

This term will conclude on Friday, however, due to the Industrial Action on Thursday and the Train Strike this Friday, we will be postponing the Formal Assembly (acknowledging the Term 1 and 2 sporting successes, as well as the Big Band Blast Tour) until Term 3.

MAD Night

Congratulations to all the performers who excelled on the evening. The Year 7 rock group who performed 'Highway to Hell' by ACDC was probably my favourite performance on the evening. All the parents and friends in attendance of the evening were highly entertained and appreciative of all the efforts for our students to perform for them. Mr Cabrera has provided a more detailed report included later in this Backchat.

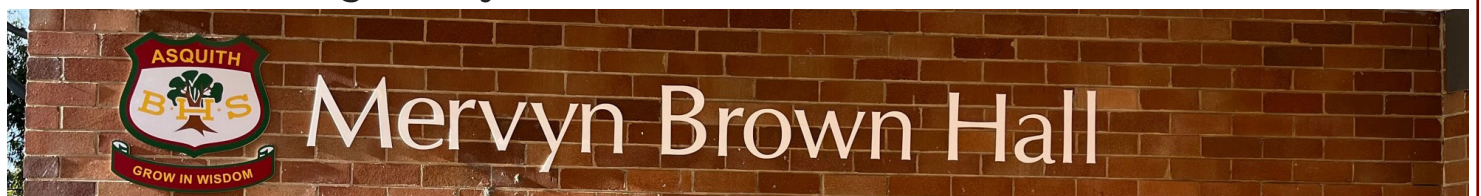
Subject Information Interviews – Year 10

Subject selection interviews for Year 10 students and their parents were conducted on Monday this week. This was a highly informative and well attended day of interviews where both Year 10 students and parents were able to walk through their subject choices for their 2023 Preliminary Course, as well as receiving reassurance and support about selecting the correct pattern of study to complete and ultimately achieve their HSC in 2024.

It will now take several weeks to process all this information and construct the best subject matrixes for maximising students preferred patterns of study. While we will do everything to achieve a matrix with limited clashes and subjects not able to be offered, this is never 100% possible. Students who happen to be in this situation will receive their reserve subjects and be informed in regard to the changes to their preferred patterns of study.

Mervyn Brown Hall Signage

Thank you to the P&C for their organisation and investment in the new sign on the outside of the Hall. This new sign identifies the contribution and the efforts of our very first Principal at Asquith Boys High School, **Mervyn Brown**, over 60 years ago. This idea was initiated by Chris Kent, ABHS Old Boys Coordinator, and I am sure you will agree that it highlights a sense of pride in relation to the long history of our wonderful school.



Mobile Phone Policy

Thank you to the staff and most importantly the student body for their overwhelming support and response to the successfully implemented of the new 'Mobile Phone Policy'.

To date there has only been 80 students who have been reported for breaching this policy and most importantly only around 12 are repeat offenders. An excellent set of data by all accounts. This will continue to be reinforced next term, with the focus on ensuring that all our students in all year groups, continue to remain on task in the classroom.

Term 3 – Year 11 and 12

Term 3 is a very important term for all our students, but it is especially important for Years 11 and 12. This is the final term for the Preliminary Course of studies for Year 11, and for Year 12, their very last school term.

Year 12 they will have their Trial Examinations in Week 4 and 5, where they will be introduced to Ms Melissa Maher who will be the supervising officer for their HSC Examinations in Term 4. We have engaged her to also coordinate and administer the Trial Examinations for our students. This successful practice has been implemented at Asquith Boys High School for a couple years now. It enables the students and Melissa to become familiar with not only each other, but the actual HSC practices and procedures. This has significantly alleviated any unwarranted anxiety around consistent implementation for the actual HSC examinations for the Year 12 students in the past and we believe that it will also be the same for this year group.

P&C Faculty Resources

A big thank you to the P&C and the entire school community for your support of the school faculties and their recent purchases of much needed resources.

FACULTY AREA	Items/Resources purchased
Library	Storage and Shelving for new computers
Maths	Display signage and calculators
Science	Robotics resource kits
CAPA	New Stage - construction and materials
TAS	New Fridge
Admin	Storage and Shelving
English	New student Laptops
HSIE	New student Laptops
PDHPE	Equipment for the new Basketball courts

This significant total investment of over \$30,000 into individual school faculties has been extremely well received and is greatly appreciated by all the staff at ABHS. This approach to faculty allocations and resource renewal and purchasing also ensures that all the students, and importantly your sons, will have access and exposure to all the new resources to improve their learning outcomes.

It is also important to mention and again thank the P&C and school community for their ongoing support of a variety of school-based programs, which include the maintenance of the school grounds with the engagement of a groundsman once a week, assistance with funding the important 'Breakfast Club' which is operational every morning, and a variety of literacy and numeracy programs at Asquith Boys High School.

School Reports – Years 7 – 11

The last four weeks have been extremely busy for all staff with respect to the completion of student assessments, marking, feedback, recording results and importantly report writing. A big thank you to the ABHS staff for their efforts in this area, especially for the quality feedback that they always provide for the parents of the students.

Semester 1 school reports have been finalised by your sons' Year Adviser and the final phase of editing completed by our excellent administration staff.

All Year 7-11 reports have been emailed and uploaded to the Parent Portal. Also, our second and final Parent Teacher Evening for the year is planned to be held on Tuesday 26th July, from 3 – 6.30pm. Bookings are essential and will open on Wednesday 20 July.

Congratulations to:

- Alexander Braendle and Kobe Jenkins who came 4th and 5th respectively in the recent 12 years Regional Cross country, as well Rory McFarlane who finished 10th in the 17 years. All qualifying for CHS Cross-country at Eastern Creek in Term 3.
- To all ABHS Year Advisers and the supporting administration staff for their amazing efforts to ensure that the reports were completed and issued ahead of schedule.
- Congratulations to all our high achieving students who continue to impress and work to the very best of their abilities in all subjects – a fact highlighted on their school reports.

To the entire school community, I wish you the very best for the well-deserved Term 2 holidays, and hope everyone remains safe and well.

Students will return for Term 3 on Tuesday 19 July.

Mr Bryce Grant

Principal

30 June, 2022



MAD Night 2022

Congratulations to all the wonderful performers at MAD Night 2022. This year's show was AMAZING! Our combined bands with AGHS showed high levels of performance quality under the guidance of Mrs Beth Smith and Mr Joe Manton. The audience was thoroughly entertained and had a great night. Many of the musical numbers that night were by students who have never performed on stage before.

The **Year 8 Elective Music** class performance of Earth Wind and Fire's 'September' was impressive, and the Junior Rock Band rocked the stage with AC/DC's 'Highway to Hell'.

Stage 5 Music students presented a mix of memorable classic rock, 60s instrumental and popular music.

The audience also enjoyed a video showing **Matthew Fletcher's HSC Individual Project – Set Design**. This project was nominated for Onstage 2021, which showcases HSC works that received exemplary marks. Matthew's set design was built to scale and included detailed stage pieces. Well done, Matthew!

Ben Bingham and Ethan Zgolak did a stellar job hosting the show. "Gu Choki Pa", the Japanese version of "Scissor, Paper, Rock", provided a fun competition among audience members and a chance to interact with our hosts.

Our talented **Stage 6 Music** students treated the audience to several beautiful acoustic duets and exciting renditions of Van Halen's 'Jump' and Dick Dale's 'Misirlou', while Colin and Jordan's hilariously funny 'Sorta Dunno Nothing' provided the evening's comic relief.

Special mention to Mr Sam Newton and to ABHS alumni Zachary Gordon and Tom Kuipers for their impromptu performance of Folsom Prison Blues.

The event could not have happened without the support of the following:

- our school executives;
- our sponsors - Turramurra Music and Asquith Bowling Club;
- Bradley Flood and Hall Crew who worked hard to provide sound and lighting engineering;
- Mrs Beckerleg and the office staff for their behind-the-scenes organisation;
- all the wonderful CAPA teachers;
- the ABHS staff;
- and the audience of parents, friends and family.

THANK YOU AND SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!

Please support our sponsors



BIG BAND BLAST REPORTS

After an excruciating two-year hiatus due to COVID restrictions, our Stage Bands were once again able to participate in the Big Band Blast Festival, held in Port Macquarie across 3 days on the weekend of 27th-29th of May.

En route to Port Macquarie, we performed at Old Bar Public School. It was amazing to see our musicians perform at a high level, considering the limited time for rehearsals due to lockdowns and restrictions. We enjoyed interacting with the students and staff from Old Bar Public School who were entertained by the music we had prepared for the event. Our musicians certainly appreciated the adoration of audience members.

The festival opened with the "Blast-off" concert which featured virtuoso performances by JMI Jazz Orchestra, Sydney Conservatorium Jazz Orchestra, and The Big Band Blast Trio joined by special guests Anita Thomas, David Theak, Dan Quigley, and Ed Wilson. On Saturday the 28th of May, our Stage Bands took the stage and performed three sets at the Kove Lounge of Panthers Club. After our performances, we attended improvisation workshops and masterclasses conducted by Anita Thomas and Dan Quigley which were not only enjoyable but were also highly educational and provided our students with valuable lessons in musicianship.

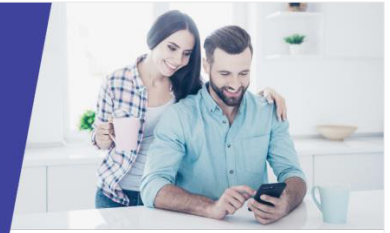
Big Band Blast has always been a highlight in the extracurricular calendar of our band program, and this year's Port Macquarie tour has proven to be another success. We are looking forward to next year's blast!

By Mr Cabrera, ABHS Music Teacher

Big Band Blast was a great experience for everybody involved. On Friday it was a bus trip up to Old Bar Public School and both Senior and Junior stage bands performed for the students before continuing our trip to the accommodation site. After settling in, we had an early dinner and departed for Panthers Club to watch the Blast Off Concert held by the JMI Jazz ensemble, Sydney Conservatorium Jazz Orchestra and many more. The next day was packed with performances and listening to other school bands perform in front of the public. It was a fantastic experience for our stage bands to perform as well as finishing the day with an Improvisational Masterclass from Anita Thomas or Dan Quigley. The third and final day was spent packing up our bags and heading back to the Panthers Club for one last time for Sectional Masterclasses. These masterclasses improved everybody's playing ability and we had a lot of fun. The trip home back to Asquith Boys was a time to reflect on the three days. I would like to thank everybody involved in making this trip possible, including Mr Cabrera, Joe Manton, Mrs Smith and Ms Holder and the Directors and Organisers from Big Band Blast.

By Patrick Kilkelly

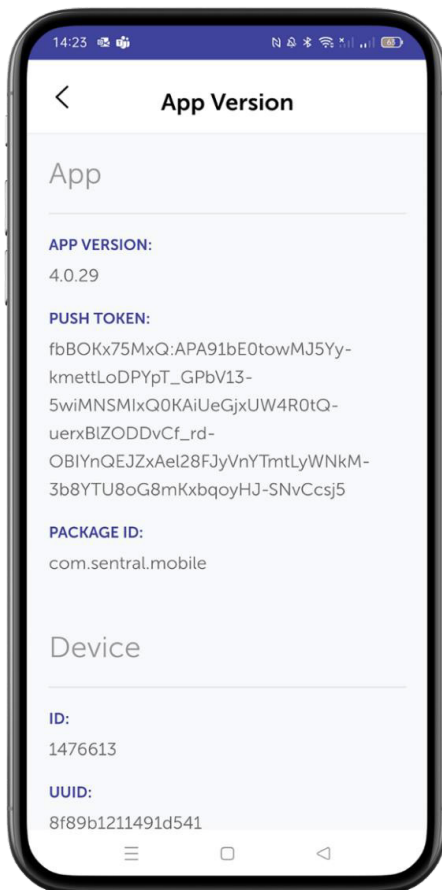
Important Information: Sentral for Parents App



From **Thursday 23rd June 2022**, versions 3 and 4 of the Sentral for Parents App will no longer be supported. If you are on one of these versions, you need to update your app to continue accessing information and receiving notifications.

How do I check what version I am?

From your app, go into Settings cog in the top left corner of the dashboard screen, then into App Version. (See image below.)

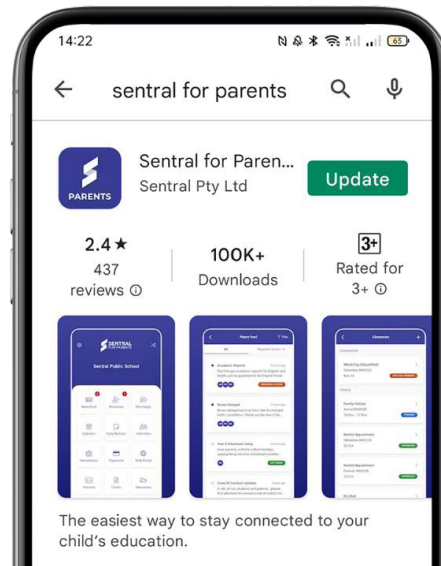


I am on Version 3 or 4

You will need to update your app. Go to your device's app store and search for Sentral for Parents and then select Update (see image below). Or you can access the app store using the QR codes below. After the update, when you go back into the app, you will be required to re-enter your login credentials.

I am on Version 5

You do not need to do anything at this time.



App Store



Google Play



How to get Help

If you require assistance you can email parentapp@sentral.com.au for support.