



BACKCHAT

December 2016

STOP PRESS – EXTRA FRONT PAGE

CONGRATULATIONS ABHS CLASS OF 2016!

The staff at ABHS would like to congratulate the 2016 cohort for their very impressive results in the HSC. Their hard work, positivity and collaborative approach to their learning has paid significant academic dividends.

Importantly these excellent academic results have been achieved alongside their involvement with cultural endeavours, sporting commitments and social justice and charitable initiatives.

- ABHS is in the *Sydney Morning Herald* **Top 20** government comprehensive high schools list
- **Top ATAR 99.0**
- **Zac Duretto on Top All Rounders List**
- 39 entries on the *HSC Distinguished Achievers list*
- **Band 6** results across 18 subjects
- ABHS student 3rd in NSW in Russian,
- ABHS student 2nd in NSW in Ukrainian
- **Accelerated** Year 11 student achieved a mark of 97 in Extension 1 Mathematics
- Mathematics Extension 1 → 100% of students achieved in the **top two bands** compared to 79% in NSW
- Advanced English → 50% of students at ABHS received a Band 6, the highest possible band. The rest of the cohort received a Band 5. **ABHS has twice as many students in the top two bands** when compared to other boys in NSW (including selective and private schools).
- English Extension 1 → All students in the course received the top band. This is **three times better** than the percentage of boys achieving the top band when compared to other boys in NSW (including selective and private schools).
- English Advanced, Extension 1 and 2 combined (18 entries), 50% of which received Band 6. The *Sydney Morning Herald* required a minimum of 20 entries in the subject for the school to be on their list. **If ABHS was on the list we would have finished 11th in the state for all schools in high level English courses.**



Again Congratulations!

Mr Terry Griffiths, Principal on behalf of all the ABHS staff.

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

My retirement

Next Tuesday, 20th December, will be my last day at Asquith Boys High School. Thank you to those parents and community members that have sent me goodwill messages or gifts. It is most gratifying and I could not have asked for a better farewell than at last Monday's Presentation Night.

As you know I am very proud of our boys' achievements. I am even more impressed with their character and commitment to help others. As a community and a parent group you are doing a splendid job raising your sons.

I hope you have read the front page of this edition of *Backchat* because we have had absolutely stunning HSC results. This year's Year 12 boys worked extraordinarily hard to get these results in a very collaborative manner. I am confident we will have a record number of students at university next year.

Asquith Boys' new principal is Mr Bryce Grant, whose current position is Deputy Principal at Muirfield High School. I wish Mr Grant the very best and I know that our community will give him the same unwavering support you have given me over the last nearly eleven years.

I would like to thank our talented and hard-working teaching and non-teaching staff for their support over the years. Our community is very fortunate to have such a high calibre and committed group of people. Also thanks to the School Council, this year led by Mr Rizwan Ali, and the P & C, this year led by Mrs Michelle Roscarel.

I will be doing some travelling, reading, trying to get fit, possibly learning a language and looking for ways to contribute to my local community. Have a happy Christmas holiday break and best wishes to everybody for the future.

Terry Griffiths, Principal





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

December 2016

High School Experience Day

High School Experience Day took place on the 17th of November. We had a large group of Year 5 boys from many different primary schools come to spend a day at Asquith Boys High School, to see what High School is all about and to alleviate any fears or apprehension they might have. They were all very inquisitive about our school.

The Year 10 Prefects and a few Year 12 Prefects took the boys around the school for 4 periods in groups. All the teachers planned practical lessons that would make the boys excited about coming to high school. A massive thank you to all the teachers who helped out on the day, we greatly appreciate it.

The boys did a multitude of different activities ranging from Sport and Food Tech to Art and Drama along with the essential Math and English lessons. All the boys I talked to, said how welcoming and enjoyable their day at high school was. All the parents seemed very happy as well.

Here are some quotes from the student and parent feedback forms we ask them to complete at the end of the day:

Student feedback

Q: What part of the day didn't you like?

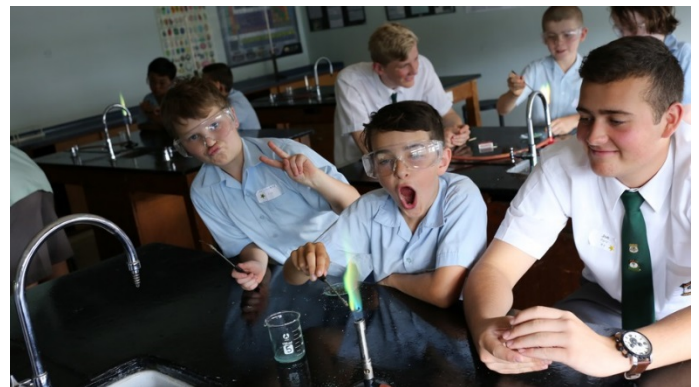
*I honestly loved the whole thing.
Cleaning up in cooking.*

Q: What was the best part of the day?

*When in Science we burnt chemicals.
Watching the Rock Band perform.
Cooking because we got to make cookies.
Metal work – making a ring.
The rocket & PE.
Making new friends.*

Q: What (if anything) would you change about the day:

*Nothing!
Today was great and I enjoyed every second of it.
More classes!*



Parent feedback:

- *I was particularly impressed with the news of the two science rooms getting overhauled and the enthusiasm from the Head of Science.*
- *I was completely blown away with all that ABHS has to offer. Thank you for the tour!*
- *Thank you for making the effort to showcase your school to the children. And thanks to all the student helpers guiding the children around the school. Great job.*
- *I was pleased to see how the staff care about the boys and try to provide every opportunity to ensure each student gets the most out of their education. The band was fantastic and I know my son was impressed and excited!*
- *The Experience Day helped increase my confidence in the school being a suitable option for my son. For those in doubt or uncertain this day can be a very positive influence.*
- *I think showing the boys what HS is like is a great idea and I think you put a lot of minds at ease.*
- *Even though I already have a son at ABHS I decided to attend the tour. It was very worthwhile! Parent questions were answered professionally – well considered and clearly. The passion the staff have for ABHS was clearly evident. Thank you.*

Thank you to Mr Shead and Mrs Fawcett for organising the day; Mr Moscos who helped out with doing a tour of the grounds; the office staff for all their organising and all the ABHS students who helped in classrooms and with the cooking of the BBQ. A great team effort showing off the team spirit and leadership at ABHS.

Zoltan Sneed, Senior Prefect



DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

The end of another fantastic year at Asquith Boys HS is upon us. It is essential that we take a moment to look back at the many great achievements of our students, staff and community in a diverse range of fields. This issue of *Backchat* will outline many of these.

As the year has drawn to a close, our students have on the whole, maintained excellent focus right up until the last day. They have participated in many organised activities, involving both large and smaller groups, alongside their regular timetabled lessons.

I would like to thank the staff of Asquith Boys High School for their unrelenting commitment to the education and wellbeing of all students. I would similarly like to thank our highly supportive community.

In conclusion, on a personal note, I would like to wish my mentor and friend Terry Griffiths all the best as he enters retirement. Much has been said in a range of forums recently about Terry's commitment to Asquith Boys High School and public education in general. Our school is richer for his leadership, advocacy, dedication and compassion.

Andrew Skehan
Deputy Principal



*Bronze Principal Medallion recipients at
Formal Assembly – 24 November*

*Congratulations to
Mitchell Brooks
Jack Jones
Mitchell Bennie
Matthew Bushby*

Patrick Bostelman (who was not present that day)

FROM THE ABHS LEADERSHIP TEAM

Dear Reader of Backchat,

Hello again! It's Zoltan Snead here writing to you once more. I wanted to inform everyone about our recent events here at ABHS, involving the Leadership students.

High School Experience Day was an opportunity for your new Year 10 Prefects to shine in their leadership role as they were in charge of a group of Year 5 boys throughout the day. They stepped up to the mark and did a great job and were very good with answering all the questions the Year 5 boys had.

On the 25th of November, the Leadership Team (Prefects, SRC and other students) attended the Halogen Imagination Conference at Sydney Olympic Park. Two teachers managed and looked after 50 students. A huge thank you to those teachers for taking care of us! It was inspiring to hear the stories of the guest speakers and how leadership helped them. It has equipped us with skills and abilities to help make our school a better place.

We also have an incursion planned for the 5th of December to train us for Leadership.

Once again, a massive thank you to all the teachers who have coordinated events and taken care of us.

Zoltan Snead, Senior Prefect

2017 DATES

Term 1 – Friday 27th January till Friday 7th April

Years 7, 11 & 12 start Mon 30th January, Years 8, 9 & 10 start Tue 31st January

Term 2 – Monday 24th April till Friday 30th June

Term 3 – Monday 17th July till Friday 22nd September

Term 4 – Monday 9th October till Tuesday 19th December

Staff Development Days

Fri 27th Jan, Mon 24th April, Mon 17th July, Mon 18th & Tue 19th Dec

2ND HAND BLAZERS

Blazers are compulsory for the winter terms (term 2&3) for **ALL** Senior students. Please see the list below of outgoing Year 12 blazers for sale (both Senior and Prefect Blazers). Contact the person directly if you are interested.

Some parents have chosen to donate the senior blazer to the school. They are available for you to purchase from the clothing pool in the Print room. These range from \$30 - \$70, depending on condition and if they have been dry cleaned.

Maroon Senior Blazers

Name	Size	Price	Contact Details		other information
Jillian Vanderlaan	16	\$100	0414 667 819	jillian.vanderlaan@gmail.com	Near perfect condition & Dry cleaned
Sharon Davidson	16	\$80	0401 148 220		Very good condition Dry cleaned

Green Prefect Blazer

Name	Size	Price	Contact Details		other information
Andrea Jenz	18	\$50	0458 596 101	andrea.jenz@aemo.com.au	reasonable condition NOT Dry cleaned

SCHOOLWEAR OFFER

\$50 OFF
ORIGINAL PRICE

SCHOOL BLAZERS

NOTE:
OFFER VALID FOR 4 WEEKS!
12TH JANUARY TO 12TH FEBRUARY

LOWES
SCHOOL UNIFORMS

Exclusive stockists of premium quality Beare & Ley Schoolwear

A \$50 non-refundable deposit is required with order if size not available at time of purchase.

PS! **EXTRA 5% DISCOUNT FOR LOWES ZERO CUSTOMERS**

YEAR 9 SOUTH COAST CAMP

On the morning of Thursday 1st December 2016, Year 9 was up bright and early awaiting their 7:15am departure to the south coast. Towards the end of the departure timeframe, everyone had arrived, packed the bus and departed surprisingly five minutes early.

The first stop was Minnamurra rainforest where we all enjoyed a scenic hike up towards the waterfalls of the rainforest. While on the hike, we engaged in several talks covering a variety of plants and animals, which included the stinging plant that can provide 10-15 times the sting of a bee and pain that would last for up to 6 months or the amazing face-on-a-rock which barely anyone could make out from a distance. A couple of hours later, with all our legs about to drop off, we made it to the top of the rainforest falls to view the great sight that was (kind of) a waterfall.



At about 1pm, we headed off to our second stop, the Jamberoo Action Park where we spent the rest of the afternoon. It was comforting to know that most other schools at Jamberoo were leaving at around 3pm giving Asquith Boys an extra two hours with barely any lines. Rides such as the Taipan, Perfect Storm and the Funnelweb were favourites among the crowds allowing everyone to get bucketed with water. For anyone looking for a dry activity, you had to take the chairlift (where a few of us got stuck when it stopped briefly “leaving us hanging” above the trees) and then bobsled all the way down the hill.

Our next stop was our accommodation for the night at Chittick Lodge. For most of us, our spare time was well spent kicking around a ball in the front yard, or playing basketball in the centre. For others, it was just as good to sit down and enjoy a chat (and getting bitten by those pesky mosquitos). We were greatly catered for by the lodge enjoying a burrito or two as well as chocolate brownies and a scoop of ice-cream for dessert. It was a very hot night (some boys lacking sleep), but we managed to get through it eventually.

The next day, our most anticipated and final stop was at the Penrith Whitewater Rafting Centre. After a 10-minute safety briefing, we were guided through the rapids and enjoyed the fun of being splashed and pushed around in the water. At some stage during our session, we were told to leave our paddles behind and go “surfing” which relied heavily on everyone in the raft to move from side to side balancing the weight evenly to make sure no one fell in. Some would say this was the best part of the day, others would say differently.



In the end, some of us fell in and some of us had a few minor cuts and bruises but we had time to chill and relax in the café before it was time to head back home.

I would personally like to thank our magnificent Year Adviser, Mr French, for all the outstanding work and organisation that he put into organising this camp. Over 6 months of anticipation led up to this event and none of us could have done it without your help.

I would also like to thank the rest of the teachers (Ms Tapner, Ms Cufre, Mr Miles, Mr Wakewood and Mr Johnston) that came along and assisted in making our adventure, a drenched one!

Bradley Flood
Year 9



12 DAYS OF CHRIST-MATHS

On the 12th day of christ-maths my teacher gave to me:



12 Proofs a proving



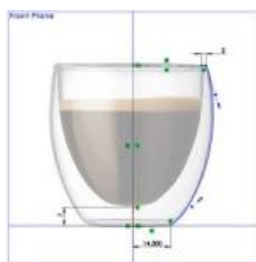
11 Bar Graphs plotting



10 Factors finding



9 Surds a sorting



8 Midpoints Marking

$$y = \frac{\ln\left(\frac{x}{m} - sa\right)}{r^2}$$

$$yr^2 = \ln\left(\frac{x}{m} - sa\right)$$

$$e^{yr^2} = \frac{x}{m} - sa$$

$$e^{yr^2} + sa = \frac{x}{m}$$

$$m(e^{yr^2} + sa) = x$$

$$me^{yr^2} + msa = x$$

$$me^{yr^2} = x - msa$$

$$me^{ry} = x - mas$$

7 Powers adding



6 Curves a graphing



5 Golden Rules



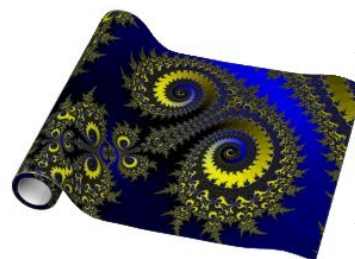
4 Perfect squares



3 Cube roots



2 Sine Curves



and gifts wrapped in a fractal tree

WALKATHON 2016

Usually the first day of Spring has a special meaning for the Asquith Boys High School community: it's the traditional date for our Spring Walkathon, but this year due to poor weather conditions it was postponed to the 17th of October. The 29th annual Spring Walkathon had students turn up in force despite Year 12 unfortunately missing out. With the sun out and students eager to start the walk, Year Group photos were taken and students set off on their 10 kilometre walk to Apple Tree Bay.

As usual the event was threatened by some forecasted afternoon rain but spirits remained high as students, staff and parents walked the track from school, through the suburbs of Asquith and Hornsby to North Wahroonga where they entered the Gibberagong Track. This scenic bush track route leads down through tall Eucalypt and Turpentine forest to more lush surrounds along the river and eventually down to Bobbin Head and the final destination of Apple Tree Bay.

The boys not only kept a good pace and helped one another out, they were in luck as an unusually high tide submerged the board walk by about a foot at the end of the Gibberagong track. By the time the students reached the boardwalk they meandered through the mangroves and the water subsided, narrowly avoiding wet shoes.

Once the boys reached Apple Tree Bay where they were treated to sausage sandwiches, drinks, doughnuts and...rain. The rain failed to dampen spirits, as the boys enjoyed the post-walk socialising and listened to the music provided by Benjamin Russell, Callum Roscarel, Sean Bell, Alistair Pirrie, Andrew Sheldon, Connor Seery and of course songs from Mr Wakewood, Mrs Cooke and Mr Kitto that tore the house down. Of course the music would not have been possible without the Sound Engineer Joshua Collins who with his father did a great job getting the equipment set up.

Mr Melrose and Mr Josephs would like to thank the wonderful team of staff, parents and family members who helped cook up a storm providing walkers with sausage sandwiches, food for variety of dietary requirements, drinks and sweets, transporting gear and constructing the tents and marquees. Also a big thank you to the prefects who helped, taking on various roles throughout the day. Another thank you to the wonderful office staff, Steve and Gabe for their help and support on the day. At the end of the day many compliments were made in relation to the behaviour of the students who upheld the values of the school community.

We would also like to thank McDonalds Waitara and Coles Asquith that sponsored the event in various ways including donations, food and equipment.

One last thanks to the boys, their families and sponsors for their contribution to this fundraiser which supports the school and the Royal Flying Doctors charity. Over the last 29 years we have raised over \$200,000. We are proud to announce that this year we raised over \$10,000. The top prize of two Annual Gold Passes to Luna Park for raising the most money went to was Azriel Loh who raised \$342.50.

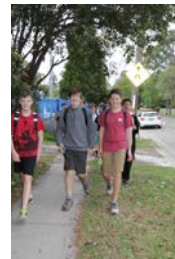
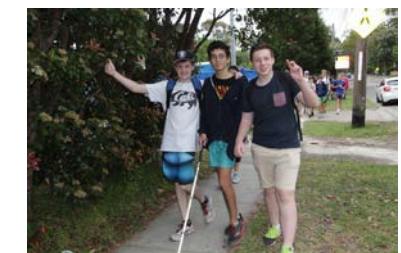
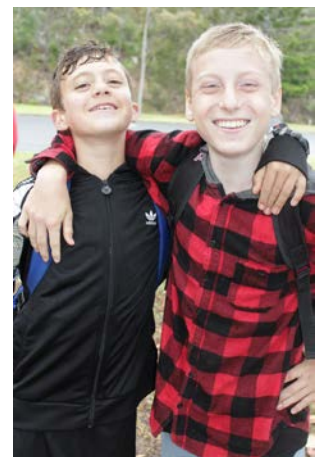
Asquith Boys High School is very privileged to have such an enjoyable event on the calendar as it is an activity that most other schools don't do. It is a strong Asquith Boys tradition that brings the boys, staff, parents and ABHS community together for a great cause.

Can't wait for next Spring!!

Mr T Melrose, Walkathon Co-ordinator

*Azriel Loh – Major Prize Winner
& other Prize Winners*





SRC LEADERS FOR 2017

We have a number of natural leaders within Asquith Boys High School. We can see them in the playground, on the sports field, within the classroom, in the Prefect body and those elected to the SRC.

The secret to good leadership is all about making the lives of your team members better. It is practiced not so much in words but in attitude and in actions. Leadership is about taking responsibility, not making excuses. If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader. The School Representative Council, or SRC, and the Prefects are examples of these kinds of leaders.

The SRC and the Prefects are not separate entities. We work together and our aim for next year is to utilise both groups in more activities together, giving even more students the opportunity to show their leadership capabilities.

At Asquith you can start out in the SRC in your junior years and work at becoming a Prefect in the senior years. Ask questions, observe carefully and reassess the use of your resources regularly. Use your strengths, talents and common sense and trust your instincts.

The SRC are representatives from each year that have been chosen by the students to help serve the school - to listen, to inspire and to improve.

SRC Executive for 2017

Ben Parell – President

Matthew Fairs – Vice President

Riley Gibson – Treasurer

Aaron Parise – Secretary

YEAR 12 SRC members for 2017

Nick Withford

Steven Addison

YEAR 11 SRC members for 2017

Jack Cotton

Jackson Tuynman

Liam Pouw

Christopher Robinson

YEAR 10 SRC members for 2017

Aruto Isobe

Harry Vo

Thomas Dandie

Damon Orre

Zachary Howe

YEAR 9 SRC members for 2017

Elliot Nicholas

Mitchell Bennie

Patrick Ross

Callum Riddle

Otis van Egmond Jones

YEAR 8 SRC members for 2017

Andrew Sheldon

Harrison Hegarty

Allochia Jennians

Arran Campbell

Conor Seery



Well done to all the elected boys.

Ms Laura Mashman, SRC Co-ordinator



IN THE KITCHENS....

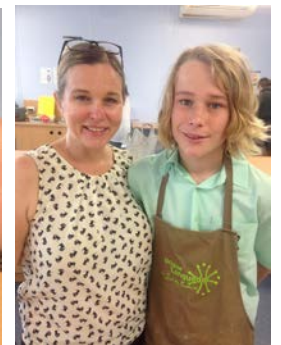
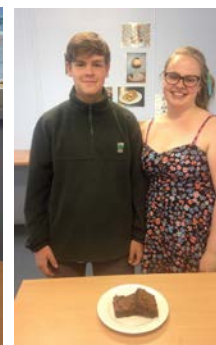
Year 8

As part of the Year 8 Food Technology unit, *Food from Around the World*, students bring a member of their family in and prepare a family recipe together.



8TAS6 had this experience on 21st November. It was wonderful to witness the relationships between the students and their family members ranging from mums, dads and sisters to grandmothers. The students truly enjoy sharing their school environment with their families and it is terrific for the families to gain a rare insight into the daily workings of the school. It was a very successful morning with a wonderful range of dishes prepared.

Thank you to those family members who took time from their very busy lives to join us in the ABHS kitchens.



Year 11

Year 11 Hospitality students have been busy out on Work Placement during Week 8 this term. Overall this has been a successful experience and most students had a very positive attitude when I visited them on site. Thank you to the following establishments for hosting our students, without their assistance, these students would be unable to meet the course requirements:

Blackbird Café

Café Sydney

Crofty's

Eden Gardens

Estuary Restaurant

Magpies Waitara

Pastry Perfection

Radisson Blu Plaza Hotel Sydney

Station Street Bistro

Upon returning to school after work placement, the Hospitality students catered for and indulged in Christmas lunch. This contributes to the service periods necessary to obtain their Certificate II in Kitchen Operations.

Thank you to our special guests; Mrs Tapner, Mrs Michas and Mrs Kontos for joining in the merriment. We love our support staff!

Ms K Bird, TAS teacher



Year 9

Year 9 Food Technology students have been studying 'Food for Special Occasions' and their assessment task for this unit required them to design a birthday party for a child between the ages of 5 and 17. Along with this, they had to design and decorate a suitable birthday cake. Students had three periods to complete this task and the results were very impressive. It is a difficult art, to successfully decorate a cake, and with some previous experience, albeit limited, they undertook this task with great enthusiasm. The results speak for themselves and I am very proud of their achievements. I would like to thank the parents for supporting their sons and assisting with either cooking or buying the cakes required for decoration.



We also managed to squeeze in some Christmas cooking; **White Christmas Rocky Road**. Hopefully some of you were able to sample this recipe or will receive it as a gift!



2016 RUGBY WRAP

2016 has been a cracka of a year for ABHS Rugby Union and Rugby League. We entered 3 teams in the Schools Rugby competition u13's, u14's, and u15's and we won all three quite convincingly and reinstated ABHS as the Rugby Union powerhouse of the area. ABHS also entered 2 teams into the u14's and u16's Gordon Rugby Union Invitational 7's Tournament. I'll go into more detail later on in the piece, however, both teams walked away victorious.

We also entered into the Buckley Shield Tournament where the boys made it through to the knockout stages; Gio Cup where Charles Shepherd asserted his dominance from the first hit; University Shield, u14's All Schools where the boys made it through to the semi-finals of the state level of the competition and 16's where the boys drew with Chifleys College (the team who won) in the state level of the comp. The boys were also entered into a few 9's competition but unfortunately (I assume it was due to ABHS's dominance) the other schools pulled out. We are hoping to get another competition early next year.

The rugby league boys also represented ABHS impeccably during a weekend excursion to Alliance Stadium, where the boys watched the Roosters play vs the Cowboys in a corporate box donated by Dylan's Moor's mum, Ms Annicellita Moors. I'd like to thank Ms Moors for her generous donation to ABHS rugby and rugby league programs.

A big congratulations to Charles who received the senior rugby player of the year award and is now contracted with the South Sydney Rabbitos. Kaeo who received the junior rugby player of the year award. Well done fellas! You both deserve it!

Now back to the rugby 7's tournament.

ABHS played a range of schools in an u14's and 16's rugby 7's tournament in Lane Cove. The boys trained hard in the scorching sun in the lead up to the event to ensure they were well prepared. As a result both the 14's and 16's went through the competition undefeated, winning each game by a minimum of 4 try's. Considering the games are only 14 mins long, I think that was a massive effort. The u14's, spurred on by the promise of pizza if they win, scored their first try within 14 seconds of kick off. This then set the tone for the rest of their matches with Kaeo, Oscar & Lawrence making light work of the opposition in attack and Finau and Cooper hitting hard in defence. Their biggest winning margin was 12 tries which is something to be proud of. Well done fellas.

The u16's had a similar run to the u14's. Harry Frederick was untouchable in attack and sliced through the oppositions defence with ease. The boys defence was the standout. They were an impenetrable wall with the boys working together and on the odd chance they got through, big Nox and Rhys made try saving tackles which was great to see.

Well done to all involved!



I'm also pleased to announce that ABHS Rugby will be holding a **RUGBY TOUR** to the Gold Coast in 2017. Fundraising has already started with a raffle. The prizes are to be drawn soon. There will also be an auction held in term one with many fantastic prizes. If you or anyone you know are able to assist with fundraising, financial donations or items to be auctioned please contact me (M. Miles) at ABHS. I'd like to say a massive thankyou to Danny Coombes (whose son will attend ABHS next year) for donating 4 corporate box tickets including meals to see the NXT wrestling superstars in action. The event was on the 13/12/2016 and the 4 people have been drawn early. Congratulations to the following winners, we appreciate your support!! Cale Maxwell, Duke Eikeji, Rhys Birchill and Emma Rainbird.

I'd also like to thank Michelle Camp for donating a set of jerseys and shorts to ABHS rugby. The boys will be looking 'fresh' (Brody's words) on the field now. Your ongoing support throughout the year means a lot to the boys. As you can imagine we do go through a lot of jerseys over the year and they take up a large portion of our budget!

I'd like to thank you all for a successful 2016. Bring on 2017!!

Mr M. Miles, Rugby Co-ordinator

ABHS would like to thank the following organisations who have supported us by donating prizes to our rugby raffle and auctions:

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| ✓ Hornsby Junior Rugby Club | ✓ Millennium Gym Waitara | ✓ VT1 |
| ✓ SCG Trust | ✓ Sydney Seafood School | ✓ Turrumurra Music |
| ✓ Danny Coombes | ✓ Elite Golf Turrumurra | ✓ Penrith White Water Rafting |
| ✓ NSW Waratahs | ✓ Steven Bradbury | ✓ Captain Cook Cruises |
| ✓ Waterhouse Racing | ✓ Jax tyres Thornleigh | ✓ Team Danny Green |
| ✓ Anh Do | ✓ Bulldogs Gym | ✓ Carioti MMA |
| ✓ Layne Beachley | ✓ Vision PT Wahroonga | ✓ Thornleigh Golf Centre |
| ✓ Aust. Turf Club (ATC) | ✓ Plus fitness | |
| ✓ Australian Rugby Union (ARU) | | |



GEOGRAPHY AND HISTORY SKILLS CHALLENGE

On Friday 25th of November, the students from 7E and 7H went to Asquith Girls High School to do an assortment of four different activities that required geographical and historical skills. The students were split up into 12 groups of 5 boys and 3 girls to complete the four activities.

We had to master a different skill within each of the activities such as; navigation, interpreting sources, estimating distances and gathering data. We had to work as a team and the most successful groups were awarded prizes.

The Asquith Girls High School students and teachers were very welcoming and did a great job creating the challenges. We thank them for inviting us.

Benjamin Russell and James Naumann, Year 7



MYALL HOUSE BEACH DAY

On Friday the 9th of December, Myall house travelled out to Mona Vale beach to celebrate their success in the annual house competition, for the second year in a row.

At the beach, we got out the sporting equipment, and spent some time playing handball, football and soccer. We worked up a sweat, then headed over to the beach to cool off. With Mr Josephs egging us on, we jumped into the freezing cold water at the beach pool and somehow got used to the temperature.

While we were swimming, Ms Parker, Ms Cufre and Mr Philip were cooking up an amazing sausage sizzle. By the time we got out, the smell had wafted all over the beach. We went back to the barbeque, hung around and ate lunch in the mid-day sun. After lunch, Mr Phillip joined us in a game of cricket; then we relaxed under the shade of the pine trees before heading back on the bus!

Thanks to the teachers for organising this great day for us.

Andrew Morrison, Myall

ABHS BOYS AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

At the recent 226 Army Cadet Unit Dinning in Night these boys were well deserving of their awards and are a great representation of Asquith Boys High School.



Nick Withford - Korea South East Asia Trust Award

This honour is presented to the person who engenders the trust of the cadets and staff at the unit and can be relied upon at all times. Through their dedication and leadership, they have demonstrated an ability to command at the highest level and have gained respect of both Officers and Cadets within their unit.

Ozzie Hughes - Junior Leaders Award

This award recognises the dedication and application of a Junior Non-Commissioned officer who has shown to be a positive role model by displaying a high level of drill, dress and bearing. They have fulfilled their role within the unit to the best of their ability and have shown a good capability to command and lead Cadets whilst intern gaining the respect of both Officers and Cadets within 226 Army Cadet Unit.



Jack Brogan - Australian Intelligence Association Shield

This shield is sponsored by the Australian Intelligence Association and is awarded to the cadet that has through continuing commitment, constant effort and application to duty, shown steady improvement in their ability within 226 Army Cadet Unit.

Shazeb Shamim got the honour to cut the cake being the youngest Cadet present that night.



BRIDGING THE GAP

Modern engineers need to be not only technically astute but also articulate. Year 11 Engineering Studies students have been working hard testing materials and calculating stresses in their study of civil structures. To test out their technical vocabulary and exercise their creativity the class was given a list of relevant technical terms and asked to use some of the words in a cinquain poem (a five-line poem with the syllable pattern 2,4,6,8,2). The following are some of the - slightly disturbing - results:

Bridge pier
 Like striker's leg
 Supports loads, achieves GOALS!
 In deep footing holes...
 SHEAR FRACTURE!
 Colla
 ps
 e

Caisson
 Civil submarine
 Claustrophobic workers
 Don't drown, dig down, is that..
 Leaking...
 ΓΕΘΚΙΥΕ...
 ΤΟΥΛΑΝ... Τ' ΑΠΕ ΑΟΛΛΥ' ΤΕ ΠΥΡΑΤ'...

Old bridge
 Fractured girder
 Eroded foundations
 Council inspector next Thursday
 Quick paint!



KITCHEN BATTLES 2016

Another great battle this year with 10 students competing from Asquith Boys.

Year 10

- Kyle Dobbins
- Patrick O'Donnell
- Blake Sowter
- Aedan Woodhouse

Year 9

- Cameron Chilvers
- Ethan Do
- Nick Fannelli
- Stephen Morrison
- Ethan O'Connor
- Lachlan Turner



The standard from the boys was excellent, with the first two rounds tightly fought with only a few points dividing the students.

First round they needed to prepare a roast Salmon with Fried lasagne sheets, hommus pudding, parmesan chips and a rocket and pink lady apple salad. With all these components, students needed to ensure that their time management was as primed as possible. They demonstrated great skills, with most presenting in the allotted serving time.



Second round was a dessert, a Trifle to be exact. For some they excelled as they fell into their comfort zones of desserts and pastries. However, others needed to really concentrate as there is less room to make mistakes. They had to make Orange jelly from scratch, jaffa custard, meringue biscuits, burnt orange crisp, all presented in a layered fashion.

The **third round** was more old fashion cooking, called 'En Pappillotte' - cooking in a paper bag. The students cooked a dish with many components consisting of roasted eschallots and fennel, roasted onion, kale chips, glazed nectarine halves and chicken wing to start the apricot nectar and verjuice jus.



The students did extremely well completing this much faster than I had anticipated. The improvement in their culinary skills by the third stage was incredible. This caused a very tight race to progress into the Grand Final. With all the components cooking at the same time, it was struggle for the students to keep on top of everything. To their credit, they performed extremely well with only a couple of burnt jus's.

At the end of this stage, the points table showed a group of very talented young cooks. However, only four could progress through to compete against Turramurra's finest: Patrick O'Donnell, Aedan Woodhouse, Cameron Chilvers and Lachlan Turner who was sitting near the bottom of the table, did extremely well to progress into the final.

The Grand final this year brought on a new set of chefs, with Executive Chef from the Shangri La Hotel Sydney, Bo Ip Sorensen and his recently qualified and well established chef Jack Basoff who has competed and been successful in the following; World Skills Comp 2015 4th, Nestle Golden Hat 2015 silver medal, Proud to be a chef 2nd best savoury dish, Lee Kum Kee best entree 2016 bronze, Nestle Golden Hat 2016 bronze and also raised \$10,000 for young chefs to go to Greece that included Bo Sorensen.

After communicating with Bo, he realised that his original idea for the final battle needed to be more technical, as he was impressed with the first three rounds and their culinary ability.



The dish they needed to prepare and present was a ***Hirosama kingfish prepared three ways***
 This consisted of:

- Panfried Kingfish cooked medium well
- Kingfish and chilli tartare
- Sous vide kingfish wrapped in Nori and cooked @ 42 °C for 15 minutes.
- Avocado puree
- Roast bell pepper mayonnaise
- Green Papaya and watermelon radish salad
- Roasted onion
- Segmented blood orange
- Avocado Tempura



The competition was very tight, with only a couple of points dividing the eight grand finalists. Their concentration levels were at a peak. Both Bo and Jack were very impressed with the skills demonstrated. The student took two hours to complete the single dish. With many components and no room for failure the pressure was on. Time management was crucial, and I was proud of all the students and how they



coordinated all their efforts to ensure that all parts of the dish were served at the right temperature and on time. All the Asquith Boys performed extremely well and you could feel the tension in the air as the competition came into the last ten-twenty minutes; not a sound made by most, as their minds were solely on their dish.

The competition was being judged by chefs from the Shangri La, with only a point difference between 2nd and 3rd, and only ½ point deciding first and second. It was the closest competition in the last five years.

I am very proud to announce that Asquith Boys came first and second in competition for the first time.

- 1st: Patrick O'Donnell – ABHS**
- 2nd: Aedan Woodhouse – ABHS**
- 3rd: Gahazal – Turramurra HS**



A special thank you to Blake Sowter, Ethan Do, Nick Fannelli, Aruto Isobe & Stephen Addison for assisting in cleaning up. Their courtesy and efforts were also noticed by the Turramurra teacher who commented on their extremely good behaviour.

The experience the students got from this competition was incredible. Their ability to absorb the information and the improvement in their skills and multi-tasking was very evident. I am proud of all the boys that competed this year. Both chefs from the Shangri La commented on their skill levels and were also impressed with their abilities.

Mr T Josephs, Kitchen Battles Coordinator



Aedan Woodhouse



Cameron Chilvers



Lachlan Turner

Patrick O'Donnell.



SCIENCE HORTICULTURE NEWS

The Year 8 Horticulture class has been taking advantage of the warm weather to produce some fantastic produce. One of the most successful crops were the enormous lettuces in many different varieties. The boys also got a solid crop of peaches that have ripened perfectly.

Another longer term project is the school vineyard which is producing its first crop this year. There are a variety of red and white grapes including Shiraz, Sultana, Chambourcin and Black Isabella. These grape bunches should be ripe and ready to harvest around February next year.



Mr Robertson (HT Science)



YEAR 8 HORTICULTURE

In the Horticulture Elective Class we have been planting pumpkins, lettuces, tomatoes, corn, banana trees and strawberries. We have also cut down trees and mulched the pathways.

On the 5th of December Dan Morton stumbled across a bat stuck in the net of a peach tree. Ms Berryman, Ms Polson and the class ran towards the tree to take pictures. The bat was tangled in the net trying to eat our peaches. It was exhausted from struggling. Ms Berryman and Ms Polson worked together to cut it out of the net. The bat was still scared. It eventually flew away with no injuries.

By Nathan Stewart, Marcus Begley, Dan Morton and Harry Argent.

FACULTY NOTES

ENGLISH

2016 has been another positive and productive year in English. It had been wonderful to be part of the learning journey of all the students at Asquith Boys and I congratulate them on their efforts in English this year. I would also like to take the opportunity to express my heartfelt thanks to all the English staff for their ongoing dedication and hard work for the students they teach.

Thank you: Letticia Foster – it has been fantastic having you teach a class with us this year; Christie Hills - for organising all our debating teams with such aplomb; Katherine Howe – it is just wonderful to have you back in English; Rebecca Kelly – for establishing our first elective Philosophy class; Nick Kennedy – for all your amazing work in coordinating the English Best Work Folder; Rachel Lee – for your ongoing dedication with four senior classes and our first HSC Chinese Background Speakers; Tom Melrose – for your never-ending enthusiasm for English Studies; Kim Wingrave – it has been lovely to have you join us this year.

It is always appropriate at this time of year to reflect on past experiences and plan for a relaxing and rejuvenating holiday. Hopefully these holidays are filled with plenty of both! It is also timely to consider that in our contemporary 21st century world it is, sadly, incredibly easy to be swept away for hours on a wave of technological “interaction”. Staring at a screen, clicking away with a mouse or a game controller or resolutely popping in earphones and shutting out the world can be relaxing but also very isolating and oft mind-numbing. I would encourage all students to take the opportunity these holidays to engage with a technology detox and open their mind to other forms of entertainment – like BOOKS, for example. Ray Bradbury stated, in response to questions regarding his didactic Fahrenheit 451 that “There are worse crimes than burning books. One of them is not reading them.”. So, with the wonder of six weeks of holidays stretching ahead I encourage all students to read a book, or two, and open their eyes to the world beyond their own experience!

Looking forward to 2017!

Ms Jessica Schadel
Head Teacher English

MATHEMATICS

Another year has come and gone for the Mathematics Department. Because we love numbers, we are counting the days until the 2017 year starts.

The results for our 2016 HSC students will be coming in on Thursday. We know how hard the boys have worked to obtain their HSC and we are looking forward to seeing their successes.

Students from years 7-10 are currently completing their yearly exams and we are looking forward to seeing some pleasing results flow in.

Math Peer Tutoring has finished up for the year and to thank all those students who were involved, Mr Shead through a pizza party. The boys all had a great time! Thank you to all the tutors who gave up their time to help others, and to Mr Shead for coordinating the program. The program was a huge success and will be up and running in 2017. Watch this space for more information!

On behalf of the Mathematics Department, I would like to wish everyone a merry Christmas and a safe holiday period. We look forward to seeing everyone's smiling faces in 2017!

Mr M Miles
Maths Teacher



Canteen Menu 2017

ROLLS & LAVASH

(available daily)

Chicken/lett/Mayo.....	\$3.50
Lavash ½:	
Chicken & Salad (Mayo)	\$3.00
Thai Chicken or salad (Chilli Sauce, Coriander, Cucumber and lettuce) ..	\$3.00

ROLLS & LAVASH

(available by order)

Buttered.....	\$0.60
Cheese.....	\$2.00
Chicken.....	\$3.00
Chicken & Salad.....	\$4.00
Egg & Lettuce.....	\$2.00
Ham.....	\$3.00
Ham & Tomato	\$3.20
Ham & Salad.....	\$4.00
Peanut Butter.....	\$2.00
Salad.....	\$3.20
Vegemite.....	\$2.00
Lavash:	
Chicken/Lett/Carrot/Cheese/Mayo....	\$4.40

SALADS

(available by order)

Plate/Tub.....	\$4.00
With Meat.....	\$4.50
Chicken, Potato and Egg Salad	\$4.80

SUSHI

(Monday, Tues, Wed, Thurs)

Tuna/Beef/Chicken.....	\$3.20
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FRUIT

Seasonal Fruit available daily.....Price varies

YOGHURT.....	\$2.00
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CAKES & SNACKS

Cheese & Bacon Rolls.....	\$1.50
Pikelets (2).....	\$1.00
Banana Bread.....	\$2.50
Muffins (Low Fat-when available).....	\$1.80
Fun Buns (“).....	\$1.80
Chips.....	\$1.20
Mamee Noodles.....	\$1.00

HOT FOOD

(available daily)

Chicken Burger - with Lett/Mayo.....	\$3.50
Chicken & Corn Roll.....	\$1.80
Chicken Chips.....	\$2.00
Chicken Wraps: Chilli Chicken Tenders/Lettuce/ Carrot/Cheese/Mayo	\$4.40
Egg & Bacon Roll.....	\$4.00
Garlic Bread.....	\$1.50
Hot Dogs.....	\$2.50
Beef Roll:	
With Tom/Cheese/BBQ Sauce.....	\$4.40
Meatball Roll:	
With Tom/Cheese/Tom Sauce.....	\$4.00
Meat Pie.....	\$3.20
Pizza Pie.....	\$3.20
Potato Pie.....	\$3.20
Potato Wedges.....	\$2.00
Pizza.....	\$3.00
Pizza Rounda.....	\$2.50
Noodles.....	\$2.20
Sausage Roll.....	\$2.50
Sweet Chilli Tenders(2).....	\$2.80

HOT FOOD

(available by order)

Chicken Burger:	
On Buttered Roll.....	\$2.40
With Lett/Mayo.....	\$3.50
With Salad.....	\$4.00
Corn Cobettes.....	\$0.70

HOT MEALS (One available daily)

Butter Chicken & Rice.....	\$3.40
Ravioli.....	\$2.50
Spaghetti Bolognese.....	\$2.30
Tortellini.....	\$2.50

DRINKS

Milk:	Plain 600ml.....	\$2.00
Flavoured:	300ml.....	\$2.00
	500ml.....	\$3.00
Juice:	300ml.....	\$2.50
	500ml	\$3.00
Up & Go.....		\$2.20
Water 600ml.....		\$2.00
Pump Flavoured Water.....		\$3.00
Cans.....		\$2.00
Bottles of Diet Drink.....		\$3.50
Chill Iced Tea 500ml		\$2.50
Chill Iced Tea 250ml		\$1.50
Chill Aloe Water.....		\$2.50
Nexba Iced Tea cans		\$2.20
Hot Chocolate:		
(Before School/Winter Only).....		\$1.50



• ST IVES SKATE PARK •

SKATE & SCOOTER SKILLS

COACHING WORKSHOP

TIME

SKATE SESSION
9:30am - 12:30pm

LUNCH 12:30pm

SCOOTER SESSION
1pm - 4pm

Still trying to land that gnarly trick? Head on down to St Ives Skate Park in January for jam-packed beginners skate and scooter skill sessions with awesome coaches Royce King and Coedie Donovan.

COST \$60: Skate Session | \$60: Scooter Session | \$100: Both Sessions

BOOK ONLINE NOW: kmc.nsw.gov.au/skateandscoot



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FIRST AID COURSE

12-24 years

WEDNESDAY 18 JANUARY 2017

8.45am – 4.30pm

799 Pacific Highway Gordon, Meeting room 2

\$90 (Includes lunch)

This one day course (plus prework) provides you with the skills to administer first aid in a variety of situations that you may face in everyday life.

Participants who successfully pass this one day face-to-face course will receive a **Nationally Recognised Statement of Attainment** in HLTAID003 Provide First Aid.

Bookings close Wednesday 11 January

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training



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