

Northlakes High School Newsletter

"Opportunities for future success"



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Issue 3 Term 2 Week 5

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From our Principal Ms Merrilyn Rowley

ELEVATE

Our term began with an across the school focus on improving students' understanding of how to study and how to make best use of their time. Sessions were presented by **Elevate Education**, and were very highly evaluated by students. The whole school staff has also heard a presentation, and as part of this term's Staff Development Days, embedded the key concepts in programs. Our hope is that this program will help all students in our school.

NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP FUNDING 2013 – 2014

Northlakes High School students are benefitting from another round of Federal Government funding. Our focus is on addressing Numeracy. We will continue to expand and implement programs at all levels of the school, and across faculties, to improve students' capacity to understand numerical concepts. Staff have begun to collect and analyse data and our Numeracy Committee will deliver its findings. We are very excited at the opportunity this extra funding gives us.

SCHOOL SECURITY

We have had some recent issues of break-and-enter and vandalism, and we ask for your support.

Schools are an important part of our community. We take care and pride in our school, so that it will be a happy, safe and pleasant learning centre for all of our students. No-one has the right to be in the school out of school hours and certainly no-one has the right to vandalise our children's classrooms.

As a community member we are asking you to help us by:

- Being vigilant as you walk or drive past the school out of hours
- Detouring past the school whenever you are able and checking the grounds as you go past
- Reporting any trespassing or vandalism by phoning the School Security Unit (24 hour service) on **1300 880 021**

Your personal safety and security is important, so please do not intervene in any way if observe trespassers, simply report the incident.

Term 2

Already in Term 2 we have had so many events. Students exhibited at "Sculpture by the Bay" at Gosford Regional Gallery. Mr Brimbecom co-ordinated the exhibition by our Year 10 students.

Year 7 went out for a very successful three day camp in Week 2, and in Week 3, Naplan tests were held. Forty two Year 10 students completed Peer Tutor training at Wyong TAFE, Starstruck students rehearsed at the University, Northlakes High School hosted the A.E.C.G. meeting, Year 11 had a science excursion and a VET work ready day, and students in a wide range of sports represented the school in events. It is a very busy place! It is great to see so many activities occurring, facilitated by our exceptional staff.

Fees:

Term 2 fees are now due.

Remember Fees are used to buy resources in each subject area which students directly use, such as food, art supplies, timber and metal, plants etc. If students do not pay fees, their course may be restricted.

Fees may be paid all at once, or in small amounts over a period of time.

PLEASE SUPPORT NORTHLAKES HIGH SCHOOL

PROCEDURES FOR PARENT CONTACT

Students are **NOT** to contact home directly from their mobile phones if they are sick or wish to go home. All contact between parents/carers and students must go through the front office, so that records are kept correct. The front office knows where to locate students.

Students must:

- get a note from the classroom teacher to allow them to go to the front office
- report to the student window

Office staff will contact parents/carers to come and pick up their student.

HSIE Report

Well we are now well into Term 2. Term 2 is a short term of only 9 weeks. This is especially important for all of our Year 12 students, who only have the remainder of this term plus Term 3 left in their school life. As I have previously said in other newsletters, this is the final few months after 13 years of schooling for the Year 12 students. Regular, consistent attendance at school and full attention and observance and participation in class work is essential.

Year 10 students are in the process of choosing their subjects for their senior years. English is compulsory, whereas all other subjects are by way of individual student selection. Parents are strongly advised to be involved in this process. Students, however, must be now doing the necessary “leg work” and make full

enquiries about why they should choose an individual subject and speak to the relevant teachers for advice. Speak to students in Year 11 and Year 12 who may be either positive and/or negative about any subject. Never, ever just “go with the flow” to be with friends, etc. This is your life and an individual educational process we are talking about. It is worth considering what you will be doing after school ends. You don’t have to do academic subjects to gain a successful HSC. Choose subjects that you enjoy and can attain results in. Further, Year 10 class work must be addressed with both enthusiasm and vigour. It is nearly impossible to believe that you can do the bare minimum in junior years and just blossom throughout your senior years. It just does not happen.

Ms Dean and Ms Hewett would like to commend the efforts of their Year 12 Business Studies class. They are currently studying their third topic, Operations and will have an assessment task in Week 8. The HSC examination is only 5 months away and students must think about beginning their study regimen. It is appropriate for the students to utilise the tools they acquired during the Elevate seminars and to take advantage of in-class scaffolding to ensure that they can achieve their personal best. There will be a Business Studies excursion on June 7th to review HSC papers with presenters and markers. We strongly recommend participation in this excursion. We are really pleased with the effort of students and trust that this dedication for learning will continue.

Ms Moore is happy to be back after her large and extended European tour. She is happy to have enhanced her understanding of history and is looking forward to imparting this new knowledge to her students.



Ms Moore meets Tony Robinson of “Time Travels” at Lakes District, England.

Ms Bromley would like to thank Mrs Sherilee Bartlett with her great work with Mrs Moore's classes while she was away. Mrs Bartlett is now a valued member of the HSIE team and will be about doing casual work for us. Ms Scott has been going beyond the call of duty and volunteering in unpaid time to assist Society and Culture students with their PIPS. Well done to the students who have taken advantage of this opportunity and well done to Ms Scott who has proved to be a fantastic asset to the HSIE Faculty.

Mr Rhett Gumley- HSIE Faculty

Languages Report

Students in Year 7 are currently working hard to learn their numbers. Everyone can now count to ten at the very least and should be practising them out loud at home. Teachers were very pleased with the effort many students put into their culture assignments. Topics covered included food, traditional and modern sports, animals, and industry.

satu, dua, tiga, empat, lima, enam, tujuh, delapan, sembilan, sepuluh

一 二 三 四 五 六 七 八 九 十

uno, dos, tres, cuatro, cinco, seis, siete, ocho, nueve, diez

Stage 5 Japanese language students performed well in their first assessment task. Two students achieved 100% and a good number of others scored 90% and above. They are currently working on birthdates (months and days of the month). This class really enjoyed the "rap" as a way of remembering the special words for each day of the month.

Year 11 Japanese language students have started to learn the Katakana script. Those that have not yet mastered the Hiragana script will need to see Mrs Davis for extra practise worksheets. This class is now working towards their next assessment task which will focus on time and daily routine.

今 時
半

Year 12 Japanese language students have a reading and speaking assessment task which will be conducted in class during Week 7 of this term. Yet again, these students have been ploughing through some difficult grammatical concepts as well as learning new Kanji symbols.

Mrs Davis- Languages Faculty

TAS Report

Stage 4 Technology classes are going into their first rotation which means that they will be studying a different Technology topic for the next 13 weeks. Below is a list of the changes taking place:

Class	From	To	Class	From	To
7 Tech	Metal	Food	8 Tech 1	Graphics	Food
7 Tech 2	Computers	Metal	8 Tech 2	Textiles	Graphics
7 Tech 3	Theme Park	Computers	8 Tech 3	Food	Textiles
7 Tech 4	Wood	Food	8 Tech 4	Wood	Food
7 Tech 5	Computers	Wood	8 Tech 5	Computers	Wood
7 Tech 6	Food	Computers	8 Tech 6	Food	Computers
7 Tech 7	Theme Park	Wood	8 Tech 7	Computers	Textiles
7 Tech 8	Computers	Theme Park	8 Tech 8	Food	Computers
7 Tech 9	Food	Computers	8 Tech 9	Metal	Food
7 Tech 10	Wood	Food	8 Tech 10	Textiles	Metal

We have enjoyed teaching the students over the last 14 weeks and hope they enjoyed what they learned. They will be bringing their workbooks home at the end of the week. We wish the students the best of luck and enjoyment in the next part of their technology journey.

Year 10 Textiles design students have been involved in a challenging project which required them to design a garment. They have now finished the design stage and they are beginning construction. The garments will be finished by Week 8 of this term. Mrs De Waal will be holding a textile workshop after school on a Wednesday afternoon until 4pm. Students are most welcome to attend. Students who attend will need to organise their own transport home.

Both the Year 11 and Year 12 VET Information Technology students are going out on work placement for 1 week in Week 5 of this term. They are all looking forward to it and we are all very excited about these groups going out and experiencing the workplace.

The Hospitality students will be opening up the Café again this term. Teachers visit and purchase the food and drinks during the breaks and the students get to gain some very valuable experience from the commercial environment that they set up. Last year the café proved to be very successful and we are looking forward to an even better season this year.

Mr G O'Mahoney- TAS Faculty

Support Report

This term we have seen our classes involved in a number of school activities, including welfare days, athletics carnivals and transition to work programs. Inclusion of our students in the wider school community has been a major focus this term in the support unit. This has included a very successful swimming carnival earlier in the year, welfare days, athletics and cross country carnivals. The Welfare days which occurred over the past 4 weeks were designed as part of the schools bullying prevention strategy. These days provided students with information around bullying behaviours and strategies to minimise risk of bullying at school. Students then completed and entered a "Prevention Bullying" poster competition, which one of our students Oregon Watts, was fortunate enough to win.

Students from the senior class have been participating in community access day to Break Thru employment provider as part of our in depth transition to work program. This program aims to provide students with post school options and develop travel skills to and from the venues on the Central Coast. The class will be visiting additional services providers throughout the school year. I'd also like to thank the parents on their positive involvement in our individual transition planning process. Throughout this term all students and parents have been involved in an annual meeting to discuss student goals and objectives for the coming year. The staff are now working hard to ensure these plans come to fruition.

Finally, I'd like to finish by thanking the contribution over the past term of Mrs Tenille Dowe and Mr Clayton Moriceau. Unfortunately, we say farewell to these two wonderful teachers and wish them all the best in the future. Mrs Dowe and Mr Moriceau have worked extremely hard over past term with their respective classes and will be missed by all students and staff.

Support Faculty

P&C News

This Terms P&C Meeting will be on Tuesday 4th June at 3:30pm in the Language Centre. We would love to see as many Parents/Caregivers come along and find out what is happening in your school. Afternoon tea will be provided.

Uniform Shop

With winter approaching the uniform shop is well stocked with black hooded jackets for \$40.00. If you cannot make the Friday time slot of 9:30am to 11:00am, they can pick up an order form from the student window, and return it to the canteen with the correct money in an envelope, and we will call them to collect when the order is filled. For your convenience payments can also be paid by direct deposit into the Northlakes High School P&C Canteen account BSB: 032 570 Acct No. 288460, and just send in the receipt number.

Thank you,

Mrs Angela Bambey - P&C President

Year 8 Report

Term 2 is off and running! Students are working well and are completing their half yearly examinations in most classes. I would advise students to revise and prepare for their assessments and examinations in order to achieve their best results. Reports are currently being completed by teachers and should be distributed by end of Term 2.

I have organised a camp for Year 8 at Forster. This will be in Week 7 of Term 4. This great 3 day adventure is action packed and will provide a great reward for students at the end of Year 8. I have secured enough students who have paid their deposit to ensure the camp will go ahead. If you have not already paid your deposit – it is not too late!! YOU ARE ABLE TO STILL PAY FOR CAMP. Please do not hesitate to contact me if there are any problems or questions.

Year 8 into 9 Subject Selection Night is still a fair way off – but it is not too early to start thinking about what subjects students would like to do when they enter their Stage 5 (Year 9) Learning Area. The night will be held in Term 3, Week 3 (Monday, July 29th). More information about the night will be given as the date approaches.

Students recently completed a study skills session “Elevate”. Most of the feedback teachers received was positive and students should be using these skills to help prepare for assessments and exams. Students should also be aware that they are able to come and talk to me if they are having trouble with assessments etc. I aim to help – just find me in the staffroom at Recess time.

Please do not hesitate to contact me on 43900555. I aim to respond to enquiries as soon as I can.

Thank you,

Ms Erin Campbell - Year 8 Adviser

Year 9 Report

This term, Year 9 has been engaged in Elevate. This is a program that teaches how to improve study skills in preparation for exams. The feedback from students about the program has been positive. I

hope that in the lead up to exams for this semester, the Year 9 cohort will utilise these new skills.

I am also available for students to come to my staff room in Creative Arts and ask me how to get started for assessment tasks. Sometimes it can be tricky starting a speech or an essay, this is often the cause of procrastination.

There are a large number of Year 9 students who have been selected for Star Struck. They've begun rehearsals and are a credit to the school. There are many excellent athletes that are competing at a high level and representing our school, for example, Central North Rugby Union, and Country Rugby League tournament.

Year 9 also completed their final NAPLAN exams this term. Their behaviour and application was outstanding throughout the exam process. I was impressed and proud indeed.

Immunisation for boys was also completed in Week 4.

I gave out the formal permission note earlier this term for the camp to Illawarra. It has the information sheet on what to bring and the medical notes. I need detailed information about your child's swimming proficiency. Thank you to those who have already sent them back.

If you need to talk to me about your child please contact me on 4390 0555 or via email: megan.lubinski@det.nsw.edu.au

Mrs M. Lubinski- Year 9 Adviser

Year 10 Report

I would like to begin this report by congratulating all of the Year 10 dancers, singers and musicians who were selected to participate in Starstruck for this year.

We are heading towards an important period in the life of our Year 10 students with subject selection for Year 11 and Year 12 occurring in the not too distant future. Ms Dunn through her careers lessons, is educating students about the number of units each student needs to carry through Years 11 and 12, and about the many different pathways available to students. Now is a good time for student to ask their teachers and faculty head teachers about senior

subjects and how senior subjects are structured in comparison to the junior years.

Regards,

Mr Ed Seaby - Year 10 Adviser

Year 11 Report

Term 2 has been a positive and busy time with all Year 11 on track with class tasks and assessment tasks. As Year 11 Adviser I would like to continue to congratulate Year 11 on their uniform, being prepared for classes and their overall attitude to school they have showed this term.

During Week 2 of this term, Year 11 participated in Elevate Seminars. The seminars were full of valuable information and ideas for our senior students, such as, time management, study and exam techniques. I hope Year 11 take this information and use it wisely to help with their senior students. If any student needs more explanation of these techniques or guidance please come and see me.

I would encourage parents/carers to discuss with their child the use of mobile phones and iPods in classrooms. It is against school policy to use these electronic devices during class time. If they are caught using them they will be sent to a Deputy Principal, who will contact parents/carers to come to the school to collect these devices.

Year 11 students are busy completing Half Yearly Examinations and assessment tasks. It is important to record all due dates in their diaries and start tasks as soon as they receive them. This way the tasks will be completed and handed in on time.

Please contact me if there are any concerns with Year 11 students by phone on 43 900555 or email jodene.garside@det.nsw.edu

Mrs Jodene Garside- Year 11 Adviser

Year 12 Report

Students have recently completed Half Yearly Examinations in those subjects which undertake them. Students should use these exams as a guide of their performance to date, using their results as a

tool to implement a study plan focusing on areas which need developing. These may include a specific topic or perhaps even a certain style of answer, such as extended response. We were very fortunate to have presenters from Elevate visit our Year 12 students during two sessions who assisted them with study skills and exam techniques. We expect Year 12 students will utilise the knowledge they gained from these sessions in preparation for the Trial and HSC Examinations.

Despite the half yearly exams being over, students are reminded that now is not the time to take a break or relax from their study routines. It is imperative that everybody makes a conscientious effort to attend as many lessons as possible, to ensure every last morsel of knowledge is devoured before it is too late!

Hopefully every student has developed a study timetable to assist them in making full use of valuable spare time. Students serious about achieving a good result in their HSC should be engaged in approximately two hours of self guided study every night of the week. To some, this may seem like a daunting task, however it is honestly necessary if a student is to achieve to their potential. If not already doing so, it is never too late to begin. The earlier students get serious about their HSC study, the better their results will be. Hopefully, students are utilising their free Excel HSC Survival Guide which were provided to them to assist them in their study preparation.

Students should also have their HSC timetable. To gain access to their timetables they need to log in to Students Online at <http://studentsonline.bos.nsw.edu.au/> and use their student number and pin. Those who have provided their email address would have received these via email.

The Year 12 Formal will be held at Crowne Plaza Terrigal on the 12th of November. The deposit of \$25 is now overdue so if your child has not paid their deposit and they would like to go please pay as soon as possible to the student window. Students must also pay a deposit for their guest once approval has been granted.

Thankyou,

Mrs Kerry Bissaker- Year 12 Adviser