

Northlakes High School Newsletter

"Opportunities for future success"



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Issue 5 Term 3 Week 5

Monday, August 16, 2010

From our Principal
Ms Lisa Muir

An exciting time to return as Principal

It was truly a fantastic opportunity and a privilege to relieve for Maree Roberts as School Education Director this year. Equally, it is a privilege to now return to Northlakes High School and to bring back the many ideas, programs and further knowledge I have gained working across the region. I thank Ms Merrilyn Rowley for her outstanding contributions in her role as Relieving Principal. As our school commences the "National Partnership funded initiative", it is truly a fantastic time to be returning.

"National Partnerships" – Fantastic Opportunity

Through National Partnerships funding Northlakes High School has been able to hire additional staff and will be implemented transformational programs over the next two years. This is an excellent opportunity and we welcome:

Ms Sharon Russell – Highly Accomplished Teacher Curriculum

Ms Guli Skamperle – Deputy Principal Middle School

Ruth Schofield – Paraprofessional

Through National Partnerships, we will be working over the next two years to provide innovative and tailored learning opportunities for our students.

Staffing – Farewells and Welcomes

As we farewell Ms Sue Parker in TAS faculty and congratulate Ms Alex Lucas on her promotion, we also welcome permanent staff to the school: Ms Erin Campbell – HSIE and Mr Tony Quodling – Support Unit. In addition, we look forward to the future appointments and stability of permanent staff members in Mathematics, HSIE, English, Hospitality, Japanese, Science and a Head Teacher Female. These positions will be appointed this term using the merit selection process.

Plan It Youth – Mentors support our students!

It was a pleasure to attend the Plan It Youth celebrations to acknowledge another group of Year 10 students who have worked with their mentors to plan, research and experience a range of career pathways. We are very grateful to Mr Jon Glasson (co-ordinator) and our highly trained volunteer mentors.

NAIDOC Awards – Northlakes Students Acknowledged

Congratulations to Joshua Spain and Travis Strachan who each won a Central Coast NAIDOC week community award in recognition of their achievement in art and culture and for their contribution to the Koori Community of the Central Coast.

Bunnings! Working In Partnership with our Support Unit

Northlakes High School would like to acknowledge "Bunnings" for their ongoing partnership with our school. They are currently donating products and labour to the value of \$5,000 to create an outdoor learning centre for our Support Unit students!



Starstruck – Students acknowledged for excellence

It was fantastic to receive positive feedback from organisers who commended our students for the manner in which they conducted themselves. It is

always wonderful to know that our students are representing us well. Congratulations to those students involved.

Central Coast Showcase – Students Shine!

Students Howard Shearman and Seya Ozaki were formally acknowledged by the “Showcase Creative Team” for their fantastic performance skills in this years Central Coast Showcase. We are very proud of our students and look forward to many more outstanding performances from our students in the future.

2010 Central Coast Public Education Awards – Congratulations to our Outstanding Staff

It is a pleasure to congratulate and acknowledge the following Northlakes High School staff for their outstanding contributions to Public Education.

Guli Skamperle: “Outstanding contribution to Northlakes High School in leading improvement of school policies and programs”

Rhett Gumley: “Outstanding contribution to the academic programs of students in Northlakes High School HSIE courses”

Jan Coggan: “Outstanding support of the school programs by extremely efficient office management and leadership of office staff”

Students – Mock Interview Week – Northlakes High School leading the way

Year 10 students and selected Year 9 and Year 11 students are undertaking their Mock Interviews this week. This is an opportunity for students to prepare and apply for a job, attend an interview with a panel of industry personnel and receive feedback. This is the second year we are undertaking this program and the feedback and outcomes for students have been outstanding. We value the input from local employers, training organisations and industry who all make this such a wonderful program.

Career and Transition Excellence Award-CATE! Our students are planning their future pathways

This year we have 193 students who have enrolled in the Career and Training Excellence Program. Students fulfil a range of requirements including courses and work experience, to excel and take control of their career pathways and “opportunities for future success”.

Broad Curriculum Choices – Year 8 and 10 making decisions and enjoying taster lessons

Year 8 have just completed selections for their School Certificate electives and Year 10 are in the process of selection HSC Courses. This year we have supported Year 10 with ‘taster lessons’ and subject selection interviews. It is fantastic to see the broad range of curriculum on offer.

“CAPP” – Alternative Year 11 course starts in 2011

Students who do not wish to follow an academic pathway, yet wish to do a Vocational Course in Hospitality, Metals, Construction or Primary Industries may be interested in this course. At the end of Year 11, students will have a Certificate II industry qualification and parts of the HSC completed. Please do not hesitate to contact Merrilyn Rowley or Warren Welham to discuss entry into this course.

Regional Athletics – Students Congratulated

We are very proud of the sporting prowess of all students who participated at this highly competitive level. In particular, we congratulate and wish well, the following students who have progressed to NSW State School Championships:

Tahnee Blenman - 200m (Year 7)

James Starkey - 1500m (Year 8)

Jake Ward, Joshua Glachan, Phillip Page and Jake Summer – 4x100m (14yr boys)

Boys Netball – have succeeded in placing in the top 10.

Rugby Union – our team is preparing for the commencement of the Knock-Out Competition.

James Starkey has represented Northlakes High School in the CHS Cross Country.

Selu Mahe – NSW Girls Rugby team in Australian Championship

Well done and congratulations!

Futsal – Northlakes Leading The Way

During the past month several of Northlakes High School’s Futsal teams have participated in either State or Champions of Champions Futsal championships with great success. The entry into these championships is by qualification only, i.e. by becoming grand finalist in a regional championship. The 19 boys team have competed in three of these championships with the following results: 2nd in Northern NSW – played at Taree; 3rd in NSW Football Futsal at Penrith and 3rd in NSW Vikings Futsal at South Windsor. The 2nd place at Taree may have enabled the team to represent Northern NSW in the Australian Championships to be held in Sydney later in the year. The 15 boys team achieved 2nd place in the NSW Vikings Champions

of Champions played at South Windsor and as a result have qualified to represent NSW in the Australasian Championships to be held on the Gold Coast in November. This team also competed in the Australasian Championships with mixed results.

The 16 girls have qualified for two state championships, the NSW Vikings Champions of Champions (finishing in the top 6) and the NSW Football Futsal championship to be played August 19 at Penrith. The following boys teams also qualified for and competed in the Vikings NSW Futsal Champions of Champions held at South Windsor with mixed results, both 14's, 16's and the second 19's team.

Congratulations to all the players for their participation and success.

Futsal Academy – Senior Course in 2011

Students at Northlakes High School now have the opportunity to participate in a Futsal School of Development and Academy as part of their Preliminary pattern of academic study, following the Sports, Leisure and Recreation (SLR) Board of Studies course framework. The Academy will enable students to further develop their understanding of and competence in Futsal and other associated recreational pursuits. Futsal is FIFA's official indoor soccer game which is, essentially, a scaled down version of outdoor soccer played indoors. It is a small sided game (5v5) played on a smaller field (roughly basketball court sized) with a smaller (size 3-4) ball. Futsal is played with touchline boundaries. There are no walls in play. This is the game that outdoor soccer players around the globe play when they are indoors to refine and maintain their control skills and touch. The course will be undertaken in conjunction with Northern NSW Football and Vikings Futsal and provide the opportunity for students to obtain the following certificates: - first aid, coaching (level 1) and refereeing (level 1). Students enrolled in the Academy will have their own identifying uniforms and participate in several Futsal competitions throughout the year across the state.

“MEGS” – Making Educational Goals Sustainable – Year 7

We are delighted that our students and their parents are having the opportunity to attend 'University' for the day to discuss options and educational goals.



‘Opportunities for Future Success’ – Students Complete Career Courses

Northlakes High School continues to give our students the leading edge in career pathways through offering regular courses and qualifications such as Occupational Health and Safety, Barrister Coffee Courses and Responsible Service of Alcohol. Students interested in these courses are to see careers teacher, Mr Williamson.

Staff recognised for Regional Contributions

Congratulations to Mr Robert Milne (Construction Teacher) who has been acknowledged Regionally for his expertise, contributions and knowledge in Vocational Education processes.

Student Performances – our students Excel!

Student assemblies occur each week and it is always a wonderful opportunity to showcase our performance, talents and student achievements. Congratulations to the many students who perform. This term, we have seen students dance, play violin, sing and public speak. Well done to our performers.

Science Facilities – Official Opening

We are looking forward to the official opening of the new Science facilities which will take place on 24th August, by Mr David Harris MP on behalf of the Minister for Education and Training. We are truly privileged to have these six new state of the art Science Learning Centres.

Language Centre – Construction handover as students move in!

Students and staff have now moved into the new 21st Century purpose built and connected learning – Language Centre. Another amazing resource for our school!

Trial HSC – Students achieving “Personal Best”

Year 12 have just completed their trial HSC. This is an opportunity for students to take stock of their current level of understanding and to use exam feedback to build from here. While the time period between now and the HSC is short, it is still significant for students to take their achievements to another level. I encourage all students to truly commit between now and the HSC – we expect “Personal Best” in every subject.

Da Vinci Enigma – Mathematics Tournament

We congratulate our students who were challenged in the Mathematics tournament with four neighbouring high schools.

SASS Recognition Week 16-20 August

I would like to take the opportunity to personally and on behalf of the school community, show our appreciation to our dedicated SASS staff members who play such an important part in ensuring the smooth running of our schools.

Future Homes 2010 Challenge – Highly Commended

I would like to congratulate all schools who entered the *Future Homes 2010 Design Challenge*. This was a Hunter Central Coast regional Year of Learning for Sustainability initiative involving schools from across the region. The task was for students to work in teams to develop a design for a 20 square metre future home that would harvest alternative forms of energy and water and would make use of sustainable materials. This initiative is supported by a unique and generous industry partnership, now known as FH10, which started as an idea from Craig Riddle, Managing Director of *Living Green Designer Homes*. The project involves students in an extremely difficult design challenge in which they have to think outside the box to come up with new concepts for living spaces. Congratulations to our 2010 team who were highly commended.



Ms L Muir – Principal

IMPORTANT DATES for your Calendar!

24 th August	- P&C Meeting at 3.30pm
09 th /10 th Sept	- NSW CHS State Athletics
14 th /23 rd Sept	- Preliminary Exams
21 st Sept	- Year 12 Formal
24 th Sept	- LAST DAY TERM 3

Mathematics

On Tuesday 3rd of August, Miss Wilson and a selected group of Year 9 and 10 students participated in the first ever “Da Vinci Enigma” challenge. This was a fast-paced Mathematics Tournament aimed at extending our talented students. Four local schools took part, solving a number of Mathematics and logic puzzles as quickly and as accurately as possible. The event was organised by Ms Esterman as part of the Priority Schools Partnership program.

Hopefully this will become an annual event, as all of the students demonstrated that they were willing to get in and “have a go”, and managed to solve a great many of the problems. The students who took part were PJ Adams, Jordan Bertucci, Jake Donaldson, Cory Johnstone, Dean McKenzie, Joel Schuit, George Boyd, Nathan Pike, Stacie Quinnell and Ashleigh Livingstone. Congratulations to the students and to Miss Wilson on their efforts!

The annual Mathematics Competition has also been held this week, with 14 students from Year 7 to Year 12 entering this year. Hopefully some good results will come back to the school later in the year.

A reminder that all students are expected to have with them every lesson their workbook (and laptop where applicable) as well as pens, calculators and other equipment that their teacher has asked them to bring.

J. Woodley
Head Teacher (Relieving)

Science

The Science department have another busy term planned. Year 12 are currently sitting their Trial HSC examinations. We hope that they are well prepared to do their personal best and will gain an understanding of what is expected of them in their final exam.

We have an exciting event coming up in August:



Questacon will be presenting two shows for our Year 9 and 10 students and our new Science labs will be opened by our local member.

Also, for the first time in a number of years we will be able to run an Agriculture class in year 11. Mr Pankhurst's hard work and dedication has made this possible.

Science Faculty

TAS

Currently, Emma Keegan is completing her internship at Northlakes High, and is nearing the end of her teacher training. She is highly committed and will be an asset to any school when she is able to start teaching at the end of this year.

Year 11 IPT and Hospitality students are completing their work placement components. Students find this to be a very valuable experience and some of them gain part time work through completing this activity. Technology students in Year 7 and 8 are nearing the end of their second rotation of subjects. In week 7, they will move to their third and final subject for the year. This gives the students a taste of the subjects they will be able to select as electives to be studied in Year 9 and 10.

ICT students have been working steadily completing online practice tests in readiness for their School Certificate. Many students have been pleased at the results they are achieving and hope this will be reflected in the actual exam.

Technology Challenges 2010

On the 30th July a group of students attended the Engineering and Science Challenge at Newcastle Basketball Stadium. The students consisted of Amber Henderson, Brittany McCaskie, Riley O'Mara, Grace Kessling, Jaime Connochie, Amy Roberts, Tiah Hartas, Julieanne Whiting, Kimberley Virtue, Olivia Johnson, Abby Hugman, Sophie Ireland and Anna Veltmeyer from Year 7. Kirby Paterick and Renae Oczenashek from Year 8 and Cory Johnstone, Dean McKenzie, Jacob Jones, Jake Slade and Jayden Urch in Year 10.



The students competed against Year 10 students from other schools in the region in areas of: bridge

building, aircraft design, electrical distribution, water distribution, vehicle design and house design. The students achieved 5th place which was an outstanding achievement considering they were competing against students who were older and had more experience than they did.



On the 2nd August, Cory Johnstone, Dean McKenzie, Jacob Jones, Jake Slade and Jayden Urch went to the Shortland Wetlands Centre to receive awards for their designs in the FH10 house design competition. They achieved an award for a Highly Commended entry. Only five teams achieved this honour with Merewether High School winning the overall competition.

On the 4th August Kyle Telfer and Mitchell Hines entered the 2010 Aurecon Bridge Building Challenge at the Power House Museum. Students had to use materials supplied by Aurecon and meet set guidelines. They were commended by the engineers for their designs and construction abilities. Their bridge held 3 kg before it collapsed. They need to be commended on their behaviour and dedication to achieving a good result on the day.

TAS Faculty

PDHPE

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all students who performed with effort and determination during the first half of the year to obtain outstanding half yearly reports both in PDHPE and overall. That, however, is only a portion of the "journey" and the bigger picture tells us that similar and even better efforts are required as we move forward. There is also the challenge to other students to push themselves to improve their academic results which can only help in future pursuits.

I would like to ask parents for their unified help in ensuring that students participate in PDHPE practical lessons by wearing the correct PE uniform. Practical lessons are about our young people running around, sweating, involvement in contact activities or even

getting dirty. This means that as they return to classes after their practical lesson hygiene can be an issue for themselves and other students.

Our PE uniform was selected by students and our P&C representatives after consultation with staff and we believe that it looks terrific. They are available from the uniform shop and if financial support is needed please contact the school.

We have had a disrupted time this year in trying to run our Athletics Carnival due to the weather. Eventually after three wash outs we ran the events through PDHPE lessons over four weeks. This is not a desirable situation but allowed us to select our school team and I applaud Mr Hextell for his patience and organisation. I would also like to thank the PDHPE staff for the professional way they went about this change to their normal teaching program and to the students themselves who put in the efforts for the fantastic results.

Mr Glachan
Head Teacher

Teaching and Learning

Mrs Skamperle has recently been appointed to a third Deputy Position in our School for a period of two years. At the present, Mrs Curran is relieving as the Head Teacher.

Mrs Curran and Miss Hsu have been organising Special Provision exams for Year 12 students completing their Trial HSC examinations. Year 11 students have been very supportive in volunteering their time to act as readers and writers for those students requiring assistance in their exams. Students receive a certificate of appreciation in recognition of their time and effort. These students also gain valuable insight into exams they they will be sitting in 12 months time. Mrs Curran and Ms Hsu would like to thank the following Year 11 Readers and Writers:

Bambey	Sarah	Flood	Nathan	Nichols	Korinne
Bell	Heather	Fullford	Tyler	Norford	Tori
Bishop	Haylee	Gilmore	Jesse	Proudlove	Jasmine
Cavanah	Jermaine	Goddard	Megan	Ragozat	Ebony
Clark	Ami	Hart-Sutton	Jacob	Raphael	Reggie
Connor	Brittany	Hoffman	Andrew	Sharpe	Alaura
Cowham	Coby	Holdsworth	Paiten	Shearman	Howard
Craig	Matt	Kinchella	Kia	Slowgrove	James
Crooks	Jacqui	Le	Anthony	Speedy	Daneyul
Cross	Skye	Lloyd	Matthew	Stewart	Amy
Dawe	Reece	Mahon	Jesse	Stokes	Lauren
Drury	Chad	Marlin	Alana	Thornton	Breeana
Elric	Breanna	Matwijou	Jessica	West	Greg
Emerson	Ashley	Miller	Stacey	Wilson	Ellen
Fleming	Jessica	New	Brooke	Wright	Taylor

Quick Smart, a new Maths program run in association with the University of New England, has begun this term with selected students from Years 7 and 8. The program focuses on improving students' abilities to recall basic number facts in a fluent and accurate manner. Students attend the program three times per week and are beginning to notice an improvement in performance already. Mrs Woodley, Mrs Curran, Mrs Honeyands, Mrs Spain and Mrs Rowett are enjoying delivering the program which will run for 30 weeks. A big thank you to Mrs Honeyands for all her hard work in setting up Quick Smart.

Learning supported classes

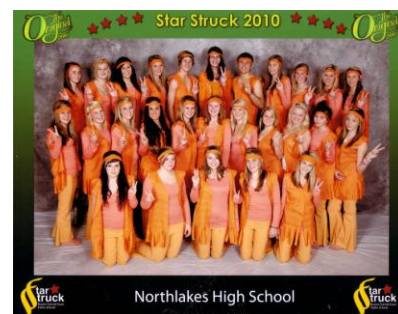
7L and 7A Learning Support Classes are performing extremely well. They are tackling a new novel in English and reading groups are running smoothly. 7L have visited the University of Newcastle for the MEGS program and later on this term they are visiting The Reptile Park for a Geography excursion. 7L is very sad at losing their School Learning Support Officer Mrs Whitehead, but wish her well in her new role within the school.

Ms Byrnes

Creative Arts

I would like to start by congratulating Howard Shearman on being selected to participate in the Talented Development Program run by the Arts unit of the NSW DET. This recognises the hard work and talent of this young performer and the dedication of the Performing Arts staff at Northlakes High School in developing his musical ability. The school was represented at the end of last term by Howard, Seiya Ozaki (a Japanese exchange student) and Matthew Drennan at Central Coast Showcase. Matthew has been representing the school in the Central Coast Wind Ensemble for some time, which has included overseas trips to places such as Japan. Howard's performance was quite outstanding with his use of technology to accompany himself and he was a feature singer in the finale of the show. Seiya played a very beautiful piece on the piano that proved very popular with the audience.

Our dance students once again excelled at the Central Coast Dance Festival with a letter of congratulations from local Wyong MP David Harris for the senior dance group. Thank you to Miss



Dunlevie and Mrs Dowe for all their time in preparing the dancers and their costumes.



During education week Mrs Bambey organised a display at Coles Charmhaven, which included artworks, photos and work samples. I would like to thank Mrs Bambey on behalf of the department for her work and support. This showcased the dedication of the staff at our school and the impact they are having on students' lives at Northlakes High School.

Miss Dunlevie has recently been a judge and marker for HSC Dance students and had an enjoyable time seeing the best those students had to offer. Also, on the 29th July, Miss Dunlevie organised a performance evening for parents and friends of the Dance and Drama students in the Performance Space. Performances were marked by another teacher from a local high school and she was impressed by what she saw. It was great to see parents and friends at the show.

There are a few things that Creative Arts students need be reminded about: this term your practical HSC examinations are coming up and HSC Visual Arts BOW need to be handed in by 9am Monday 30th August, Drama practical examination will be held at the school in the performance space on Friday 27th August all day, and Music will be held later in the term. Please check with your teachers for your examination dates and any other information you will need. All the staff in Creative Arts would like to wish our students all the best for their HSC.

Mr. Brimbecom
Head Teacher

Sport

There are a number of individuals who have recently achieved significant accolades in their sporting endeavours.

James Starkey has continued his successful efforts in Cross Country and Athletics with appearances at NSW All Schools Cross Country and Sydney North Athletics Carnivals. While James was not able to repeat his achievements of 2009 in the Cross Country due to a tactical error, he made some amends by winning the 14 years 1500m event at

Regional Athletics a few days later. James has vowed to work harder at his Cross Country for next year and believes he is capable of taking out the state title. It is great to see such a positive attitude from one of our young sport stars.

Other successful athletes at the regional athletics carnival included Tahnee Blenman - second in the 13 year 200m; Heather Bell - third in the 17 year javelin; and the 14 year boys relay team made up of Jake Ward, Jake Summer, Josh Glachan and Phillip Page who placed third. James, Tahnee and the relay boys have qualified to compete at the NSW CHS Athletics Carnival in early September. It has been quite some time since we have had this number of competitors reach CHS competition and we wish them all the best of luck.

Thanks must be extended to Mr Glachan who agreed to drive a minibus to take students to Homebush for the regional carnival. We often have students who are unable to compete at regional level due to our remoteness from the venue. The minibus made a significant difference to the number of our students competing at Homebush. It was pleasing to see the students taking up the opportunity to represent their school.

Selu Mahe has been selected in the CHS girls rugby team to play at ACT schools for the second year in succession. Selu was an important member of the Sydney North Girls Rugby team who finished second in the interregional competition.

Luke Bowerman has recently returned from a successful six week stint in America where he has been honing his cycling skills. Luke is relatively quiet about his achievements, but really appreciates people coming up and asking about his experiences overseas.

Coming up this term we have a number of Gala Day opportunities for students with opportunities for Year 7 & 8 boys and girls in OZTAG and Soccer, Year 9 & 10 boys and girls in OZTAG and Year 7 & 8 and Year 9 & 10 girls in Netball.

Mr. Hextell
Sport Organiser

Debating and Public Speaking

The competition is starting to wind up. Congratulations to our Year 10 team – Stephanie Goldfinch, Brook Holdsworth, Stephanie Lovejoy and Alana Weeden - who made it into the next round, that is, the Quarter Finals. Good luck to the girls who will be debating later this month. The Zone Co-

ordinator was very impressed with the team's results as this was the best that a team from the northern end of the Coast had done for a number of years and the best that a Northlakes team has done for a number of years.

The Year 8 team have also finished their competition and were successful in winning one debate. Our Year 7 team – Bethany Francis, Grace Kessling, Stephanie Shoobert and Amber O'Brien - have also finished their competition with a win against Narara Valley High; well done girls.

Grace Kessling and Amber O'Brien, of Year 7 competed in the first round of the Legacy Public Speaking competition; unfortunately, neither student made it into the next round despite their excellent speeches.

Congratulations once again to all our debaters and public speakers on their efforts this year.

B. Burley, A. Wright and K. Legge

Aboriginal Education

Some exciting things are happening in the area of Aboriginal Education with two of our ATSI students, Joshua Spain and Travis Strachan. Both students received Central Coast NAIDOC Week Community awards in the areas of Leadership and Art and Culture.



The Central Coast Education Pathways awards were held in July. From this award ceremony, 19 School Certificate and 4 High School Certificate students from 2009 received awards.

The Westlakes NAIDOC Touch football carnival at Toronto was held late last term. Our ATSI boys teams finished 3rd and 6th and our girls team were defeated in the grand final 3 -1 by Hunter Sports High. It was a fantastic effort by all teams with a great display of skill and sportsmanship, well done.

Northlakes High School entered the Fair Trading Reconciliation Art Competition again this year and was awarded 2nd place in the Years 7-12 Indigenous category. A big thank you to Mrs Fraser and the art students involved for all their efforts.

Students from Northlakes High School attended Gorokan Public School to work on the Indigenous Mural Project in conjunction with the Gosford Art

Gallery and later attended the Mural Project Activity day at the Gallery, where their works were on display.

Indigenous programs are running again this term with boys and girls Dance, Art, Didgeridoo and Bushtucker Garden back in full swing, with many students involved in these activities.

Northlakes High School students have also helped out with NAIDOC day

celebrations in our partner primary schools with games, art and cultural activities. The students were extremely well behaved, showed leadership qualities and were a credit to our school.



Year 7 Report

As we embark on semester two the Year 7 cohort has returned full of enthusiasm academically, socially and culturally and this is fantastic to see. I would like to congratulate Mr Johns and the team of students who competed in the recent Science and Engineering Challenge at Newcastle Basketball Stadium. A great number of our gifted and talented students competed against other schools in the region, performing scientific problem solving tasks. Our team placed 5th in the competition which was a great result as many of our Year 7 students were competing against students in Year 10 and selective schools in the region. A special mention goes to Anna Veltmeyer and Sophie Ireland who lead by example on the day.

A small group of wonderful young ladies led by our Chaplain, Alex, have been knitting blankets for needy children in Africa. Yasemin Aksu, Melinda Ainsworth, Kodie Bambury, Tahlia Hodder, Grace Kessling, and Amber O'Brien have become active global citizens as they help those who are less fortunate in developing nations. These fine students are demonstrating wonderful leadership qualities and want to encourage as many other students as they can to join this worthy cause.

Katie Werner, Tahlia Hodder, and Stephanie Shoobert were recipients of a 'Year Adviser Award' as they have demonstrated consistency in their efforts in class and have accumulated the most merits so far this year. I would encourage any student who has received 10 merits to hand them to me in the HSIE staffroom so I can record them. Students can achieve a Bronze, Silver and Gold

commendation award throughout their high school career at Northlakes High School.

Finally I would like to wish Tahnee Blenman all the best as she represents Northlakes High School at the CHS State Athletics Carnival in September. Tahnee is a talented sports person and is competing in the 200m track event. Good luck Tahnee!

Thank you to all the parents who have supported their children and attended the parent teacher interviews that were held in week 2. It was a successful night for all who participated. I encourage all parents to take an active interest in their child's education and look forward to meeting you all at the next school function.

Mr. Michael Chandler
Year 7 Adviser

Year 8 Report

Term 3 has proved to be a challenging and busy term so far!

The uniform for Year 8 has improved greatly, which is a positive step. Students need to continue to bring all equipment to their classes, remembering necessary equipment for practical lesson such as PD/H/PE, TAS and Science. If students need help with uniform or equipment please let me know.

It is very exciting to say that Year 8 will be attending their first camp! We have had enough students interested to combine a camp with Year 9. Therefore Year 8 and 9 students are going to have the time of their lives at the action packed and very safe environment of *The Outdoor Education Experience, Morisset*. The camp will be 3 days and 2 nights. I am sure for the next newsletter there will be plenty of great photos and experiences to tell you about! A few Year 8 students have received the Year Advisers Award for earning 20 merits. Year 8 need to be encouraged to keep trying as they are able to achieve the levels of Bronze, Silver and Gold after the Year Adviser Awards.

The Electives for Year 9 in 2011 are well underway, with class lists being compiled as we speak. We have tried on all accounts to offer students their first and second choices. Notification of the outcome of this should be coming soon.

A big congratulation to James Starkey for his achievement in reaching State Level for the 1500m and Cross Country events. Year 8 is very proud of you James.

Remember if you do have any questions or concerns about your child please do not hesitate to contact me at school on Ph: 43 900555 or email



JODENE.GAR SIDE@det.nsw.edu.au.

Mrs. Jodene Garside
Year 8 Adviser

Year 9 Report

Term 3 is already proving to be a very busy time of year. We are halfway through the term already and there are a number of things that are happening.

Since the last newsletter we have had enough interest in the camp for Year 8 and 9 students that a deposit has been paid to Outdoor Education Experience, Morisset. The camp will take place in week 10 of this term, September 22-24. Time is flying this term so if your child is going to attend the camp, please ensure you have filled in all the appropriate notes and are paying off the total cost. It is also encouraged that school fees are paid up to date when the camp takes place.

The laptops given to year 9 are an excellent learning resource. The laptops are a privilege and are for educational purposes here at school and at home. Also, please ensure that your child is charging their laptop every night; it is very likely that they will need it for 5 lessons the next day and it is important that it is ready to be used if required. The majority of students are maximising their learning opportunities by using their laptops which is fantastic.

As Year Adviser I also get a lot of calls from parents regarding subject changes. Elective subjects have a requirement of 100 hours per year and if a student was to change half way through the year they would not meet this requirement. If you have any questions regarding subject changes or any other matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Mrs. Lara Jephson
Year 9 Adviser

Year 10 Report

Beginning this report on a positive note; it is terrific to see the many opportunities that have been created for year 10 students throughout the coming weeks. Our hardworking careers adviser, Mr Williamson, has been extremely busy collecting data from Year 10 students concerning their subject choices for Year

11. This information is utilised to organise the timetabling of senior subjects so as to optimise available choices for all students.

Recently Year 10 (along with Year 12) had the opportunity to attend the Central Coast Careers Expo. Many careers and learning institutions had stalls and staff on hand to give out brochures, promote their cause and answer any questions to the hundreds of enthusiastic and curious students. Hopefully the day was a success in opening up ideas for future pathways.

Mock job interviews, another great initiative of Mr Williamson, will be taking place in the following weeks. Students are expected to have already completed a CV cover letter and handed this to Mr Williamson. The interviews are to be conducted by community businessmen and women and will take place in the individual student's allocated time. Students will be asked a range of typical questions as could be expected in a real job interview. Feedback from past programs has been very positive with students demonstrating excellence to their employer.

Final subject selections for Year 11 will take place following the student's mock interview. Hopefully students were able to receive an insight into many senior subjects through the 'taster lessons' conducted recently. Many staff members gave up their spare time to conduct 'typical' senior lessons.

Students are expected to study their chosen subjects for the HSC. Therefore, it goes without saying each student needs to put a lot of thought into their choices. Students should take the time to speak to staff regarding potential choices. It is extremely important to choose subjects that a student is likely to be good at as well as enjoy. Other criteria must be taken into account for those wishing to go on to study at university, such as the ATAR, pre-requisite subjects and assumed knowledge – see myself or Mr Williamson for further information.

Further positive news from Year 10 includes the recent success of Dean McKenzie, Jayden Urch and Jordan Bertucci at the sustainable housing design awards. These students placed in the top five throughout the Hunter and Central Coast. Congratulations.

At this crucial stage of a young person's life it is imperative that they make the correct decisions regarding their future. With the School Certificate being just around the corner it is very important that students achieve to their maximum, attend all classes and make the most of their opportunities.

With that a message to all Year 10 students: get to school, be in class and use your time here to better yourself.

"The more you know, the further you'll go!"

Mr. Ben Bryant
Year 10 Adviser

Year 11 Report

I spoke recently to Year 11 students and was very pleased to pass on a number of positive reports from staff. As a group, Year 11 students have a reputation as mature, sensible young people and are held in high regard across the school. This sort of reputation takes a long time to develop and brings credit to themselves, their families and their school. I am very proud to have the opportunity to be involved with this fine group of students.

A number of students and parents have expressed concern about completion of the Preliminary Year, subject changes, and choices and options going into Year 12. All students are encouraged to work hard for the remainder of this term with the goal of achieving their Preliminary Certificate. Everything starts again in 4th Term as the HSC Year begins. At this point a number of students may consider post school options as they reach the leaving age. Many students may consider reducing their subject load from twelve units to ten. Some may consider a Pathways approach of extending their HSC over two or more years. All students should have completed paperwork on both their Board of Studies entries and their intentions for next term. Students who have not completed these forms need to see me as soon as possible. Any parents or students who have concerns about any of these processes are encouraged to contact me at their earliest convenience.

School captain and leadership positions will become vacant at the end of this term. Year 11 students need to start thinking about the qualities they look for in a student leader and whether they believe they would make a good student leader themselves.

Recently, Year 11 has also welcomed two exchange students from two very different parts of the world. We have Bella Aleixo from Brazil and Elsa Bergman from Sweden who will both be with us for quite some time. This is a wonderful opportunity for our students, as well as these two girls, to learn about cultures different from our own.

Mr. Dave Hextell
Year 11 Adviser

Year 12 Report

Well, the final term for Year 12 has commenced. All Year 12 students should now be starting to study for their Higher School Certificate exams which commence on Thursday 14th October - Week 1, Term 4.

Students are now also able to pay for their formal either in full or partial payments; however, all monies must be received in full by the 31st August. The Formal is on Tuesday 21st September at Kooindah Waters on Pollock Avenue Wyong from 6:00pm to 11:00pm with dinner being served at 7:00pm. The cost of the Formal is eighty dollars (\$80.00) per student. If students intend to bring a partner to the formal the cost is an additional eighty dollars for the partner and they must arrange a time with me to meet their intended partner.

The Year 12 Farewell Assembly is on Thursday 23rd September 2010 in the school hall. The assembly commences at 9:00am. Parents are asked to be seated by 8:50am. Students will be required to be in the hall at 8:30am for rehearsal and seating. The assembly is expected to conclude at 11:00am. Parents are invited to join the staff and Year 12 for light refreshments which will be provided in the hall following the assembly.

This is a very stressful year for both the students and for families. It is important that students remember to balance their school commitments with some relaxation time. Remember if parents or students do have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to phone me and I will get back to you as soon as possible.

Ms K. Legge
Year 12 Adviser

Great News

TAFE classes for Adults starting at Blue Haven Community Centre

Do you want to :

- Help your children with their homework
- Return to the workforce
- Learn in a supportive and friendly environment
- Gain confidence
- Attend 2 days a week

Are you a registered job seeker?

How does a FREE course to improve your maths, reading, computers and skills for work sound?

Interested?

Contact your local Centrelink and ask about the literacy and numeracy program running at the Blue Haven Community Centre.

Or contact

Diane Gray Ph: 49796175





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