

Northlakes High School Newsletter

"Opportunities for future success"



Find us at: Brava Avenue, SAN REMO NSW 2262 T (02)4390 0555 F (02) 43991792
Email northlake-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au www.northlake-h.schools.nsw.edu.au

Security No: 1300 880 021

Issue. 12
August, 2014

From our Principal:

This week we are celebrating our school and the achievements of its students. Staff held an **open school afternoon** on Tuesday; it was great to see parents and community members take the time to come in and see and hear about our school.

On Tuesday night we also held our **Year 8 Subject Selection Evening**. For the first time, we have allowed parents to pay a holding deposit to ensure a student's place in a subject for 2015. This facility will also make the payments for excursions, school fees, uniform or any other purchase at school to be made online.



One of our displays for Subject Selection

Parent/Teacher Night will be on Wednesday 6th August. Please avail yourself of the opportunity to liaise with your student's teachers about their progress.

Our **HSC Dance** students, taught by Ms Koteczky, do their practical examinations in Week 4. I had the privilege and pleasure of watching a practice last week. I was very impressed with the Year 12 girls and their Year 10 and 11 'students', who performed their choreographed pieces. On the same evening, Mr Williamson met a number of families whose Year 10 student is considering a **Vocational Education** course for 2015. Both these events reflect the effort our staff makes to prepare students so well for the future.

We are also hosting thirty students from **Samcheok, South Korea**. Families are taking students in for a home-stay and are providing them with a variety of experiences. It is a very important program for us, as we further develop our students' understanding of one of our Asian neighbours.



Welcome to Northlakes!

Our **basketball courts** have a new surface and look terrific. We will replace the backboards in the future.



Our new basketball court surface

A school focus is on improving facilities and encouraging students to be active at school. We are also undertaking a major over-haul of the hall in preparation for the Public Education Awards' ceremony in Week 5.

Perennial issues

- 1) **Late Students** – please be at school on time. While there has been some improvement, there are still about 40 students arriving late each day without any good reason.
- 2) **Fees** – your 2014 fees are due. Whether they are paid in one lot or gradually does not matter – but we do need them, as the fees pay for expendable resources used directly by your student.
- 3) **Uniform** – our uniform policy is clear. We have a smart uniform and everyone is to wear it. Details are on our website.

Congratulations:

- **Courtney Gordon** – Principal's Award for Honesty and Integrity
- **Braydon Keegan** – selected for Cloud School, Advanced Mathematics course
- **Amber Henderson** – running a fitness course for girls at school as part of Max Potential
- **Tina Koteczky** – her Regional Dance Ensemble has been accepted into the State Dance Festival

- **Tahlia Harris and Tamira Bayley** – dancing at the State Dance Festival at the Seymour Centre, 17th September
- **Angela Bambey** – our Community and Liaison Officer. Always does a fantastic job and set up eye catching displays at Lakehaven Shopping Centre this week, and co-ordinated performers.



Our Lakehaven Education Week display

Yours in Public Education
Merrilyn Rowley

Year 7 Report

By now Year 7 students have their half yearly reports. This is an opportunity for parents/carers to discuss academic results with their student. If you have any queries about the progress of your student the Parent – Teacher interviews will be held on Wednesday afternoon, 6th of August. Please make bookings online to meet with teachers.

Students - your report is a significant indication of how you are dealing with Year 7 and the many challenges it brings. If you are unhappy with any of your results, use them as a point from which to improve. Your efforts will be reflected in your final results for the year.

I encourage students to continue working to the best of their ability and to earn Classroom Commendations.

Fiona Davis
Relieving Year 7 Advisor

Year 8 Report

I would like to thank all the parents who came to our subject selection night on Tuesday night. It was great to see so many parents turn up and be actively involved in their child's education. I ask parents to remind their child that they should be selecting subjects that they like and not what their friends are doing or what teacher is teaching the course. It is a chance to try something new and later on in Year 10 will be the time that they will have to consider their careers when choosing their subjects.

All students should have received their reports by now and the opportunity to discuss any issues will be coming up at our parent teacher interviews that are held on the 6th August. Parents are reminded to book these sessions through our Parent Portal.

Expressions of Interest for our camp have been handed out. Some parents were concerned about the date of the excursion, but the letter was an Expression of Interest and no date was set. I needed to see if we had the numbers to book the camp before I proceeded. We have received a reasonable response and I have gone ahead and booked it for the 19TH – 21ST NOVEMBER.

I WOULD STILL LIKE TO RECEIVE THE FORMS SO THE DATES CAN BE CONFIRMED.

There are about four months' before the camp and parents and payment for fees and camp can be paid off over this time.

Any worries or enquiries please contact me, I am happy to help.

Mrs Sue Fulwood
Year 8 Advisor

Year 9 Report

Term 3 has had a busy start and Year 9 students are working hard, participating in extra activities and giving their personal best. During Week 2 half yearly reports were issued. Please notify me if your child did not receive a report.

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.

Northlakes High School has had the pleasure of hosting South Korean exchange students and teachers this past week. Some Year 9 students have been involved in showing our guests the best of Northlakes (and Australia!). What a wonderful experience for both our students and our guests! It has been great to see some real friendships being made – along with a great respect for the South Korean culture.

During Term 3 Year 9 students will be given many opportunities to attend excursions with different subject faculties. These are great learning opportunities that should be taken when possible. At this point, the Science excursion to the Museum has been postponed. 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 4390 0555. I aim to respond to enquiries as soon as I can.

Have a happy and healthy Term 3. Stay Warm!

Erin Campbell
Year 9 Year Advisor

Year 10 Report

This week saw all of Year 10 being interviewed by staff here at NHS. Year 10 also went on the mandatory HSIE excursion and completed their online task "All My Own Work". If your child missed out on any of these days please ask your child to see myself or Ms Hewitt. There were many questions that we hopefully helped with and ironed out some subject clashes and requirements. A partial payment of school fees will need to be paid before your child undertakes the subjects next year. The

students now seem well on track for choosing their subjects for Year 11.

The idea of choosing subjects has been quite daunting for many students and has caused stress for them. Please remind your child that there are so many options available for further education now. The next two years are important, but they are by no means going to make or break your child. On saying that, I do feel that if they are not committed to education and going on to TAFE or University after Year 12 that they should seriously consider apprenticeships for next year. School is a serious business in Year 11 and 12 and should be undertaken with best intentions and application.

Those moving on to senior years can start to organise ordering uniforms for next year. I will be organising a senior jacket that will be available by next winter.

There have been a couple of incidents recently regarding rumours. I would like to ask parents and carers to have a casual conversation about how a story can grow with every retelling. Students here are coming to me and saying how one small statement can be twisted and turned until it no longer resembles what was said at all. Please encourage your child to be independent thinkers that don't believe in relying on gossip or rumours for information about others.

Otherwise, I'm really happy with the progress the majority of students are making. Focussing on work and assessments and catching up if they do happen to fall behind. They are becoming very mature young people who are capable of independent learning and are valuing the education they are being given.

Any questions or concerns please contact me at the school on 4390 0555 or via email: megan.lubinski@det.nsw.edu.au

Megan Lubinski
Year 10 Advisor

Year 11 Report

Welcome back to all of the Year 11 students to the last term of their Preliminary courses. Yearly exams will occur in the last weeks of this term and then the HSC courses will commence at the beginning of Term 4.

Orders are now being taken for senior jackets and jerseys, notes have been distributed to students and sizing jackets have arrived. Costing is \$99.00 for Jackets and \$88 for Jerseys; students can order their jackets/jerseys by seeing their Year Advisor after paying their \$50.00 deposit.

Ed Seaby
Year 11 Advisor

Year 12 Report

I cannot believe there are only 7 school weeks left for Year 12. They are all currently half way through their Trial exams. They seem to be coping well and hopefully are seeing why it is important to be prepared and to study! Trial exams allow students to become familiar with how their subject exam will be set out in the HSC. All Year 12 should be talking to their teachers about any concerns they have with their subject at this time.

The last of the Assessments Task will be due in the next few weeks. Time management is still the major key in being organised for the rest of this term and your HSC.

The Year 12 Graduation Assembly will be held on the 18th September at 9am. This is an important part of Year 12. The assembly will show how far the students have come in their school life. Awards and HSC folders with Year 12 yearly reports will be presented. All parents are welcome to attend this special event. I would love to see you all there! More details about this assembly and the format of the last week will be sent out to Year 12 students in the coming weeks.

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.

I am very excited to say that we have over 100 people who have paid a deposit for the Year 12 Formal. (You are still able to pay a deposit). The formal invitation, which looks fantastic, contains all formal information and all students should have received theirs. The formal is on the 15th November 6pm at Koorindah Waters Golf and Resort. The final payment is due the 19th September 2014. Remember to continue to pay fees especially for Year 12. These can be paid in instalments at the student window.

There is a small number of dedicated Year 12 students who have helped to raise money towards the gift that Year 12 give to the school at the end of this term. These students have shown initiative and continue to astound me on how responsible they are. Thank you to these students; they know who they are!

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:

- 28th July – 8th August 2014: Trial exams
- 18th September 2014: Year 12 Graduation Assembly
- 19th September 2014: Formal final payment
- 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

Education Week

This week was Education Week, and the theme for this year was 'Creating the Future'. This year we had an open evening, and invited the community into our school to showcase some of the wonderful things that happen here at Northlakes High School. We had science experiments, Quicksmart demonstrations, and each faculty set up a display.



We invited the local Primary Schools over to visit our Ag farm, and Kindergarten students from Northlakes Primary thoroughly enjoyed patting the animals.



We also had students perform at Lake Haven Shopping Centre on Tuesday, as well as our Aboriginal dancers.



If you had a chance to get over there you would also have seen our display from some of our students art work.

We have so many wonderful students, and we do so many great things here at Northlakes, it is always a pleasure to show them off.

Support Unit Report

It has been a busy start to the term. This week all of the students have been utilising the new kitchen in the support unit by creating some wonderful food for Education Open Week which took place on Tuesday afternoon in the hall.



Well done to two of our students, Rachel Bade and Aaron Jordan. They recently represented the school at the regional North Sydney Athletics Carnival. Rachel competed in

athletics and Aaron in shot put and was successful in moving on to State. Mr Quodling's class has also enjoyed having two Korean exchange students visit. It has been great for the students to experience a different culture and they especially enjoyed competing against them in a maths and chess competition.

The senior class have been making and selling pesto and tomato relish with produce from the support unit garden.

The MC Class have started their Community Access to Lake Haven each week. They are enjoying catching public transport, purchasing items for home, ingredients for cooking and lunch in the food court.

Louky Parkes & Beth Murray
Support Unit Teachers

Max Potential

Four Year 11 students, Amber Henderson, Tiah Hartas, Bethany Francis and Blake Steele have taken on extra-curricular study through the Max Potential program this year.



This program ran over Terms 1 and 2 for a period of 22 weeks and culminated with each individual student presenting a community based leadership project, aiming to benefit the local community. The aim of this program is to empower young members of the school community with the confidence and leadership abilities to become community leaders, not only in the school community but in the wider community. Congratulations go to all four students who have come through the program

with flying colours; each is a credit to their families and to the school.

Ed Seaby
Year 11 Advisor

Library Report

Talented indigenous author Monty Pryor is coming to the school to perform for all interested students! It will be in the hall Thursday, Period 2 on the 7th August. The cost is \$5 which can be paid at the student window. All interested students can collect a permission note from the English department. Come along and see this gifted performer in action!

Book Week for Year 7 and 8 will be held in Week 6 of this term! Activities & performances will be held all day throughout the school, and there will be a BBQ lunch provided.

There will be a book stall where students can purchase pre-borrowed books for a gold coin donation. Students are encouraged to dress up as a character from their favourite novel and participate in all the fun activities planned for the day! The cost is \$5 which can be paid at the student window. Any student who did not receive a permission note can collect one from the English Department.

Dates- Year 7 Tuesday 19th August All Day at school + Year 8 Thursday 21st August All Day at school.

Jared Freebody
Relieving Librarian

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club is going well with lots of hot Milo given out to warm the students up on the coldest of mornings. All the students that come to Breakfast Club know Wayne, the guy that makes the hot Milo. Wayne sets up Breakfast Club just after 7am, has a chat with the students, and makes them a hot Milo. After the students have some toast and go on their way, Wayne then, with help, packs up and is on his

way home by 8:20am. We think Wayne is awesome.

Wayne is going on vacation soon and it seems he is not replaceable. We are asking anyone who has time and would like to be a part of our Breakfast Club family to please come help us out. Wayne will be away for 4 weeks and we'll miss him, however we will find it really hard to run Breakfast Club without him. If you know of anyone, grandparent, a trusted neighbour, parent that would commit to volunteering for even just one morning per week, could you please contact Jillian Hogan at the Neighbourhood Centre on 4390 7888 or Amanda Morgan at the school.

The Welfare Room

The Welfare Room provides fresh fruit & sandwiches to students who have no lunch. The Welfare Room also provides jumpers when students are cold, leather shoes for tech if students forget and other uniform items for those awkward wardrobe malfunctions. The Welfare Room is run mostly by the good hearted community businesses: The Orange Peel Fruit Market and McKenna's Family Bakery. We also rely on your donations. We are in desperate need of black school shorts or black pants. If you have any outgrown uniform items at home, please send them in as they will be greatly appreciated.

Amanda Morgan
Student Support Officer

40 Hour Famine 2014...

What is it?

The 40 Hour Famine is about raising community awareness and much needed funds for projects that help those in need. It is run and organised by World Vision Australia. In particular, funds this year will be raised to help those in Rwanda experiencing severe drought. Students are expected to go without something, (it doesn't have to be food) for

example their mobile phone, furniture, Facebook, television, their computer, or talking (as just some ideas) for 40 hours.

When is it?

15th to 17th of August 2014. If you can't do it that weekend, you can still do the weekend before or after if need be.

How to sign up?

You will need to see me (Mr van Drempt) for a permission slip and details indicating how to enrol online. Once registered, students need to bring their signed permission slip back and I will give you a receipt book.

Parents are also encouraged to register. If they so wish please register as a part of our Northlakes High School group. You can also check the website or find World Vision Australia on Facebook for more information.

<http://www.40hourfamine.com.au/?gclid=CKTs2Nys7r8CFRYlvAodh7cAUw>

We are in competition with nearby schools to raise the most funds so your involvement is highly valued. Thank you for your support in this fantastic event.

If you want more information, or do not have an internet connection, feel free to ring me during school hours.

Schools Challenge



Can your Students Climb Sydney's Tallest Building?

We would love to invite your students to be part of the 'School's Challenge' at this year's Sydney Tower Stair Challenge on August 24. This is a great chance for teams of 4 to take on the 1504 stairs from Pitt Street Mall to the Observation Deck at the Sydney Tower Eye. Participants have to be 12 years or older.

Each stair climbed will assist Giant Steps who operate a school and intervention service for children and young people (2-20) who have been diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

For more information and to register simply go to www.active8change.com.au. Alternatively you can contact Steve Corrie at Active8Change on 0439 975 759 for specific event day information or Michelle Jocum at Giant Steps on (02) 9879 4971.

DATES TO REMEMBER

4/8/14	AECG – Gorokan High School 5:00pm
6/8/14	Parent/Teacher Interviews 3-6:00pm
6/8/14	Deadline for Year 8 Subject Selection
6/8/14	Korean students leave 안녕히 가세요
7/8/14	Monry Pryor \$5
8/8/14	Support Unit Sports Day
11/8/14	Work Placement – IDT, Entertainment and Metals and Engineering
12/8/14	Central Coast Public Education Awards
13/8/14	Year 9 Maitland Gaol
14/8/14	Year 11 Advanced English Excursion Opera House
19/8/14	Year 7 Book Week - \$5
19/8/14	P & C Meeting 3.30pm
20/8/14	Central Coast Showcase
21/8/14	Year 8 Book Week - \$5

ATTENTION: PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Our Parent/Teacher Interviews are being held in the Hall next Wednesday afternoon from 3.00pm – 6.00pm. Please either book online through our Parent Portal or call 4390 0555.