



# ASQUITH BOYS HIGH SCHOOL COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

## BACKCHAT

DECEMBER 2017

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### SCHOOL EXECUTIVE

**Bryce Grant**

*Principal*

**Andrew Skehan**

*Deputy Principal*

*Councillor Nathan Tilbury, Mr Bryce Grant,  
Sportman of the Year Winner- Edward Parker  
and Matt Kean, MP*



## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

*Mr Bryce Grant*

As 2017 comes to an end, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone, including students, staff and parents for what has been an incredibly rewarding and enjoyable year at Asquith Boys High School.

2017 has been a wonderful year for Asquith Boys High School and for myself personally. Many of our 2017 successes have resulted from the incredible past work of our former Principal – Mr Terry Griffiths who ensured the establishment of exceptional learning opportunities for boys. I am determined to continue to build upon these strong foundations and firmly entrench Asquith Boys High School as the outstanding educational setting within this community.

We are very lucky to have an amazing Deputy Principal - Mr Andrew Skehan who is a tireless worker and crusader for all the staff and students of Asquith Boys High School. He has been incredibly generous with his time and commitment to ensuring that I have been exposed to all the traditions and ethos of this wonderful school. He too is a major contributor to the overall success of ABHS, and I personally thank him for his support this year.

57 years is a very long time, and over that time people and practices may change and evolve, but for traditions to remain and continue it requires the dedication and commitment of those who have the intimate corporate knowledge of Asquith Boys to ensure that they continue.

I would like to single out one major benefactor that we have at ABHS – Mr Chris Kent. Chris was one of the first cohorts of students to graduate from Asquith Boys High School. He went on to become a teacher in Visual Arts, and after a successful career as an educator returned to Asquith Boys High School as the Head Teacher CAPA. His connection with our school spans across the past 57 years and he still remains connected through his role of Asquith Boys High School Old Boys Coordinator and member of the School Council. I thank him for his unwavering commitment and passion for our school and am excited that he will be continuing in this role until 2020, which will be the schools 60th Anniversary. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank and acknowledge Rizwan Ali as School Council President for his work and commitment to the financial management of the school.

All of us at Asquith Boys are extremely grateful to be highly supported by a strong and dedicated executive staff, who are most importantly passionate about ensuring that we provide quality learning opportunities for our students. They are committed to the core business of educators, teaching and learning, and we will continue to work towards ensuring that this continues in 2018 through reflective and open educational practices.

In 2017 the English Faculty welcomed Ms Elly Connolly as the new Head Teacher. The faculty excelled with their incredible 2016 HSC results, debating successes with the Chinese Debaters reaching the NSW Quarter Finals, the reintroduction and leading of Peer Support, the quality of Year 7 PIP projects submitted and the appointment of Mr Tom Melrose to the English Staff. Our 2017 HSC English results were incredible with Advanced English again achieving above state by 0.28 and our Standard English results being an outstanding 7.37 above state averages.

Our Mathematics faculty also continued to excel in both HSC and NAPLAN results achieving well above state in both areas for a boys school and comparing extremely well against all schools. There was success with the introduction of the Maths Online program in Year 8 and the continuance of the Peer Tutoring afternoon sessions.

Mr Ross Johnston retired at the end of Term 3 and Mr Abraham Berakhi will be joining the Mathematics staff in 2018. Our Mathematics faculty continues to achieve highly commendable results, with Lucas Zheng achieving an incredible 98 for Extension 2 and 99 for Extension 1 Mathematics. Mathematics General 2 also achieved 3 Band 6 results and were an amazing 5.07 above state average.

This year we welcomed the total transformation of the Science labs into future focused dynamic learning classrooms that are the envy of many other schools. Mr Chris Yates received a transfer for 2018, however, his hard work and commitment with running the Duke of Edinburgh program at Asquith Boys High School will continue as a legacy, and is in the highly capable hands of Ms Connolly and Mr Murphy. We will be welcoming Ms Emily Schwabel to replace Mr Yates in 2018. Our Science HSC results were exceptional with a dramatic improvement in all Science subjects from their 2016 results, with Physics, Biology and Senior Science all an incredible 4.97, 4.82 and 4.15 respectively above the state averages. We are all excited to what they can achieve in the future with their amazing new teaching labs.

Our HSIE staff travelled to Europe for a Tour of the Battlefields as well as rewriting and programing their extensive number of Stage 6 syllabuses to continue their excellent results. Once again, HSIE courses were also well above state averages in Geography and Ancient History.

In the PDHPE Faculty we welcomed Mr Broome's appointment as permanent staff member of the PDHPE faculty in 2017. The Annual Ski Trip for the Year 10 Cohort was another highlight for the faculty and the boys, and so were their excellent HSC results, achieving 2.15 above state averages.

TAS have enjoyed implementing their new technologies in 2017 which included resources such as the laser cutter and 3D image printers which the students have greatly enjoyed integrating into their projects and designs in classes this year. I have loved experiencing our student's culinary creations when invited down to the kitchens; I often get caught with one fork in each hand inevitably digging into the fine foods they have prepared. We are pleased to note that Ms Bird has also been appointed as permanent member of the TAS faculty for 2018. As a faculty they achieved 2.76 above state in Software Design and Development, 3.35 in Hospitality VET and 0.94 in Engineering Studies - an excellent outcome for the staff and the students.

CAPA has been a dynamic faculty area in 2017 with the appointment of Mr Sam Newton as our permanent Music teacher and coordinator of the school band program with Asquith Girls High School. The bands have performed at numerous functions and ceremonies, with their participation in the Big Band Blast tour to Port Macquarie being one of the major highlights. Our Drama students were a success competing in a number of theatre sports and drama competitions. Ms Gowthorp who has been teaching Drama at Asquith Boys throughout the year, has been appointed to the school as our Drama teacher for 2018. Ms Mashman and Ms Hudson will be leaving to pursue other teaching opportunities and we wish them the very best in their new schools. Recently, we received notification that Peter Stevens had achieved a Band 6 and selection in ART EXPRESS with his Body of Work being shown in Griffiths and Taree.

Sport also continued their highly successful International Football tour travelling to New Zealand this year and heading to Hong Kong in 2018. Asquith Boys High also participated in our first interstate Rugby tour to Queensland where the boys excelled themselves. We entered an incredible 16 teams in the Zone Winter Sport competition and achieved the overall Rugby School Champions of the Zone in season 2017. We had regional Champion teams in AFL, Football and Cricket, and Ed Parker achieved International representation in Athletics.

Our terrific P&C body work tirelessly in all areas of the school to support your sons both in and out of the classroom. This year they have supported us with new pathways, shelter areas, blinds for the new science labs, school and educational programs, graduation ceremonies, and grounds maintenance, just to identify some of the many areas they assist us to make the learning environment exceptional for all of our students. Thank you to our P&C, especially the President Ms Tempe Beaven, for your work for the school in 2017.

Finally, I feel privileged to be Principal of Asquith Boys High School. My first year has been an incredible enjoyable, rewarding and enriching one, where I have gained and learned so much from everyone involved with this wonderful school. I thank you all students, staff and parents and the broader community for all the support that you have given to me in transitions to such an exceptional school, and it makes me excited to be working together in the future.

The most important part of this week was Presentation Evening. An evening where we get to acknowledge and reward our outstanding students who have consistently excelled throughout 2017 in their studies, leadership, citizenship, school service or sport. Again, I would like to extend my congratulations to all of the students who received awards, commending you for all that you achieved and setting the standards so high, and working to your very best in 2017. I eagerly look forward to seeing all that you can achieve in 2018. A big thank you to Ms Holder and Ms Cufre-Sadnick for their preparation and organisation of the evening with their team.

I would also like to thank our high calibre and hard working non-teaching staff. We are extremely lucky to have a group that is so talented and dedicated to the service of the students and staff at Asquith Boys High School.

As this year comes to an end, we are also farewelling Mr Sonter who has been the Asquith Boys High School General Assistant. He has elected to pursue other employment opportunities after extensive service of the school and all its facilities for 16 years. We wish him well with in his future endeavours.

Congratulations must be extended to the following students, at the end of Term 4:

- Joint 2017 Dux – Lucas Zheng and Andrew Morrison with a 97.95 ATAR.
- Lucas Zheng achieved an outstanding 99 in Mathematics Extension 1 and 98 in Mathematics Extension 2
- Andrew achieved the 2017 HSC Distinguished Achievers list in 5 subjects – Chemistry, Physics, Music Extension 1, Mathematics and Mathematics Extension 1.
- Asquith Boys High School achieved 17 Band 6 results, across 10 subject areas.
- Our Open Knockout Cricket Team who defeated Homebush in the Regional Finals by 6 wickets to move into the State competition.
- Jackson Rishworth for competing in the NSW State Snooker Championships where he received the ‘Best up and Coming’ Player for the tournament.
- Oscar Enasio who achieved selection in the Manly Sea Eagles Presidents Cup side.

Finally, I hope that you all enjoy and have a Merry Christmas, a relaxing holiday, and I look forward to having you all return safely in 2018 to Asquith Boys High School.



## DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

*Mr Andrew Skehan*

Another wonderful year at Asquith Boys High school is rapidly coming to a conclusion, with many successes being celebrated.

Our Presentation Night was a marvellous showcase of the huge range of achievement across the entire school community. From high level academic achievement to sporting, artistic and community service prowess, students of Asquith Boys High continue to amaze. Congratulations to all award winners and a huge thanks to the organisers for making it such a special event.

Our new school plan is ready to be implemented as of Day 1 2018. This has been a significant undertaking and has involved consultation with all school stakeholders. Our school is headed in a very positive direction and will focus even harder on ensuring quality learning experiences and wellbeing are at the centre of what we do.

I hope that all families have an enjoyable Christmas and New Year, and a restful holiday break. I look forward to working alongside everyone in 2018.

## 2ND HAND UNIFORM

The ABHS 2nd hand uniform shop is located in the Print Room and open daily during office hours: 8.30am to 3pm. There is a great range of ABHS uniform items available at the low cost of \$5 per item. All proceeds are returned to the school for the benefit of all boys. If your son has outgrown his uniform you are able to bring the washed items to the print room.

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

Some Year 12 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.

| Name           | Size | Price | Contact Details  | other information            |
|----------------|------|-------|--|------------------------------|
| Fiona Wilson   | 16   | \$100 | 0422 216 669<br><a href="mailto:fiandrob@hotmail.com">fiandrob@hotmail.com</a>         | Good condition & dry cleaned |
| Edina Aganovic | M    | \$80  | 0447 319 146<br><a href="mailto:aganovic@optusnet.com.au">aganovic@optusnet.com.au</a> | Not dry cleaned              |



# HIGH SCHOOL EXPERIENCE DAY

On November 16<sup>th</sup> we had 180 Year 5 boys from many different primary schools come to ABHS 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.

8 groups, lead by the Year 10 Prefects and a few Year 12 Prefects, got to experience 4 practical lessons, specifically planned by the teachers that would make the boys excited about coming to high school. The boys participated in a multitude of different activities ranging from Sport and Food Tech to Art, Drama and Music along with the essential Math and English lessons, as well as the exciting hands on Science lesson.

All the boys seemed to enjoy their day and parents also gave great feedback after picking up their boys at the end of the day. 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 was the best part of the day?

*Woodwork – I like making stuff*

*I liked metal work because it was fun making our rings.*

*Cooking – the joy of cooking is magical when you mix things together.*

*Cooking – I liked making cookies because we got to eat them.*

*The best part of my day was when we got to make cookies.*

*When we all stood in a line in Science and an electric shock travelled through our fingers*

*When we got to blow stuff up in Science.*

*Science where we used chemicals.*

*Making sherbet.*

*Wrapping people with toilet paper in History.*

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

*I enjoyed everything and this is the best High School.*

*Nothing!*

*I enjoyed all of the opportunities presented throughout the day!*

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

*Nothing*

*More classes.*

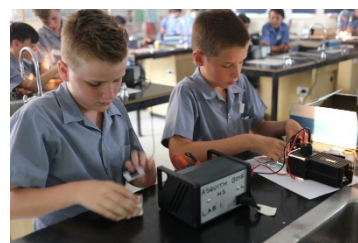
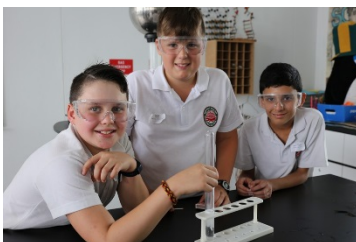
*Longer day to do more stuff.*



## Parent feedback:

- *Very informative and it was good to see the new and the original parts of the school. Very impressed with the care shown by the staff and the organisation of the day. My son wasn't keen on coming but hasn't stopped talking about the day since – he'd start High School tomorrow if he could.*
- *It was a great sneak preview of what is a wonderful school.*
- *As a prou student (1980), the school is looking really good. I was particularly impressed with the commercial kitchen and the new Science labs. All the teachers were generous with their time and informative*

Thank you to Mr Shead, Mrs Fawcett and Mr Moscos for organising the day; 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. Looking forward to seeing many of these boys at ABHS in 2019!



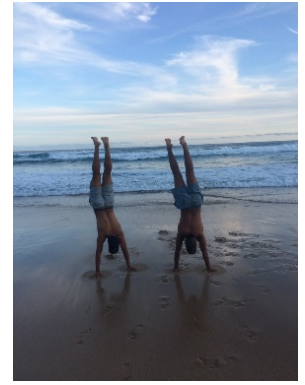


# DUKE OF EDINBURGH

## ROYAL NATIONAL PARK QUALIFYING WALK

### BRONZE AWARD EXPEDITION

Between Friday 10<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November, 16 students under the supervision of Mr Kitto and Mr Murphy, completed the challenging but picturesque walk through the Royal National Park from Bundeena to Otford. The boys showed independence and persistence as they navigated trains, buses and ferries, tackling headlands, beaches and forest while being completely self-sustained carrying all supplies and camping equipment.



The following report was contributed by Callum Riddle, Year 9:

On Friday 10<sup>th</sup> of November, myself and a group of other Year 9 boys set off to Bundeena to begin our 30 km Bronze Duke of Edinburgh expedition in the Royal National Park. We started walking with the sun already glaring down, making everyone hot and thirsty. Our bags were heavy and we felt like we would collapse, so whenever there was an opportunity for rest and shade, we took it. We were faced with many challenges like steep mountains and hot beaches and, although the views were great, it really did slow us down. On Friday afternoon we stopped at Garie Surf Club for a welcome rest and to fill up our water, before making our way to our campsite a little further on. The night was fun, especially when everyone thought we were being stalked by some of the wildlife. We all sat around the fires cooking dinner and chatting until we succumbed to exhaustion and headed to our tents.

The next day everyone packed up and prepared to leave. Some people went back to Garie to refill their water while the rest left earlier to continue the journey. Although this walk was shorter than the previous day, it was still very difficult. Most of it was uphill but every time we reached the top, there would be a great view waiting for us. We finally reached our destination - Otford.

Most of us would agree it was quite a challenge but I feel we should all be very proud of ourselves for the achievement.



## BLUE MOUNTAINS – SILVER AWARD EXPEDITION

By Jack Dolden

The Duke of Ed program is an exciting, fun challenging and rewarding activity for us to take part in at Asquith Boys. In 2017 the silver group (Year 10) went on an expedition through the Grose Valley along the Grose river. Starting at Mt Victoria and finishing at Blackheath the hike was a great experience but it was not without its changes.

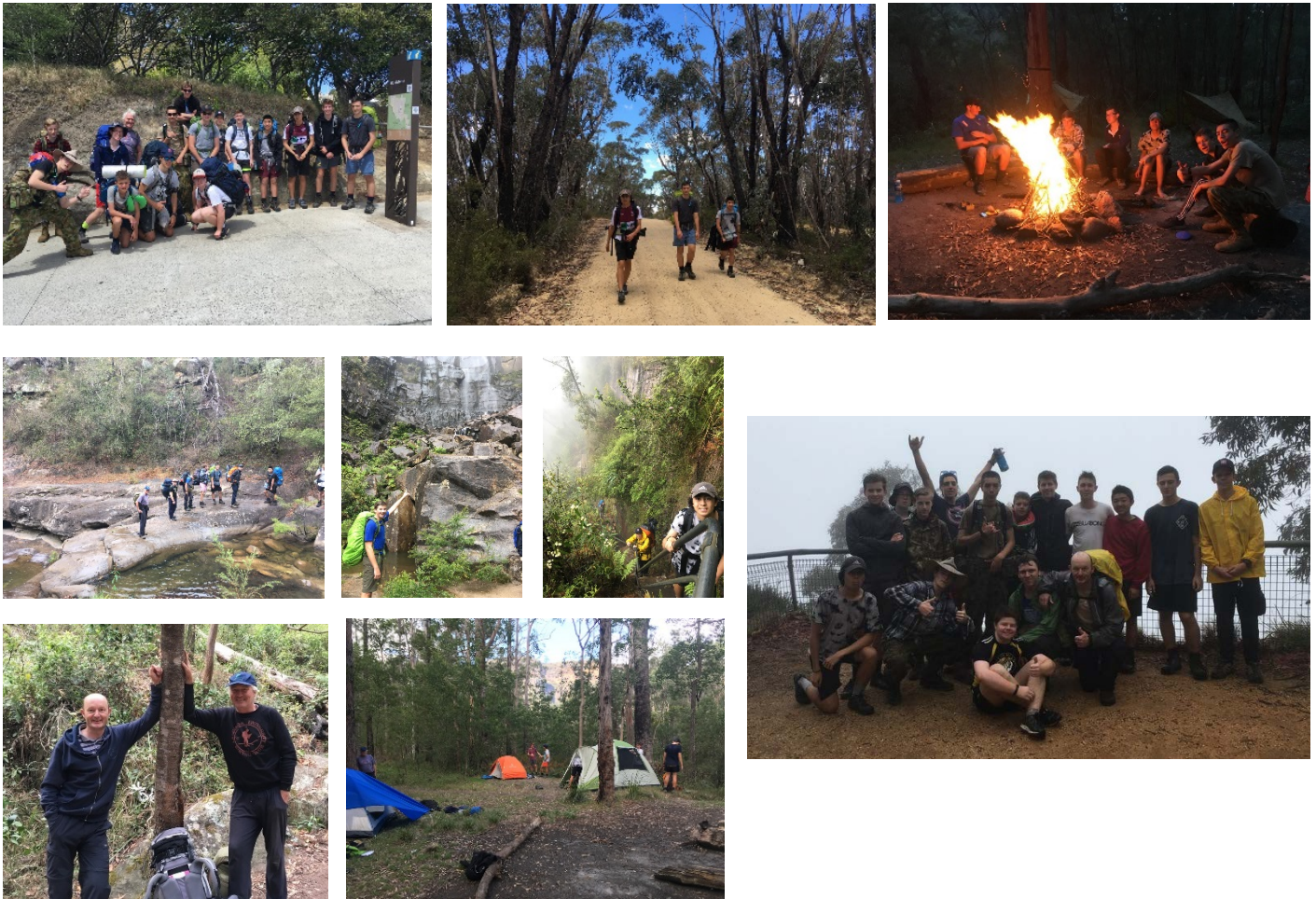
Here is a short report of our first day.....

On the first day the group (lead by Mr Yates and Mr French) met at Hornsby to catch a train leaving at 8:50. Some people were anxious about the hike, however, most people were just glad to have an extra two days off school. After switching trains at Strathfield, we began our long train journey to the Blue Mountains. When we arrived at Mt Victoria, we spared no time getting from the station to the start of the hike.

Our first major stop was the Victoria Falls lookout where we stopped to eat. It was a spectacular view from the lookout and of course, nobody could hold back the urge to throw rocks over the edge. Unfortunately, for Bogle, in his daring attempt to throw the biggest rock his knife decided it wanted to go on its own adventure and fall out of his pocket as he threw the rock. I do not think he recovered from that. After we finished eating, we began our descent down into the Grose Valley.

After the steep descent down the falls, we had a short rest at the base of one of the falls. Here we found a natural swimming pool as well as a few bright orange yabbies that ended up being hunted by Bogle. After the rest, we continued down into the valley, eventually reaching our campsite at Burra Korain.

Burra Korain campsite was a small Bush campsite right on the river. After pitching tent (or hutchies in some cases!) most of us ventured down to the creek and began to skim stones, and while everyone thought they were Olympic stones skimmers, the reality was, we were not. As it started to get dark, the group started to collect firewood in preparation for nightfall. Shortly after, we had dinner and started the fire. At one point during the night one of the logs in the fire decided to start crackling and popping, which as Tommy noted, was similar to a part in Big Shaq's song "man's not hot." There was a moment of worry as some of us realised that none of us had seen Mariko in a while, however we quickly found him asleep under his hutchie, with his sunglasses on. Soon after people began to go to sleep. Surprisingly Lucas, Mariko, Bogle and I had a good rest despite over crude (and awesome) setup, which involved three hutchies and a hammock. Thank you to Mr French and Mr Yates for providing this opportunity for us!



Particular thank you to Mr Yates as this was his last Duke of Ed hike with ABHS. Thank you for all that you've contributed to the Duke of Edinburgh program over your years at Asquith Boys. We wish you all the best at your next school.

## 2018 NSW TERM DATES

**Term 1** – Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January till Friday 13<sup>th</sup> April (11 wks)

Years 7, 11 & 12 start Tue 30<sup>th</sup> January, Years 8, 9 & 10 start Wed 31<sup>st</sup> January

**Term 2** – Monday 30<sup>th</sup> April till Friday 6<sup>th</sup> July (10 wks)

**Term 3** – Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> July till Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September (10 wks)

**Term 4** – Monday 15<sup>th</sup> October till Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December (10 wks)

### Staff Development Days

**Mon 29<sup>th</sup> Jan, Mon 30<sup>th</sup> April, Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> July, Thu 20<sup>th</sup> & Fri 21<sup>st</sup> Dec**



## 1<sup>ST</sup> GRADE CRICKET WIN DAVIDSON SHIELD REGIONAL FINAL

The First Grade Cricket side continue to play excellent cricket and won their Regional Final against Homebush in convincing fashion. The tone was set early when in the second over Corey Miller took one of the catches of the season to dismiss an opening bat from Homebush and this inspired the boys to bowl and field well and Homebush were dismissed for 93. The boys started the run chase patiently but gradually increased the run rate. Homebush fell apart as a result, despite losing a couple of wickets in the 21<sup>st</sup> and last over - it was a resounding win.

It was a terrific team effort from all the boys but they must not get complacent as the hard work starts next year when the competition continues and gets even tougher.



## AFL



Our 15 years AFL team played in this year's AFL Classic 9s at Queens Park in Sydney. After winning the Sydney North Swans Shield earlier this year and reaching the last 16 in NSW in the 18 a side, we thought we would have a chance. Despite struggling to come to terms with the modified rules, we defeated Gosford and Cessnock in the group stage but were denied a place in the final by a behind (one point) to Westfield Sports High.

Asquith Boys are seeking a replacement coach for Mr Yates for 2018. Thank you to him and all the players for a terrific season, our first with some silverware.

## DRAMA – THEATRE SPORTS COMPETITION

Earlier this term Asquith Boys High School entered 2 teams into the Upper North Shore Theatresports Competition held at Normanhurst boys high school. Team 1 comprised of Sam Allen, Jackson Salloch and Lachlan Turner. Team 2 consisted of Cameron Jacob Clarke, Bailey Keane and Otis Van Egmond. The teams had to compete in 4 rounds of improvisation with scores being given for entertainment, originality and storyline. The evening was full of laughter and our 2 teams represented the school at a high level. Congratulations to Team 1 who placed 3rd on the evening and Team 2 equal 5th. Well done!

We are looking forward to competing again next year.

*Ms A Gowthorp, Teacher Drama*



*A screen shot from the famous 10E1 Western.  
A soon-to-be film sensation!*

## NEWS FROM ENGLISH

### Westerns

For the second half of this term, Year 10 have been studying genres. In 10E1 we have been actively studying the Western genre, a favourite of Mr Kennedy. Westerns in my opinion is an interesting genre and is quite related to melodrama. This week we have had the task of creating our own Western film.

As a perfectionist, I always wished for a perfect film. However, like everything in life, it's never perfect but still a masterpiece.

By Harry Vo, 10E1



## LINKS TO LEARNING GRADUATION 2017

On Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> of December, 7 boys from Asquith Boys High graduated from Links to Learning Courses that they have been taking part in over the past 30 weeks. The graduation ceremony took place at “Granma’s Refuge” at Ingleside, where the program has run throughout the year. The boys have travelled to this location each week to take part in a range of activities designed to help them connect with their learning and build on a range of skills that will help in both the school setting and in pursuing a future career.



Oscar Carroll, Alex Charlton, Alek Hansen, Lachlan Brown, Alex Charles and Adrian Schoenmaker from Year 10 all received Certificates of Completion for the “Reconnect” program (2 days per week), whilst Dylan Moors- Poigatule and Kian West from Year 9 received Certificates of Completion for the “Re-Engage” program (1 day per week). Oscar, Alex Charles and Adrian all received additional awards for their efforts each week, and all of the boys from Asquith were commended for their application and effort throughout their respective programs.

Barista made coffee was served by the boys on the day, their major landscaping project for the year was officially opened, and parents got to see their boys graduate from what has been a successful program once again in 2017. Congratulations to all the boys involved.



## TAFE – CARPENTRY COURSES – SEMESTER 2 – 2017

On Friday 1st December, a group of Year 10 boys successfully completed Carpentry Courses that they have been taking part in at Hornsby TAFE for one day a week throughout Semester 2. The courses are designed to help boys build on a range of skills that may help them in gaining future employment, and to get a taste of Carpentry as a possible career path. The following boys are to be congratulated for their efforts in taking part in the programs:

Daniel Herbert, Adrian Schoenmaker, Alex Charlton, Riley Dunne, Hamish Perring, Jackson Cole, Isaac Crowe-Van Tuil, Dylan Carter, Will Pendrick, Braedon Douglas, Cooper Davenport, Finau Tava, Jack Herbert, Lachlan Brown, and Ned Crossan. Congratulations to all involved.

**Mr Laing**  
*Head Teacher Student Engagement*





# IN THE KITCHENS

## Year 8 Food Technology

8TAS2 have been studying Food from Around the World and cooking a variety of dishes influenced from other cultures such as tacos and macaroons. On Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November students invited a family member in to the kitchens to help them prepare a dish from their family heritage or a favourite family dish. This proved to be very successful and we had a lot of mums, dads, grandmothers and a grandad. The students loved working with their family members and for some, it was the most productive practical lesson they had ever had. I appreciate those visitors who joined our class and cooked with us. It was a great morning!



## Year 7

7TAS3 Technology (Mandatory) has been studying Food Technology, learning about nutrition and healthy eating habits. In Week 9, the class made ginger bread cookies. Students decorated and bagged them ready for celebrating. They were all fully engaged in creating some wonderful pieces. Hopefully some of these fabulous cookies made it home to mum and dad!





## IN THE KITCHEN continued....

### Year 10 Food Technology

Year 10 have been studying Food Service and Catering this term. Several students have shown interest in and passion for catering, which is admirable. They have recently catered for the retirement village visits to our school.

On December 4 these students prepared and presented a variety of food for our retirement village guesses. This included

Chocolate Caramel Slice, Sandwiches, Brownies, sausage rolls and scones of course, which is one of their very favourites!



In the last week of school Year 10 has the opportunity to cater for themselves, creating a delicious Christmas buffet lunch. Their team work skills are sensational and their practical skills continue to develop and improve. I look forward to seeing some of these students next year in Hospitality and Food Technology.

*Ms K Bird, TAS Teacher*

## TEXTILES TECHNOLOGY

8TAS5 have been learning how to sew this term. The project was to create phone case followed by a pair of boxer shorts from cotton fabric. Students have been working at their own pace and their skills are improving with each lesson. I'm very happy to see some students complete their boxer shorts already.

Congratulations Josh and Ben, first in the class to finish!

*Ms K Bird, Textiles Teacher*



## VISIT FROM CLARKE ROAD SCHOOL

Early in Term 4 we had 12 students from Clarke Road School come to Asquith Boys' to have a mainstream high school experience.

Some wonderful Year 9 boys helped with their classes. They had an excellent time attending Science, Food Tech and Visual Arts classes. During Visual Arts there were some creative paintings on canvas and during Food Tech they made mini pizzas for our lunch and apple slice for dessert. Science was good fun in the new science labs doing experiments involving static electricity and testing the acidity of chemical solutions.

Thanks to our boys Jayden Camp, Jeremy Minto, Luke Read, Murray Cameron, Kaydan Cox, Dylan Poiagatule Moors, Edward Parker, Filipe Thornhill, Koichi Sasaki, Josh Pryde, Josh Shaw and Josh Victa for helping to make their visit such an enjoyable one.

Thank you also to our wonderful teachers Ms Holder, Ms Cooke, Mr Robertson, Ms Barlow and Ms Faustorilla who gave the lessons and thanks to Ms Booth, Ms Poulson, Ms Tapner, Ms Michas and Ms Batey for helping prepare the lessons and organising the day.

Thanks also to our Barista Boys for supplying us with great tea, coffee and hot chocolates with our lunch.

### Learning Support





# YEAR 10 SCIENCE ROCKET PROJECT

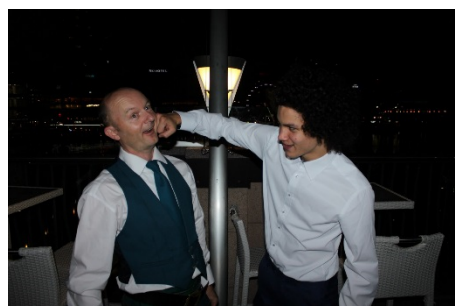
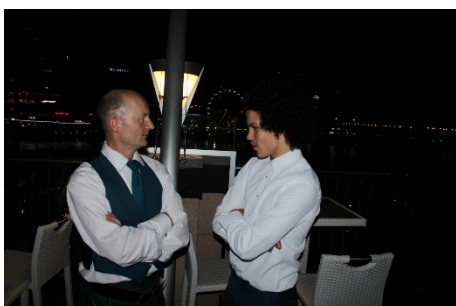
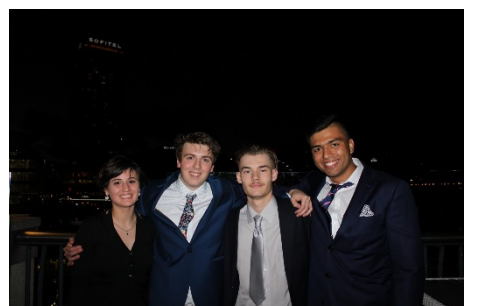
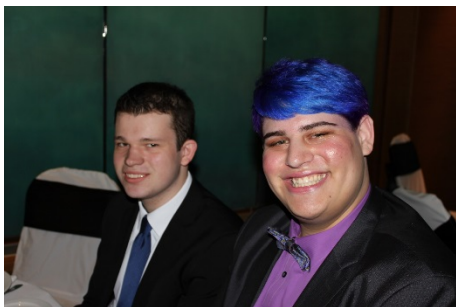
Mr Robertson's Year 10 Science Class studied rockets as the context for the forces and motion topic. The boys put together some kit rockets and let them off near the bottom oval. They then assessed how their rockets performed and went about designing and making their own rocket from basic materials supplied by the teacher. Most of the rockets were launched successfully although one went sideways, another got stuck up a tree whilst the biggest rocket only made it a few metres in the air as it was too heavy.

This was a great end to the year and a great lead into the HSC science courses for the boys.

*Mr S Robertson, Head Teacher Science*



# 2017 YEAR 12 – FORMAL





# SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Creative Arts and Academic Scholarships program at Asquith Boys High School is underway for the twelfth year. We again had plenty of applicants and after many interviews we are delighted to welcome the following recipients for the 2018 Scholarships:

- Declan Wagschall** - Junior Stage Band (Yr 7)
- James Naumann** - Creative Arts - Music (Yr 9)
- Dylan Jeffries** - Creative Arts - Visual Arts (Yr 9)
- Matthew Fletcher** - Creative Arts - Visual Arts (Yr 9)
- Jackson Salloch** - Creative Arts Drama (Yr 11)
- Lachlan Turner** - Creative Arts - Visual Arts (Yr 11)
- Zachary Howe** - Mervyn Brown Science (Yr 11)
- Luke Antrim** - Senior Stage Band (Yr 11)
- James Tarte** - Partial Drama (Yr 11)
- Thomas Dandie** - Partial Economics (Yr 11)
- Jackson Cole** - Partial Visual Arts (Yr 11)



They were officially welcomed at our annual Scholarship Luncheon in September, in a room filled with invited guests, including former scholarship holders, members of the Asquith Old Boys, both the P&C and School Council Presidents, teachers, existing scholarship holders and local dignitaries, including **the honourable Phillip Ruddock** (Mayor of Hornsby Shire Council). We also farewelled Scholarship holders who concluded their Scholarships, Andrew Morrison and Deeyon Garland.

All the new scholarship holders attended, many with their very proud parents, to enjoy a delightful luncheon spread provided by the ever-wonderful Mrs Booth from the canteen.

We all enjoyed the ambience of being spoiled. It really is a very special luncheon and such a pleasure to arrange this exclusive event!

All photographic credits go to Caroline Cooke and thanks to Mrs Booth for the lovely food.

**Catherine Holder**  
Head Teacher CAPA



# SRC LEADERS FOR 2018

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 practised 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.

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.

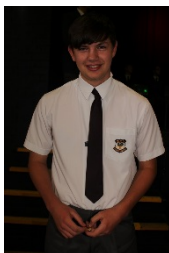
Well done to all the elected boys.

**President** - Dominic Jones

**Vice President** - Harrison Vo

**Secretary** - Andrew Milhalarias

**Treasurer** - Charles Nixon



**School Council Representatives** - Mikhail Baars and Benjamin Williams

**Senior District Representatives** - Aruto Isobe and Christopher Robinson

**Junior District Representatives** - Harrison Hegarty and William Vo

## YEAR 8 - 2018

Timothy Batey

Jayden Grandinetti

David Mudyara

Will Perring

Alexander Robinson

## YEAR 9 - 2018

John (Harrison) Hegarty

Nathan Parise

Conor Seery

William Vo

Benjamin Williams

## YEAR 10 - 2018

Mitchell Bennie

Oskar Enasio

Morgan Hamer

Thomas Hardwick

Otis van Egmond-Jones

## YEAR 11 - 2018

Nabeel Ali

Aruto Isobe

Matthew Jollie

Harrison Vo

Zheng (Robin) Zhao

## YEAR 12 - 2018

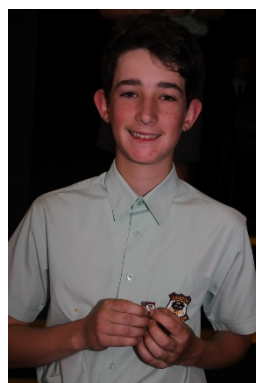
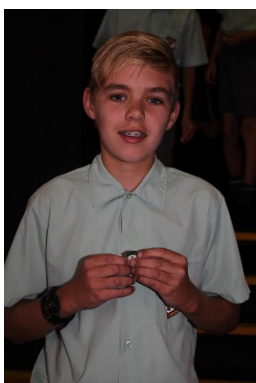
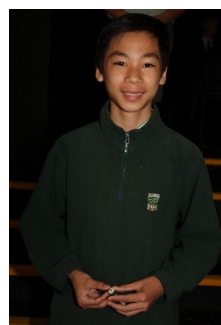
Mikhail Baars

Jack Cotton

Andrew Mihalarias

Charles Nixon

Christopher Robinson





# YEAR 9 CAMP

On Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November at 5:45am, yes it was very early, 71 Year 9 students boarded coaches to head to Lake Burrendong Sports and Recreation Centre for two nights. After a five hour journey which included a pit stop to McDonald's, we arrived at camp. We were met by a wonderful venue with excellent facilities and very helpful and friendly staff. The first night was spent in comfortable cabins. They even had air conditioning. Student were involved in a variety of activities such as kayaking, mountain bike riding, archery and grass skiing to mention a few.

The second night, students participated in a bivouac or camping out. They walked to the site, set up their three man tents and cooked over an open fire. It was a beautiful location and student were pretty keen. Some ended up sleeping out under the starry night. The following morning students cooked breakfast over the open fires and packed up and headed back to the sports centre. Students were given free time to participate in a number of activities such as swimming in the pool, rock climbing or facing the giant slide. After lunch we packed up and boarded the buses for home.

The food was terrific and part of food service was that students served and cleaned up. Everyone pulled their weight, an excellent lesson for teenagers.

Overall, this was a very successful camp. Thank you to Mr Robertson, Mr Miles and Mr Bonser for accompanying me on this camp. I greatly appreciate these teachers taking time from their lives to be with Year 9.

**Ms K Bird, Year 9 Year Adviser**



More photos on the website....



# FACULTY NOTES

## ENGLISH

It is coming to that time of the year when English classes are completing their final projects. Year 7 have been studying a Shakespeare Taster Unit, which includes the composition of some deliciously evil witches' spells. Year 8 have been studying picture books and using their visual literacy skills to create a poster that highlights a key issue. Year 9 are busy writing their own appropriations of Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet, and Year 10 have been studying a variety of film genres.

As we move into the holidays, we are often asked what it is that the boys can be doing to improve in English. The answer to this is to read. Establishing a regular routine of reading for pleasure each day is of vital importance for all students. Not only will it assist in improving literacy skills such as sentence structure, spelling, vocabulary and grammar, but it will broaden their knowledge and understanding of the world around them. What better way to spend a summer afternoon than reading a great book! As Groucho Marx famously quipped, "outside of a dog, a book is man's best friend. Inside of a dog it's too dark to read."

*Ms E Connolly*  
*Head Teacher English*

## CAREERS

Information session on Thursday 25th January 2018 for **pre-apprenticeship** in construction at Hornsby TAFE, from 10am-12noon. This course is for school leavers and is a great pathway to obtaining a carpentry apprenticeship (see flyer below).

**BE AMBITIOUS**

**BE EMPLOYED IN CONSTRUCTION**

Apply or enquire online now!

CPC20211 Certificate II in Construction Pathways (Pre-Apprenticeship Course)

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**  
This theory and practical course will teach students how to:

- produce quality work in the construction industry
- use tools/equipment
- plan and organise workloads whilst learning how work safely and sustainably.

This course could be the start of your construction career which could lead to an apprenticeship, building management or owning your own business.

**COURSE PROGRAM:**

- Commences 5 February 2018 for 18 weeks
- Thursday and Friday
- 8.00am to 3.30pm

**THIS COURSE ALSO PROVIDES:**  
This qualification provides a pathway to the primary trades in the construction industry eg Joinery, shop-fitting, carpentry, bricklaying and other occupations in general construction.

You can also gain up to 6 months TAFE study credit towards an apprenticeship in Certificate III in Carpentry.

**HOW TO GET INVOLVED:**  
Register your interest and join our Information Session on **Thursday 25 January 2018** @ 10am to 12pm.

Where: Hornsby Campus  
205 Peats Ferry Road, Hornsby  
Room Location: Block L, Level 1  
Room L1.01  
PLEASE BRING PORTFOLIO OR CV

**COURSE SNAPSHOT**

**Location:** TAFE NSW, Hornsby Campus, 205 Peats Ferry Road Hornsby NSW 2077

**Course:** Certificate II in Construction Pathways

**Cost:** This is a Government subsidized student training program. Fee exemptions and concessions are available to eligible participants.

Students with a disability need to register with a Teacher Consultant. Phone: 9942 0056 to make an appointment.

**CONTACT US TODAY!**

**REGISTER YOUR INTEREST** or for more information contact Andrew Smith or Steven Hemmings.

Phone: 9472 1237 or 9472 1284  
Email: andrew.smith@tafe.nsw.edu.au  
Email: steven.p.hemmings@tafe.nsw.edu.au

**TAFE NSW**

RTO 50000. This document is correct at the time of printing; February 2017. \*Terms and conditions may apply.

f t y t w

## TVET NEWS

All continuing TVET students will go straight to their stage 2 classes on Tuesday 13th February 2018.

For new TVET students orientation will take place during their first class on Tuesday 13th February. At the start of term 1, 2018, I will issue students with the details of times and venues as given to me by TAFE

The status of students on the Waiting list will be confirmed when EVET reopens at the end of January. New applications will also be entered onto EVET during that time.

Please phone me if you have any questions about TVET.

## Important information for Year 12 leavers 2017

### University Info Days

Find out what your options are after you get your results. If you've applied for university for 2018, you might be a bit nervous right now. Getting your results and making your final course decision can be tough.

Once upon a time, students had to wait weeks or months between receiving their results and being offered a place, but now the 'Powers That Be' have made some changes to dates and everything happens much quicker than it used to.

#### **What does this mean for you?**

If you're finishing Year 12 in 2017 and have applied for university, it means that you'll only have a little while to change your preferences once you've received your marks before the main round of offers.

This year, results are released on these dates, and the option to change your preferences in some states for the main round closes only a week or so afterwards.

| State      | Admissions Centre | Results Released | Change of Preferences Closes |
|------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------------------|
| NSW & ACT  | UAC               | 15 December      | 17 December                  |
| Victoria   | VTAC              | 15 December      | 20 December                  |
| Queensland | QTAC              | 16 December      | 18 December                  |
| WA         | TISC              | 19 December      | 4 January                    |
| SA (&NT)   | SATAC             | 19 December      | 4 January                    |

Don't freak out – there are still ways to change your mind later on (and a number of uni students change degree paths during their degree – it's not unusual and you're never 'locked-in' to finishing anything) but it's a good idea to change your preferences as soon as you know what your results look like.

#### **Why would you change your preferences?**

- You got a better mark than you expected, and want to apply for a more competitive course
- Or, you didn't do as well as you'd hoped to, and want to change to a more realistic course
- Perhaps you've changed your mind in the time between applying and getting your results, and want to go down a different path
- A new (and more appealing) course has just become available. Or you recently found out about a course you didn't know existed
- Sometimes universities choose to cancel a course, and you may want to replace it

It's a big decision, but now you have more information (i.e. your results) it's wise to rethink your options.

To help you make the best choice, many universities hold special 'Change of Preference' sessions (sometimes they're called 'Info Days') where you can get one-on-one advice and find out about your options.

You'll also find lots of information about university preparation courses, extracurricular activities, accommodation services and alternative entry pathways.

We've put together a list of all the upcoming Change of Preference Sessions, so you can pop them in your diary today.

#### **Australian Catholic University – Know Your Options Sessions**

Canberra & Sydney – Friday 15 December

[http://www.acu.edu.au/about\\_acu/our\\_university/contact/events/know\\_your\\_options\\_information\\_sessions](http://www.acu.edu.au/about_acu/our_university/contact/events/know_your_options_information_sessions)

#### **CQ Uni**

Sydney – Friday 15 December

Online Chat – Monday 18 December

<https://www.cqu.edu.au/campaigns/open-days>

#### **Macquarie University**

Saturday 16 December

<https://www.mq.edu.au/about/events/view/info-day-2017/>

#### **University of Notre Dame – Course Advice Sessions**

Run until 29 December – book a session online

<http://www.nd.edu.au/events/2017/course-advice-sydney>

#### **University of Sydney**

Saturday 16 December

<http://infoday.sydney.edu.au/>



## UNSW – Info Day

Saturday 16 December

<https://www.futurestudents.unsw.edu.au/info-day>

## UTS

Saturday 16 December 9am-2pm

<https://infoday.uts.edu.au/>

### Work + Study

- If you're planning to study at university or TAFE when you leave school, it's quite likely you'll need to be working as well. Even if you are financially supported in other ways, it's a great idea to get a job.
- Why having a job is great:
- You can pay your bills
- You will gain a sense of financial independence
- You'll learn new skills and gain experience that will be useful in future jobs
- You could make new friends
- It's important for resume-building

It can be tricky to find your first job, or find a job in a new city if you move to study. Here are a couple of tips on finding a job:

- **Refresh your resume**, and make sure you include all relevant experience. You'll be able to get help from your school careers adviser. There is also plenty of advice online about making your resume the best it can be.
- **Always include a cover letter**. This is a great chance to demonstrate your passion, tell them about some of your personal qualities, and include any extra details that aren't in your resume.
- **Get one or two people to agree to be a referee**. These should be people who will speak highly of you – they might be a previous employer, a sports coach, a family you've babysat for, or a teacher.
- **Apply for HEAPS of jobs**. It can be hard finding your first job. Apply for every job you can find online that you'd be able to do and get to. If you don't know where to look, check out Seek. You should also think about all the food and clothing shops you go to and check out the Careers section on their websites.
- **Make sure you tailor your application to each job**. That being said, you can use a lot of the same information between different cover letters. Just make sure you include something specific to each role or brand.
- **Find out whether your university hires any students on campus**. Some of them have programs for students to work in the library or on-campus food stores.

### Other Career Information

#### Hornsby BMW

Hornsby BMW is looking for a 1st year apprentice. If interested contact Mr Bradley Mayne, Service Manager at Hornsby BMW.- email [bradley.m@hornsbybmw.com.au](mailto:bradley.m@hornsbybmw.com.au) or telephone 0407196120

#### Tradie Start

Tradie Start is an online network for tradespeople, builders and apprentices. If you're looking for somewhere to work or do your apprenticeship, see if there are any opportunities near you.

[Find an apprenticeship – https://tradiestart.com.au/](https://tradiestart.com.au/)

#### Coding resources

This page from Careers with STEM has some great coding resources for you to check out if you're interested in learning some coding or want to pursue a career path in the area.

[Check them out – https://careerswithstem.com/coding-resources/](https://careerswithstem.com/coding-resources/)

#### Volunteering is an asset to your resume

A Deloitte Impact Survey shows that employers are more likely to be impressed by your resume if it includes volunteering experience. You can check out the details of the research here.

You can find a volunteering opportunity at Seek Volunteer – <https://www.volunteer.com.au/>

or Go Volunteer – <https://govolunteer.com.au/>

Wishing all our school leavers great success in their chosen job or course of study.

Warm regards

*Mrs J Fry*

*Careers Adviser*

# P&C ASSOCIATION

Parents and Citizens working together for our School

**Hello ABHS community,**

At our last meeting we approved \$6081 to be spent on new blackout roller blinds for the four new science labs. It was agreed that this would be a worthwhile contribution to these fabulous new science rooms. It was also agreed to have a faculty presentation at a P&C Meeting each term starting with Ms E Connolly, Head of English Faculty on the new Stage 6 syllabus. This is not to be missed!

## DATES FOR EVENTS NEXT YEAR 2018

Dates are set for our annual events in 2018. Please put them in your calendar.

**Tuesday 27 February** – Annual General Meeting following the Parent Teacher Evening

**Thursday 10 May** – Mother Son Afternoon Tea

**Sunday 19 August** – Community Day

**Thursday 30 August** – Father Son Breakfast

**Monday 24 September** – Year 12 Family Dinner

We need to start planning the Community Day early in the New Year so if you are interested in helping out with this or any of the other events listed above please contact me. Just remember you don't need to come to the P&C meeting to help out.

Our next P&C meeting will be held on 27th February starting at 7.30pm. All welcome.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a very festive season.

**Tempe Beaven**

P&C President

[president.abhspnc@gmail.com](mailto:president.abhspnc@gmail.com)

The next P&C meeting  
@ 7.30pm  
**Tuesday 27 February 2018**  
in the Library.  
  
All welcome.

## ASQUITH BOYS HIGH SCHOOL CALENDAR TERM 1 2018

|                | MONDAY                            | TUESDAY  | WEDNESDAY   | THURSDAY   | FRIDAY                                      | Sat/Sun   |
|----------------|-----------------------------------|--|---|--|---|-----------|
| <b>Week 1B</b> | January 29<br><b>SDD</b>          | January 30<br><b>Students Return</b><br>Yrs 7,11 & 12              | January 31<br><b>Students Return</b><br>Yrs 8,9 &10 start | February 1<br><b>Formal Assembly</b><br>(High Achievers) | February 2                                  | Feb 3/4   |
| <b>Week 2A</b> | February 5                        | February 6   | February 7<br><br><b>Band Information Night</b>           | February 8<br><b>Student ID Photos</b>                   | February 9                                  | Feb 10/11 |
| <b>Week 3B</b> | February 12<br><b>Year 7 Camp</b> | February 13<br><b>Year 7 Camp</b>                                  | February 14<br><b>Year 7 Camp</b>                         | February 15  | February 16                                 | Feb 17/18 |
| <b>Week 4A</b> | February 19                       | February 20  | February 21   | February 22  | February 23<br><br><b>Swimming Carnival</b> | Feb 24/25 |
| <b>Week 5B</b> | February 26                       | February 27<br><br><b>Parent/Teacher BBQ</b><br><b>P&amp;C AGM</b> | February 28   | March 1  | March 2                                     | Mar 3/4   |



## Wu's Style Tai Chi

Kung Fu from the royal palace in China since 1850's

### Wu's Style Tai Chi lineage of our instructor

Wukaihala Chuan-Yau (1824-1902)  
Imperial guard of royal palace  
in Qing-Dynasty in China

Wu Chien-Chuan (1870-1942)  
Eldest son of Master Chuan-Yau

Wu Kung-Yi (1900-1970)  
Eldest son of Master Chien-Chuan

Wu Tai-Kwei (1923-1972)  
Eldest son of Master Kung-Yi

Master Eddie Wu Kwong-Yu (1946-)  
Eldest son of Master Tai-Kwei

Our instructor: Jacky Chan  
Student of Master Eddie Wu  
BENG (Electronics), MBA, MSc (Logistics)

Join us and become the next generation of Wu's Style Tai Chi



Students Special!! \$40 per month, 4-5pm Monday to Friday. Book Now!!

### Taichi Qigong Reiki Centre

Suite 3, 43A Florence Street, Hornsby, NSW 2077  
Phone: 0490 327 566, Email: tqrc108@gmail.com  
Website: www.taichiqigongreikicentre.com.au



## 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**



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# FIRST AID COURSE

12-24  
years

**WEDNESDAY 17 JANUARY 2018**

8.45am – 4.30pm

Gordon Library

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 10 January.

**catch**  
training



Ku-ring-gai  
Youth Services



9424 0981



youth@kmc.nsw.gov.au



kmc.nsw.gov.au/youth



# HSC Summer School 2018

## Year 12 Head Start Lectures

Venues: University of Sydney (Camperdown) Dates: Monday 8th – Tuesday 23rd January 2018



# 2018

Includes bonus lectures valued at \$300 – FREE!\*

**tsfx**

The School For Excellence  
PO Box r1407, Royal Exchange  
Sydney, NSW, 1225

- Save 100s of hours in study time!
- Get ahead & reduce stress in 2018
- Learn how to maximise examination marks
- Receive detailed A+ notes (not basic summaries)
- Delivered by qualified HSC teachers & HSC exam assessors (not university students)
- Get a huge advantage over your state-wide peers!

**Lifeline**

**KYDS**

### Managing Your Mood Skills Groups for Adolescents

Are you struggling with distressing feelings and thoughts?

Are you experiencing symptoms of anxiety and depression?

Do you want to learn skills and strategies to more effectively manage your feelings and your relationships?

Lifeline is offering 16 week DBT skills groups which will cover the following key components:

- **Mindfulness skills** – to stay focused on the present moment
- **Emotion Regulation skills** – to deal with intense negative emotions and develop emotional coping strategies
- **Distress Tolerance skills** – to effectively deal with painful emotions and situations
- **Interpersonal Effectiveness skills** – for assertive communication and building relationships



**Who can attend?** If you live or attend school in Northern Sydney or the Northern Beaches, are between 13 and 17 years old, and have mild to moderate mental health concerns you are eligible to attend.

**How much does the group cost?** FREE but you will require a referral from your GP to attend. (Form found here: [sydneynorthhealthnetwork.org.au/mentalhealthtriage](http://sydneynorthhealthnetwork.org.au/mentalhealthtriage))

**To register your interest:** please talk to your GP, or contact the Group Coordinator on 8287 1158 or [PHNgroups.coordinator@lifelineh2h.org.au](mailto:PHNgroups.coordinator@lifelineh2h.org.au)

#### 2018 Managing Your Mood

Thursdays 5:30 - 7:30pm 22 February - 21 June 2018, LLNB Balgowlah

Thursdays 4-6pm 22 February 2018 at KYDS Lindfield

Mondays 4-6pm 12 March at KYDS Hornsby

Funding for groups is provided by Sydney North Primary Health Network



Player development through the Pathways Partnership with the North Sydney Bears representative teams, Harold Matts, SG Ball through to NSWRL Senior Squads and ISP Premiership



## Play Rugby League with the Asquith Magpies

2018 Registrations now open online at

[playnrl.com](http://playnrl.com)

- Low fees 13 to 17 years - \$110
- Jersey, shorts & socks included to keep
- Plus free membership to the new



[www.asquithmagpies.com.au](http://www.asquithmagpies.com.au)

Email: [asquithmagpies1953@gmail.com](mailto:asquithmagpies1953@gmail.com)






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Fountain  
Dental Clinic**

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**Free Oral Consultation**  
**Free Orthodontic Advice**

---

Dr Yan Chen (BDS, BOH)



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**Address** |

Shop 4, 21 Hunter Street, Hornsby  
(Inside the Hornsby Fountain Medical Centre)

[www.hornsbymc.com.au](http://www.hornsbymc.com.au)