

# Northlakes High School Newsletter

*"Opportunities for future success"*



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Issue 2 Term 1 Week 11

Friday, April 08, 2011

## From our Principal Ms Lisa Muir

As we complete Term 1, 2011 we celebrate the wonderful achievements that have taken place across the school so far this year. Year 7 have settled into high school successfully at one end as Year 12 are gearing up for the HSC at the other end.

The staff have organised numerous opportunities across the school in learning, including: numerous sporting carnivals and teams, performing arts concerts, excursions, career workshops, orientation programs, study skills programs, student mentoring, university partnership programs, mathematics competitions, and SRC Harmony Day video productions just to name a few.

We are delighted with our ongoing parent partnerships in education and thank the many parents who have been active in attending our many parent workshops including "Parents Do Make A Difference" presented by Angie Wilcox, Year 7-12 Learning to Learn Evening, Assessment Support Workshops, and recently our parent teacher evening.

The surveys from both parents and staff indicate that the online booking system was highly valued and its success

was also indicated by the large number of parents who attended. As a result of survey input, there will be some additional minor changes made to our next evening. We thank the P & C for funding this program and for this wonderful initiative.



Parents can also visit our school website at [www.northlake-h.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.northlake-h.schools.nsw.edu.au) for extensive school information including: up to date calendar of events, all policies, student assessment booklets, photo gallery of events, just to name a few. Parents are also encouraged to provide the school their email address to be added to our distribution list for regular updates.

We thank Angela Bambey of Community Liaison Officer for her ongoing work keeping our community connected.

Students also recently attended the GOATS community event. We are very proud of those students who performed and who were involved across a wide range of areas.

Throughout the term the school has also undergone extensive properties upgrades. Behind the scenes we were fortunate to have had full upgrades of drainage and stormwater, some retaining gardens built, as well as all guttering and downpipes replaced. The commercial kitchen is well underway and the slab has well and truly been poured. We anticipate this amazing industry standard kitchen to be operational by the end of 2011. The refurbishment work of the two E Block kitchens has gone to tender, while the Trade Trading Centre building works should begin over the Easter break.

As we return from the holidays it will be a busy Term 2 for students and staff. The staff will spend the first day of term upskilling in usage across a range of technologies to enhance quality teaching. Students return on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> April.

Year 7 will be preparing for their camp and Years 7 and 9 for their NAPLAN exams. Years 7-11 will receive half yearly assessments and reports. Year 12 have a most important Term of learning ahead.

As the weather cools down, students have been reminded to use the holidays as an opportunity to ensure they have full winter uniform ready to wear.

Black jumper and pants (no denim), and black enclosed shoes are required.

We will be starting Term 2 with staffing changes: Merrilyn Rowley will relieve as Principal for the first few weeks of term as I recover from some scheduled surgery; we farewell Ms Kennnell Smith as she takes up the role of Deputy Principal at Umina Campus; we farewell and thank our HSIE teacher and Year 8 Adviser, Mr Chandler, as he takes a transfer closer to home; we welcome Mr Seaby as the Year 8 Adviser; we welcome Ms Brenda Holmes as relieving Head Teacher English; we welcome Ms Ewer as a permanent HSIE teacher; we welcome Kathy Hsu as a permanent Mathematics teacher; we welcome Mr Welham as relieving Deputy Principal for the first few weeks and we congratulate Sharon Russell, currently Deputy Principal of Curriculum, who will permanently take up the appointment of Head Teacher English from Term 2 next year.

Other changes - under new arrangements of NSW Government agenda, the name of the Department of Education and Training is now the Department of Education and Communities with The Honourable Adrian Piccoli MP, as the Minister for Education.

Attached at the back of this newsletter is a Term 2 Planner. Make sure you put it somewhere accessible to mark on and keep up with all of the activities and events happening at Northlakes High School.

*Term 1 finishes on Friday 8 April. Students return for Term 2 on Thursday 28 April.*

Finally I would wish everyone a safe and happy Easter holiday.

### **From our Deputy Principal Ms Merrilyn Rowley**

This year I am in charge of two year groups; Years 7 and 11.

#### **Year 7 -**

We have one of our largest Year 7 groups in many years – ten classes! I have been very pleased with how the majority have settled in at school. We support Year 7 with strong academic programs and a strong welfare team. Many have already attended Making Educations Goals Sustainable (MEGS) and other excursions. Some have attended a program run at the San Remo Youth Centre, 'Reality Check', and in school programs such as GLOW. Every class is doing Quicksmart lessons to improve Maths skills. Year 7 Year Adviser Ms Megan Lubinski is available to discuss any concerns you have.

#### **Year 11 -**

We have our largest Year 11 for a long time! Most are very focussed and mature in their approach to school. We are running a program called 'On Track', which gives students weekly workshops on a wide range of skills and information about study, motivation and learning. Our emphasis is on every student meeting their potential. We have increased the number of TVET courses and offered a wide range of courses. This is the first year of our Career Advancement Program (CAP) for students who are more interested in work and work as a part of their senior studies. Attendance at school is a key factor in doing well. We have a new computer system which allows staff to mark rolls online; these rolls can be checked anywhere in the school in 'real time', so we know immediately if students are missing lessons. Warning letters are sent home if this occurs. If you are concerned about your Year 11 student, please contact the Year Adviser, Mr Bryant.

### **Mathematics Report**

As the term comes to a close, it is interesting to review what has been done in Mathematics this term.

Our seniors have been involved in a tutoring program with University students from Newcastle Uni acting as mentors in the BOOST+ program. Many of our seniors feel they have benefited from this personalised learning time and hopefully it will assist these students in 'boosting' up their final results.

Student attendance in class is vital to success. Students need to be reminded that unless they turn 17, or leave school with employment, that all students are expected to be enrolled at school and to attend and participate in all classes. A number of letters have gone home recently to some students whom attendance is a concern.

Our junior students have been enjoying more access to computing facilities this year, with each class having an allocated time in the computer labs once a fortnight. This time has been used to allow students to complete NAPLAN preparation questions, as well as complete online activities on concepts in Mathematics.

Year 9 classes now have their laptops and are using them to their benefit. A reminder that all students are bound by the laptop charter they signed before taking possession of their machine, which in conjunction with putting laptops away if a teacher asks them to do so, and ensuring they have a book for each subject and pens, pencils at all times.

Year 9 and 10 students selected from the 'Q' class have taken part in a competition called the 'da Vinci Enigma'; which is a problem solving experience including four local schools. Although our students did not score the most points, they enjoyed the day and can look forward to more rounds later this year.

A reminder that the Australian Mathematics Competition entries are now due - \$5 per student to enter, and all students will receive a certificate. For the first time, we are also participating in the Australian Informatics Competition, which is looking at the mathematics involved in computer programming. Some of our Year 11 students are taking up the challenge. We wish them well in the competition.

J. Woodley  
Relieving Head Teacher

### Science Report

As the term is coming to an end there is still a lot of activity in the Science Faculty. Year 11 have attended an excursion to The Shortland wetlands, which formed part of their assessment task. The excursion was a great success.

Year 10 have been issued with their student Research Project; this is compulsory for all Year 10 students in the state of NSW. The students have to perform their own investigation at home and submit a written report. This project is worth 25% of students final mark and is due Term 2, Week 2.

Year 11 and 12 have been offered the opportunity to attend tutoring sessions. Free of charge, these sessions will be held after school and students are encouraged to attend. Those interested need to see their Science teacher as soon as possible.

Year 7 have been given an assignment to build a model of a cell and Year 9 have an assessment on electricity and light due early next term.

All is quiet on the farm. Our new pig Doug is settling in and we look forward to a good harvest next term.

### Languages Report

Students in Year 7 have now completed an Introduction to Japanese and are moving on to learn how to talk about themselves. This will include introducing themselves to others and telling their age. Students are showing a lot of interest in learning the first of the Japanese scripts – Hiragana. All students should be practicing their kana (Japanese symbols) at home on a regular basis. We are very

pleased with the level of student input during lessons, especially when we are using pictures to assist with memorising the hiragana symbols. We have also been discussing the recent and very distressing events in Japan. Mr Welham and Mrs Davis have noted the keen interest and concern the students have demonstrated regarding these recent disasters. Keeping up with current events by watching the news regularly should be encouraged. Young people will enhance their general knowledge and improve their learning outcomes if they are aware of the significant events in the world around them.

Year 11 students have been learning the language skills to enable them to introduce themselves in Japanese, with most students having performed a scripted conversation at the front of the classroom. Year 11 students have also been focusing on learning katakana, the Japanese script mainly used for words borrowed from other languages. Many of the students have prepared 5 slide *Powerpoint* slide shows on their DER laptops creating a task of naming famous people in Japanese using the katakana script.

Mrs Davis and Mr Welham

### NAPLAN 2011

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be completed by Year 7 and 9 students from 10-12<sup>th</sup> May. A 'catch up' day will be held on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May for students who were absent on other test days. The results of the tests will provide important information about what each student can do, and will be used to support teaching and learning programs. Parents will receive a report indicating their child's level of achievement. Each student's level of achievement will be reported against the national minimum standard.

TUESDAY 10 MAY	WEDNESDAY 11 MAY	THURSDAY 12 MAY
Language Conventions	Reading	Numeracy
Writing		

Students **MUST bring a calculator** to the **Numeracy test** which is held on **Thursday May 12**. The writing test this year will focus on a persuasive writing task. Students will need to produce a piece of writing arguing a point of view. Students have been practicing this writing technique over the last two terms.

## **SPECIAL PROVISIONS**

Applications are now due for Special Provisions for the School Certificate and Higher School Certificate for 2011. Students are invited to apply for consideration for Board of Studies exams on the grounds of learning difficulties, medical or physical reasons which may affect the student's ability to access the exams. If you have not yet been contacted by the school to discuss special provisions for your child and feel your child needs to apply for such provisions please contact Ms Hsu or Mrs Curran as soon as possible.

## **PEER TUTOR PROGRAM 2011**

The Peer Tutor Program will commence in Term 2. We have had a wonderful response to this program this year and have 25 Year 7 and 25 Year 10 students participating. Year 10 students will enrol in TAFE and study to achieve a TAFE certificate in Reading Tutoring. They will use their skills to tutor Year 7 students in Reading during Roll Call every day in the library. Pre and post reading scores for Year 7 will be recorded with a report being sent home at the conclusion of the program in Term 4. Results have been very pleasing in the past with students improving fluency and reading accuracy scores. The program will begin with a BBQ and games afternoon which will be held on April 6. This will allow year 7 and 10 students to get to know one another before beginning their reading sessions next term.

## **Creative Arts Report**

Students from Creative Arts will be taking part in an innovative program that combines Music and Visual Arts students in the production of a music CD and video clip for school performers. This is an expensive exercise that requires commitment from both the school and participating students. Students will gain invaluable experience with working with studios and production houses in how the music industry and related industries work. Staff and students will be required to work in Sydney for an extended period around the middle of May. I believe this will be a great experience that students at our school have the opportunity to participate in and enjoy. If the community would like to support such a program, please contact the Creative Arts Department.

In May, students from the year 10 Visual Arts class will be installing their works at the Gosford Regional Gallery. This exhibition will include works from both public and private high schools on the Central Coast. The theme this year is *Humanity Arranged* and the focus artist for study has been Pop Artist, Ed

Kienholz. The supporting practical artist is local sculptor, Col Henry, who visited the school on 29<sup>th</sup> March. Year 12 students have attended an excursion to ArtExpress at the Art Gallery of New South Wales and this was a vital experience in the production of their major body of work.

Mr. Brimbecom  
Head Teacher

## **HSIE Report**

Term 1 has been going well and students have been actively engaged in learning. Assessment tasks have been completed. All our teachers have been using technology in the classroom and are gaining valuable skills.

Congratulations to Ms Stacey Ewer who gained a permanent position on the HSIE staff. We are very happy to welcome her to the staff as she has proved herself to be an excellent teacher who works well with both staff and students. Her professionalism in creating and delivering lessons is very much appreciated.

Mr Dean and Mrs Dean went to Sydney with the Year 11 and 12 Legal Studies classes. They attended a number of seminars relevant to the syllabus. It was a most enjoyable day and witnessing a drug raid at Central station allowed the students to witness first hand our legal system in action.

On Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March Year 10 went on a field study trip to Norah Head and Cabbage Tree Bay to complete the mandatory field study for Geography. This field Study became the basis for their first assessment task. Those students who participated fully in the experience acquired a number of essential skills.

We are experiencing some staff changes in Term 2. Ms Ewer is on maternity leave for Term 2. We are all so happy about the safe arrival of Sophie Rose who is so beautiful. Mr Pinzcuk is returning to Queensland after working with us in Term 1. We appreciate his professionalism and rapport with the students and wish him the best. Mr Chandler has gained a transfer to West Wallsend High School, which is very much their gain and our loss. Mr Chandler has made huge contributions to the HSIE faculty and to the school. A fantastic operator in the classroom, he has been innovative, compassionate, collegial and shown tremendous leadership in both technology and welfare. We know Year 8 will miss their wonderful year adviser as we will miss our wonderful friend and colleague.

We would like to remind parents and carers that all assessment tasks are on Moodle, plus numerous extension activities for the students.

We wish all of our students a safe and happy holiday.

Anna Bromley  
Head Teacher

## **Sport Report**

Term 1 is always a busy term in the world of school sport, and this year has certainly been no exception. Our swimmers have gone through the school carnival, the Tuggerah Lakes zone carnival and the Sydney North regional carnival already. Highlights included Jack Justin and Nathan Ivankovic being crowned age champions at the Zone level in the 12 and 16 years respectively. Our recent Cross Country carnival was held here at the school, with James Starkey once again showing exceptional talent in this format. The athletics carnival took place on the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> of April at Northlakes Oval, results to come from two healthy days of competition.

Our open boys Touch Football team are steadily progressing through the rounds of the CHS knockout competition, as are the open girls Netball teams. However, the girls Touch, along with both open boys and girls Football teams suffered first round losses. Later this week our open Boys cricketers will start their 2011 competition, with AFL and junior Football (Bill Turner Cup and Trophy) commencing early in term 2. There are many opportunities for success at Northlakes High School with our various sporting teams, and students are encouraged to come and get themselves involved.

Danny Smith of year 12 has recently been selected into the NSW CHS Baseball Team which will be competing in NSW All Schools on 29th and 30th March 2011 at Blacktown. The tournament will be between NSW CHS, NSW Catholic Schools and NSW Independent Schools, where a final NSW Team will be selected to compete at Australian Schoolboys Championship later this year. Congratulations Danny!

Mr Mansfield  
Sport Co-ordinator

## **Support Unit Report**

Mr Cotterell and staff have recently returned from camping with students from the behaviour unit at a spot called Glenrock Scout camp, near Newcastle. A great deal of organisation went into this camp and

students enjoyed it. During the camping trip students camped in tents, helped prepare meals, went surfing, walking and participated in various other activities.

Students from IOT in Years 11 and 12 attended "A Driver Awareness Program" at Wyong Racecourse on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March. It was a very busy day and all students benefitted from attending this day.

IOS are continuing to venture out to various destinations on the bus, and have recently travelled to Toukley and Budgewoi for community access. IOJ have commenced community access to Lakehaven and had a barbeque at Murray's beach on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March. Students from the IM class are enjoying the surfing program each Monday.

A former student, Cassie Pracy, who completed Year 12 in 2010, has obtained employment at the childcare centre at Lakehaven. This is a wonderful achievement and we are all very proud of her. Mainstream employment is the optimal outcome for our students.

## **Debating and Public Speaking Report**

It was pleasing to see the number of students interested in debating, particularly from the junior years. Debating is a team sport so students must remember that once they commit themselves to the team we expect them to finish this year's debates (generally four debates). It is not too late for students from the junior years to nominate themselves for debating as their competitions do not start until Term 2. Debating training will commence in Term 2 Week 2 for all debaters on a day to be arranged.

We are also looking for students who are interested in entering Public Speaking competitions which will commence in Term 2. Could any student interested in representing our school in debating or public speaking please see Mr Burley, Mrs Reay or Ms Legge in the English Faculty as soon as possible.

B. Burley, A. Reay and K. Legge

## **Welfare Team Report**

The Welfare Team of Northlakes High School has had a few changes this term. Mrs Kennedy is now on maternity leave for 2011. Head Teacher Welfare is relieved by Ms Simone Byrnes and Mrs Jodene Garside on Mondays to Thursdays and Mr Jon Glasson on Fridays. We would like to thank Mr Michael Chandler for his support as relieving HT Welfare on Fridays and wish him well at his new school.

We have implemented many different programs over the term to benefit the student's welfare at Northlakes High School. Some of the main programs are GLOW, Break thru, Reality Check, Plan-It Youth and Peer Mediation. The GLOW luncheon was a huge success and enjoyed by all students involved. Northlakes High School Plan-it Youth Program is underway for 2011 school year with ten volunteer mentors working on a weekly basis with Year 10 students. The school welcomes back all of our 2010 mentors and three newly trained mentors to the program. Over the next twenty weeks students will continue to be involved in weekly meetings with their designated mentors and visit a variety of workplaces and industries to gain insight into potential career options. So far this year, students have already visited the career information centre at Newcastle and are currently working towards gaining work experiences, exploring post-school options and other essential skills. For any parent and/or grandparent interested in becoming a volunteer mentor and involved in the Plan-it Youth program please contact Jon Glasson at Northlakes High School.

On the 5<sup>th</sup> April 2011, we ran a Say No to Bullying Day for Year 7. The day was well presented by Mr Chandler and Mrs Lubinski. Students were surveyed and the results were discussed with our students. Our students learnt valuable information about how to deal with bullying, in particular who to go to for help. Posters were designed and will be displayed around the school. Year 7 students were all proud to wear their 'Say No to Bullying' armbands and enjoyed a sausage sizzle at the end of the 2 hour presentation. A big thankyou to all our Welfare Team for a successful program and to our seniors for an awesome BBQ!

As part of this Say No Bullying initiative we now have three Anti-Bullying Coordinators: Year 7 and 8 is Miss Anjulee Singh (HSIE faculty), Years 9 and 10 is Mrs Kylie Johnson (PE faculty) and Years 11 and 12 is Mrs Sue Fulwood (Science faculty). Mrs Fulwood is also our Peer Mediation Coordinator. They are all here to help our students at Northlakes High School. We now have our new Welfare Office fully organised, with a great garden for students to enjoy. Thank you to our Bush Tucker Aboriginal group for their hard work.

If there are any families who have clean and tidy second hand Northlakes High School uniforms they no longer require, could you please send them into the front office at school. These will be very much appreciated for our families in need. Please remember the Welfare Team is here to answer any concerns you have about your child's

welfare at school. Please do not hesitate to contact us all on 43 900 555.

Enjoy the holidays and stay safe.

Jodene Garside, Simone Byrnes and Jon Glasson

## **P&C Report**

It was an extremely busy evening when our parents arrived for the Parent Teacher Interviews. Our dedicated staff met with our parents, while our senior hospitality students impressed everyone with their professional service. This was the first time PTO (Parent Teacher Online) booking was introduced to the school, and from the feedback, the parents were very impressed. If you did not fill out a survey on the evening and would like to comment, please contact the School.

The P&C introduced PTO (Parent Teacher On-line) bookings for the Parent Teacher Interviews, and the school has never seen such a huge response. We hope this made things a little easier for you, as the responses have been very positive.

It was a pleasant surprise at our last meeting when the Principal presented every member with a rose for appreciation on National P&C Day. We only hold our P&C Meetings once a term and would love to see more come along and find out the wonderful things happening in our school. Next terms' meeting is on Tuesday 31 May at 3.30pm in the Language Centre.

## **Uniform Shop**

The uniform shop is well stocked with black winter zip jackets for \$35. The senior shirts are available for \$25, and size 22 & 24 are reduced to \$15. The uniform shop is open every Friday from 10am till 11:15am. Your child can also request an order form from the canteen, and pick it up at a later date if this is more convenient.

## **Canteen**

If you feel you would like to help Northlakes High School but don't know where to start you can call Leanne, our Canteen Manager on 43 908751.

## **Year 7 Report**

The first term of Year 7 is ending and the students have made a fantastic transition to High School. In late April we will be having our first round of Immunisations. If your child has not returned their forms please ensure they do so as soon as possible. Spare forms can be collected from me for any students that need one.

Students are looking forward to the camp at Morisset. The dates are from the 4<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> of May, which falls in week 2 of Term 2. Students need to be at school by 8am to be organised onto buses. Students were given the check list of things to bring to camp on the permission note. All payments need to be made by the end of Term 1. There are a few places still available if your child would like to attend camp. Please do not send your child with game consoles or other valuables. School will still run for students not attending Camp; however classes are likely to be collapsed.

The students in Year 7 look wonderful in their full school uniform. As the weather gets colder please ensure your child always wears a black, plain jumper to school. Students out of uniform will need a note providing an explanation. It is also worthwhile checking that students still have all the correct equipment for school over the holidays. I hope all students and their families have a safe and happy holiday!

If you need to contact me I am located in the Creative Arts Staffroom. Alternatively I'm available on email: [megan.lubinski@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:megan.lubinski@det.nsw.edu.au)

Mrs M. Lubinski  
Year 7 Adviser

## **Year 8 Report**

It is hard to believe that we have already completed Term 1 of 2011. We have already completed our Swimming Carnival, Cross Country Carnival and weather permitting our Athletics Carnival. Many Year 8 students are performing very well both academically and in the sporting arena. I would like to congratulate two high-achieving students; firstly, Amber Henderson who is U/14 age champion for swimming and broke a long standing 50m breast stroke record and Tahnee Blenman who has been selected to represent the U/16 Northern Tigers representative football team. Tahnee will travel to Los Angeles in October this year for 2 weeks. She will be playing against American representative sides and we wish her every success.

Our students have settled well into routine and there are many teachers commenting on how well the majority of Year 8 has been working this term. This is encouraging and I hope this trend continues. Year 8 students should now be starting to prepare for their upcoming half yearly exams, which will commence mid-term 2. Regular revision and summarising class notes is a positive way to build confidence and ensure our students are performing at their personal best.

At the end of this term I will be standing down as Year 8 Adviser as I have accepted a service transfer to West Wallsend High School. Over the past 5 Terms I have had the pleasure to be Year Adviser to a very dynamic and motivated cohort of students. I have had the opportunity to meet almost every student within the cohort at one stage and I can honestly say it has been a great privilege and highlight of my teaching career. Mr Seaby has accepted the Year Adviser position and I wish him all the best. I am confident he will do a fantastic job.

I wish to thank all the staff, students and parents of Northlakes High School for their support over the past 3 years and wish all of the students I have taught and mentored the very best in their future. Northlakes High School is a great school and I will miss many wonderful students who have enriched my life as a teacher.

Michael Chandler  
Year 8 Adviser

## **Year 9 Report**

As the end of Term 1 has approached, so much has happened during the beginning of 2011. Students have adjusted well to the incorporation of laptops as a learning tool. Students are following school laptop policy and guidelines, however are reminded that they must remain on task in class and use the laptop appropriately. Also, students must have a workbook for each subject.

The Year 9 Stage 5 Transition program was a success. Many students appreciated the support and extra assistance in learning about study patterns, identifying marking rubrics and dissecting assessment tasks in order to raise marks. Thank you to Mrs Skamperle for designing this program, which was very valuable. We expect students to use this information in preparation for study and assessments. Thank you also to the teachers who presented this course to the students. Students are reminded to refer to their Year 9 Assessment Schedules in preparation for next term. If students do not have one of these booklets at home they should see me in the TAS Staffroom.

On behalf of the students and staff at Northlakes High School, we send Sarah Sharpe well wishes. We all hope she recovers quickly and back to full health.

Something that has been brought to my attention is the behaviour of students when out in public in school uniform. Please remind students that they are representing our school and should always be polite and courteous.



I have enjoyed this term as relieving Year 9 Adviser and thank the parents and students for their support. I will continue in this position next term. Have a very happy holiday and enjoy the break!

Kerry Bissaker  
Year 9 Adviser (Relieving)

## Year 10 Report

Now that the year is in full swing, students in year 10 should be settling into a routine of revision and homework for their School Certificate.

Term 1 has been a busy time for both students and teachers and the School Certificate will be here before we know it. All year 10 students were given the school certificate rules and procedures and have signed their Board of Studies Confirmation of Entry forms. If students would like another copy of the rules and procedures, parents are advised to contact me and I'll post one out as soon as possible.

It is important that students have correct equipment, not only for practical lessons, but for completing work in other courses too. They should have a book for each subject and a pencil case with at least 2 pens, a ruler, glue and a pencil. Without these items, students are not able to complete work to the best of their ability. If you are having trouble supplying these items for your child, or if you have any other questions or issues, please do not hesitate to contact me on 43900555.

Mrs Lara Jephson  
Year 10 Adviser

## Year 11 Report

The majority of Year 11 students are settling in to their senior years of study with the completion of their first assessment tasks for their Preliminary Certificate. Students should be getting themselves into the routine of completing at least one to two hours of homework and study each and every night to ensure they are able to keep pace with the hectic schedule that is their HSC. Students have been provided with the opportunity to participate in a free after school tutoring program offered by most teachers in most subjects. The program has been well received by a lot of students and will begin the first week of Term 2.

Any student who has had difficulty or has been unable to complete and hand in an assessment task on the due date is required to bring the situation to the attention of their classroom teacher complete an appeals form, with supporting documentation such

as doctor's certificate. This process is absolutely necessary if the student is to be awarded any marks for the task.

Recently all of Year 11 was provided with the opportunity to participate in the Rotary Youth Driver Awareness (RYDA) program at Wyong Racecourse, where students were made aware of the importance of a careful, sensible and mature attitude towards driving. Students were spoken to by a young victim of a serious car accident about the long lasting repercussions of his accident. They witnessed first-hand the effects of speed on stopping distances through participation in an emergency braking demonstration as well as being shown the importance of car maintenance in terms of safety in cars. All in all, it was an informative, awareness creating and worthwhile day.

Mr B. Bryant  
Year 11 Adviser

## Year 12 Report

We are now officially half way through the HSC Year and all students should have received their half yearly reports. For many subjects these reports are based on only one assessment task, completed at the end of 2010. All students need to realise that there is still plenty of work to be done between now and the end of third term. For some, this may mean consolidating good marks, for others there is still plenty of time to catch up if the first task was below standard. Many students will be feeling the added pressure and expectation that comes with the HSC. Some things to remember to help with the extra workload expected from Year 12 students include:

- Prioritising – Work out what needs to be completed when and set work priorities for yourself
- Time management - Planning your time will allow you to study as well as take time off to meet your other commitments
- Planning and discipline - Select a time for study when you concentrate the best and develop a habit of studying at this time. Try to make this study time when there are fewer distractions around you.
- Manage your stress - It's the rule rather than the exception for student to feel nervous before assessments or exams. This is not necessarily a bad thing. Stick to your revision plan and give yourself the best opportunity to do well in the task.
- Learn to say no – A small amount of sacrifice now will pay off in the future. If you commit to your study and assessment tasks, completing your homework and revision, you will improve



your HSC results.

There is no perfect way of 'doing the HSC'. Each student needs to be supported to find their own way of managing their lives at this stage. If things are not going well at school or there are other pressures it is useful to know that there are other pathways to the HSC.

Year 12 is a challenging time for students. There are many avenues of support available and I urge any students who feel they are having difficulties to seek help as early as possible.

The holidays are a good time to take a break from the routine of school, but should not be a complete break from study. Revising and organising notes, assessment work and pre-reading or planning for next term will only help in the long run. Enjoy the holidays, relax and get away from the stress of school, be safe, and come back prepared for a strong second half.

Dave Hextell  
Year 12 Adviser



**Wyong Youth Service**  
**Invites**  
*Local Services, Young people and their Families*  
**To**  
**Wyong Youth Services**  
**Open Day**

There will be service information stalls throughout the afternoon  
This is a great opportunity to  
For Services and Families to get  
Connected

Date: Wednesday 13th of April 2011  
Time: 2.30pm— 5.00pm  
Afternoon tea will be provided

Wyong Youth Services  
Gravity Lake Haven Youth Centre  
Off Bannister Dr  
Lake Haven NSW 2263  
Ph: 024339555 Fax: 0243936951  
Mobile: 0403129920

**Wishing you a  
happy  
and safe  
Easter.**





# Holiday Fun for kids!

April 2011 holiday activities

## Athletics skill development

5 – 15 years. This clinic will give you the chance to develop your abilities in both track and field events. Suitable for beginners or Little Athletics members. Mingenah, 20 April. **Cost: \$23**

## Canoe/kayaking (10 – 16 years)

Discover the beautiful Avoca Lagoon on an exciting and educational paddle. Experienced guides will ensure safety is the number one priority, followed closely by lots of fun. Kayaks, paddles and life jackets are provided. Participants must be able to swim 50 metres. Avoca Lagoon, 19 April. **Cost: \$33.**

## CARES bicycle safety

10 – 14 years. Develop your child's road sense and set the foundation of road safety they need right through life. Bicycles and helmets are provided. Participants can use their own helmets subject to a safety inspection. Palmdale, 14 April. **Cost: \$10**

## Circus Stuff

6 – 16 years. Clown around! This action-packed workshop will teach you tight-rope walking, tumbling, juggling, stilt walking, plate spinning, balancing and more. Gosford, 18 April. **Cost: \$40**

## Horseriding – saddleclub

Entry and Intermediate levels  
7 – 16 years. Come and get saddled up and experience all the fun of owning and looking after a horse. Wyong, 18 April. Each rider will be given a riding lesson by one of Australia's top riding instructors. **Cost: \$47**

## Hockey skill development

5 – 13 years. Kids will learn to play hockey with some of the best coaches on the Coast. Learn this great sport in a fun and safe environment. Clinic will include skills drills and modified games Wyong, 13 April. **Cost: \$25**

## Kids' multi-sports

DUE TO THE EXTREME POPULARITY OF THIS PROGRAM – PRE-BOOKINGS AND PAYMENT ARE ESSENTIAL!  
6 – 13 years. A jam-packed day including trampolining, indoor hockey, indoor volleyball, soccer, the jump pit and lots more. Niagara Park, 11 April or 19 April. **Cost: \$25 first child and \$20 for additional family member(s)**

## Sailing (three-day program)

7 – 16 years. Join in the fun on the water and learn to sail! Catering for beginners to advanced, this programme is taught by Yachting Australia instructors on dinghies. Participants must be able to swim 50m. Gosford Sailing Club, 13 to 15 April. **Cost: \$166.**

## Scooter, Skate or Freestyle BMX

5 – 16 years. Learn the basics in the beginner level and crazy tricks in the intermediate levels. All participants must wear a helmet. Other safety gear (knee pads etc) is recommended but optional. Lake Haven, 20 April. **Cost: \$12**

## Surfing (7+ years)

Learn to surf with Central Coast Surf School in a fun, safe environment with professional, experienced instructors. Soft surfboards, wetsuits, rash vests and sunscreen are supplied. You'll be stoked with your progress in our 3-day course. Terrigal Beach, 13 to 15 April. **Cost: \$95**

## Tennis Gosford (three-day program)

5 – 16 years. 18 hour program in total. Learn stroke production, forehand, backhand, volley and serve as well as match-play and scoring. Suitable for beginners to advanced. Gosford, 19 to 21 April. **Cost: \$120**

## Tennis Wyong (three-day program)

6 – 16 years. 7.5 hour program in total. This great value clinic is run by experienced coaches and caters for all levels. Wyong, 11 to 13 April. **Cost: \$67. Third sibling free**

## Trampoline

5 – 15 years. This program includes safety and equipment familiarisation, basic landing positions, aerial positions and supervised practice. Participants will be grouped according to age and experience. Niagara Park, 20 to 21 April. **Cost: \$32**

## Special Needs Activities

### Disability CARES bicycle safety

10 – 15 years. With this modified program develop your child's road sense and set the foundation of road safety they need right through life. Bicycles and helmets are provided. A limited number of 3 wheelers are available, 14 April. **Cost: \$10**

### Gymnastics for kids with a disability

(7 – 17 years) A fun beginners course for kids with intellectual and mild physical disabilities. Try out different equipment including the mini tramp, beam, and bars. Learn to balance, spin and tumble. Carers will have some fun too. Matcham, 12 April. **Cost: \$9**  
Charmhaven, 19 April. **Cost: \$8**

### Trampolining for kids with a disability

7 – 17 years. Learn basic trampolining techniques with some of the best coaches on the Coast. Central Coast Youth Club are offering a beginners trampolining course for kids with intellectual and mild physical disabilities. Niagara Park, 21 April. **Cost: \$5**

All prices include GST.

To avoid disappointment,  
pre-bookings are essential.

Times vary between programs, so for more information or to make a booking call 13 13 02 or (02) 4362 3184 or visit [www.dsr.nsw.gov.au](http://www.dsr.nsw.gov.au)



**Communities**  
Sport & Recreation





## NORTHLAKES HIGH SCHOOL PLANNER TERM 2, 2011

	Week	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT/SUN
April		18	19	20	21	22 Good Friday	23/24
April May	<b>1 A</b>	25 Easter Monday Anzac Day	26 Public Holiday	27 Staff Development Day	28 Year 7 & 10 vaccination program	29	30/1
May	<b>2 B</b>	2	3	4 Year 7 camp	5 Year 7 camp	6 Year 7 camp	7/8
May	<b>3 A</b>	9	10 Naplan Test	11 Naplan Test	12 Naplan Test	13	14/15
May	<b>4 B</b>	16	17	18	19	20	21/22
May	<b>5 A</b>	23	24	25	26	27	28/29
May June	<b>6 B</b>	30	31 P&C Meeting 3.30pm in Language Centre	1	2	3	4/5
June	<b>7 A</b>	6	7	8	9	10	11/12
June	<b>8 B</b>	13 Queens B'day Public Holiday	14	15	16	17	18/19
June	<b>9 A</b>	20	21	22	23	24	25/26
June July	<b>10 B</b>	27	28	29	30	1	2/3
July		4	5	6	7	8	9/10

Term 2 Megs Excursion for all Year 7 students and there parents to TAFE