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| Northlakes High School Newsletter | | NL_logo.gif |
| “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](mailto:northlake-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au) www.northlake-h.schools.nsw.edu.au | | |
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| Security No: 1300 880 021 | Issue. 15  September, 2014 | |

**From our Principal:**

**Lockdown**

On Wednesday afternoon a person made a threat to a staff member. On the advice of the Police and the Department of Education the school was placed in lockdown for about 25 minutes while Police ensured the safety of our school. This was a preventative measure to ensure there was no chance of anyone being placed at risk or harm.

I was incredibly impressed by the professionalism of my whole staff, the maturity and common sense of the students, and the understanding of our parents and guardians. We were able to use our social media to inform parents and consequently did not have any complications from people worrying due to lack of information, ringing our school or adding to our usual traffic.

**Northlakes Bus Wrap**

Keep your eyes peeled over the School holidays for our advertisement on the side of a Busways bus. The P&C and the school believe that the bus sets a good example of our students, and displays a positive image in the Community

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**School Captains**

Last week Mr Seaby, Tayla Gilmer and I finalised the process of selecting our school leaders for 2015. I am proud to announce the following students:

**Captains:** Amber Henderson and Bryce Mullen



**Vice Captains:** Jenny Perry and Connor Piipari

**Leaders:** Tiah Hartas, Amy Roberts, Bethany Francis, Blake Steel, Jye Irvine and Scott Hobson

It was wonderful to see the confidence with which these students addressed their audiences, and to hear their ideas about leadership and continuing to bring positive change to Northlakes High School.

**Year 12**

Our Year 12 students are in the last official days of schooling. This group has shown significant leadership, proposing and supporting the introduction of the House Structure, and undertaking roles in the school which have elevated the profile of our senior students. We look forward to hearing of their successes in the future. I would also like to thank Mrs Jodene Garside (again!!) for her energy and effort in supporting her cohort through to the end of Year 12.

**Year 11**

We have interviewed all of Year 11 this year, and will do so again in Term 4. As they finish the yearly exams, they will be contemplating their study patterns for 2015. They will all be advised of the process for changing subjects early in Term 4. No changes will occur without the full knowledge and support of parents or guardians.

It has been gratifying to hear of the effort students have put into their examinations. Staff have commented very positively on the maturity of students, and the fact that virtually all have made full use of the available time.

I will be taking some Long Service Leave in Term 4, enjoying some large family events and some travel. I leave the school in the very capable hands of Mr Welham as Relieving Principal, and Mr Boake and Ms Byrnes (Relieving) as Deputy Principals.

*Yours in Public Education*

*Merrilyn Rowley*

**Creative and Performing Arts/ Languages Report**

HSC Japanese beginners will attempt their oral exam at Merewether High School on Saturday 13th September, we wish them all the best. A big thank you once again goes to Mrs Davis in preparing these students for this part of their HSC exam. On Friday 12th September Music 1 students will be performing or presenting their Viva Vocas to HSC Music markers, as part of their HSC. I would also like to wish them all the best and thank their teacher Mr Wilkinson for his work in preparing them for the HSC.

Year 7 are currently completing the 'Pets and Animals' unit in Visual Arts. This is Joshua McDonnell with his mixed media artwork Emu. Josh used charcoal, ink, paint and oil pastel for this artwork and has impressed both staff and students with his creativity.

Student performances and exhibitions include Bronte Veltmeyer’s works, in the Operation Art exhibition at the Armoury at Homebush Bay.

The release of a video clip by Dream in Colour “I’m not feeling it”, the band consists of Jacob Thomas and Jayden Stewart from Year 12, Jackson Wood from Year 11 and Kelton Hirst from Year 10 at Waldalba Community School, and we wish them well and hope that success comes their way.



The YouTube link is <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XxPFElzMlOg> or it can be viewed from our website under faculties, CAPA news. Jacob Thomas has just finished workshops with the department’s Talented Youth Program, which has taken a lot of time and dedication on his part.

Angel Danzante, Ben Saggas, Brandon and Luke Rondon in their band “Then Again”, gained fourth place in a Hunter Band competition.

While Tamira Bayley and Tahlia Harris from our school will represent our region at the State Dance Festival, congratulations goes to these girls and Miss Koteczky, because it has been a number of years since our region has been represented at this event. The dancers also won the Dance Attack competition at the Civic Theatre at Newcastle. Well done!

Just a reminder to Parents and Carers of Year 10, Year 10 Advisor Mrs Lubinski is waiting on letters being returned for establishing afternoon classes in Year 11 Drama and Visual Arts. We are hoping that students take this opportunity and expand the curriculum choices at our school, as well as having extended blocks of time with their teacher.

A painting/drawing portrait competition is being run by Miss Leffley, to select students for our GATS program that will run on a Monday afternoon for Term 4. It will cost $40 for ten weeks and will involve intensive artistic and material investigation and an excursion to the Archibald Prize at Gosford Regional Gallery. Current GATS student are providing work for the Face in the Urban Landscape exhibition that will take place later this year at cstudios in Newcastle, works will be delivered this week for that particular exhibition.

*Les Brimbecom*

*Head Teacher Creative and Performing Arts/ Languages*

**Support Unit Report**

It is pleasing to see the efforts of the students and Mrs Parkes in the Support Unit garden with their nomination and subsequent judging in the Wyong Shire Garden Competition. Judging took place last Friday and results will be announced at a special Presentation to be held at Wyong Shire Council Chambers next Tuesday, 16th September at 2.00pm. Mrs Parkes will be attending this event.



On this day, we are also sending approximately 20 students to a disco for Special Education students at Tumbi Umbi High School Campus. Students will be provided with a sausage sandwich and drink during the day.

Currently our senior students are involved in both supervised travel training to Tuggerah and independent travel training to Lake Haven, both of which are developing skills in moving independently within the community. As part of their experiences they are also visiting various services which our Year 12 students may use as part of Community Participation or Transition To Work Program next year. The service they visited this week was Life Without Barriers who were able to give them an insight about the programs they are able to provide.

**Library Report**

***Our library is now a 21st century learning space!***

Our library has been under review.

The new millennium is characterised by a dramatic technological revolution. We now live in an increasingly diverse, globalized, and complex, media-saturated society. To be effective in the 21st century, citizens and workers must be able to exhibit a range of functional and critical thinking skills related to information, media and technology.

Our students compete on a global stage and they need new skills to prepare them for further study and jobs – many of which have not yet been created. Twenty-first-century learning means that students master content while producing, synthesizing, and evaluating information from a wide variety of subjects and sources with an understanding of, and respect for, diverse cultures. Students must demonstrate literacy and numeracy skills, but must also demonstrate the ability to be creative, to be able to communicate, to think creatively and work collaboratively. They must demonstrate digital literacy as well as civic responsibility.

So the goal of education in the 21st century is not simply to master content knowledge or to simply use technology – it is the mastery of the learning process. We need to be developing ‘expert learners’ who want to learn, who can apply their knowledge across disciplines and who have skills to be lifelong learners.

In order to meet student needs in the 21st century our library now provides an environment which promotes student centred learning, global awareness and use of technology. We have incorporated areas in which students are able to meet, collaboratively plan and share information, as well as learn skills and develop interpersonal relationships.



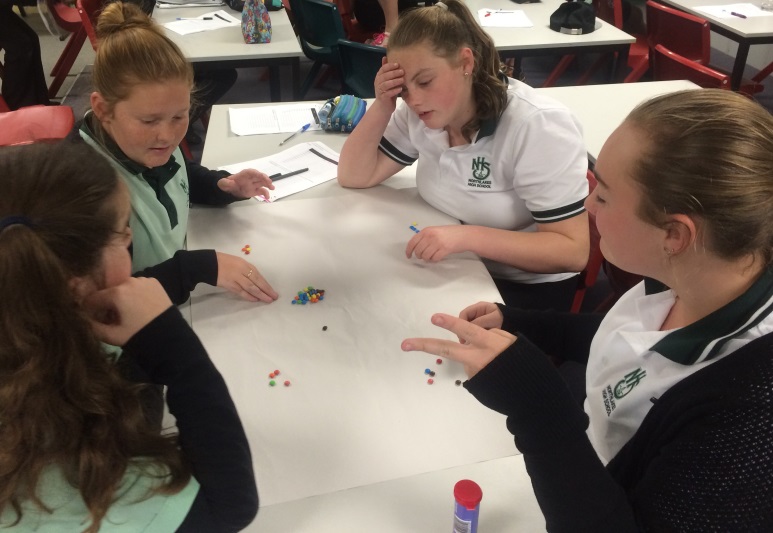
Changes include renewed book spaces and texts, a designated teaching area, informal seating area, clustered desk spaces that can be arranged into various formats, attractive art exhibition spaces for 2 and 3 dimensional works and upgraded technology including computer spaces, skills hub and wide screen TV. The TV is set to ABC News (text subtitled) so that students become more aware of local, national and global issues. A second TV in the skills hub provides internet capabilities for the use of cooperative learning groups. The skills hub is just one area which provides an opportunity for students to develop important skills for future career choices. Video consoles “can teach higher order thinking skills such as strategic thinking, interpretive analysis, problem solving, plan formulation and execution and adaptation to rapid change….these are the skills…employers increasingly seek in workers and new workforce entrants” (Federation of American Scientists). Students can also learn valuable social skills, boost self-esteem and confidence as well as learn persistence (Romeo Vitelli, Ph.D. <http://www.psychologytoday.com>).

Furthermore, a solid body of evidence shows a strong relationship between motor and cognitive processes (Flanagan, Vetter, Johansson, & Wolpert, 2003, Shulman et al., 1997, Kim, Ugirbil, & Strick, 1994, Desmond, Gabrielli, Wagner, Ginier, & Glover, 1997, Courchesne & Allen, 1997, Reynolds 2003). Students can also improve their coordination skills and stimulate neural networks at the skills hub.

Students have been very positive about the changes to the library – we look forward to working collaboratively with them into the 21st century.

**Science Report**

Year 7 are learning about Earth and Space this term. Within this topic they looked at fossils; learning about types of fossils, how fossils are made and how to find out the age of a fossil. In the photographs 7GT are using M&Ms to model radioactive dating, which is one way to discover how old a fossil is. Also in this section Year 7 will complete an assessment task on the structure of the Earth.



8GO have been working brilliantly in Science, studying Ecology and their local environment. As a reward for their hard work they were treated to a mini experiment fest.



They explored different chemical reactions; making magnesium oxide using magnesium and a flame, making hydrogen gas using hydrochloric acid and magnesium, and finally, using laundry detergent, hydrated aluminium sulphate and sodium hydrogen carbonate to produce foam. The aim of these experiments is to improve key scientific skills including accurate measurements and laboratory safety.

Year 9 are studying the topic Disease. In this they explore different body systems and how the function of these systems may be impacted by disease. During the topic introduction students traced around a team mate then tried to draw in all of the organs of the human body; with some hilarious results.

**War brought into the classroom**

HSIE incursion for Stage 5 History – NAMBUS

On Wednesday the 3rd of September, students from Years 10, 11 and 12 were treated to first-hand accounts of what life was like being conscripted, basic war training and being shipped out and into harm’s way. This lecture was given to them by five Vietnam Veterans from differing military branches.



They brought their mobile museum in the form of a bus with Allied Forces flags flying to the school and this was parked at the back of the hall. After the lecture, students were taken on a tour through the bus, where they were able to interact with the historical war items. Some students were able to try on various uniforms, wear authentic army packs and examine military equipment from the Vietnam era.



**Wear it Purple Day**

Northlakes High School is a registered Wear it Purple School. We are working toward a world in which every young person can thrive; irrelevant of sexuality or gender identity. Our aim is for rainbow young people to be safe, supported and empowered in each of their environments.



On the 29th August we asked our students to wear something purple along with their uniform. With the support of Sophie Powis, Gemma Johnstone and Lydia Godfrey from the Gen Q group and some very helpful students & SRC members we held a stall in break 2. The stall was successful in supplying information, promoting the Wear It Purple message. The stall provided giveaways including wristbands, purple ribbons, construction of a purple paper chain and a photo booth. One of this year’s messages was “Stereo types don’t always fit, how would you feel in a box”.

I would like to thank Sophie, Gemma, Lydia and Corrina from the Links Cabin in helping us celebrate Wear It Purple Day.

*Amanda Morgan*

*Student Support Officer*

**POP – Parent Online Payments**

Parents may now pay fees, and excursions online through our ‘$Make a Payment’ button on the website. Everyone who makes a payment before the end of the year will be entered into a draw for $200.00 off 2015 school fees!



You can make payments on our website, under our new tab.

**COMMUNITY NEWS**

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION!**

**The retune is coming to the Central Coast on 17 September.**

As the final step in Australia’s successful move to digital-only television, some free-to-air channels on the Central Coast will change frequencies on 17 September. After the channels have moved, viewers will need to retune their digital TV, set-top box or digital TV recorder. This retune will only affect viewers who receive their TV signal from the towers located in Bouddi, Gosford and Wyong. Other viewers on the NSW North Coast may need to retune on different days. Affected suburbs include: Norah Head, Toukley, Shelly Beach, The Entrance, Terrigal, Bouddi, Narara, Umina Beach, Wyong and Tuggerah. For more information go to <http://retune.digitalready.gov.au/>

**Holiday Fun Day** – 25th September 10:00am till 2:00pm at Hamlyn Terrace Community and Sports Facility, Hamlyn Terrace

**Walk to Cure Diabetes** – 14th September 11:00am from Davistown to Kincumber. For more information call Margaret on 0416 013 388.

**Soldiers Beach Surf Life Saving Club Registration**

Soldiers Beach Surf Life Saving would like to advise our community of the upcoming SLSNSW Open Day, Sunday 21 September. From 10:00 till 2:00pm at Soldiers Beach

**Northern Lights Family Fun Day** – Northlakes Primary School 29th September 10:00-2:00pm

Northern Lights Family Fun Day will be a great day the whole family can enjoy during the second week of the September School Holidays. It is a follow up from the fabulous Northern Lights Family Fun Day held in 2013 which was enjoyed by around 500 families. You are invited to come along and enjoy some old fashioned fun with our tug o war, 3 legged and egg and spoon races and take the opportunity to chat with people from many of our local community organisations while you pick up some useful information about what's happening in the community. Other free activities include: jumping castle, baby animal petting, face painting plus a sausage sizzle.

**Blood Bank** – Doyalson 1:00pm – 6:00pm

**Wyong Wildcats Baseball Club**

PLAYERS AGES: 6 to 16 years, REGO DAYS: Sun, 14 Sept 2014 Sun, 21 Sept 2014, Sun, 28 Sept 2014, TIME: 10am til 12pm, WHERE: Wyong Baseball Park, 4 De Lisle Dr, Watanobbi, MORE INFO: Nathan Corrigan, President 0410 439 664, James Donoghue, Vice Pres 0425 268 004 wyongwildcats@yahoo.com.au

**The STAMPEDE** is now coming home to Glenworth Valley on the 18th October 2014.



To celebrate this we would love to offer students and staff at Northlakes High School a 10% discount off their 5km, 10km or junior 2km entry.

The STAMPEDE is open to all from 5 years and above! It’s challenging, rewarding and incredibly fun for all fitness levels. It’s all about team camaraderie and enjoying yourself and raises thousands of dollars for our charities Canteen, Heart Foundation and Kokoda Youth Foundation at each event. For more information go to <http://www.thestampede.com.au/>

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

15/9 Glow Luncheon Doyalson

17/9 Regional Dance Ensemble

18/9 Year 12 Graduation Ceremony and 2015 Captain & Leader Presentation

Year 9 CSI excursion Ourimbah

18-19/ Excursion to Singleton Cattle Show

19/9 Seymour Centre State Dance Festival

20/9-5/10 School Holidays

6/10 Labour Day – Public Holiday

7/10 Staff and Students return

13/10-7/11 HSC exams

