

# Northlakes High School Newsletter

*"Opportunities for future success"*



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Issue 6 Term 2 Week 5

Monday, November 11, 2013

## From our Principal Ms Merrilyn Rowley

Congratulations to our **Year 12, 2013**. Examinations are now complete, and the Formal night is to be held on the 12<sup>th</sup> November. It is a lovely celebration of achievement by an outstanding group of young people. We now await news of HSC results, University and TAFE offers, jobs started, travel plans, and all the other directions possible to them. Students are to return all textbooks, pay school fees, and bring their laptops in when they sign out.

**Year 11** benefitted from a detailed discussion with senior staff early in the term to ensure the choices made about subjects for their HSC year were the best for them. They have been issued with assessment schedules for Year 12 and a new timetable. Students are expected to use school time productively, and complete a **minimum** of fifteen hours of personal study time. Mentors and tutors have been organised, and the library modified to create a quieter study place. Students are to be at school at all times, only arriving late if they do not have a period 1 class, and leaving early only if they don't have a period 5 class.

**Computer facilities** have been expanded. As well as changes in the library, we now have two laptop labs and eight computer classrooms. The whole school has wifi. Years 10, 11 and 12 are in possession of laptops, each worth nearly \$500.00. These remain D.E.C. property, even while in the possession of students.

We have many staff participating in **HSC marking**. This is a very important professional experience, which influences how our teachers teach all classes. Teachers mark for five hours a night over a couple of weeks, so it is a very demanding time for them.

Our **National Partnership** funding continues to allow us to bring extra resources into the school to help to

improve literacy and numeracy in Stage 4 (Years 7 and 8). A significant number of students need extra help in skills which we expect them to have attained in Years 1 to 3. Students are engaged and we are impressed with the positive results for these programs. Parents may have been contacted regarding some of these targeted programs, which include parent training or extra tuition in separate classes. The whole staff will participate in extra training in literacy and numeracy at the end of this term.

**Fires** were in the news early in the term. The school is liaising with Wyong Council and Fire authorities to make our site as safe as possible. Happily, none of our staff lost their homes. Ms Hickson in Carter Road came very close; she praised the actions of Izaak Koutsoukis, Year 9, in assisting her in rescuing her horses.

Our school organises many **excursions** and activities. We are lucky to have such an interested and active staff, who ensure opportunities for extra-curricular activities, linked to the curriculum or to vocational or other areas, are regularly undertaken. On our Medieval Day, Ms Bromley was proposed to by her partner, dressed as Darth Vader. It was a highlight for all who saw it.

In Term 4, Mr Welham is taking some leave. Mr Brad Glachan will undertake his role while Mr Welham is away.

## Fees for Term 4 are due

### Reminder for every day

- full school uniform

### For every lesson

- a book for every subject
- pens
- charged laptop (Years 10 & 11)
- completed homework

Our Aboriginal dance girls put on a spectacular show when they performed before a huge crowd as the entertainment before the men's grand final at the Central Coast Rugby 7's Tri Nations Series on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> October.



Our School Captains and Leaders attended a GRIP leadership conference in Newcastle and thoroughly enjoyed the day.



**A reminder that all AEROSOL CANS are 100% banned from school! Students caught with or using these in any way will have it confiscated immediately. There are several health and safety issues that may be triggered with use that may be of danger to students and staff members.**

## English Report

### HSC English Exams

We are just getting Term 4 underway which means HSC Exams. The English Staff would like to extend their thanks and offer their support to our Year 12 students who have worked so tirelessly this year. Many students came into school in their holidays to participated in extra study sessions. Staff who supported students are sincerely thanked for their extra effort and it is hoped that with the level of commitment and enthusiasm shown by our English students' we will see better than ever HSC results and ATAR's.

### HSC Texts

The English faculty would like to remind all students who sat the 2013 HSC that their text books are desperately needed and must be returned as soon as possible. It is school procedure that students signing out of school must return all texts to their classroom teacher. Most students have been busy returning the texts they studied for English, but many of texts from students still remain outstanding.

We ask our senior leavers to please check under your beds, under the cushions in the living room and anywhere in your houses for books you may have been issued over the years. We want them back and there will be an amnesty for all those returning more than their Year 12 texts.

### HSC Marking

Term 4 is always a busy term at High School and HSC Marking makes it even busier. This year several members of the faculty are working tirelessly marking 2013 HSC English scripts. These teachers are to be commended on their dedication to their students and their professional development and we are sure to see the knowledge they gain in HSC marking translate to ongoing Quality Teaching at Northlakes High School.

### We are proud to announce...

The English faculty would like to announce and congratulate Mrs Reay on the birth of her first daughter, Addison Grace. Mrs Reay will be on maternity leave for the next 3 terms and should return to the school late next year. She passes on her thanks to all of her well wishers and would like to wish her English students the best in their exams.

### Excursions. Out and about with English

Mr. Stewart and Miss Williams recently took 50 Year Ten students to see Romeo and Juliet. It was a great

performance and the feedback from students who ventured to the Opera House was very positive. It is hoped that next year we can run more similar excursions as a positive English experience. As a humorous aside, some of the boys enjoyed Romeo and Juliet so much they tried to “friend” the cast on Facebook.

In other excursion news, a big thank you to Ms Smith and Mrs. Reay who took Year 11 to see Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead. Those who attended the performance had only positive feedback and praise for the play and thought Tim Minchin was superb!

### **Writing in English**

Five of our very talented Year 10 Girls; Daniella Burt, Angelina Schiavini, Jess Truman, Bethany Francis and Amy Roberts entered pieces of writing into the Sam Lewis Peace and Environment Awards. The girls individually produced some amazing pieces of poetry and short-fiction. The prize for winning is \$250. We wish them all the best of luck and wait to see how they fared with excitement and anticipation!

### **Assessments and Exams**

Term 4 is the time for final tasks and examinations. English are not running exams this year but rather have opted for a final assessment task for Year 7-10. I would remind students that this mark will count towards your final grade in English and that those who are in Stage 5 must complete all assessments in order to qualify to receive a ROSA. Good luck students. We look forward to rewarding your skills and abilities with great marks and feedback.

The English faculty would like to thank students and staff for their ongoing support. We have seen students respond well to tasks set this year and on the whole each year group has shown pleasing improvement in their literacy and writing. We wish you all a great Term 4 and hope that together we can do our best and achieve great things together.

**Ms Norris**

**Head Teacher English**

### **Creative Arts Report**

The Creative Arts department is being renovated and painted at the direction of the Principal, Mrs Rowley. The painting and renovating has started with Artroom 4 and the new boards are a great success. Not only are they cutting down noise, they are providing a much needed display area in the artroom. I would like to thank our General Assistants Peter Reed and

Ray Bulger for their work in preparing Artroom 4 and their continued efforts around the Creative Arts block and the rest of the school. Along with the renovation, the Home School Liaison officer will be based upstairs, to further support the school's efforts in engaging all students. We welcome our new addition and hope that she will appreciate the Arts, as an integral part of student learning.

During the last school holidays, I had the pleasure of seeing Jacob Thomas, Jayden Stewart from Year 11, Jackson Wood and Aiden Kennedy from Year 10 perform at Woy Woy Leagues Club as an opening act for the renowned and popular performer Jenny Morris. They made a great opening act and the acoustic rendition on a percussion box made the audience sit up and take note. I would like to thank those organisations in the community such as Woy Woy Leagues and the Budgewoi Hotel for their support of local musical talent. Students from Year 10 have recently completed gigs at the Budgewoi Hotel and in December they have been offered more shows.

On other things musical, Mrs Hickson has worked with the support unit, to present musical items for a show at Newcastle Panthers this month and from all reports it was a great success. Our Music team is producing great results for students and it is good to see what our students can do. This term we have had the services of Ashley Hutchinson as part of our staff. He is training to be a Music teacher and has fitted in well; we wish him all the best in his future career. Future events include the Creative Arts show, which will tour local schools and the Northlakes High School Choir that will visit local nursing homes to sing Christmas Carols, as part of our engagement with the community. To encourage student participation in Music, Mr Wilkinson has organised a song writing competition for our students. Promotion has included the use of the school website and our aim to publicise our substantial achievements, through this site and further enhance the reputation of Northlakes High School, throughout the community.

As a sign of the teaching capabilities on offer in our department, there will be a Drama and Visual Arts practicum teacher working in our faculty in Term 4. This will be at the conclusion of the Music traineeship with Mr Hutchinson. The Creative Arts staff takes great pride in developing new teachers and students and I believe the universities, know the unique training opportunities we provide, in a supportive and caring environment. To further endorse this, we had three works selected for the FACE exhibition at Maitland Regional Gallery. Students involved included David Courtney and Mitch Summer from

Year 7 and Jordyn Mitchell from Year 10. It was great to see David and his family make the trip up from the Central Coast, to be at the opening. It is a little disappointing to note that the Gosford City Council has cut most of the public school educational programs except Central Vision, as a cost cutting measure.

I would like to thank the P&C for their continued support of the Arts, with the purchase of another Digital SLR, with high definition video capability to complement the current camera. These kinds of purchases are necessary, as we regularly have two senior classes in Year 11 and Year 12 for the Stage 6 Photographic course. Students had a real sense of ownership of the new camera, when they understood that the P&C had brought the camera and not the department. They knew it was funds generated at a school level, looking at the needs of our students for this purchase to go ahead.

Finally, the Creative Arts staff and I would like to wish all Northlakes' HSC students the very best for their exams and future careers. This year's cohort, from Creative Arts/ Languages included Dance, Drama, Music, Visual Arts, Japanese and Photography. All major works can be collected from now on and a thank you to Miss Koteczky, Mr Wilkinson, Mrs Davis, Mrs Lubinski and Mrs Lee for all their hard work in preparing students for the HSC.

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

## **TAS Report**

Year 11 and Year 12 Information and Digital Technology (IDT) have recently come back from work placement and they all really enjoyed the experience. From a look through the performance reports, the employer's enjoyed the experience as well which is great to see.

Year 12 IDT have prepared for the HSC by working our way through past papers to see if there are areas that require further study. We sincerely wish our students all the best of luck and hope they achieve their goals.

Mrs Garside's HSC CAFS class has focused on the HSC. During the term break Mrs Garside held study days where these students could focus on the work in their HSC study packs.

The accelerated Hospitality class students have finished their final work placement. Once the exams are over, we will be organising a function where we

invite the parents and carers of those students in one afternoon to enjoy a meal that the students prepare and serve.

Year 9 Information and Software Technology have just finished their work on database creation and from a brief look through the assignments submitted, they have done very well. We have now moved onto programming which they seem to be really enjoying. It's a lot of fun even though it can be frustrating when it doesn't work as expected. In this unit the students get to develop a calculator program from the ground up including creating all of the calculations.

Our Stage 4 Technology classes have now moved classes and are in the final rotation for the year. The classes that we had last will be bringing their workbooks home this week for you to see the work they have completed.

The Metals and Engineering students are completing their final work placement for their course and should be back at school next week. Here's hoping they have a great time and learn some valuable new skills.

Year 11 students are completing their preliminary exams in weeks nine and ten of this term and then they move into year 12. We wish them the very best with their exams and offer our full support to them for their final secondary school year.

**Mr G O'Mahoney**

## **Support Report**

The Special Education Unit has had another busy start to the school term, with an excursion to Canberra for our senior class and IOTAS concert for our junior class. We have also had some recent success with our students at State Athletics. Rachel Bade finished 10th in Long Jump and 9th in Shot Put, while Aaron Jordan finished 5th in Shot Put. Both students are to be congratulated on their continued effort and success this year.

Over the next couple of weeks parents and students will be invited to participate in a support unit concert on 22nd November at the school. Parents will also be involved in review meetings during the final week of term. This is an opportunity for parents, students and teachers to discuss your child progress this year. Staff have also been extremely busy organising our end of year activity to Sydney, of which parents will receive additional information in the next few weeks.



### **Canberra Excursion.**

On Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> October, 9 senior support students joined 3 staff on a 3 day educational excursion to Canberra. Cool nights and beautiful days made for a fun – filled successful trip. We started with the National Museum of Australia where we learnt all things Australian. Next, we were awestruck by the light and sound shows at the War Memorial that really made you feel like you were in the war. Then we were amazed at the enormity of Parliament House with its 4,500 rooms! We finished off the day with a delicious Chinese banquet dinner and a stunning sunset at Telstra Tower. On the last day we visited Questacon where the group had fun learning about Science and Technology. A special mention to Adam Shoobert who was the only person in all of Questacon to spin the 360 degree swing completely over. Well done!

**Mr Jon Glasson - Special Education HT (Rel.)**

### **Teaching and Learning Report**

We have had a busy start to Term 4 in the Teaching and Learning faculty. The start of the HSC exams meant we had to work hard to provide special provisions to students who required them. This may have been in the form of a reader or writer who assisted with those aspects of the exams. We were fortunate enough to have a number of wonderful and supportive Year 11 and Year 10 students volunteer to help us in this area. This group of students have also now had an advanced preview in the HSC exam papers.

We are pleased to see our Peer Tutor roll call group succeed again this year. This is our reading program that involves Year 10 students tutoring Year 7 students every morning, to help them develop their reading skills. As a reward for the outstanding work our students have done every morning, we are organising an excursion to Luna Park in Sydney. This will be towards the end of the school year and notes will be handed out soon to notify parents and caregivers. We will also be handing out notes to inform students and families of the fundraising activities we will be holding within the school, to assist in the financial side of our Luna Park excursion.

We would also like to inform parents and caregivers that all NAPLAN results for the year have been handed back to students. If your student is in Year 7 or Year 9 and has not brought home their results, please contact the school.

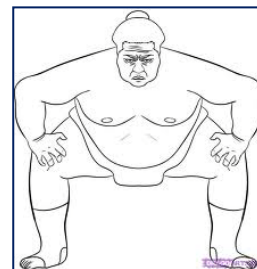
As well as our NAPLAN results, our staff members have been collating results of our primary school tests to determine the Year 7 classes for next year. We would like to thank all involved in this process and expect to have this task finalised soon.

We look forward to the remaining few weeks of the term and hope that our Teaching and Learning classes and classroom teachers continue to succeed, as we conclude our programs and activities for the year.

### **Teaching and Learning Faculty**

#### **Languages Report**

Year 12 Japanese class of 2013 (Brendan Sullivan and Shauna Young) have now completed their HSC exam and I am sure that they gave it their best effort. We wish these students the very best in whatever they choose to do next, whether it be further study, work or travel.



Year 11 students have begun the HSC course. They are currently in the process of recording a speech on their laptops as their first assessment task. Their topic is 'Shopping'.

Year 7 students of Japanese have just completed a unit of work on 'Sports'. We all had fun making origami Sumo wrestlers and using them to have mock bouts.

Indonesian students in Year 7 did very well in their test on Family and Pets. Their new topic is Describing People.

Stage 5 Japanese students are preparing for their final assessment for the 100 hours course. It is very important that they can read and write both of the Japanese scripts, hiragana and katakana. This group, along with our new Year 12s are looking forward to a trip to Sydney for the Japanese film festival.

The Spanish class has been focusing on the difficult grammatical concept of conjugating verbs. Mr Meza is happy with the progress being made.

**All students** should continue to revise vocabulary and grammatical structures at home on a regular

basis. Making flash cards is one effective method of internalising new vocabulary.

**Mrs Davis, Mr MacKinnon and Mr Meza**

### **'Tell them from me' Pilot Student Survey**

Due to our successful application to be one of 100 schools across the state to take part, students across all year groups of Northlakes High School were invited to have their say on their school life through a pilot program called the Tell Them From Me Survey.

We had over 700 students complete the survey online and contribute their perspective to the feedback we receive from the survey. The survey covered the social-emotional factors that impact on students, as well as the areas proven to drive student improvement such as expectations of success, relevance of schooling and post-school aspirations.

The results will be used in conjunction with existing information we have to shape the future learning experiences of your child. While the survey certainly reinforced the direction Northlakes High School is moving, it also provided insight into aspects that may benefit from a different approach catering more strongly for the student voice.

There will certainly be more on this as the range of initiatives put into place as a result of the survey begins to have an impact. There will also be further survey periods to assess any improvement as a result of these changes and offer students further opportunity to have valuable input into their school.

### **Anti Bullying Report**

"You will never reach higher ground if you are always pushing others down." - **Jeffrey Benjamin**

It comes with great sadness to announce that this will be my last newsletter as Anti-Bullying Co-ordinator. I have been doing this job for almost five years and I truly hope that I have made a difference to some students experiences at Northlakes High. I am relinquishing my position so I can concentrate on doing my best in my role of Year Adviser for Year 7. My successor has not been announced but I am sure will take on my role with the passion I have had for this role over the years. I have been bullied, my kids have been bullied, it is not a pleasant experience. I urge all the students of Northlakes to take a stand on Bullying and say NO WAY. I wish my successor all

the best and I hope they will enjoy making a difference as I have tried to do.

A special thanks to Ms Hsu and Ms Watts for their assistance and also to MS Byrnes without her help my role would have been a lot tougher.

"When people hurt you over and over, think of them like sand paper. They may scratch and hurt you a bit, but in the end, you end up polished and they end up useless." - **Chris Colfer**

**Mrs S. Fulwood**

### **Careers Advisers Report**

What a busy year we have had so far. The Year 9 students have been busy studying and learning about Resume writing with Ms Joy Foster who is relieving for Ms Carol Dunne. We changed the format of subject selection day for Year 10 students and had two teachers from each faculty on the interview panel. This was well received and students and teachers alike gained greater insight to each other. Next year will be challenging for Year 10 as they enter their senior years with some of the more interesting subjects they have chosen. Year 10 also had an afternoon visit from Mr Warwick Horner from the University of Newcastle on choosing your subject; Northlakes also invited guest speakers from the University of Newcastle to talk to students who were interested in Engineering, Science and Building. This proved to be a valuable assist for some students who had not made up their mind on subject choice. TVet courses were once again very popular with Year 10 students.

Work experience for Year 10 students is also a very important step in their lives. This year students are having work experience in **week 7 from the 18<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> November**. This allows them a taste of what life is like outside of the school boundaries. We know they all want to leave to earn money but it is what comes with the responsibility of earning money that they are not sure off. In the coming weeks if students are thinking of leaving they need to come and speak their Careers Adviser and I may be able to help with finding appropriate work experience before they leave school. The school highly recommends that students take up this opportunity to source work experience. If students are not attending work experience the expectation is that they are attending school and classes will be collapsed and Literacy and numeracy skills for senior years will be taught.

This term for Year 10 Mr Seaby, Mrs Foster and I are conducting Mock interviews for the Year 10 students on the **14<sup>th</sup> November**, to help prepare them in work style interviews for placement in the workforce. This is a compulsory part of their careers lessons, and we have invited employers from around the Central Coast for this day.

Some Year 8 students attended Newcastle University through our AIM HIGH links to the University. Students worked in groups throughout the day on Build Me project for Science and Engineering which is a career day, with the aim of helping young students plan their future. The goal is to help young people prepare for success in the workforce of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, and in adult life. It is an innovative, interactive and experiential career exploration which teaches them to assess personal strengths and weaknesses and evaluate job satisfaction. We also have had Year 7 and 8 Indigenous students out with a guest speaker from Wollutuka part of Newcastle University “ I Believe” Program to look at career paths for our Indigenous students.

Career lessons have been an eye opening experience for some of the Year 9 students as we have been flooded with requests for Tax file number papers so they can obtain their tax file number and look for part time work. Congratulations to some of those Year 9 students who have taken on part time work.

Year 12 have all left and signed out and it has been a very busy time study wise both for their HSC and researching for life after school. Many are looking at University and TAFE courses while some are opting for fulltime position in the working sector. We wish them all the best for their future. Remember that the Careers Advisers door is always open to you.

We have also been very involved with TAFE Wyong the Outreach program run through Kerry Bryant, Salvation Army Driving School and Breakthru Australia helping transition some of our students not only into the work force but, offering free driving lessons, and courses that are appropriate to our students need. These services have been a valuable asset to the school and students who need assistance with making life changing decisions. The school Ms Rowley, Mrs Foster and I would also like to thank the service providers who have helped out this term with taking on work experience students and mentoring them in their working day.

**Ms Louis Hewett**

## **Road Safety**

Students travelling to school by foot, scooter, skateboard, bicycle, car and taxi are reminded to be vigilant crossing the road. Safe road crossing uses your hearing and sight senses. Please remove devices from your ears to listen for cars while you look for traffic on the road. Walk straight across the road, don't JAY-WALK, when clear and safe. Remember to look for drivers doing a u-turn at the gate (they are too busy to use the turning circle at the end of the road!).

Riders are asked to dismount and walk their vehicle into school from the car park gate and 95% of these students do as they are asked. Thank you, well done.

Major road changes are on the planning table at council which aim to maximise safety for all. Remember for maximum supervision for your child remind them to:

Arrive at 8- walk in the gate!

## **HELPFUL WEBSITES**

**The following FREE websites can help to make learning a fun experience for both students and carers.**

The DEC has **School A-Z**, available as a free app for android and Apple products, and as a webpage for desktop computers. School A-Z has fun games, homework help, and information sheets to help you understand many aspects of material taught in schools.

<http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/>

Northlakes High School has again purchased **Maths Online** for all of our students. Each student has their own log-in and password – get them to ask their Maths teacher if they have forgotten it! Maths online has videos to explain each lesson, interactive work sheets and games to increase skills such as addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Maths online covers Maths from K-12, so don't worry if you can't understand the work your student is doing – you can learn it with them (or while they are at school)!

<http://mathsonline.com.au/?gclid=CK7ikfqVn7oCFSwxpgodNFcAIQ>

The ABC, our national broadcaster, has also developed a site with help for students and carers. It is called **ABC Splash**, and has videos, games and resources to help with assignments. Topics covered include English, Maths, Science and History.

<http://splash.abc.net.au/secondary>

Another valuable site is **A Maths Dictionary for Kids.com**. This site has numerous posters and interactive calculators to assist in understanding many aspects of mathematics. Click on the topics to the left, and then click on the chart to bring it up. Charts with stars are interactive.

<http://www.amathsdictionaryforkids.com/mathsCharts.html>

**Using these sites can help you to help your children with their schoolwork and assessment tasks.**

### **National Partnership Numeracy Continuum Parent Workshop**



A number of parents attended the Numeracy Continuum Workshops held on October 22. Parents received information on the new National Partnership funding for Northlakes High School for Numeracy. This included the use of the Numeracy Continuum and the many additional programs being implemented to strengthen outcomes for all Year 8 students across all KLAS in Numeracy. The Quicksmart program and the Maths Extension program continue to be successful, with students improving their ability and skills in basic numeracy calculations as well as higher order problem solving. Mr Negus (Maths Extension teacher) is reinforcing concepts students are learning in Maths classes with excellent results being recorded in ongoing quizzes. The Maths, Science, PDHPE, TAS and Teaching and Learning faculties are targeting specific numeracy skills with students recording their progress in skill development across the areas of timetables, decimals and fractions. Mrs Curran will

work with students in Year 8 who attended Quicksmart last year to consolidate their skills in basic calculations.



Available **FREE** to all students at Northlakes High.

Every student has a *Log In* to access Mathsonline. If your child has misplaced the *Log In*, they simply to ask their Maths teacher or email the school. If parents want to track their child's progress on Mathsonline, they need to use the *Parent Log In*, select *Option 2* and log in as their child (ie use the student log in and password).

### **P&C News**

#### **Exemptions**

If your child is going to be away from school for an extended period of time due to illness, or holidays, please fill out an exemption form from the office, or notify the school so your child is not marked away as unexplained and you will not receive an SMS or letter.

#### **P&C Meeting**

There is only one more P&C Meeting for this Term, and we would love to see as many Parents/Caregivers come along and find out what is happening in the school. The last meeting for this year is Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> November at 3:30pm in the Language Centre.

#### **Uniform Shop**

The uniform shop is well stocked, and we are ready for all of our new enrolments for next year. If you know of someone in Primary School coming next year, please let them know they are welcome to come in before orientation. Our uniform shop is open every Friday from 9:30 till 11:00am, and we will be open on 20<sup>th</sup> December (staff development day) and on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2014 (staff development day) 9:30 till 11:00. Otherwise there will be plenty of time on orientation day. If you need uniforms, but cannot make it in on Fridays and you know your child's size, just put the money in an envelope with your child's name, the size and item, and hand it into Mrs Chapman at the canteen, and she will inform you when to pick it up. We take eftpos and direct debit (details on the webpage).



## Canteen

The canteen will now be selling the scientific calculators for \$30, with free engraving.

## Kind Donations

Thank you to The Orange Peel Fruit Market and McKenna's Family Bakery. These local businesses support our school on a regular basis. We appreciate their donations and would love our families to reciprocate by supporting them and our local community.

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## BLUE HAVEN COMMUNITY MARKETS

**Saturday 16th November, 10am to 1pm**

Multi-purpose courts, Aspley Drive, Blue Haven  
Near the Blue Haven Community Centre

- locally made arts and crafts
- pre-loved clothing, toys and books
- beauty services
- clothing for interviews and work
- Sausage sizzle, coffee and more

Catch public transport, walk or ride

**Come along and join in the fun!**

There are a small number of stalls available, so if you have a good idea, contact Margot from LEAP on 4390 0897

## Year 7 Report

Year 7 have finished their first year of high school – what a huge learning curve for all!! It has been a wonderful 2013 – I believe that students have successfully settled into high school and most are working well in all areas of school.

Year 7 Presentation Day is on Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> December. This is a chance to celebrate the achievements of our students, both academically and in creative areas of the school. Students who have been invited to the presentation day have been given invitations for their parents to attend. This will be a great day for both parents and students to celebrate their achievements in a formal assembly.

Reports will be issued to students this term. These are Semester 2 reports. Parents are advised to look at both the comments and grades section of the reports in order to gain an understanding of the students' overall achievements for 2013.

Parents are reminded that the camp for next year will be at Forster and details will be available as soon as school resumes. The camp is a lead on from the Year 7 camp. It is run by the same company and has activities to cater for our Year 8 group that are different to those offered at the Year 7 camp. The Year 7 camp was a great experience it bonded students and also students and teachers. Please consider sending your child as I am sure it will be an invaluable experience.

Finally, it has been a personal highlight of my career to undertake the role of Year 7 Adviser. At times it has been challenging – I have certainly grown both personally and professionally. Each day I am

rewarded by seeing Year 7 students happy and enjoying their learning process and their school environment. It truly has been a gift to be in this position. I cannot wait for our students to venture into Year 8 and continue their wonderful Northlakes High School experience!

### **Mrs S Fulwood- Year 7 Adviser**

#### **Year 8 Report**

The end of Term 4 is fast approaching and Year 8 has a busy few weeks ahead of them! Students are finishing their Stage 4 education by completing Yearly Examinations for various faculties. It is important that every student ensures they know what is expected of them for end of year examinations and tries their very best! Reports will be handed out later in Term 4. I remind all students of the NO ELECTRONICS policy in class. It is important to make sure all devices are switched off during school time. I also remind students that anyone who truants will have consequences. It is imperative that students are in the right place at the right time.

In 2014, Year 8 students will be moving into Stage 5 (Year 9 and 10). This is an exciting time for each student. Students will soon be aware of their elective choices for next year and must make sure they are prepared and ready for the next step in their education. Now is the time to start thinking about uniform and equipment requirements for next year.

Camp is on Week 7 of this term! At this point, we have 100 students going on a three day adventure to Forster. Students should have their permission notes and camp lists. Please advise them to see me if they need an extra copy. Final payments must be completed by the end of Week 5 (8th November). Please contact me at the school if there are any queries.

Finally, as a HSIE teacher myself, it was with great pleasure that I was a part of a fantastic Year 8 Medieval Day. The kids were excellent – well behaved, dressed up and got into the spirit of our past! All students (and staff) were treated to an extra special surprise proposal during 5<sup>th</sup> period. On behalf of Year 8, I would like to wish Ms Bromley (and her new fiancé!) all the best for their future. What a wonderful day.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any queries on 43 900 555. I aim to be prompt with my response.

### **Ms E Campbell- Year 8 Adviser**

### **Year 9 Report**

Students in Year 9 are fast approaching the exam period. To prepare fully for these exams, students should be revising their class notes and creating summaries. Teachers are available to students in breaks to ask for help with any key concepts they may be struggling with. Practising answering past exams is also a good way to prepare for exams. There are so many high achieving students in this cohort and I know their hard work will pay off.

The Illawarra Camp was fantastic. I would like to thank the parents for supporting the camp. You can be very pleased with your children. The accommodation staff praised our school group and said they were the best they'd ever seen! I was so proud of them all. I enjoyed spending the time getting to know them a little better. I would also like to thank Mr Brimbecom who accompanied us and was very supportive in his role. It was such a good experience I'm considering another camp for next year. Any interest in Port Stephens? I will keep you all updated. Term 4 is proving to be very busy for me, I have had a Board of Studies commitment for two weeks and will be also working with Artexpress at Homebush later in the term. Mr McKinnon is doing a great job of relieving for me during these times.

As always, call me at the school in regard to any issue you need to discuss or email me: [megan.lubinski@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:megan.lubinski@det.nsw.edu.au)

### **Mrs Megan Lubinski- Year 9 Adviser**

#### **Year 10 Report**

At this time in the term most subject assessment tasks have been completed and reporting is now in progress. This does not mean that the school year has come to an end for year 10. Mock interviews will be conducted during week 6, these interviews are important to all students, especially those that intend to leave us in the not too distant future. These interviews will give students the opportunity to experience going through the job interview process knowing that if their skills are below par there is an opportunity to improve their skills before attempting the real thing. All parents and carers are asked to encourage the students to take this exercise seriously, in the past job offers have come from this event.

Work experience will occur from Monday the 18<sup>th</sup> of November until Friday the 22<sup>nd</sup> November. This is

another opportunity for our students to have a taste of the 'real world'. Once again parents and carers are asked to ensure that the students take this opportunity seriously. In the past jobs offers have arisen from this experience.

I would like to conclude this report by offering my thanks to Jacqui Walsh, Bethany Francis and Tiah Hartas, who are hard working members of the Students Environment Committee. Over the last three days of Term 3 these girls planted over 70 trees and shrubs around the school, all of which seem to have survived the early summer temperatures. These plants will only add to the overall appearance of the school grounds. The Students Environment Committee is open to all students who have an interest in their own environment as well as the global environment. New members are always welcome. Well done girls.

Regards,

**Mr Ed Seaby- Year 10 Adviser**

### **Year 11 Report**

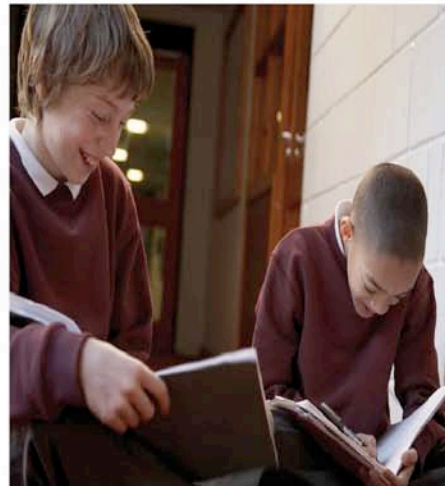
Year 11 have now officially started Year 12 course work. They have moved to their special seating area for daily assemblies and overall are displaying the level of maturity expected of school seniors.

The 9 official school leaders went to a GRIP Leadership Day with Mrs Garside in Newcastle. Mrs Garside is very pleased with the interest and participation of students in the activities provided.

Students should all now be issued with the Year 12 Assessment Schedule. This is a very important document for students to read through and keep in a safe place. It outlines all of the assessment tasks for the remainder of their time in High school. It should help students plan their study time so that assessment tasks are completed by the due date. It is vital to avoid N Warnings!

The Year 11 Presentation Day is set for Wednesday the 13<sup>th</sup> of November. It is expected that all students will be dressed neatly in full school uniform for this important occasion.

**Mrs Davis- Acting Year 11 Adviser**



  
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Saver Plus was developed by ANZ and the Brotherhood of St Laurence and is delivered in Central Coast by The Smith Family. The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government.



# Newsletters Live

**2014 we will be giving you the option to either**

- **Receive an email with the newsletter attached**
- **You can also go online to view the newsletter on our webpage**
- **And the newsletter can be viewed via our APP to read on your iphone, or ipads**
- **Or receive the newsletter via the post.**

**It is up to you!**

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**To: Office Staff**

**Yes, add me to the email distribution list (if not already)**

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**No, please send me the newsletter via the post.**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Child/ren names**

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**Thank you**



# HOST FAMILIES NEEDED!

## MORE INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS ARRIVING IN FEB 2014

October 2013

Latest news...latest news...latest news... latest news...latest news..latest...



### From France

Exchange student Anna, 15, has an eye for art and a fine sense of balance and rhythm. The good gymnast that she is, she is also musical. She sings, plays the guitar and wants to explore Australian culture and natural environment, and share her culture.



### From Italy

Alberto, 17, has led his soccer team to success at top levels. He also enjoys playing basketball and is very friendly and independent. Living near Milan, he works hard at school and hopes to achieve his ambition of becoming a doctor one day.



### From Austria

Theresa, 16, is from Vienna and, not surprisingly, music flows in her veins. She plays both the flute and guitar, and is with a brass band. A keen cyclist, she wants to make use of her skills for medical and humanitarian work one day.



### From Germany

Jennifer, almost 15, spends time gazing in the sky as she is fascinated with astronomy. She is an excellent student and interested in foreign cultures and sports, including cycling and horse-riding. She plays the violin and flute, and is fluent in English and French.



### From Japan

Miki, 16, lives close to the mountains in Kobe and particularly enjoys the outdoors and visits to hot-springs. A pleasant and caring girl, she is a well-rounded student who enjoys sports and has been to England.



### From USA

Liam, 17, from Vermont is adaptable and athletic, and enjoys a raft of activities including soccer, tennis, swimming and trampolining. He has travelled around the USA and Canada and also speaks French.



Their faces say it all: photos of exchange students to Australia who have completed their programs and returned home

**Many more international students choosing Australia will arrive Feb 5th, will be prepared with a 3-day residential orientation in Sydney and will join their Australian host families on Feb 8th. Program lengths are 3, 5 and 10 months. Students are selected, covered by insurance, supported by Local Coordinators and enrolled in schools by S.C.C.E. S.C.C.E. is available 24/7 to all program participants.**

**Request now as many full student profiles as you like  
- you may just know the perfect host family!**

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Postal Address: Locked Bag 1200  
Mt Eliza, VIC 3930

Australia's own international  
student exchange organisation  
since 1983





# Central Coast Climate Action Day

## ACT NOW!

WHERE: WATERFRONT PARK AT THE ENTRANCE

WHEN: SUNDAY, 17 NOVEMBER, 2013 FROM 12.00 NOON

Bring your food, drinks, hats, sunscreen and any other picnic necessities. Dress in summery clothing, orange and red in colour, and bring a red or orange umbrella. Oh and don't forget the sunnies!

We will be creating most impact at about 1.00pm - sign our petition

Organised by volunteers to Getup

### Rock and Water Program

*skills for physical-social teaching*



SAFETY | INTEGRITY | SOLIDARITY | SELF-CONTROL | SELF-CONFIDENCE | SELF-RESPECT

The Rock and Water program was developed by Dutch educationalist **Freerk Ykema**. Since 2002, over 35,000 educators and support service professionals across more than 14 countries, have attended this professional development training. As a result approximately 2 million boys and girls have been trained in Rock and Water worldwide.

You are invited to attend .....

## Presentation for Parents

**FREERK YKEMA TALKS TO PARENTS ABOUT THE  
POSITIVE OUTCOMES FOR CHILDREN WHO  
PARTICIPATE IN ROCK AND WATER**

DATE : Saturday 16th November, 2013  
VENUE : Auchmuty Court, Sport & Aquatic Centre (The Forum)  
Callaghan Campus, University of Newcastle  
TIME : 11.30am—12.30pm  
COST : FREE  
RSVP : The Family Action Centre  
e. [FAC-events@newcastle.edu.au](mailto:FAC-events@newcastle.edu.au)  
p. 02 4921 6403

"I've seen a change in the way my kids interact since starting rock and water"

"I like learning about how to keep myself safe."



"We can never lose sight of the fact that every person, and every child, is unique and that the objective of the course and counselling is to support a person as they tread the path to becoming a unique human being." **Freerk Ykema**



FIND OUT MORE AT: [www.newcastle.edu.au/rw](http://www.newcastle.edu.au/rw)