

Northlakes High School Newsletter

"Opportunities for future success"



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From our Principal: Reconciliation Day



Our Reconciliation Day Ceremonies in Week 5 were a great success. Organised by our Aboriginal staff and students, with particular mention of Ms Jessica Leffley, Taylah Gillmer, Simone Cooke and Shayde Fauvette, the whole school was able to hear and see our Aboriginal students perform and deliver messages about inclusion. We all participated in creating a 'sea of hands'. There are many photos on our website.

Secondary Principals' Conference

I have just returned from a three day Secondary Principals' conference attended by 343 NSW principals. It was an extraordinary event, as we heard very high quality keynote speakers from Australia, Hong Kong, Canada and the United Kingdom.

Workshops were held on a wide range of focus areas, including technology, quality learning, the needs of the 21st Century learner, and

much more. It was an opportunity for me to learn about the successes of others, and directions of education, at state, national and international levels. Our school is constantly evaluating and aiming to improve, and conferences such as this are important in the process. Our focus for the Staff Development Day in Term 3 will be Technology and Quality Teaching.

Stage Assemblies

On 16th June we held three formal stage assemblies. These were excellent, allowing all students to recognise and celebrate the creative and academic talents of their peers.



Our Year Advisers all presented awards to students who continue to do their personal best. Once again, the Year 11 Entertainment course students were impressive in their organisation, and our Aboriginal Dance and



Education &
Communities

Didge groups staged very professional and captivating performances.

CCTV

Our CCTV system is now live. I am very grateful to the DEC for supporting the school in this way, by helping protect our facilities from the activities of mindless vandals.

Fees

Term 2 fees are now due. Please ring the school to discuss a payment plan if you are experiencing genuine difficulties. Students in Year 7-10 may apply for student assistance. A Centrelink Pension number is required. Average annual fees for Years 11 and 12 are around \$100, with some VET courses being higher.

Right Place Right Time

Please assist us in having all students at school by 8.00am. This means roll marking is efficient, students are at school for the beginning of all lessons, and our office staff can get on with their other jobs.

Yours in Public Education
Merrilyn Rowley

Year 7 Report

Many Year 7 students are working hard this term, maintaining focus and doing their personal best both inside and beyond the classroom. A reminder to students: after receiving 5 Classroom Commendations please give them to me in the TAS Staffroom so you receive a Year Advisor's Commendation. These all contribute to receiving a Principals Commendation which is great for the student's portfolio.

We had another wonderful stage assembly where we recognised the efforts of the many students trying their best in all areas. The following students should be recognised for their hard work and commitment to the school: Peter Sales, Brianna Everingham, Timothy

Stanford, Taylah Beach, Natalie Devlin, Rhys Kime, Ethan Byrnes, Libbie Everly and Kai Lahina.

I would also like to congratulate Felicity Drew and Lejla Pacarada for their leadership and public speaking skills; presenting during the stage assembly. It is great to see so many students willing to stand in front of their peers with confidence and present in a professional manner. Well done!

During Week 8 Warner Youth Education will be delivering a program to Year 7 students to enhance Wyong Shire Councils existing Graffiti Management Strategy in the area of prevention. It is a highly engaging and entertaining program designed to prevent youth from undertaking a range of anti-social behaviours with a focus on tagging, and provides them with crucial life skills.

During Week 6 Kim Smith, the Police School Liaison Officer visited our Year 7 students to discuss the importance of the appropriate use of social media, cyber safety and sexting.



Hopefully all students found this seminar valuable.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me on 43900555 or Kerry.bissaker@det.nsw.edu.au

Kerry Bissaker
Year 7 Advisor

Year 8 Report

It has been quite a busy term this term with many students having half yearly exams. It is very pleasing to see so many Year 8 students getting involved in the many school activities we have to offer. The year assembly showcased a lot of Year 8 talent with a special note going to the Aboriginal dancers who performed an excellent dance. In Week 6 the students were given a presentation on the effects of misuse of social media by our Police Liaison Officer, Ms Kim Smith. If any problems have been identified it is important for students and parents to tell someone sooner rather than later so things do not escalate.

The school reports will be handed out in the next couple of weeks and this is an opportunity for students to evaluate their progress and act on improvements suggested by their teachers so we all are achieving our personal best.

Students are also reminded to get the Gotcha's in and also Teachers Commendations, which are handed to the Year Advisor. When a student has collected 5 Teacher Commendations they will then receive a Year Advisor Award.

Sue Fulwood
Year 8 Advisor

Year 9 Report

Term Two's end is fast approaching. It has been a very quick and busy term for Year 9. Students at this stage have completed their half yearly examinations and assessment tasks. Reports are timetabled to be issued at the end of this term.

Students must ensure that they complete ANY outstanding assessment tasks/N award Warning letters. Students are reminded that when completing Stage 5 courses, it is mandatory to complete any required classwork and assessment tasks. I am available to help any students with concerns.

The weather has indeed become much cooler at Northlakes. Students are reminded to wear

black jumpers and enclosed shoes. Another friendly reminder – tights are not acceptable as pants. Please see me if there is a problem.

As a Year Advisor (and a HSIE teacher), it gives me such pride to announce that Paige Steele received a High Distinction in the Australian Schools Geography Competition. This was a first for Northlakes. Paige has placed in the top 6% of Australian students competing in the competition.



Sophie Stanford, Mrs Rowley and Paige Steele

Along with this, Sophie Stanford gained a Distinction, and 5 students received a Credit in the competition. Well done to these students – what an outstanding result!

As always, I am more than happy to talk to any parent/ caregiver about any concerns relating to the Welfare of students. Please contact me on 43900555. I aim to respond to enquiries as soon as I can.

Have a happy and healthy Winter break. Stay Warm!

Erin Campbell
Year 9 Advisor

Year 10 Report

This week all Year 10 students went to our website, and logged on to complete a survey, so we have an idea of what students are interested in studying, and to help us with our subject lines. Last Friday we held an assembly and it was wonderful to see the amount of students that came up on stage and received

Year Adviser Awards for having outstanding attendance. Keep up the good work everyone! Just a reminder that the Careers Expo will be held on Tuesday 24th June at Avondale, and Parents are welcome in the afternoon from 1:00pm. Students and parents are invited to attend our Subject Selection night. It will be held on Wednesday 25th June, in the hall from 6:00pm. Every student will be given a booklet with information about every subject which you can take home and read together.

It has been a very busy Term, and I am sure you will all enjoy your family time over the holidays. This is a great opportunity to start a new study plan to help you get organised for semester 2.

It was very disappointing that we didn't get the numbers for our camp, for all of the students that did make a deposit; a refund will be sent in the mail.

Megan Lubinski
Year 10 Advisor

Year 11 Report

Students are now working into the last half of their preliminary courses; some are already looking forward, with trepidation, to the on rushing HSC courses. At this point in time, it would be mindfully for parents and carers to encourage their students to complete all homework and assessment tasks.

Reports for Year 11 will, in all likelihood, not be distributed to students until Week 9 of Term 2.

The design for the student's senior jackets has been set and students will be shown the approved sample shortly and orders will be taken late Term 2 and early Term 3. Although the cost of the jackets will be in the \$100 range facility will be made to allow the student's to pay off the jackets.

Ed Seaby
Year 11 Advisor

Year 12 Report

Year 12 have had a very busy Term 2. Reality is setting in now with only 12 school weeks left for Year 12. This is the time for you all to use your teacher's expertise in the subjects you are studying; they are there to assist you!

Remember to continue recording dates of all tasks and exams in your diaries or calendars to help you keep track of when these are due.

Year 12 uniform is looking good. It is wonderful to see all Year 12 students taking responsibility and pride in being senior members of this school. Seniors are reminded that they are only to wear black jumpers or their senior jackets.

Just a reminder that all Year 12 students are not permitted to leave school grounds during breaks or free periods unless you have an appointment or TAFE. Appointment notes need to be taken to office before school for an early leavers pass. During your free periods you are encouraged to use the library resources to research and complete tasks or make study notes for your exams.

On 29th May a group of 25 Year 12 students, Ms Hewitt and Mrs Garside visited Sydney Careers Expo at the Hordern Pavillion gaining valuable information about courses offered from a variety of Universities and Colleges in and around the Sydney area. A good day was had by all!



The Year 12 Formal has been booked and a deposit paid for the 15th November 6pm at Koorindah Waters Golf and Resort. The cost of

a formal ticket is \$85.00 with a non-refundable deposit of \$40.00 to be paid to the front office by the 18th July. **A new policy at Northlakes High School is that Year 11 and 12 school fees are to be paid in full before the remainder of the formal total can be paid.** The Year 12 Formal invitation will be given out next week.

Step up Mentoring Program is continuing with all Year 12 involved utilising the experiences of their mentors in areas such as study, time management etc.

Outside the TAS staffroom is a Year 12 Noticeboard which is *constantly* updated with valuable information for Year 12 students. Please check regularly for any information that may apply to you.

Attendance at school is to be above 85% in all classes. All days absent must be explained with a note from your parent/carer. If a Year 12 student's attendance falls below 85%, a letter will be sent home and students take the risk of failing that subject/s. Please see me if you are having problems with attending classes or school before it is too late.

Dates to remember:

- 24th June 2104: Avondale Careers Expo
- 18th July 2014: PIP's due for Society & Culture
- 18th July 2014: \$50 deposit Year 12 Formal
- 28th July 2014: Trial exams
- 18th September 2014: Year 12 Graduation Assembly
- 15th November 2014: Year 12 Formal

Please do not hesitate to call or email (jodene.garside@det.nsw.edu.au) me if there are any concerns. Remember I am here to support Year 12 and their families in any way I can.

*Jodene Garside
Year 12 Advisor*

Support Unit Report

On Friday 30th May, some students from the Support Unit travelled with Mr Quodling, Mrs Schneider and Mrs Lewsam to Henry Kendell High School at Gosford to participate in a "Come Try It" sports day for students with disabilities. They firstly tried wheelchair basketball under the watchful eye of Liesl Tesch, Australian Olympic wheelchair basketballer and sailor. Next, they had fun throwing around some Blackbelt Judo instructors followed by a rugby league workshop where they got to meet Mario Fenech! All the students had a fun and exciting day meeting new friends and trying some great sports.

The new Support Unit kitchen is nearly finished and looks fantastic! With 2 double ovens with range hoods and plenty of bench space, students and staff can't wait for the unit's cooking program to re-commence at the start of Term 3.

Welfare Report

On Wednesday the boys from the RAGE program went and volunteered at the Community Luncheon at Wyong Oasis Salvation Army. This was a part of the 'Pay it Forward' section of the program.



The boys helped serve the lunch and were greatly appreciated by the other volunteers. Feedback from the parents of the boys who attended has been very positive and the boys greatly enjoyed this experience.

Sport Report

Term 2 sees us right in the middle of the Zone and Regional Carnivals for both Cross Country and Athletics.

Northlakes High School sent a team of approximately 35 runners to the Zone Cross Country Carnival, with the following students qualifying for regional: Taylah Tudehope, Jaycen Kimmorley, Kiran Page, Joel Durrington, Joshua Meredith, Jemma Justin and Kaylee Shephard. A special congratulations to Joel Durrington who was the winner of the 13's Boys event. Thursday 12th June was the date for the Sydney North Regional Cross Country Carnival, with results unknown at the time of printing.

Tuesday the 17th June is the date for the Zone Athletics Carnival, to be held at Mingara Athletics Centre. All students who are attending should have received and returned a note to Mr Mansfield by now. The Sydney North Regional Athletics Carnival is on Monday 21st and Tuesday 22nd July at Sydney Olympic Park, Homebush. Best of luck to all athletes in all of the above carnivals.

Congratulations to both Hayley and Joshua McDonnell for being selected in the Sydney North Regional Lawn Bowls team. Good luck with your trip to Wagga on the 5th – 7th August for the NSW CHS tournament.



We have enjoyed some recent success in the sport of Futsal. Our Open age girls team won the Lake Macquarie section of the Hunter Strikers Futsal competition, and will be involved in the 'Champion of Champions' competition at

Broadmeadow Basketball stadium on Wednesday 25th June. The U/16 boys came runner up at the same tournament, and will also play in the 'Champion of Champions', on Tuesday 24th June. Our Open age boys team did not fare so well, however with the majority of the team being in Year 11, they will get another opportunity next year. Thankyou to Mr Thomas and Miss Thornton for taking care of those teams.

Good luck also to Joshua Glachan as he plays in the Sydney North Touch Football team in the NSW CHS tournament in Taren Point from June 17-19. Joshua was also part of the Sydney North Football team, reaching the semi-finals of the recent NSW CHS tournament.

M. Mansfield
Sport Co-ordinator

HSIE Report

Northlakes High school is very proud to announce the award of a High Distinction to year nine student, Paige Steele in the 2014 nationwide school's competition, The Australian Geography Competition. Congratulations! This is a very competitive event held annually in schools throughout Australia. Other Northlakes students were rewarded with: Sophie Stanford 1 distinction, with other 3 credits and 21 passes. Congratulations, it's such great news for all our newsletter readers.

The students in Year 10 senior class Geography, have also been busy setting up and examining our weather station. It is hoped that future weather updates will be heard on the school radio around the grounds on a regular basis.

The students of Middle School (Year 7 and 8) are completing their Geography Stage 3, this term, (Year 8 visiting the Zoo on 25th June 2014) and will change to the subject, History in Terms 3 and 4. The history topics will again involve assignments and in class testing, as well as a book mark. Please encourage your

student to read, preferably not the computer; reading is a very powerful tool in their overall life skills.

Higher School Certificate Trial exams are early next term; these are usually difficult exams that will help prepare for the HSC itself. A curfew on social communications would be nice for all our seniors, but slow and steady has been the best preparation found, for those disciplined hardworking students that have been achieving good marks.

The HSIE faculty have been receiving some wonderful work in their assessment tasks from the senior students, both Year 11 and 12.

Thank you for supporting your school and your student(s),

Tracey Moore

Head Teacher HSIE (acting)

Text Book Fees

Many parents of Senior Students contact the school to ask why they are charged a Text Book Fee of \$30.00 when their son/daughter does not have a text book.

Although the students are not issued with a text book, they have access to text books during class time.

The English faculty supplies the novels and plays that the students are currently studying, students studying Science (including Biology, Physics and Chemistry) have text books provided to perform experiments. The HSIE faculty provides a variety of books including History, Geography Business Studies, Legal Studies and religion.

There are some text books that are available in the Library to be borrowed by students when required.

Text Books continually need to be replaced due to the information being outdated. The Text Book Fee is used to purchase and maintain the books so that students can successfully complete their studies.

Attention All Year 11 & 12 Students

The new ID cards are available, and can be picked up from the student window. These can be used to swipe in and out at the office, and you will be able to jump the cue in the busy mornings and save you on missing out on valuable class time.

Teenager's seeking more independence

Knowing how much freedom and responsibility to give your teenager is difficult, especially if they're your eldest or only child. To become capable adults, teenagers need to learn to make good decisions on their own and have opportunities to show you they can. The Raising Children Network website has a wealth of expert information and guidance for parents of teens and younger children. If your child is testing the boundaries and pushing for more independence, you may find the article 'Shifting responsibility to your child' worth reading. Go to www.bit.ly/1jCxKhe



Study help for High School

It's often quite difficult parents to assist their children with their high school homework and study. Even if we have professional experience in the subject area, children tend to find it difficult to take parental advice when it comes

to school. (Don't feel bad, teachers' own children do exactly the same thing .) <http://www.khanacademy.org> is an excellent, not-for-profit website which may help your child study and revise tricky concepts in science, maths and the humanities.

COMMUNITY NEWS

SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY

If you know of a local in the community, or an ex-student making a difference in our area, please let us know.

This week's feature is on a parent at our School. Kerry Keegan, and her friend Pip Farrow will be holding an art exhibition at Shorethyme Restaurant, 9 Mitchell Street, Norah Head. Opening night will be on Tuesday 8th July at 6pm. Cost is \$5.00 for nibbles and wine, followed by optional 2 course meal \$30.00 per person. RSVP to restaurant by Sunday 6th July. The exhibition runs from 8th July to 20 July, so go along and support these talented artists. For more information call 4396 4507.

Free course for men and women

Have you been out of the workforce for a while?

Do you want a head start on a career change now?

Have you been made redundant?

If you answered YES to any of these questions, Certificate 11 in Skills for Work and Training. This 6 months course runs 4 days per week during school hours.

Come along to an information session on Tuesday 24th June at 10:00am in NG3A at Wyong TAFE or ring Bronwyn for further information on 54502375.

DID YOU KNOW!

Northlakes High School has its own app, FREE for all apple and android phones.

DATES TO REMEMBER

13/6/14	Starstruck matinee today, and over the weekend
16-23/6/14	Central Coast Dance Festival
16/6/14	Year 11 Retail Work Placement
17/6/14	Yr 8 Mentoring program
17/6/14	Yr 9 Police Youth Liaison Officer
17/6/14	Zone Athletics Carnival Note:
	New Date
18/6/14	Yr 11 HSIE Excursion
20/6/14	GRIP Leadership conference
20/6/14	Anti-graffiti session Yr 7
23/6/14	Experiment Fest
24/6/14	Central Coast Careers Expo Yr 10-12
25/6/14	Yr 8 HSIE Excursion Taronga Zoo
25/6/14	Deposit for Yr 12 Formal \$50
25/6/14	Year 10 subject selection Evening 6pm
26/6/14	School Leavers Expo for students with disabilities at Mingara
27/6/14	House Group Excursion
27/6/14	\$200 voucher draw for all students that have returned their medical updated forms
28/6/14	School Holidays begin
6/7/14	NAIDIOC Week till 13/7/14
14/7/14	Staff Development Day
15/7/14	Students return

DID YOU KNOW!

Northlakes High School has its own Facebook page, called 'Northlakes High School Information'



IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

What impact does graffiti have on you, your family & your community?

Your child will explore these questions and others in a creative, education presentation themed “Don’t be a fool, tags aren’t cool !”.



Wyong
Shire
Council
CENTRAL COAST

Fully funded by Wyong Shire Council, the program is designed to enhance Council’s existing Graffiti Management Strategy in the area of prevention, and will be delivered by Warner Youth Education to year 8 students.

Highly engaging and entertaining the program is designed to prevent youth from undertaking a range of anti-social behaviours with a focus on tagging, and provides them with crucial life skills.

Delivered by Warner Awareness Education the developed approach involves an interactive, entertaining presentation with the aim of involving your child in thinking about and discovering the impacts of graffiti, in particular tagging, with a focus on the criminal aspects. *(It is illegal when a person damages or defaces private and public places without the property owner’s permission).*

The delivery combines acting, role play and facilitation to guide and involve the students in social development topics like self respect, positive decision making and responsible action.



PARENTS: HOW CAN YOU HELP?

1. Talk to your child about respecting other people’s property and the issues surrounding property damage. The success of this type of program is enhanced when it is reinforced at home. Discuss the **Graffiti Control Act** that covers graffiti specific offences & penalties, e.g:
 - **Damaging or defacing property by means of graffiti implement:**
A person must not, without reasonable excuse, intentionally damage or deface any premises or other property by means of any graffiti implement.
Maximum penalty: \$2,200 fine or imprisonment for 12 months.
 - **Possession of graffiti implement:**
A person must not have any graffiti implement in the person’s possession with the intention that it be used to damage or deface premises or other property.
Maximum penalty: \$1,100 fine or imprisonment for 6 months.
2. **Seek further information by visiting Council’s website:**
 - For Council’s Graffiti Removal and Prevention Strategies log on to www.wyong.nsw.gov.au.
3. **To report graffiti:**
 - For graffiti on private property: contact the **Police Assistance Line (PAL)** by calling **131 444**
 - For graffiti on council Property: contact **Wyong Shire Council** by calling **4350 5555**