

We welcome our Year 7s back from camp and I hope that the parents and community enjoyed the Facebook pictures that were posted of them while they were away.

Annual Swimming Carnival – Friday 19 February

The school swimming carnival will be held Friday 19 February at Hornsby Pool, and I am sure that all students and staff will enjoy the opportunity to be out of the classroom and watching our students participate in an extensive number of swimming events.

This is a normal school day for all students and therefore attendance is compulsory. It is always extremely well attended by our students. Students have received detailed information about the carnival which was also emailed to parents.

Unfortunately, this year due to Hornsby Pool's COVID-19 Safety Plan, parents will not be able to attend.

Best Start – Year 7 Assessment

Year 7 students will participate in the Best Start Year 7 Assessment this term. Best Start Year 7 is an online literacy and numeracy assessment available to secondary schools that assesses key literacy and numeracy skills of Year 7 students. It is designed to assist teachers to identify students who may require additional support in developing their literacy and numeracy skills.

These assessments will be undertaken in class from 15 - 26 February. The purpose of the Best Start assessment is to provide feedback to teachers to help identify students' needs. Feedback will be provided to teachers who may choose to share this with students, parents and carers during teacher interview processes.

Best Start Year 7 is just one of a range of assessments the school uses to assess students.

Please inform the school if your child has special needs requiring support to complete an online assessment. Students will be asked to bring headphones or earbuds that plug into a computer if possible to enable them to hear audio during the assessment. Earbuds used for mobile phones or other portable devices may be suitable for use during the assessment. The type of computer connection needed is a jack or USB.

Year 7 Camp

Our Year 7 students returned on Wednesday from camp, tired but excited by the experience of making new friends and sharing in this experience as a year group, with their Year Adviser and other attending staff. A big thank you to Mr Hughes (Year 7 Adviser) for organising the camp, Ms Bird, Ms Young, Mr Bonser, Mr Li and Mr Timmins for attending the camp with Year 7 this week.



Travelling to and from School on Public Transport – ‘Masks are essential!’

Currently in accordance with the state wide public transport guidelines **all students are required** to wear masks on these trips until further notice. I request that all students comply with this guideline and parents assist by ensuring that your son has a mask for these trips. This includes catching the bus for Grade Sport on a Wednesday.

‘Masks remain compulsory on public transport for staff and students in Greater Sydney. All staff and students in the Greater Sydney area must wear masks when travelling to and from school or when travelling for school activities using public transport or charter bus services.’

Also see the attached letter from Senior Constable Lynda Hart, School Liaison for Kuring-gai PAC.

Students at Coles and the Chemist

A reminder to both parents and students that the students are not to be at Coles and/or the Chemist of a morning from 8-8.40am or afternoon until after 4pm, unless accompanied by a parent. This is to avoid them getting reported for inappropriate behaviour and from time to time theft.

Both venues have been advised to report any inappropriate or illegal behaviour to the Police. Being at these venues in significant numbers creates anxiety for the managers of these stores, so it is wise for all our students to avoid them within the times detailed above.

Students not complying with this request may receive disciplining from the school. Students have been advised and warned on numerous assemblies and occasions by the school.

Your assistance and support with communicating this to your sons is most appreciated.

Breakfast Club provides a free breakfast for all students every morning and the Canteen is also open for students to purchase food before school starts. There is no need for the students to be attending Coles on the way to and from school.

Deputies from both Asquith Boys and Asquith Girls will be in attendance on a rostered basis at these venues, preventing students from both schools from entering. All students will be directed to continue walking towards their respective schools.

Asquith Boys High School Events & News

Please check the school website, school calendar, 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 now grown to have more than 800 followers. Many of the photos on the site highlight the most recent school events, publishing a brief but informative snapshot of what is happening at school and the student life at Asquith Boys High School, with the most recent school event of the Year 7 students participating in a variety of activities and ventures while on the recent Year 7 Camp.

Finally, a reminder that many of the COVID restrictions and guidelines for school are still being applied to schools.

Parents are still asked to:

- Not enter the school grounds for any reason unless an appointment has been made.
- Students must not attend school if they are unwell, even with the mildest of symptoms. **Students must return a negative COVID-19 test and be symptom free prior to returning to school.**
- Follow normal absentee procedures, should your son be to unwell to attend school.

Thank you again for your support in all of these matters and concerns.

Mr Bryce Grant
Principal

12 February, 2021

ABHS Calendar of Events - Term 1 2021

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT/SUN
Week 3A	Feb 8 Year 7 Camp	Feb 9 Year 7 Camp	Feb 10 Year 7 Camp	Feb 11 Duke of Ed Information Evening	Feb 12	Feb 13/14
Week 4B	Feb 15	Feb 16 Yr 7 Best Start Testing (till 26 Feb)	Feb 17	Feb 18 HSED - Yr6	Feb 19 SWIMMING CARNIVAL	Feb 20/21
Week 5A	Feb 22	Feb 23 Parent/Teacher BBQ P&C Meeting	Feb 24	Feb 25	Feb 26	Feb 27/28
Week 6B	March 1	March 2	March 3	March 4	March 5 Yr7 - Clean Up Australia Day	Mar 6/7
Week 7A	March 8 OPEN NIGHT	March 9	March 10	March 11	March 12	Mar 13/14
Week 8B	March 15 Yr12 Snap Exams	March 16 Yr12 Snap Exams	March 17 Yr12 Snap Exams	March 18 Yr12 Snap Exams Interim Reports Issued	March 19 Yr12 Snap Exams	Mar 20/21

ATTENTION – SCHOOL PRINCIPAL & STAFF

I've been asked by PTC (Police Transport Command) to make contact with all of my schools to re-enforce the messages around face coverings and public transport. Members of the community have been complaining about school students failing to wear face coverings whilst on public transport - no particular school was mentioned. If you can remind students, aged 12 years or older, of the current Public Health Orders regarding face coverings that would be much appreciated. (See Below)

COVID-19 MANDATORY FACE COVERINGS

Public Health Act 2010

The Public Health (COVID-19 Mandatory Face Coverings) Order 2021 was amended commencing 29 January 2021.

A **fitted face covering** is a mask or other covering that fits securely around the face and is designed or made to be worn over the nose and mouth to provide the wearer with protection against infection. A scarf is not a fitted face covering.

Requirement to wear a fitted face covering

Public transport

A person in Greater Sydney must wear a fitted face covering at all times when:

- (a) at a public transport waiting area, or
- (b) when the person is in a vehicle, train or vessel that is being used to provide a public transport service and the vehicle, train or vessel is carrying passengers or is in service and available to carry passengers.

Public transport service includes a taxi service, rideshare service and community transport service. A public transport waiting area is a station, including the platform, of a passenger railway station or light rail station/stop, a ferry wharf, a bus stop or taxi rank.

Exemptions

There are a number of exemptions to these rules:

- A person under 12 years
- A person with a physical or mental illness or condition, or disability that makes wearing a fitted face covering unsuitable

Thanks so much,



NSW Police Force

Lynda Hart

Senior Constable

School Liaison Police, Ku-ring-Gai and Ryde PAC

E: hartlyln@police.nsw.gov.au P: 9476 9799 E: 51774 M: 0437 883 329