

Northlakes High School Newsletter

"Opportunities for future success"



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October, 2015

Principal's Report:

What an eventful fortnight it has been at Northlakes High School!

Our community spirit was highlighted this week with our **Pink Day** activities to raise money and awareness of breast cancer.



Great to see everyone in their pink

A special mention has to go to Ms Jager, Mrs Anderson and Ms Bryant for their contributions which ranged from head shaving to raffle tickets and the most spectacular pink morning tea ever created.



Our amazing morning tea

It was wonderful to see our colleague Ms Hebditch standing by Ms Bryant as her head was shaved, and now they have more in common than both being wonderful people.

The day itself was incredibly well supported by the students and staff with **\$4,794.45** raised!



Ms Hebditch and Ms Bryant after the shave

The Higher School Certificate is well and truly underway and we wish our students every success and even a bit of luck in their exams. It is often during times of stress that a moment of clarity presents itself and that was certainly the case for one Year 12 student who asked me to pass the following message on to the rest of the school:

'I wish I started studying sooner!'

While we can't place an old head on young shoulders, we can support our students to develop habits that will support them through the challenges of senior school. Organisation, healthy eating, sleeping and exercise, positive relationships and ownership of learning are all important factors that will assist students if any age, but like a financial investment, the earlier it happens the greater the return.

A reminder that aerosol deodorants are not allowed at Northlakes High School due to the

significant risk they pose to both staff and students who experience severe asthma. In the last two weeks we have had two incidents where the health of others was put at risk by a student using aerosols. We encourage students to bring roll-on deodorants for use after PE/Sport and ask for the school community to respect the right all students and staff have to a safe working and learning environment.

Finally, we welcome back Ms Rowley from two weeks of leave, no doubt feeling refreshed and energised ready for what is shaping up to be a very busy and exciting remainder of 2015.

Matthew Boake
Principal (Relieving)

English Report

Welcome back to Term 4 to all students and staff. The English faculty would like to congratulate all of the Year 12 students on their efforts and hard work preparing and sitting the HSC examinations. The Standard and Advanced students sat two days of English exams involving one paper dedicated to their Area of Study and the second being their three Modules they have studied throughout Year 12. We wish them the best of luck with the remainder of their exams and every success with their future endeavours.

We would like to remind all Year 11 and Year 12 students that they must return ANY texts they have borrowed from either the library or the English Department as soon as possible as we need these to distribute to the next cohort of students.

Year 11 students have transitioned into Year 12 and begun their HSC course with an Area of Study 'Discovery'. This involves students exploring the ways in which discovery can be represented in and throughout various texts. They will be completing their first HSC assessment task in Week 6.

The Year 11 students in the English Studies class are reminded to make sure they have a travelling concession sticker attached to their student card as they will require this for an upcoming excursion if they wish to travel at the student price.

Year 10 students are currently busy studying poetry that represents Australian Voices and includes all types of poetry ranging from Australian Bush Poetry to War Poetry to current Australian artists who explore contemporary political issues in their music.

Year 9 students have just been issued with their assessment task for the unit "Going Global" which involves a study of texts with perspectives from around the world. They will be given analysis questions on an unseen text and be given the opportunity to complete a piece of creative writing from a differing cultural perspective. This task will be completed in class.

Year 7 students are studying the genre of horror and looking at how this is presented in different texts such as music, poetry, short stories, novels and films.

The junior debating team will be competing against Tuggerah Lakes Secondary College Tumby Umbi Campus on Friday. We wish them the best of luck in the regional final for the competition. The team consists of Felicity Drew, Tamara Puxty, Amanda Raslin, Grace Ryan and Emily Clink and is coached by Mrs Reay and Mr Freebody.

Congratulations to Suzy Taylor Monzer for all of her success with the 'Poetry Slam' competition. On the 10th October, Suzy performed her poetry in front of a large audience at the Sydney Theatre Company for the State Finals.



This is an enormous achievement for her and we are proud of her hard work and dedication in representing the school. Suzy is now running 'Poetry Slam' workshops for interested students in D59 every Tuesday during the big lunch break. Everyone is welcome to come along and join Suzy and others for poetry workshops, fun and games.

English Faculty

Science Report

All the staff in the Science faculty would like to wish all the Year 12 students all the best in the next journey of their lives. The students prepared themselves well for the exam with some students coming in in the holidays to study and taking on extra workshops for the HSC, it was great to see the students taking the exam so seriously.

Year 8 went out on an excursion during the last week of Term 3. The excursion was to Darling Harbour. The students visited the Sydney Aquarium and experienced a very interesting class on sharks and their habitats and habits.

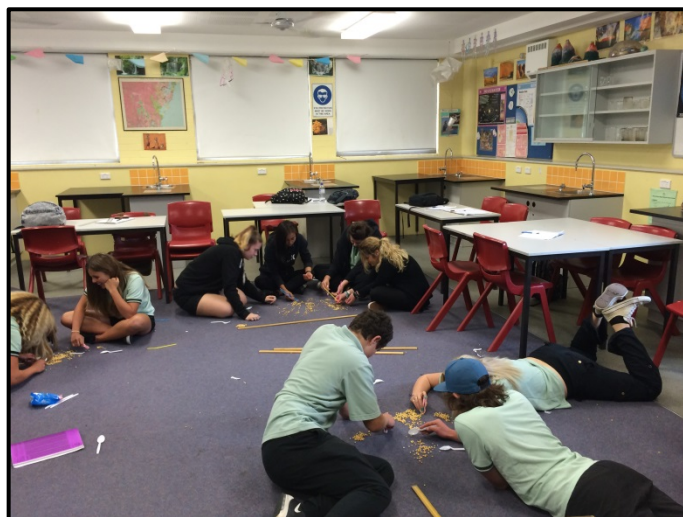


This was to supplement their studies on Ecology. They also went to the Powerhouse Museum where they took part in a technology lesson to supplement their studies on Energy and Technology. The students learnt how to code lighting systems and the staff were quite impressed with their efforts.

Unfortunately due to bad weather our bug watch was cancelled last term but it is being rescheduled for later in the term.

All years should have handed in the latest assignment. The only assessment task left for this year in Science is the yearly examination. Students should be completing a study schedule now so they are well prepared for the exam. Even 20 minutes a day would make a huge difference in their results.

As you can see in the photos, Year 10 are busy working at an evolution experiment where they had to pick up corn with different utensils that imitated the different beaks in birds.



It was to demonstrate natural selection and it was quite comical to see the student trying to pick up a piece of corn with chop sticks and two spoons.

Congratulations to our Agriculture students who attended the Singleton Cattle Show, winning 3rd place



Science Faculty

TAS Report

Department of Education rules stipulate that students participating in practical subjects must wear enclosed leather shoes.

For subjects including Metalwork, Woodwork, Construction, Metals & Engineering, Food and Hospitality it is MANDATORY those students wear the correct footwear or they will not be allowed into practical rooms.

Years 9 and 10 Food Technology recently completed an end of Term 3 Assessment task titled "The Mystery Box Recipe Challenge". Students reported a high degree of satisfaction with this task and really seemed to enjoy themselves.

Year 12 Design & Technology students recently had their major projects marked by external markers. It was interesting to note the innovative designs and range of students who completed the course.

Year 12 Textiles also recently finished their major projects and some of the designs are pictured below.

Year 7 students have the opportunity to attend a hands-on Game Development Workshop on November 5th. The cost to attend is \$41.00. Students need to collect a permission slip from Mr O'Mahoney in the TAS staffroom. Only a limited number can attend the workshop so interested students need to hurry and get the permission slip signed and returned.

By the end of the workshop, students will be able to create their own commercial grade 3D World with hills, ocean, sky and trees which blow in the wind. They will also learn how to import vehicles and create winding roads to make fun driving games, write simple artificial intelligence code, character animation code as well as learn the 12 most important coding concepts needed to create games for all major platforms, mobile devices and games consoles.

Every Student who attends receives:

- Links To The Free Commercial Game Development Software (Mac/Windows)
- Access To A Library Of Game Development Resources Valued At Over \$3500 - these include vehicle packs, 3D models, scripts, terrain tools, an amazing weather simulator and complete game scenes.
- Video tutorials to use at home.
- A fully coded 10 level game with source code and full resale rights.
- Personalised support for 12 months beyond the event for help with coding and questions.

Yesterday, our kitchen assistant ran a Breast Cancer Fund Raising Awareness Morning Tea. Students were able to wear pink mufti clothes and brought in a gold coin donation. There was also a cake stall and hair colouring salon running on the day. Well done Ms Jager!

TAS Faculty

PDHPE Report

As we move quickly through 2015 I would like to once again remind all members of the Northlakes High School Community that PDHPE practical lessons need special considerations. This includes PE uniforms, hats, sunscreen, Asthma preventatives and appropriate footwear. Also students 'valuables' can be handed to staff before lessons and bags need to be kept in change rooms!

Students are also reminded that books and pens are needed for each and every theory lesson. Units of work being studied are still to be assessed and the recording of information in their books is an integral component of preparation for desirable outcomes in these areas of work.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our community for the support given to me as a member of the Northlakes High School staff. I have been appointed to Wadalba Community

School as a Deputy Principal and this will start in November. Thanks to one and all!

Brad Glachan
Head Teacher PDHPE

Sport Report

During the last week of Term 3, students from Year 9 and 10 PASS were joined by myself and Miss Levido for the Inter-School RAW Challenge. The event promotes team-work, camaraderie and cooperation and there was plenty of that on display on the day. The course had been extended since the last time we participated, and this time included a very daunting thick mud pit to be crawled through under a cargo net.

All students emerged pretty much covered in mud, however loving the experience. The team-work element was perhaps best highlighted by the students helping each other over the half pipe to finish the course. Congratulations and well done to all who competed, and special congratulations to Jonathan Foxhall and Joshua Beverstock who finished 2nd and 3rd overall.



News from the Premiers Sporting Challenge is that we will be hosting the 'Leading with Action' day on Thursday 12th November. This day is for students who will be the coaches at the 'Learning to Lead' day at Blue Haven Primary School in 2016. Student will be trained by representatives from a range of sports to be equipped with knowledge and a range of activities to present in future.

Some very lucky students will be approached in the coming days in regard to the final stage of the Premiers Sporting Challenge program, a 3 day Sport and Recreation camp at Milson Island.



This camp will be for Year 10 and 11 students who have been involved in each stage of the program. The camp will be from December 2nd-4th and will be completely free of charge. Detailed information will be handed to the particular students involved. I very much look forward to both of these events within the Premiers Sporting Challenge.

Mark Mansfield - Sport Co-ordinator

NRL 7's Gala Day

On the 22nd of October Northlakes sent Under 14's and Under 15's boys teams to the Central Coast NRL 7's Gala Day. Both teams competed highly enthusiastic and focused to begin the day resulting in a comfortable win in each of their initial games.

The Under 14's were particularly focussed and eager to face their opponents for the second game, the local rivals Gorokan. In a particularly entertaining match the boys went try for try with Gorokan with the score finishing 6 tries apiece and Northlakes emerging victorious due to scoring the first try.

Unfortunately the boys were unable to maintain this level of performance and despite the boys brave efforts in particularly hot and humid conditions, both teams narrowly lost their remaining games and missed the semi-finals.

Both teams represented the school well and displayed excellent sportsmanship and team spirit throughout the day.

Special mention to Riley Scown for scoring 4 tries against Gorokan and to Logan Howden for his spectacular cross field kick leading to an outstanding team try scored by Jye Tudehope.

Year 9/10 Netball Gala Day

On Wednesday 9th September, our Year 9/10 Netball team participated in the Sydney North Gala Day. Under beautiful cloudless skies, our team comprising of both experienced and first time players, performed admirably throughout the day. The girls contested tight battles against 8 teams from the region, displaying determination and team spirit. Although we didn't come away with the winners' title, a great day was had by all and it was a pleasure to look after the team. Special thanks must go to Jayde Faimanu who volunteered her time to umpire for the day, and the numerous parents who made the journey to Gosford to support us.

Languages Report

Year 12 Japanese class of 2015 have now completed their HSC exam and I am sure that they gave it their best effort. We wish these students the very best in whatever they choose to do next, whether it be further study, work or travel.

Stage 5 students have begun their new topic of "Food" and they are looking forward to the practical component when we will make OKONOMIYAKI (Japanese savoury pancakes) in class later in the term.

Year 7 students of Japanese are also on the topic of "Food and Shopping". This will involve learning about the special foods associated with festivals in Japan.

French students in Year 7 have already completed their "Food and Shopping" unit and are now



looking at "Sport and Activities". In particular they will be looking at the Tour de France.

Mr Meza's Spanish class have been working hard on reading newspapers in Spanish then answering comprehension questions on the articles they have read.

Indonesian students in Year 7 have recently created their own timetable in Indonesian. We will be focussing on culture and festivals of Indonesia during this term. One of the planned activities is making shadow puppets.

30 students ranging from Year 8 to Year 12 are looking forward to a trip to Sydney for the Japanese film festival on Friday 13th of November. Our school has attended this festival for the past three years and all students have enjoyed it immensely.



Mrs Davis – Languages

Dance Report

On Wednesday the 14th of October we were very lucky to have 2 members from the Sydney Dance Company visit our school and present an intensive workshop with 20 selected students. Students from Years 9, 10 and 11 participated in the workshop. The workshop involved learning about the programs that Sydney Dance Company offer, participating in a Performance Technique class and gaining experience in composition as they set tasks for the students to complete.



Overall the experience was inspiring and the students have expressed how much they gained out of it, wishing they could have more. I would like to congratulate the students on their commitment and effort throughout the workshop. The visitors commented on the talent we have at this school and how impressed they were with their efforts. We hope to have them visit again in the near future.

Tina Koteczky

Support Unit Report

IOTAS Concert

On Wednesday 21st October Support Unit students went to Newcastle Panthers for the annual IOTAS concert. The IOTAS concert is to celebrate the graduation of Year 12 students from SSP's or Support Units. Students from 18 schools in Newcastle, the Hunter, Lake Macquarie and Central Coast attended and presented a musical item. The IOTAS concert is a very special occasion for students, parents and the wider school community who support secondary children with a disability.



Support Unit students did an amazing dance to Uptown Funk. The audience was stunned at the choreography and the quality of their musical item. All the support unit teachers who attended were very proud at the effort and behaviour displayed on the day. All students represented the school in a positive manner and embraced all aspects of the concert. I

would like to thank all of my team for their efforts on the day to organise and support students. I would also like to acknowledge Miss Brown (MC Class) and Miss Koteczky (Creative Arts Faculty) for their effort over the past semester in preparation for the concert.



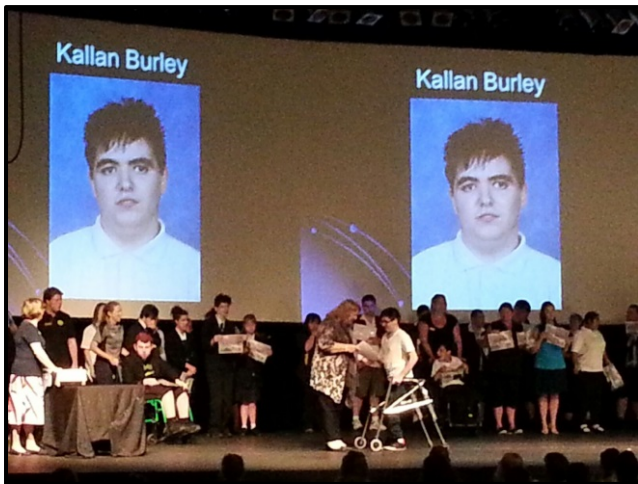
Well done to all the students who participated! You should be very proud of your effort. Your dancing was ABSOLUTELY MARVELOUS!

Graduating Students

This year we have four students completing Year 12 and leaving school. These students have been in the Support Unit for many years and have experienced positive growth. We wish all of them the best for the future and hope that they enjoy post school life.



Congratulations to Kallan Burley, Amanda Kelly, Jackson Macdonald and Thomas Perceval.



Invitations to our Graduation Dinner are currently being created by Ms Milne and the Senior Class and will be sent home soon. Kallan and Jackson attended the IOTAS Concert and received a graduation certificate on the day. I also received an email from a teacher at Singleton High School congratulating both boys for their positive behaviour and supportive attitude. Well done.

Mr Roy Goodenough
Head Teacher Support



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- ✓ Not sure what course to pick?
- ✓ Want to know the difference between an Apprenticeship and Traineeship?

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- Resume and cover letter writing
- Mapping pathways into Apprenticeships & Traineeships

We will be holding a **FREE Information Evening** open to job seekers, parents and teachers to learn more about what CCGT, as an organisation, do & how we can help.

During the course of the evening we will be discussing apprenticeships/traineeships, career advice & how to apply for jobs with us.

There will be a presentation including a short video, time to chat with CCGT Field Officers & Staff, followed by light refreshments.


WHERE: Central Coast Group Training
3 BOUNTY CLOSE, TUGGERAH NSW 2259

WHEN: Tuesday 10th November from 5:30pm

To register your interest, please email careeradvice@ccgt.com.au
or call 02 4353 2655.

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e info@ccgt.com.au
a 3 Bounty Close Tuggerah NSW 2259
Postal Address: PO Box 3100, Tuggerah NSW 2259
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Find us on: 

Dates to Remember

- 26/10/15 AECG Meeting – Gorokan High
- 28/10/15 HSC Drama Excursion
- 29/10/15 Year 10 Max Potential
- 30/10/15 Bandana Day
- 2/11/15 Year 12 work placement Hospitality - all week
- 4/11/15 Ancient Egypt Day (transferred to another date. TBA)
- 5/11/15 Year 7 Game Development

