

# Northlakes High School Newsletter

*"Opportunities for future success"*



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Issue 4 Term 2 Week 10

Monday, June 27, 2011

## From our Principal:

### Mrs Lisa Muir

As we draw towards the end of Term 2, 2011, I would like to thank the Northlakes High School staff, students and community for their ongoing support of education at our school. It certainly has been a busy term and I wish you all a safe and well deserved break over the vacation period. I would like to share with you that Maree Roberts, our School Education Director and Deputy Regional Director, has recently announced her intention to separate from the department as of August 12, 2011. Maree has been successful in securing a position in the Mining Industry with NuCoal to establish a world first "Underground Mining Training School". Maree has provided outstanding leadership, support and guidance to our school and the Central Coast and the Hunter Central Coast Region as a whole. Our school and region has benefited greatly from Maree's service and we will all miss her greatly. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Maree and wish her well on her new and exciting journey.

### Central Coast Career and Transition Excellence Award Finalists.

Congratulations to Stephanie Richards and Taylor Wright on their success in this program. These students are well on track for taking responsibility for their career futures.

### Starstruck Performers' Shine.

Our students have represented us well in the lead up to and involvement in this prestigious dance event. Congratulations to not only the students, but also the Parents and Staff, Ms Byrnes, Ms Freeman and Ms Pisani that dedicate their time in making this event so successful. A special thank you to Ms Taylor who not only went to Starstruck, but also took a Year 10 dance group to perform at Youth in Performing Arts, and backed up this week with the same girls for the Central Coast Dance Festival.



**Students at Star Struck**

### Student selected for School Spectacular

Congratulations to Raymond Marsh in Year 11 on being selected to perform with the Bangarra Aboriginal Dance Theatre.

The partnership aims to foster the development of talented Aboriginal students in dance and provide performance opportunities to encourage the pursuit of excellence in this art form. The company will make up the core group of dancers for the Aboriginal Ensemble in this year's Schools Spectacular. The company will also be highly involved in other events such as the State Dance Festival.

Raymond has been selected to be involved in the company and will participate in intensive workshops held during terms two and three in order to learn new work that will be commissioned specifically for the group. Congratulations Raymond, we look forward to seeing your next performance.



**Raymond Marsh**

### **Personal Best – High academic achievement acknowledged!**

The school has introduced a new voluntary program to assist students who are aiming to continually improve in essay writing and examinations. The Personal Best Program gives Year 12 students the opportunity to attempt additional practice HSC examination questions, receive formative feedback, then resubmit their essays until they achieve their best response – aiming at Band 6.

Congratulations to Laura Waldron, Tayla Wright, Stacey Miller, Sarah Bambey, Brittney Connor, Allana Marlin, Kelly Shaw, Lauren Hawthorn and Breanna Elrick for all achieving this. A special morning tea was held for these students and their parents. Students receiving Band 5 were also invited and include Tia Taitoko, Gemma Deegan, Jasmine Proudlove, Brendan Quigg, Lavinya Adams, Chris Hughes, Ashley Emerson, Hayden Carr, Alaura Sharp and Hayley Bishop. These students achieved a Grade A in one or more of their assessment tasks this year, but have been just under the 90% cut off enabling them to get a Band 5. Keep up the good work.

The HSC trials are on Week 3, Term 3 and we wish all Year 12 students all the best for their preparation and commitment for the up and coming Trials. This is your chance to aim for your personal best!



**Year 12 students**

### **IT Course – Students and Staff Learning Together.**

Up to 15 students and staff attended after school workshops in IT. As we continue to provide opportunities for extending our students.

### **Year 8 and 10 Subject Selections “It is Time for Decisions”.**

We were encouraged to see so many parents and students attending the Subject Expo and Pathway Information Evening. There are many more steps in the process to support our students in making these important decisions. Please mark on your calendars the days set aside for the Mock Interviews.

Year 10 will have their mock interviews, and subject selection reviews in Week 2 of next Term on 27th, 28th and 29<sup>th</sup> of July. All students should have received their time table for these three days, and if you have any concerns, please contact Mr Phil Williamson.



**Mrs Muir addressing Parents and students**

### **Year 9 Anti-Bullying Workshops.**

As part of the ongoing Anti-Bullying initiatives operating across the school, Year 9 attended workshops which included information and advice on cyber-bullying and safe use of social media sites. Thank you Ms Fulwood for making this day possible.

### **Uniform.**

Student uniform is now monitored daily in roll call. Students without uniform must have a note from home indicating the reason. This must be handed in at the Welfare Office by 8:00 am. Students will be given a uniform pass in this instance. Student's assistance is available through the Welfare Head Teacher for those who are undergoing financial hardships.

### **Debating – We won!**

Congratulations to the Year 7 debating team on winning their first round. The team defeated Morisset High School and showed great debating skills. Well done Tara Wallace, Rhianna Howlett, Caitlyn Jones and Suzy Taylor-Monzer. Year 9 students have competed in two rounds unsuccessfully, however very close games.



**Year 7 Debating Team**

### **Students acknowledge for Exemplary Behaviour and Participation.**

It has been a pleasure to have received recent multiple reports from both public and external course providers, acknowledging the respect and diligence of our students.

This included McKenzie Linnen and Josh Kimmorley who attended a 10 day Cert. II VET Course in Outdoor Recreation, the students who attended the First Aid Course, the Year 9 and 10 boys who attended the mentoring program with the Central Coast Bears, the Year 9 students and our School Captains who collected \$2000 for the Salvation Army and Brodie Pearson who was commended highly for his involvement in Work Experience in the nursing industry.

### **VIP program re-established**

To reward our many outstanding students Northlakes High School has re-established the VIP program. This will enable students from Years 7 to 10 to achieve their personal best and be acknowledged and rewarded. Thank you to Mrs Tracey Moore for her efforts with this program.

### **Sculpture By the Bay Students Work on Show.**

Our students have work on display at the Gosford Regional Art Gallery, Congratulations to Josh Willmott, Cailan Kolster, Sharna McLeod, Lauren Curwen and Travis Strachen.

### **Cross Country – students represent with flair!**

Our students efforts and behaviour are to be commended on the recent zone cross country. We congratulate James Starkey for winning the u15's and Nathan Ivankovic for coming 3<sup>rd</sup> in the u16's. Best of luck at Regional level.



**Nathan Ivankovic and James Starkey**

### **Parent Numeracy Workshop**

Once again our Parent Workshops are proving to be very successful. Thank you to Mrs Curran and Ms Byrnes for helping to keep our Parents informed on what our students are learning and ways to help. Next Term we will hold 2 Technology day classes for Parents. The first one will be on 16th August at 9.30am and the second one will be on 30th August at 9.30am. The day sessions seem to be more

popular, however if we get enough interest we will consider holding an evening session. More information will come home next Term.

### **Winners of the Central Coast Reconciliation Art Awards - \$1250 Prize Money.**

Congratulations to Travis Strachan, Florence Samuels, Courtney Gordon, Eva Haynes for winning this prestigious prize.



**Winning art work**

### **English Report**

English students are working well this term and are either busy preparing for their upcoming assessment tasks or have just handed one in.

Year Eight students enjoyed a live theatre performance of "Soldier Boy" at Gosford's Laycock St Theatre. Students were well behaved and received compliments from the general public for their maturity.

English students also experienced the amazing work of Indigenous author Monty Pryor who gave students valuable insight into published writing and Indigenous culture. Students viewed performances of Didgeridoo, Dance and various other artist works.

We wish all students good luck in their assessment tasks and hope all enjoy a safe and happy holiday!

**The English Staff**

### **Mathematics Report**

It's been a busy few weeks in Mathematics, with quite a lot of new learning going on for staff in the area of Professional Development, particularly regarding the teaching of senior students. Newcastle University has opened a Moodle site for the BOOST + senior students to communicate with the program's personnel and the students involved are strongly



encouraged to take advantage of this. There is also an upcoming study program being organised through BOOST +, stay tuned for more details...

Some of our junior students have been working very well. Lucy McCudden and Jason Peebles in Year 7 have shown themselves to be extremely dedicated students who achieved terrific results in their half-yearly exams and have been moved into the 'Q' class to extend them further. It is wonderful to see students being rewarded for their hard work.

Tiarrah Barlowe in Year 9 also demonstrated excellence in her half-yearly exams, and gained a very good result for the semester.

Stacey Miller in Year 12 also demonstrated terrific skills in her last assessment task for Maths, losing only one mark on the whole paper – the best effort I have seen for a number of years! Well done, Stacey. 9GQ have been enjoying having some game-based learning as part of their classwork and homework – particular mention should be made of the efforts of Rachel Connochie, Jamiel Zakaria, Beau Keywood and Tia Duong who have all been doing very well with this. The generosity of the National Partnerships funding means we should be able to maintain this resource until the end of Year 10 for this group.

A reminder that all Year 7 and Year 8 students are expected to complete sets of NAPLAN based homework on a regular basis. The marks from this homework account for 10% of the students' final marks, and the mark at the end of the year will be for the WHOLE year, so it's not too late for students to complete sets from Terms 1 and 2. Class time is given once a fortnight towards finishing this work and D33 is available most days during Recess 1 for any students who wish to use a computer to complete this work. See Mrs Woodley if you are interested in using this time.

Some Year 9 students (in particular) are still not bringing all of the necessary equipment for Maths classes. A workbook is essential, as are pens, a ruler and a calculator. Depending on who your teacher is, it may also be that the students' laptops are required, fully charged every night, for maths. Calculators are available from the front office and will be engraved free by Miss Jory. Students need to bring their receipt to the Maths staffroom to organise this.

Nobody came to me with the answer to the last newsletter puzzle, so I still have the bracelet USB to give away as a prize! A very easy puzzle – the first person to come and tell me the 'proper' mathematical name for the division sign (looks like this ÷) will receive the prize. An internet search may help here...

**Ms Jacqueline Woodley**  
**Head Teacher Mathematics (Relieving)**

## **Creative Arts Report**

It's been a very busy time in the Performing Arts Faculty, with students representing the school at Youth in Performing Arts, Starstruck and Central Coast Dance Festival. Miss Taylor, Ms Pisani and Ms Byrnes supported our Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal students at the production of Starstruck at the Newcastle Entertainment Centre on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup>, Friday 17<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> June. Performers included year 9 and 10 Dance students, a year 8 violinist and Aboriginal Dancers from Northlakes High School. Congratulations to all our performers and staff, it is a huge effort that requires support from all levels of the school, so that staff can be released to perform these extra-curricular activities so essential to the development of creative talent at our school. I would also like to thank Miss Pisani for taking the HSC Drama group to St. Peters College Tuggerah, to participate in drama workshops aimed at supporting their group and individual performances for HSC.

It is encouraging to see music students from all stages and Didge group participate at our weekly assemblies. It is a credit to our dedicated staff of Mrs Hickson, Mrs Brimbecom, Mrs Waldron, Mrs Freeman and Mr Freeman, that students are willing and talented enough to perform. The development of Indigenous talent is supported by artists such as Mr Ross Smith with didgeridoo and Visual Art and Mr Anthony Freeman with the Dance group. This activity not only involves the High School but the local primary schools. I must thank our production crew of Sarah Walpole in year 12 and Jayden Urch in year 10 for sound support for these assemblies. Mrs Hickson is currently on leave and will be back for the beginning of term 3, thank you to Mr Lee for replacing her at this time. A big thank you to Miss Taylor for her work in preparing students for Starstruck and Central Coast Dance Festival and the hours involved in supporting students.

A reminder to HSC students, is that they should be preparing for their HSC performances and major works, as part of their HSC commitment. HSC artworks are due on the 29<sup>th</sup> August and HSC Drama, Dance and Music performances will take place at various stages through term 3.

**Mr. Brimbecom.**  
**Head Teacher Creative Arts**

## **Languages Report**

Students in year 7 are currently working hard to learn their numbers. Everyone can now count to ten and should be practising them out loud at home. Mrs

Davis was very pleased with the effort many students put into their Japanese culture assignments. Topics covered included Bonsai, traditional sports such as Karate, Anime/ Manga and Japanese technology.

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Year 11 students have completed their first assessment task. This was a comprehension reading test where students had to find the necessary information by reading all three scripts - hiragana, katakana and kanji. This class is now working towards their next assessment task which will focus on time and daily routine.

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We welcome Mr Kable to the Languages faculty. Mr Kable is now teaching Mr Welham's class, 7GT and has one lesson per fortnight with most of the other Year 7 classes.

**Mrs Davis**

### **Support Report**

Northlakes High Support Unit hosted an interschool Soccer Competition for students in an IM Class last Friday June 10<sup>th</sup>. Brisbane Waters Secondary College Umina Campus attended and the day was a huge success. Northlakes won the comp and is looking forward to another day to defend the title. All enjoyed a BBQ lunch up at the Support Unit garden. Thanks to Mr Shevels for organising this event.

IOJ have been swimming at Mingara and IOT have been to Newcastle 's Fort Scratchley on community access days. IOS are continuing to catch the bus to various destinations including Gorokan and Wyong. Students in the behaviour unit are participating in cooking simple meals as part of their life skills program. The aim is for these students to be able to prepare some meals independently.

An outdoor chess area has almost been completed up at the behaviour unit and handball courts have been marked out for activities during recess break. Another fundraising BBQ at Bunnings was held on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> June.

**The Support Staff**

### **Drama Report**

This term has shown that Drama is still thriving on the Coast. HSC students are working hard in preparation of their upcoming exams and have experienced some fantastic Drama opportunities this term.

They have travelled to Sydney on several occasions to view live theatre performances of plays they have been studying and have been regularly staying back after school to revise class work.

Last week students attended a Group Devised Workshop day at St Peters Catholic College where they had to perform their pieces in front of students and teachers from St Peters C.C, MacKillop C.C, St Josephs C.S, Gorokan H.S and Wadalba C.C. Students received some great feedback and direction to further improve their performances for the HSC. Furthermore, they gained ideas and an insight into the standard that can be achieved.

All of their hard work has paid off with several students achieving Band 6's in their latest assessment tasks. Congratulations Trish Conroy, Breanna Elrick, Hayley Gutteridge, Alaura Sharp and Ellen Wilson!

**Ms Pisani**

### **Debating and Public Speaking Report**

Well the competition is well and truly on. Our Year 9 team have had two close debates and have just missed out on a win in both. Congratulations are in order to our Year 7 team – Rhianna Howlett, Caitlyn Jones, Suzy Taylor-Monzer, and Tara Wallace – who won their first debate against Morisset High School.

Our Junior Public Speakers – Caitlyn Jones, Suzy Taylor-Monzer and Tara Wallace – are busily preparing for the Legacy Public Speaking competition which is being held early next term. We will advise you of the result of this competition in the next newsletter.

Congratulations once again to our Year 7 Debating Team on their success so far in the first round of their competition and good luck to all our debaters in their future debates.

**Mr. Burley, Mrs Reay, Miss Smith and  
Ms Legge**

## **Welfare Report**

What a productive and successful term we have had with the Welfare Team!

There have been many activities that we have organised for our students. Some of these activities have finished and some are continuing through Term 3. These include; Plan It Youth, Reality Check, Jump Start, GLOW, Break Thru and Youth Safety Forum to name a few.

Our students visited the Youth Booth at the San Remo Neighbourhood Centre, a successful resource for our students. We also had a visit from the Drug Awareness Booth; this showed our students the damaging effects of drug and alcohol on the health of teenagers.

The GLOW luncheon was held on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> June at the Pizza Pit. The 20 Year 7 girls really enjoyed the lunch and were able to put many of the skills they have learnt over the term to use. Well done girls!

The Year 9 Welfare Bullying Day was a huge success. Students learnt about dealing with bullying issues, domestic violence, and cyber bullying and signed their bullying contract. The support unit cooked a great sausage sizzle to end a productive day!

Year 10 had their Welfare Bullying Day on 24<sup>th</sup> June during Periods 3 & 4. Period 3 they participated in the bullying and domestic violence session. In Period 4 Camp Quality came to Northlakes High School to present their Teenage Alchemist performance: this was about how to deal with Cancer. A very productive two periods for year 10.

Over the last term we have reinforced the wearing of correct school uniform at Northlakes High School. Many students are bringing in notes from parents if unable to wear their correct uniform. Students bring their note to us in the Welfare Office before 8am in the morning to receive a pass. If students are not wearing correct uniform their names are put on the uniform referral slip in roll call. The welfare team then follow up with interviews, detention and letters home. It is so great to see our students taking pride in wearing their school uniform!

Our students participated in Starstruck: Capture the Moment 2011. They performed well and met new friends and were part of the unbelievable talent we have in the Hunter/Central Coast area.

Northlakes High Schools Aboriginal Didge and Dance group participated in a mentoring program workshop with Lake Munmorah. The opportunity to

interact with other students and learn from the some of the best was very positive for our students.

A huge thank you to our hardworking Year Advisors. Mrs Lubinski, Mr Seaby, Mrs Bissaker, Mrs Jephson, Mr Byrant and Mr Hextall, they are dedicated teachers who put the welfare needs of their year groups above anything else. Also a big thank you to Mr Glasson who has been working as HT Welfare on Fridays, he has put a lot of effort into this role. Enjoy your school holidays!

**Mrs Jodene Garside and Ms Simone Byrnes**

## **P&C News**

Thank you to the Parents that attended our P&C meeting, which we hold once a term. Our next meeting for Term 3 is in Week 6. **23<sup>rd</sup> August**, and is held in the Language Centre at 3.30pm. This is a wonderful opportunity to find out what is going on in your School. We appreciate that this time does not suit everyone, but the minutes are always available on the website, and we are always interested in what you would like to contribute. The last Parent Numeracy Workshop was successful, and we have already set dates for 2 ICT classes.

## **Term Planner**

At the end of this newsletter is a Term planner for Term 3 with lots of dates for another busy Term, please post it up somewhere for future reference.

## **Uniform Shop**

The uniform shop is well stocked, and just a reminder that if you cannot make it on Friday's between 10:00am and 11:15am, then your child can always pick up an order form from the canteen for collection at a later time.

## **Canteen**

Thank you to the wonderful volunteers that donate their time to the canteen. This enables our School not to have to fundraise, and I am sure you would all agree that this is a better way to do this. If you would like to be involved in this School, but do not know where to go. The canteen is a great place to start. Just contact Leanne direct in the canteen on 43908751.

## **Year 7 Report**

Year 7 have now finished their first Semester of High School life. So many students have achieved great results in their reports and have really applied the idea of "Personal Best" to their work.

All students need to recognise the importance of Assessment Tasks. Students should record each Assessment Task in a homework diary and make every endeavour to complete these tasks by the due date. Student grades are definitely impacted when these important tasks are left undone.

Year 7 also had their first High School exams this term and although there were many good results further success can be achieved through study and revision. Some students have been to see me and asked how to prepare for these exams. A study planner for these hectic times of the year is advisable. Focusing on one exam at a time works well for most people. Revising specific topic areas is also crucial.

Our school Moodle site is developing all the time and outlines the requirements for a range of different subjects. Students need to sign up using their DET email address. An authentication step is required via an email that will be sent to their DET address. Moodle can be found at <http://hccweb2.org/northlake>. Please be aware that energy drinks that are high in sugar and caffeine are not acceptable at school. Please talk to your child and explain the possible negative impacts of these products so that they can make sensible decisions at school.

Finally, as a parent myself, I understand that equipment from school bags seems to go missing into the atmosphere! Please replenish stocks including books and pens over the holidays. Have a safe and enjoyable holiday!

**Mrs M. Lubinski**  
**Year 7 Adviser**

## **Year 8 Report**

The subject selection evening was a great success with many students making informed decisions about their subjects for the next two years of their education. Mr Welham has been burning the midnight oil organising all of these selections. Many of our Year 8 students have been participating in sporting events and representing the school in Starstruck. Congratulations to all of these students on their excellent performances and excellent behaviour.

Uniforms are still causing some problems, most year 8 students look fantastic in their uniforms but there is a small minority who continue to flout the school rules. I encourage all parents to monitor the students as they leave the house and ensure they are in correct uniform or if not are provided with a note to explain why they are out of uniform.

**Mr. Edward Seaby**  
**Year 8 Adviser**

## **Year 9 Report**

The Half Yearly Examinations are over, and the holidays are fast approaching. What a very busy term we have just had.

Many of our Year 9 students have recently represented our school in various activities such as Futsal and Starstruck. These students must be congratulated on their excellent behaviour and performances. Thank you to all the parents and staff for transporting our students and supervising these events.

Year 9 students have also participated in an anti-bullying day filled with many different activities, including a talk from our school liaison police officer – Rachael Garland. This day was designed to equip students with the tools necessary to minimise bullying and cyber bullying in and out of the school environment. This day also provided our students with information needed to protect themselves online. Thank you to all the students who behaved appropriately, participated in the group discussions and have utilised this knowledge.

Remember, wearing school uniform is important to provide an atmosphere of pride and equality. If students are having difficulty wearing the correct uniform please provide a note from home.

Finally, enjoy the remainder of the term, be safe during the holidays and let's get ready for another fun-filled term. Organise all your books and equipment to start fresh in Semester 2. Happy holidays,

**Mrs Kerry Bissaker**  
**Year 9 Adviser**

## Year 10 Report

Over the past couple of weeks Year 10 have had the opportunity learn more about subjects for year 11 and 12 to make some decisions about their future. A booklet with detailed information about all subjects was given to students and they were to submit their initial choices. The lines for subjects are made up from this survey so it is very important that this is filled in and handed back to school.

Over the course of next term more information will be given out and more decisions will need to be made. Another opportunity for students regarding their future is the career day at Avondale College. There will be numerous exhibitors and it is designed to help the student make decisions regarding what they might want to do in the future.

This will be my last Year 10 report until Term 4. Ms Jessica Pisani will be replacing me and is here to answer all of your questions.

As year advisers, we are here to address any concerns you have to do with your child's education and welfare. Please do not hesitate to contact the school regarding any issue.

**Mrs Lara Jephson**  
**Year 10 Adviser**

## Year 11 Report

Year 11 students are continuing to achieve at a great level at Northlakes High School. Many students' half yearly exam results showed high levels of achievement across many subjects indicating they are taking their senior studies very seriously. Parents should encourage their students to keep up the good work!

Assessment tasks continue to be issued throughout this term with many students having tasks to complete over the holidays.

As the cold weather continues, a reminder to all parents and students to endeavour to wear correct school uniform i.e. plain black jumper, long black pants or stockings under skirts for girls. The majority of Year 11 do wear full uniform and look terrific, however, a small minority are still turning up to school in non-school uniform.

Have a safe and enjoyable holiday,

**Mr. Ben Bryant- Year 11 Adviser**

## Year 12 Report

One term to go!

We are approaching the business end of the HSC with only one term of school remaining before the HSC exams. All students should be preparing themselves by completing final tasks and revision activities in preparation for the HSC exams in fourth term.

Most HSC subjects will have **Trial exams in Week 3 and 4 of fourth term**. It is important to put as much effort as possible into these exams. In most cases they are the major assessment task for the course with weightings of up to 40%. A good trial exam result goes a long way to ensuring a positive overall assessment mark and rank.

A number of students are experiencing a loss of motivation or drive to succeed at school. This is quite normal as it is very difficult to maintain a positive attitude over the entire final two years of the HSC. Students experiencing difficulties are encouraged to speak firstly with their class teacher, and then to see me in J Block. It is always better to seek help early. All students need to use the holidays as an opportunity to re-energise themselves for a positive final term of school. The holidays also provide the opportunity to catch up with any missed revision and to complete preparation for the trial exams.

Remember, it is important for all students to attend every timetabled class and complete all assessment work. Classwork, homework, revision activities and extra classes are the pathways to success in the HSC.

The Year 12 Formal has been booked for Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> September at Caves Beachside Resort, with a cost of \$85 a head. To confirm this booking we need students to make a \$10 deposit to the office to enable the school to pay the deposit on the venue. Students interested in being involved in the organisation of the formal should make their interest known. The more help, the better.

**Mr. Dave Hextell**  
**Year 12 Adviser**





## **Facebook Rules for Young People**

Recently a lot of time in the Deputy's and Welfare offices has been spent with students who have had issues with other students on Facebook. In some cases the students involved were simply too young and immature to appreciate the consequences of their actions on Facebook. The following has been modified from an article by Mr Bill Lovegrove, an expert in young people using technology and the internet.

### **1. General Comments**

Facebook has a wide range of privacy settings available, and in general you want all the privacy you can get. Most of the horror stories about social networking involve young people making information public and/or making contact with strangers. The rules below are generally designed to avoid all contact with strangers. The key concept is to use Facebook only to interact with real personal friends.

No part of the internet can be made safe enough to allow teens, particularly young teens, to browse around unsupervised. The rules below assume you are a parent who will take an active interest in monitoring your teen's online behaviour. It is strongly suggested that teens (and adults!) should always use some type of internet filtering, and that the computer they use to access the internet should be in a public place, not in their bedroom.

Consider the following statements from the official Facebook terms:

**"No information from children under age 13.** If you are under age 13, please do not attempt to register for Facebook or provide any personal information about yourself to us. If we learn that we have collected personal information from a child under age 13, we will delete that information as quickly as possible. If you believe that we might have any information from a child under age 13, please contact us."

**"Parental participation.** We strongly recommend that minors **13 years of age or older** ask their parents for permission before sending any information about themselves to anyone over the Internet and we encourage parents to teach their children about safe internet use practices."

### **Note that children under 13 are forbidden from using Facebook entirely.**

Facebook has been making rapid and radical changes over the past year, some of them involving privacy controls and some of them quite controversial. It can be difficult to know exactly how public your information is, so you want to assume the worst and limit the amount of personal information posted.

Facebook has been in the news recently because they in some cases don't guarantee that you can delete information you post. Apparently you can't ever delete your account, only "disable" it. And they admit they share a limited amount of information with third parties (particularly advertisers) regardless of your privacy settings. And some of your information gets automatically emailed, after which deleting it is no help. So be careful what you post!

### **2. Privacy settings**

All your privacy settings in general should be set to "only my friends" or "no one". Check these pages occasionally to make sure nothing has changed. Note there are several privacy pages, and you need to check them all. Dangers from predators or other types of harassment go up significantly when your profile is public.

- Who can find me in search: Only my friends or people in my network. Consider leaving this on "only my friends" except when you are trying to link up with a new friend who needs to search for you.
- What people can do with search results: Disable viewing your friend list. Following friends of friends is in general discouraged.
- News feed: If your other privacy settings are set to friends only, the settings here are not extremely important. But be nice to your friends and don't send them news feeds about everything. You especially don't need automatic news about changes to settings, etc.
- Applications: Remove the events and marketplace applications. Don't add other applications without permission and don't browse the applications menu.
- Block list and limited profile list. These are primarily for people with a public profile, so you can block a few select people and keep the information public to everyone. This is Facebook's answer to stalkers. However, you want your profile private to begin with. There is no point in blocking one of your friends - just remove them as a friend instead.

### **3. Profile**

If your profile privacy settings are correct, these settings are not so crucial since only your friends can see the information. However, since privacy settings can be accidentally set wrong, it is safest not to put unnecessary personal information here.

- Basic: Leave "interested in" and "looking for" unchecked (they will not show in your profile). Facebook is for interacting with your friends, not meeting strangers and building new relationships. Select "don't show my birthday" (this is a possible security risk).
- Contact: Enter only email and screen name. Any of your friends can get any other information from you directly if needed. Don't risk making it public by accident.
- Personal: These are empty boxes that can be filled with anything, so be careful that you don't accidentally put something here that you shouldn't make public. Remember that anything you say here can and might be used against you. Don't think you can just delete it later and no one will ever know, either. On the internet information has a way of getting passed around and becoming permanent.

#### **4. Friends**

- One of your parents has a Facebook page and is your friend. This allows your parents to monitor what you do on facebook.
- Only people who are true friends in real life can be your friends in Facebook (friends of friends don't count unless they are already a personal friend to you too).
- Beware of spoof facebook pages, claiming to be someone they are not. Someone might do this to one of your friends as a "joke" and cause lots of confusion and trouble. This is one reason to interact only with true friends after you know it is their real facebook page.
- Parents approve all of your friends, or at least reserve the right to disapprove friends just as they presumably will in real life.
- Friends who use Facebook in a dangerous manner cannot be your online friends.
- Assuming you will have to say no to some friend requests, think ahead about how you can kindly turn down these requests. Also, think about the possible awkwardness of removing someone from your friend list, and don't add lots of friends casually.
- Recognize that there are many different kinds of friendship, but Facebook only recognizes friends or not friends (this is part of the risk of using Facebook). Don't put too much importance on whether someone agrees to be your Facebook friend or not.

#### **5. Networks and Groups**

- Only join networks and groups that are real organizations or groups in real life. This includes generally only your school, home town, church, and other similar organizations. Do not join other online Facebook networks. Recognize that geographic groups like towns and states can contain some people you really don't want to be associated with. Recognize that any network, including your school, may contain imposters.
- Get your parents' permission for any new networks or groups you join.

#### **6. Places you go**

- Don't visit profiles of anyone except your friends. Facebook is for keeping up with your friends, not for browsing profiles of people who are not your friends. This includes friends of friends.
- Don't browse new applications. Think of facebook as a place to exchange info with your friends, not a playground to goof off with strange apps like food fight. Any new app may have privacy risks you don't know about.
- Don't search except for the purpose of finding your true friends to establish friend links with.

#### **7. Features you don't use**

- Events - public announcements of events online is risky, unless they are really public events. You don't want strangers dropping in on your birthday party, do you?
- Marketplace - this is probably not the best way for you to buy and sell stuff either. Selling stuff and maintaining privacy don't go together. Nobody should know about you on Facebook except your friends, and if you want to sell to them there are better ways.

#### **8. Other**

- Your parents need to know your facebook password. They need to log in as you occasionally to understand how Facebook looks from your point of view.
- Your parents agree not to change or make posts on your facebook page. This can be very embarrassing and defeats the purpose of Facebook. They access it for monitoring only, unless of course you post something really inappropriate.
- You agree that if you misuse facebook, your parents can disable your facebook account.



## NORTHLAKES HIGH SCHOOL PLANNER TERM 3, 2011

	Week	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT/SUN
July		11	12	13	14	15	16/17
July	1 A	18 Staff Development Day	19	20	21	22 CHS Cross Country	23/24
July	2 B	25 Regional Athletics	26 Regional Athletics Year 7 Immunisation	27 Year 10 mock Interviews Year 7 Immunisation	28 Year 10 mock Interviews MEGS 7WQ	29 Year 10 mock Interviews	30/31
August	3 A	1 Education Week Trial HSC	2 Trial HSC	3 Trial HSC	4 Trial HSC MEGS 7WA	5 Trial HSC	6/7
August	4 B	8	9 Year 7-12 Parent/Teacher Evening	10	11 MEGS 7WH	12	13/14
August	5 A	15	16 ICT Parent Workshop 1 9.30-10.30	17	18 MEGS 7GO & 7WH	19	20/21
August	6 B	22	23 P&C Meeting 3.30pm in Language Centre	24	25 MEGS 7GN	26	27/28
August September	7 A	29	30 ICT Parent Workshop 2 9.30-10.30	31	1 MEGS 7WT	2	3/4
September	8 B	5 MEGS Yr 8	6	7	8 MEGS 7WL CHS Athletics	9 CHS Athletics	10/11
September	9 A	12 MEGS Yr 8 Yr11 Preliminary Exams	13 Yr 11 Preliminary Exams	14 Yr 11 Preliminary Exams	15 MEGS 7GQ Yr 11 Preliminary Exams	16 Yr 11 Preliminary Exams	17/18
September	10 B	19	20	21 Year 12 Formal	22	23 Year 12 Presentation Assembly	24/25
September October		26	27	28	29	30	1/2



### **Financial Counselling**

If you are finding it difficult paying your bills then Financial Counselling might be for you. This is a free community service which is available to support people who are experiencing financial difficulties. The Centre has two Financial Counsellors available, for an appointment phone Denise on 4390 7888 or Tony on 4390 2288.

### **Personal Counselling**

Would you like some help dealing with personal difficulties? The Centre has two qualified counsellors who are available for appointments at a small fee. Appointments are available on Wednesday evenings or Fridays during the day.

### **Community Restaurant**

Do you want to share lunch with others? If you would like to enjoy friendship, food and fun then our community restaurant is for you! The community restaurant offers a 2 course hot meal with activities and entertainment and caters for people who are frail, aged or have a disability and live in their own home, as well as for their carers. Community transport can be arranged. To find out more phone the Centre. Wednesdays, 10am-1:30pm. Community Restaurant only \$7.50, Community Restaurant + Transport \$14.50

### **Zumba Gold®**

A fun and friendly low impact modification of Zumba® that is appropriate for older adults, people who are new to exercise and those who have restricted movement. Our qualified instructor Jodi Willett will lead you through the session at a comfortable pace. Fridays 22nd July—23rd September from 4pm-4:45pm. Prebook and pay a reduced rate of \$40 for a 5 week block or pay \$9 for a casual class.

### **Northern Wyong Shire Graffiti Forum**

An integrated approach to tackling graffiti harm. The Forum is currently developing strategies and initiating projects to minimise graffiti in our communities. Join this active group on the last Tuesday of each month. For more information phone Jillian Hogan at the Centre or email [jillian@sanremo.org.au](mailto:jillian@sanremo.org.au)

### **LINKS Youth Services**

**THE YOUTH CABIN** Having hassles? Need someone to talk to? Come and see Corrina in the Youth Cabin. Open Monday to Friday 9am – 4pm. Drop in or make an appointment.

**LINKS YOUTH SERVICE OFFERS** Case Management, Group Work, Youth Centres, Youth Cabin, Support, Referral, Advocacy, Information, Crisis Intervention, Pregnancy Support and Behaviour Management  
**LINKS PROGRAMS & EVENTS - GET INVOLVED** LIFFT Life Is For The Taking—Life Skills Program, Reality Check Behavioural Program, Centrelink Partnership for Young People living out of home and much more.

### **Emergency Relief**

If you live in postcode areas 2262, 2263 (until the Toukley bridge) or the northern part of 2259 and require urgent assistance to make ends meet contact the Centre on 4390 7888. **Tuesdays & Thursdays** by appointment.

### **San Remo Playgroup**

Enjoy a chat and a coffee with other parents while your children make friends, try new games and enjoy activities like craft, stories, songs and outings from 9:30am-12noon on Tuesdays.