelled around the USA and Canada and also speaks French.



Their faces say it all: photos of exchange students to Australia who have completed their programs and returned home

Many more international students choosing Australia will arrive Feb 5th, will be prepared with a 3-day residential orientation in Sydney and will join their Australian host families on Feb 8th. Program lengths are 3, 5 and 10 months. Students are selected, covered by insurance, supported by Local Coordinators and enrolled in schools by S.C.C.E. S.C.C.E. is available 24/7 to all program participants.

**Request now as many full student profiles as you like
- you may just know the perfect host family!**

1800-500-501 or 03-9775 4711
Email: scceaus@scce.com.au
Postal Address: Locked Bag 1200
Mt Eliza, VIC 3930

Australia's own international student exchange organisation since 1983





We are your local experienced Plumber.

We are just around the corner and are able to help you no matter how large or small the job is.

We can help you with:

- Leaking taps and blocked toilets
- Rain water tanks and water wise solutions
- Maintenance
- Bathrooms, Kitchen & Laundry renovations
- Guttering and roofing
- Hot water heaters and installations
- Gas services - Natural and LPG
- Blocked drains

Call James now for an obligation free quote.

0412 511 700

JSW Plumbing Pty Ltd

Licence # 204677C

Wing Chun Kung Fu 10 Class Pass for only \$29

Early bird bonus: FREE T-shirt!



Hornsby Wing Chun Academy
0425 265 491 www.hwca.com.au

Master the Art of Wing Chun Kung Fu, just like the famous Bruce Lee and Ip Man!

Wing Chun training provides practical self defence skills that can help keep children and adults safe from violence. Even if they never need to use it, the peace of mind is invaluable!

However, Wing Chun is a lot more than just a martial art. Classes start with the Siu Nim Tao form, kind of a standing meditation. Benefits of this training include:

- ✓ Improved focus and concentration
- ✓ Better posture and body awareness
- ✓ Physical and mental relaxation
- ✓ Stress relief
- ✓ Practical self defence skills

*Early Bird Bonus: Be one of the first 5 in each issue of Backchat to take up this offer and also receive a \$50 discount off your second class pass purchase and a FREE Hornsby Wing Chun Academy T-Shirt!

Location: Hornsby Uniting Church, 24 William St Hornsby

Contact: Instructor Mark Laing 0425-265-491 wingchun@hwca.com.au

Price: 10 class pass for only \$29. Valid for new students only. Normal price \$175 adult, \$140 concession. On-going family discounts apply to the normal rates 75% off second member 50% off 3rd or more

Drive Safe NSW - Driving School

CHRISTMAS STUDENT SPECIAL!

Professional and friendly instructors

Flexible hours to suit your needs

Mention this advertisement and receive **10%** off all lessons and package deals

For more information contact us on:

Website- www.drivesafensw.net.au

Email- info@drivesafensw.net.au

Number- **(02) 8911 1566**

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year - Safe Driving

Express Mobile Services

Want to be your own boss?

Want to work close to home?

Need a flexible job to pick up the kids?

Why not start your own franchise business!

Franchises from \$5,950

Earn \$500 - \$2000+ per week

- Home & Office Cleaning
 - Dog Washing
 - Exterior Cleaning
 - Bookkeeping
- and 17 others...*



1300 EXPRESS
3 97 7 377
expressmobileservices.com.au

CALL TODAY

DISCLAIMER

Advertisements in this newsletter are included as a community service or a source of revenue to offset newsletter production costs. They should not in any way be seen as an endorsement or recommendation by the school.



Sunday 10 November 2013

8am start • Bennelong Park, Putney

Competitive Runners • Social Runners • Walkers & Families
3.2km course through the hills of Putney

Corporate Teams • Friends • Sporting Teams
4 x 800m Roller Relay

Hang out with Captain Accountability
Our Corporate Partner, Vision Personal Training Gladesville, are providing free kids novelty events as well as running a recovery session for those finishing the race.

helping to make a difference

Our Charities

Giant Steps is a local community based facility, founded to help educate children and families experiencing autism, to alleviate associated stress and to guide in the achievement of measurable results.

Through **Communities for Communities**, we will also reach out to the Klabat community in Indonesia and provide support to them in the form of funding for much needed housing.

Sign up now! We can't wait to see you there!

For more info, go to our website:

www.ryderollercoaster.com.au



Grab your friends, family & colleagues and take on the rollercoaster challenge together

We've got plenty to keep the whole family entertained!

register today!



For more information please visit www.olorspringfair2013.weebly.com Like www.facebook.com/olorspringfair2013

DIY flower arranging, Flowers By Mercedes. For adults

Saturday 7th December - Sunday 8th December

We at Flowers By Mercedes believe that cut flowers are like women, if you treat them well, they're more likely, to stick around.

So what are you waiting for, make a date with Flowers By Mercedes and let's get floral for the festive season!

Men and women are invited to learn to say "I love you" or "thank you" with the art of making your own flower arrangements. At the end of the course you will have created your own box of flowers to take home.

1 hr course costs: \$49

Courses on Saturday 7th Dec at 10:30am or 2:30pm. And Sunday 8th Dec at 10:30am or 2:30pm.

Places are limited, allowing for plenty of assistance and individual guidance. Please contact us to reserve your place workshops@flowersbymercedes.com.au 0414 986 490



ROOM TO BREATHE

POSITIVE BEING will be hosting a FREE Public Screening of the award winning movie 'Room to Breathe', an inspiring story of transformation as struggling kids in a San Francisco Public School are introduced to the practice of mindfulness meditation. The film charts the benefits of this practice by showing incredible improvements in performance including increased focus and substantially reduced stress.

This 56 minute film is a must see for anyone interested in achieving performance and health improvement. So feel free to bring a buddy and invite your clients, family and friends.

Mindfulness has the potential to improve achievement, mental health and inter and intra-personal relationships.

What is mindfulness?
"Mindfulness means paying attention in a particular way, on purpose, in the present moment and non-judgementally."
~ Jon Kabat-Zinn

What are the benefits?
Studies demonstrate that the benefits of mindfulness include better focus and concentration; increased self-awareness; stronger impulse control and feelings of calm; reduced stress, loneliness, aggression and violent behavior; and increased empathy and understanding of others.

We tend to think of meditation in only one way. But life itself is a meditation.
~ Raul Julia

It is a form of social and emotional learning which helps to bring awareness to one's experience and can help unlock change.

FREE PUBLIC SCREENING
Wednesday 13 November 7.30pm

Events Cinema Hornsby
Admission is free, all seating is limited, so reserve your ticket by booking online www.roomtobreathe.eventbrite.com.au

POSITIVE BEING presents 'ROOM TO BREATHE' music composed by B. QUINCY GRIFFIN director of photography HERVE COHEN cinematography by JOHN NANE and DEB TULLMAN and EMILY ENCINA written and edited by GAIL MALLIMSON co-produced by GAIL MALLIMSON produced by RUSSELL LONG directed by RUSSELL LONG



Official Trailer: <https://vimeo.com/47294651>