# BACKCHAT IN BRIEF

Welcome back to school and Term 1 2020 for everyone. It is always pleasing to return and see that students have had a happy, relaxing and most importantly, a safe holiday period. It is especially exciting to welcome our 111 new Year 7 students who have joined the Asquith Boys High School family, and are all very excited to be at high school.

#### New Staff at Asquith Boys High School

In 2020 we have 3 new staff at Asquith Boys High School. Ms Yelin Chen and Ms An Phan have been appointed to the Science faculty and will be teaching Biology and Investigating Science respectively, as well as junior Science classes in 2020. Ms Chen is replacing Ms Tharmarajah after she retired at the end of 2019. Ms Susan Adam will be teaching in the TAS faculty in 2020, taking Mr Josephs' position teaching junior TAS and Food Technology. Mr Josephs took up a teaching position at a private school over the recent holiday period.

We are also pleased to welcome back Mr Berakhi to the Mathematics faculty after his 12 months leave.

#### **High Achievers Assembly**

Our High Achievers Assembly was held on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January. It was really pleasing to see so many of the successful 2019 HSC students and to have the school acknowledge and recognise them for their achievements. The 2019 Dux was Ziqing (Alex) Zhu with an ATAR of 98.70.

Alex achieved Band 6 results in Physics, Mathematics Extension 1 and Mathematics Extension 2 narrowly missed out in Chemistry were he achieved a very impressive 89. Alex excelled throughout the year in all courses and has put his success down to dedication and consistent hard work.

Asquith Boys High School students also achieved HSC Distinguished Achievers with Band 6 results across 12 different subject areas which include Physics, Mathematics, Mathematics Standard 2, Mathematics Extension 1 and 2, Society and Culture, Modern History, Geography, English Advanced, Business Studies, Chemistry, Korean and Literature. 100% of our Advanced English students achieved the equivalent of Band 5 or higher results. Our students also excelled in Mathematics were we achieved an outstanding 8<sup>th</sup> in NSW for comprehensive high schools and Hospitality and Software Design and Development classes were both an outstanding 9% above state average. An incredible 24 out of 31 subjects completed by ABHS students had above state average results. Well done!

#### Year 7 Camp

The excitement for our Year 7 students will continue early next week, when they head off to camp for three days on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February. This is an excellent opportunity to bond as a group and make new life long friends. It is also an excellent opportunity for Mr Bonser to get to know the entire year group and share in this experience with his students. A special thank you to all the staff attending camp with Mr Bonser and Year 7.

#### **Music Information Evening**

The ABHS and AGHS Music Ensembles Information Night was held at Asquith Boys High School on Wednesday evening at Asquith Boys High School with over 30 students and their parents attending from both schools. If your child was interested in joining any of our bands or choirs, and you were not able to attend the evening please contact Mr Sam Newton to find out more information about the opportunities that are available in our highly regarded music ensembles.

#### Duke of Edinburgh – Information Evening

Asquith Boys High School proudly offers the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme for students in Year 9 and 10. There will be an information evening on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February in the school library for any parents and students who are interested in participating in this excellent program.

#### Toilets

The school toilets have been painted and exhaust fans installed to improve the amenities. New heavy duty toilet roll holds will been installed in all cubicles in the coming weeks. I appreciate the students and parents patience with respect to the toilet refurbishments.

#### Asquith Boys High School Events & News

Please check the school calendar on the website, school newsletters and the school Facebook site for information on all the school events. The school Facebook page is 'Asquith Boys High School Events & News' and has grown to have more than 550 followers. Many of the photos on the site highlight the most recent school events, publishing a brief but informative snapshot of what is happening in the school and the students' life at Asquith Boys High School.

#### Congratulations

In light of the devastation and destruction caused by the fires over the recent holiday period, it is great to hear of some wonderful news. Mitchell Kissick (Year 12) spent time in the holiday period fighting fires with the Berowra Waters Rural Bushfire Brigade and was highly commended by his Brigade Captain for his efforts. Thank you also to Ms Karen Ronald, our SAM, who gave up a large amount of her holidays to fight fires on the South Coast with her RFS brigade.

Mr Bryce Grant Principal

### 2019 HSC HIGH ACHIEVERS FORMAL ASSEMBLY HONOUR CERTIFICATE RECIPIENTS

#### DUX

Ziging (Alex) Zhu

#### EXEMPLARY ACHIEVEMENT

Students achieving five or more Band Five and/or Band Six results

**Thomas Dandie** Nicholas Fannelli Qijun (Joe) He Zachary Howe Luke Jennings Jaehyeon (Jacob) Jeon

Matthew Jollie **Stephen Morrison** Ryan Thompson Scott Tysar James Verco Ziging (Alex) Zhu

#### **OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT**

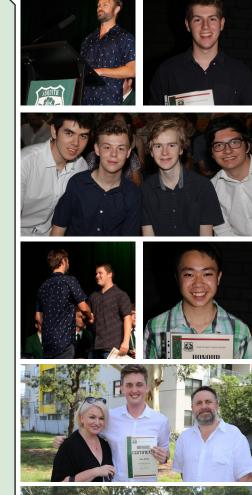
Students achieving three Band Five and/or Band Six results

- Tom Bibby Zac Boccalatte Brody Camp Cameron Chilvers Ethan Do Tevita Faupula Justin Green
- **Jarrod Haines** Aruto Isobe Callum Roscarel Lucas Scott-Branagan Harrison Vo Zhenyu (Alex) Zhang

#### **EXCELLENT ACHIEVEMENT**

Students achieving one Band Six result or two Band Five results

- Luke Antrim Brendan Chander Nicholas Chander Mitchell Ferguson **Bradley Flood**
- Qilin (Victor) Ren Jackson Salloch James Tarte Wenging (Evan) Zhang





Thank you to family members who attended this special assembly and supported their sons' achievements. Thank you also to our special guest speaker at the assembly, Mr Hayden Beck (Asquith Old Boy 1996-2001), who enjoyed being back to see the changes around the school and reflected on his years at Asquith.

## Teaching someone to drive can be a happy experience.

Come to a FREE two hour workshop full of practical advice and information for parents, carers and supervisors of learner drivers completing the Graduated Licensing Scheme.

The next workshop in your area will be held:

#### TIME & DATE:

6:30pm to 8:30pm Thursday 5 March 2020

VENUE: Hornsby Shire Council Chambers Building 296 Peats Ferry Rd Hornsby

BOOK NOW ON: Online via:

(02) 9847 6856

**Bookings Essential** 

**RAISING RESILIENT** ΤΕΕΝ WED 26 FEB Discover what makes teens tick and how to foster your child's emotional and social development. Colleen Hirst, clinical psychologist and family therapist will give practical and fun tools to help nurture mental health and promote resilience and confidence in the "everyday" moments of life. www.trybooking.com/BGILA 7:30PM - 9:30PM ST JOHN'S 6 ROYSTON PDE ASQUIT REGISTER: STJOHNSASQUITH.ORG CALL 9482 3282