

Northlakes High School Newsletter

"Opportunities for future success"



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October, 2014

Principal's Report:

Northlakes High School recently held a 'Pink Day' to raise money for Cancer Research. This was led by Kate Mills, (an ex-student) and her family. Kate is raising funds through participating in the Chris O'Brien Lifehouse. Kate will be walking 60km in two days in November, and we wish her all the best. Many ex-students returned to the school to assist Kate and her family and it was good to see them back being good role models for our current students.



Thank you to Jorgia Wright, Brianna Newman, Lisa Hartman, Lauren Bryant, Michelle Bertucci, Tiah Hartas, Amy Roberts, Reannan Brooker, Angela Ryan, Linda and Brad Mills, and Craig Prest. In total Kate raised \$1064.00.

As Principal over the last few weeks I have had the pleasure of signing many 'Classroom Commendations' for students who have completed outstanding work in their classrooms. Some have been for very

impressive artworks. Our office staff have copied and laminated some of these and displayed them in the office. Pictured below is Keanu Hussey and his picture of an emu.



Spring has been in the air at Northlakes High School, and our latest additions to the agriculture farm are twin lambs.



Yours in Public Education
Mr Warren Welham
Principal (Relieving)



Education &
Communities

Year 7 Report

It has been great to see so many Year 7 students winning from the "Gotcha" draw lately. They are earning "Gotchas" a lot in class and showing their commitment to their education. All they need to do to win the weekly \$20 voucher or \$5 canteen voucher is to put their "Gotchas" in the draw in the library.

A uniform check was conducted for Year 7 this week and we had 28 students out of uniform. The items included brightly coloured jumpers, coloured pants, and tights. These items stand out when they are on assembly and it is disappointing to see so many. Students with repeated negative uniform behaviours will result in a phone call home to discuss. Please assist us in checking your child's uniform before they leave for school each day. Tights need to be covered with a school skirt or black shorts.

It is immunisation time again. Please ensure your child is at school for the 19th of November. The catch up day will be on the 25th of November.

Soon Year 7 will be completing end of year exams. Please ensure your child does some study before each one. This will help your child go into their exams with confidence. Please also ask if they need new equipment for classes.

Please contact the school if you have any concerns about your child. The number is 4390 0555.

Mrs Bissaker
Year 7 Advisor

Year 8 Report

Year 8 Report not available this week due to unavoidable circumstances.

Year 9 Report

Welcome to Term 4! Year 9 has had a smooth start to Term 4. I am pleased to see the year group show maturity as they finish the end of

the year. Overall, behaviour has improved school wide for Year 9. Many students are starting to display their great potential as school role models and leaders by taking on extra tasks and engaging in school wide activities. It is so pleasing to see.

Students are fast approaching their Yearly Examinations which will occur in Weeks 4 and 5. Students are reminded to revise for their final assessments. Teachers will be writing end of year reports shortly after this, with the expectation that reports will be handed out later on in the term. A reminder to give your PERSONAL BEST in all assessments! Reports can be very handy for job applications! GOTCHAS can also be received for positive behaviour. I've heard the final excursion for the winning house is going to be fantastic – make sure you grab as many points as you can for your house!

A quick note about the warming weather: Please ensure students have appropriate Summer uniforms – no tights! Students must ensure they have correct shoes, shirts and the length of skirt! Please feel free to see me if there are any concerns.

One last mention – I will be getting married at the end of Week 9. On my return (Week 10) I will be changing my surname. If you need to contact me my name will be Erin Lawson. Same person – different surname! I am excited to lead Year 9 as Year Advisor until the end of Year 12. Here's to a successful end of year!

Ms Campbell
Year 9 Advisor

Year 10 Report

This term is going very quickly! We need to get all jacket payments in this term. The senior jackets are \$66.00. If your child has misplaced the note please ask them to get a new one from me. There is a lot of interest and if your child is planning to stay and complete the HSC it is a definite must have! In the past, students have felt that they missed out by not ordering

and asked for a second order to go through. There is always only one order though.

As the second oldest year group in the school now I would like Year 10 to focus more on their presentation at school. This week I have rung a number of families to discuss uniform issues. Please assist the school by ensuring your child wears the correct uniform. If you are having financial difficulties please let me know. They are leaders and I would like them to show how proud they are to be at Northlakes High.

There have been a few changes to the timetables for next year and a number of Year 10 students have had to make changes to their class choices. Please discuss with your child if they're happy with their new choices or if they are yet to make the changes.

A number of faculties are looking at delivering intensive lessons in the last 5 weeks of term that will prepare your child for next year. This is a really big benefit and will give them confidence in preparing for Year 11. I hope that attendance stays high as their time as a junior ends.

There have been a number of enquiries about work experience. This is a really beneficial opportunity and can often lead to apprenticeships. If you're having trouble finding a suitable placement please contact Ms Hewitt the Careers Teacher.

As always, please contact me at school on 4390 0555 or via email: megan.lubinski@det.nsw.edu.au to discuss any concerns.

Mrs Lubinski
Year 10 Advisor

Year 11 Report

The vast majority of Year 11 students have had their Year 11 to Year 12 Transition Interviews and arranged their study load accordingly. Also, new timetables have been issued for the commencement of the students' HSC year. Parents of any Year 11 student who has not had their interview should encourage their

student to see either myself (Mr Seaby), or the year Deputy Principal (Mr Boake), to organise a time for an interview.

On another matter, this being students who drive to school. The actions of students when driving to and from school and the manner in which they park their cars at school is NOT an issue for Northlakes High School or the Education Department. Students who break the motor traffic regulation either in jest or accidentally, are liable to action by the civil authorities. I encourage parents of student who are driving to ensure, that, the privilege of driving is done in a safe and courteous manner. Senior jackets/jerseys orders will be taken until the end of October. At this point I will reassess the viability of senior jackets/jerseys for 2015.

Mr Seaby
Year 11 Advisor

Year 12 Report

Northlakes High School Year 12 is underway with their HSC. As Year 12 Advisor I am available for ongoing welfare support during this time. I hope they are all doing their best and completing appropriate study for each of their subjects. Remember time management is the key!

The Year 12 Formal is only a couple of weeks away on Saturday the 15th November 2014 at the beautiful Kooindah Waters Golf Resort. We have about 150 staff and students attending. It is going to be a great night, a wonderful way to end Year 12's High School time at Northlakes High School.

John Dyke's has received an Academic Excellence Award from Newcastle University and possibly a scholarship if he is successful in gaining entry into the University next year. Well done John! If you need to contact me please either call the school on 4390 0555 or email me at jodene.garside@det.nsw.edu.au

Mrs Garside
Year 12 Advisor

Support Unit Report

The staff and students would like to welcome our new head teacher, Mr Roy Goodenough, who has come from The Entrance Annex Support Unit, prior to that he was at Stewart House and brings his wealth of experience in special education. Mr Goodenough has enjoyed getting to know students and staff and is looking forward to working with parents to meet our student's needs as they progress through high school.

The Special Education Unit has had another busy start to the school term, with an excursion to the Youth Eco Summit at Homebush with Mr Quodling and Mrs Murray. They enjoyed making a bushman's stone axe and wove an Aboriginal bracelet. Mr Goodenough and Miss Milne took the remainder of the students to the IOTAS concert at Newcastle. They had a great time watching the performances. The staff were impressed with the positive behaviours shown on both excursions.



The staff would also like to acknowledge the great support Miss Matthews has provided to the Junior class, and although we wish her all the best with her exciting move, she will be sadly missed by everyone.

Support Unit Staff

Welfare Report

The Department of Health has asked a number of NSW schools to complete a brief survey; our school has been selected to participate. They are sending representatives to our school to administer the survey and will not involve any school staff. We have sent envelopes home to 60 students in each year from Years 7 – 10. The envelope contains a consent form for your child to complete the survey at school later on this year. If you are happy for your child to be involved please return the consent form to the Welfare staffroom or to the front office. Every child returning a form will go in the draw for a \$20 voucher at Lake Haven. Thank you for your assistance.

There are a wide range of programs available to students to support individual welfare needs. This term we have "Glow", "Let's Talk Choices", "Drumbeat" and "Strength". If your child is looking for a program to help with any Wellbeing needs please let us know.

Dates to Remember

- 11th November: Year 11 Presentation Day, 9 - 10:30am
- 19th November: Immunisation day, Year 7 girls/boys and Year 9 boys
- 25th November: Immunisation back up, Year 7 girls/boys and Year 9 boys
- 11th December: Presentation Day, Years 7 - 10

All staff recently completed the Disability Standards for Education Training. These lessons aimed at strengthening the knowledge and understanding of all staff about the Disability Discrimination Act and the Disability Standards.

It's Not Ok to Be Away! All student absences must be explained within 7 days and it is a legal responsibility of parents and carers that their children have above 85% attendance throughout the school year. If you are having any issues with your child's attendance please contact your child's Year Adviser to discuss.

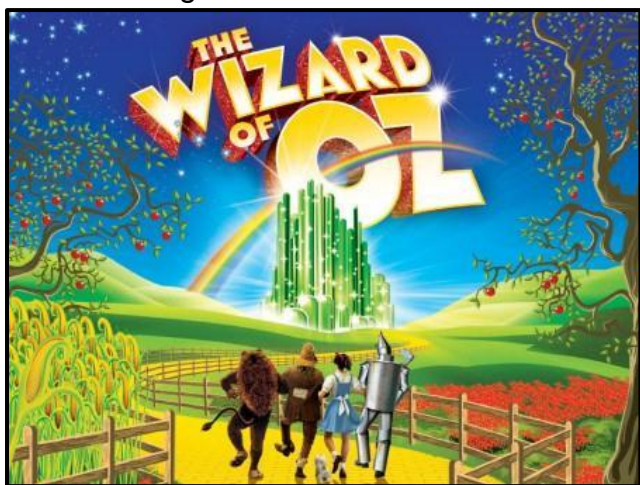
The Department of Education requires students to wear enclosed leather shoes for all students in practical subjects. This is a mandatory requirement. Each morning that we are on whole school assembly we will be choosing at random a year group and any clothing issues to address. If your child does not have correct uniform or a note signed by a parent/carer their name will be recorded on our Sentral system. Three entries will result in a phone call home. Please assist us in promoting the school as it is one of our PBL objectives. If you are experiencing financial issues please contact us. We also ask that if any families are finished with school uniforms that they donate them to the Welfare team for our second hand clothing pool.

The Welfare office is in D46 and we are contactable via email-
jodene.garside@det.nsw.edu.au
megan.lubinski@det.nsw.edu.au
or via phone: 4390 0555.

Mrs Garside & Mrs Lubinski
HT Welfare (relieving)

The Wizard of Oz

On Wednesday the 21st of October Mrs Brimbecom and Ms Koteczky took 18 students to see The Wizard of Oz at The Hunter School of Performing Arts.



Students from 7GQ and Stage 5 Dance and Drama classes visited the Hunter Theatre to view the production. Students were captivated by the talent of the students from the Hunter

School of Performing Arts and left inspired. They were most impressed by the quality of the orchestra and the quality of sound that came from the orchestra pit. Mrs Brimbecom and Ms Koteczky would like to congratulate the students on their behaviour at the theatre and on the train. They all had an enjoyable day and we are hoping to go see another production sometime this term.

Careers Report

- Year 10 Employment Portfolio Assessments Task has been handed out in class and is due Week 6 Friday 14th November.
- Year 10 Mock Interview Day is on the 19th November.
- Year 10 Work Experience Week is from the 24th November to 28th November.
- Parents will receive a letter home explaining all about Work Experience and the Mock Interview System.
- Please check with your child on the information that they have been handed regarding Mock Interviews and Work Experience.
- Year 9 also are working on an assessment task for Careers which is being handed out at present. Please check with your child in regards to what is happening in Careers. Their assessment task is also on putting together their portfolio.

Ms Hewett
Careers Advisor

News from Student Support

Just a short note to let everyone know I have moved rooms. I am now located off the hall, opposite the counsellors door. If your child has forgotten their lunch, had a uniform malfunction or needs a quick chat, please let them know they can come to me in any break.

Uniforms Please

I'm in desperate need of black school shorts, if you have any at home that your child has grown out of please send them in, I would really appreciate it.

How we get the food that sometimes feeds your child

I would like to thank The **Orange Peel Fruit Market** at Charmhaven. The Orange Peel Fruit Market donates a box of fruit each Monday. This fruit is offered to any student that has forgotten their food. This donation is appreciated by all students. **Charmhaven Bakery** also donates a loaf of bread each week for our sandwiches. The **Sundowner Bakery** at San Remo donated our Breakfast Club two loaves of bread each Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. We would like to support these businesses. We hope that The Sundowner Bakery opens again soon.

National Bandanna Day 31st October

This year we are supporting CaNTeeN , our SRC will be selling Bandanna's \$4 and Pen's \$3 ALL money raised goes to CaNTeen. We would appreciate your support.

Mrs Morgan
Student Support Officer

Girls Netball

On Friday the 17th of October the 7/8 girls Netball Team competed in the Sydney North Netball Gala day, Held at Adcock Park Gosford. It was a great day; the girls were involved in a total of 8 games. Unfortunately they were placed into a difficult pool, considering this the girls played really well and spirits were high throughout the competition. The girls came away with 3 wins for the day. Overall it was an excellent day with the girls improving tremendously throughout the competition. I would like to thank all the parents that attendant and helped with transport to and from the venue. I'm very proud of how the girls played and look forward to our next competition.

Uniform Shop

The Uniform shop is open every Friday from 10:00am till 12:00pm. If your child would like to bring in cash, they can give their order to Mrs Chapman in the canteen, and she will give it to them in the next break.

POP – Parent Online Payments

Just a reminder that Term 4 School Fees are now due and we have our new Parent Online Payments. Any School Fees, and excursions can be paid via our website under the **\$make a payment** button. Also, anyone that makes a payment via our POP this Term will go into the draw for \$200 off their child's school fees for next year.

The Chaplains Thought.

60 DAYS TILL CHRISTMAS!!!

I know what you're thinking, where did my year go? I haven't done everything I wanted to achieve, like that 10kg you were going to shred, or that habit you convinced yourself you would stop doing.

My last year's resolution is now going to be my new year's resolution for the 3rd year in a row.

With Term 4 well and truly underway we see many things changing and moving forward in the life of NHS, the HSC is almost over and students are making some big decisions, do i take a gap year, go to university, earn some good money at Woolworths factory or travel the world!

In all of these decisions it's good to take a moment and focus on what is important, family, friends, education and making great new memories.

I'll leave you with this thought from a Chinese proverb.

"The Man who moves a mountain begins by carrying away small stones"

Matthew Adams
School Chaplain

DATES TO REMEMBER

27/10/14	VET information evening Gorokan
31/10/14	National Bandanna Day
2/11/14	Kids Day Out – Kariong Mountains High School
11/11/14	Year 11 Presentation Day 9:00am
11/11/14	P&C Meeting 3:30pm
15/11/14	Year 12 Formal – Kooindah Waters
19/11/14	Immunisations
19/11/14	Year 10 Mock Interviews
24-28/11/14	Year 10 Work Experience
3/12/14	Orientation Day Year 7
11/12/14	Year 7-10 Presentation Day
17/12/14	Last Day of School
18-19/12/14	Staff Development Days
19/12/14	Uniform shop open 10:00-12:00pm

Have you installed our App?

Did you know that you can notify the school office about your child's absence through our App? You can download our App for iPhone from:

<https://itunes.apple.com/au/app/northlakes-high-school/id651009788?mt=8>

Or for Android from:

https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.app_nhs.layout

Community News

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NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

The G'DAY USA Program is a short term Cultural Exchange which offers High School students and staff the opportunity to travel, as a group, to the USA during the Christmas School holidays.

Northlakes High School is an active participant in the program and once again is offering the opportunity in the January 2016 school holidays to students 14 years and over.

Educational World Travel has been offering the "G'DAY USA Program" to High School students since 1988. Since that time they have become one of the largest Exchange Organisations operating in Australia.

Living with an American family provides our students with a greater awareness of the differences between our cultures. Additionally, of particular importance is the educational benefit gained from attending School classes with the host students and becoming involved in class activities on a first hand basis.

The Program is invaluable in providing students with a greater sense of responsibility, self-reliance and self-esteem. Travellers return with an increased awareness of the importance of working cohesively in a team environment.

A Typical Cultural Exchange of 20 days includes the following:

- Travel/Medical Insurance.
- Return economy airfares.
- 10 days living with an American Host family
- 7 nights Hotel Accommodation - quad share.
- Continental breakfasts daily whilst at hotels.
- All bus transfers in the USA as per the Itinerary.
- Entry fees to Disneyland, Knott's Berry Farm and Universal Studios.
- Sightseeing day tour of San Diego and San Francisco (includes coach).
- Four days sightseeing during hosting period. Specific inclusions to be advised once the host city is allocated.

There are 3 places available to join our January 2016 group so please contact Mr Welham for further details about the tour if you are interested.



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