

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

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November, 2015

Principal's Report:

We have had some very significant events in the school in the past fortnight.

- Our Remembrance Day Ceremony on 11th November was organised by our Senior Leaders' Team, and the HSIE staff. James Taylor (Year 7) played the trumpet, and Brianna Henderson gave the address. It was a special event well celebrated.



- On Tuesday we organised to have 35 staff attend training, run by Ms Simmons, and Mrs Curran. We are building on the success of our AVID students this year by beginning the program in a Team approach for Years 7 and 8. Staff will have further training this term, so we are ready for a strong start to 2016. We have a wide range of proven systems and strategies in the school, and expect that giving staff significant time to work together will lead to every student in these classes feeling fully engaged, and making real, measurable academic progress. It is a reflection of the calibre and commitment of the staff here, that so many were willing to stay till late to complete this training.
- Northlakes High School has hosted the Premiers' Sporting Challenge – the program was very well organised by Mr Mansfield. We had 150 students and many staff from Hunter and Central coast schools here for the day.



- Ms Hewett has liaised with Northlakes Primary School for our Student Representative Council to volunteer in classrooms. On Wednesday 18th November they actively taught lessons! It has been a very positive experience for both schools.



- Our 2015-2016 bus is now on the streets. This time, Northlakes Primary School and Blue Haven Primary School decided to share the space with us, as we promote our wonderful schools.



- Ms Dowe and her Year 8 class were very successful in producing a beautiful cow for the Archibull competition. The cow gained third place. Even better, Ms Dowe was presented with one (of two) Teachers' Awards, for her exceptional talent.



Unfortunately, we also had two negative incidents, where students did not behave in accordance with the school's expectations. Social Media misuse was at the core of both incidents. All parents and guardians should have full access to their child's/ward's account, and supervise closely. It is horrifying what some young people write, receive or send on their accounts. As a result of ensuing unrest, I called assemblies to re-iterate the school's emphasis on safety, and our values of respect, responsibility and personal best. I thank you for your support; nearly everyone understood easily why we took action.

Yours in Public Education
Ms M Rowley
Principal

English Report

We are over half way through the last term of 2015 and many students are busy working on final assessment tasks and examinations. We wish all students the best of luck with their final results for 2015 and look forward to an exciting and busy 2016 with many new and exciting learning activities currently being planned. On Friday of Week 5 Mrs Reay took Suzy Taylor- Monzer down to Sydney for an English Extension 2 study and information day. Both Suzy and Mrs Reay found this very valuable and rewarding and Suzy will use her new knowledge and resources to continue working through the course.

On Tuesday of Week 8 four students from 7GQ will attend the Newcastle Herald Awards Ceremony with Mrs Reay and Mr Freebody. This is following the competition that 7GQ had entered as a class earlier in the year. We congratulate these students and teachers on all of their hard work and efforts.

Year 12 2016 have just completed their very first assessment task for the HSC. This involved a piece of creative writing and an In Class short response test. This task is valuable in preparing the students for The Area of Study Paper 1 HSC examination. Students were showing initiative in submitting draft stories for feedback prior to the due date. Well done to all of these students and best of luck with the results.

On Tuesday the 10th, Mr Freebody and Mrs Norris took the Year 12 English Studies students down to Sydney. The students were given an opportunity to photograph famous Sydney icons to use for their assessment task. We took a magnificent ferry ride from Circular Quay to Darling Harbour, seeing sites such as the Opera House, Luna Park and the Harbour Bridge, and had a love lunch at the Harbour. We then wandered around Chinatown, and Mr Freebody even had his very first Emperor Puff! The students were very well behaved and it was a fantastic day out which everyone enjoyed. We look forward to going back to Sydney next year for their Creative Arts unit!



Miranda Smith – English Teacher

Drama

The Year 11 drama class have begun their HSC course this term and are busy studying two plays that fall under the style of Australian

Drama and Theatre. They have been busy workshopping different scenes from both plays and practising extended response style questions to prepare them for what they will be writing in the HSC drama paper in 2016.

On Wednesday the 28th of October Miss Smith and Miss Koteczky took the students on the train down to the Belvoir Street Theatre in Sydney to view a performance of Anton Chekhov's *Ivanov*. This falls under the style of 'Black Comedy' that they will study early next year. The students displayed excellent theatre etiquette and were very well behaved at all times. They found the performance both entertaining and confronting and have a deeper understanding of this style of theatre.



Miranda Smith – English Teacher

Science Report

The last month has been a very busy one in Science. Students in Years 7 through to 10 have all been completing written exams, testing them on the content that have study throughout the year. I would like to remind students that there is still a lot of content to be covered for the remainder of the year and they will need to stay on task and organised to ensure that they gain the knowledge and skills required to progress successfully to their next stage of education.

Year 8 student have just completed the Validation of Assessment 4 Learning &

Individual Development (VALID) tests and I would like to congratulate the majority of students on the effort they put in to completing this task. Results will be posted out to the school early next year.

A group of students in Year 8 and Year 9 have also just completed testing for the University of Sydney's Gifted and Talented program. If results are strong students may have the opportunity to participate in workshops in Year 10 and 11 with the possibility of gaining a scholarship to university at the end of the program. I would like to thank Mrs Fulwood for organising the testing for this.

Congratulations to Mr Ben Bryant who has taken a relieving Head Teacher Science position at Maitland Grossmann High School for the remainder of 2015 with the possibility of the position extending into 2016. His experience, dedication and sense of humour will be missed by staff and students alike; however, we hope he enjoys his time in a different High School.

Finally things are starting to wind down on the farm after the birth of more lambs. It has been a busy and productive year on the farm and I am sure the students appreciate the hard work Mr Pankhurst has put in throughout the year to ensure excellent and varied experiences are had by all students.



G Fleming
Head Teacher Science

HSIE News

We had a fantastic time at Medieval Day! We dressed up, we feasted and then we played with weapons and potions! Thank you to all the students who dressed up in such a creative way. Our students were enthusiastic participants at the Medieval Show and cleaned up after the feast in a real spirit of cooperation. A big thankyou to our wonderful teacher, Mrs Moore who organised everything so it went so well.

Mr Seaby had a lovely farewell formal with his Year 12 students. The night went well and we have enjoyed seeing the students coming in to say goodbye and return text books. If you have any textbooks at home even from previous years we would really appreciate if you return them.

We have a Year 10 excursion to the famous or infamous Sydney walk with Mrs Howard on 27th November 2015. Please be prompt in returning permission notes as we are limited to 50 students.

Ms Deans' Business Studies and Stage 5 Commerce classes completed very competently a Certificate 1 in Financial Literacy through the Smith Family who were very impressed with the standard and behaviour of our students. Well Done!!

Thank you to our Leaders for running our remembrance day assembly, and also to two of our leaders for representing our school in the twilight service at the Entrance that evening.



Welcome back to Mr Houston who is filling in for Mrs Lawson while on she is on maternity

leave and thankyou to Miss Gregory who looked after Mrs Howard's classes while she was on long service leave. Both are fine young teachers who do a great job!!

We are all waiting with bated breath for the arrival of our newest member of the HSIE faculty. Little Miss Lawson is due any time soon and we wish Mrs Lawson the very best in this exciting time.

Mrs Anna Howard
Head Teacher HSIE

PDHPE Report

As reported in previous newsletters, our longstanding Head Teacher Mr Brad Glachan has now started his new position as Deputy Principal at Wadalba Community School. On behalf of the Northlakes High School PDHPE faculty, I would like to publicly thank him for his many years of service, and wish him all the best in his new role.

This has brought about some slight changes to classes for the remainder of the school year. Mr Hoffman has returned from his overseas adventures, and will be taking the majority of Mr Glachan's classes, as well as 9WH and 10WT PDHPE for the remainder of the year. Also, welcome back to Miss Sykes, now Mrs Asmar, who has returned to the school in a casual role.

As the weather is now getting much warmer, students are reminded of the importance of sun safety and hydration for practical classes. Students are encouraged to wear hats and bring a water bottle to classes. Sunscreen is also available from the PE storeroom for every practical lesson. Junior PDHPE classes are currently covering Softball and Cricket, conducted in the shade wherever possible.

Theory classes are well and truly still busily working away on a range of topics. Year 7 are studying 'Moving with Skill', Year 8 'Movement Composition', Year 9 'On with the show' and Year 10 'Taking Charge'. Each of the above units have certain elements of practical application and are very engaging topics to finish the school year.

Mark Mansfield
Rel Head Teacher PDHPE

Languages Report

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

Year 7 students of Japanese have just completed a unit of work on 'Food and Shopping' and will be completing a topic test in the next week. Some classes will also be making OKONOMIYAKI, savoury Japanese pancakes. This will be a reward for the classes that have displayed the school values of Respect, Responsibility and Personal Best during every lesson.



Stage 5 have already made okonomiyaki after they completed their final assessment for this term. Most of the students from this class, as well as those who have chosen Japanese as an elective for next year, joined myself and Mr Winter for the Japanese film festival in Sydney last Friday 13th of November. Our school has attended this festival for four years now and all students have enjoyed it immensely. They also behaved as we expected, showing respect on the train, in the cinema and at the restaurant.



Indonesian students in Year 7 have been focusing on dates and birthdays and spent a lesson in the computer room making either a calendar or birthday invitation in Indonesian.

Miss Watts' French class are currently on the topic of hobbies and interests. They will move on next to popular culture in France including Asterix and Obelix.

Mr Meza's Spanish class have been working on some tricky grammatical concepts. Currently they are mastering verb conjugations and creating interesting sentences using the correct structure.

Keep up the effort everyone! Remember Language learning is FUN.

*Mrs Fiona Davis
Language Teacher*

Archibull Report

What a ride. The Archibull Prize has wrapped up for 2016 with the award ceremony at Olympic Park on Friday 17th November. It was a busy day, with lots of different trains to catch, but we did it. We got to see all the different Archies that all made the finals. It was great to see all the different variations and interpretations of the Australian food and fibre industries.

Northlakes High School received third place overall, with a special mention and a "WOW" award for our movie, where we showcased our wonderfully talented Year 11 and Aboriginal dancers.

8WL have worked extremely hard throughout the year on the four different components. We learnt things and had experiences that we would not have had if it wasn't for the Archibull Prize. We worked together as a team and achieved an outstanding result.

For us the journey as a group of students is just as important as the end result.

We are already making plans for our 2016 Archibull entry. We can't wait to get started. If you are interested in being part of the Archie journey in 2016, please let Mrs.Dowe in the Teaching & Learning staffroom know.



Tenille Dowe (Proud 8WL Classroom Teacher)

TAS NEWSLETTER

Year 7 Technology Metalwork are just completing their own designed candelabras just in time for Christmas. Students have come up with some challenging designs and have well and truly met all design criteria for their course.

Year 9 Industrial Technology Metal class have been busy learning the basics of the lathe. Students are completing a marking gauge that combines hand tool skills with machining and brazing.

Year 10 Industrial Technology Metal are putting the finishing touches on their BBQ's which should come in handy over the Xmas break.

Year 12 Construction currently have 2 projects on the boil. Mr Vanderkroghts' class are constructing a treated pine retaining wall out the back of B block and Mr Reilly's class are completing a variety of formwork tasks.

Year 12 Metals & Engineering are working on a Cluster D Assessment task focusing on brazing.

Next Friday 27/11/15 the 2016 Year 7 GATS class will be working in the kitchens making raspberry and white chocolate muffins.

Ms Baths Year 8 GATS class are currently working on their Cake decoration assessment task.

Year 9 and 10 Food Technology will be making their ginger bread houses over the next 2 weeks.

Year 12 Hospitality students will be providing coffee and refreshments to Year 6 students' parents currently taking part in the Northlakes High School regional transition program for Year 7 2016 on Tuesday morning 24/11/15.

Finally a big thankyou to parents and students for making an effort to provide and wear the correct footwear in Woodwork and Metalwork this term. Wearing the correct footwear is mandatory in all workplaces and this helps prepare students for the workplace.



Mr Tony Reilly – TAS Teacher

Creative Arts report

I would like to congratulate Cory Jones and his teacher Mrs Brimbecom on his Encore nomination for his entire program. This is first time that a student in Music 1 from Northlakes High School, has received such an accolade and very few students statewide would obtain such recognition. Musically, next Tuesday the 24th November during the morning, students and members of the Creative Arts staff, will be performing Christmas Carols at the northern entrance of Lakehaven Shopping Centre, as a way of showing the community the talents and skills of staff and students at Northlakes High School. Also a reminder that next week students will be attending performances of Schools Spectacular, either as performers or spectators.

We also have six student works on display until late November at Cstudios in Newcastle, as part of the department's FACE exhibition program. I also like to thank Miss Leffley for



taking GATS classes on Monday afternoons, as well as organising the excursion to the Art Gallery of NSW and the Museum of Contemporary Art for these students. Our focus in the Creative and Performing Arts is on providing opportunities for our students to demonstrate their talents. On Wednesday of Week 10 there will a school concert for periods 2 and 3, so that students can perform in front of others.

Finally, on behalf of my staff I would like to wish all Year 12 students the best for the future and particularly those in CAPA/languages area. Could I also remind Parents and Carers about finalising contributions for the year, so that planning for next year can get underway.

Mr Les Brimbecom
Head Teacher CAPA/ Languages

Welfare Report

Term 4 has been a busy and productive term with lots of activities for our Northlakes High School students.

A huge thank you to all of our dedicated Year Advisors. Their commitment and dedication to their year groups is appreciated by their families and the school community. Year Advisors are there to support students and their families in welfare concerns from uniform, sickness, attendance and school work. Please contact your child's year advisor if any support is required.

The welfare team have been organising and running programs this term for our students such as GLOW, RAGE, Seasons for Growth, Reality Check, Social Skills, Travel Training and mentoring groups. Our students at Northlakes High School benefit immensely from these welfare programs, offering support throughout their school and family lives. Thank you to the many staff that organise and run these groups for our students.

Orientation Day for our new Year 7 2016 students is next Tuesday the 24th November. All Year 6 students from our feeder Primary

schools will be attending. Students will participate in mini lessons, tours of the school, lunch provided and meeting the Northlakes High School community members. It will be a great day preparing Year 6 for high school next year. This week and next week we also have mini transition groups of Year 6 students visiting to support them with the transition into high school. We hope all students enjoy their transition and orientation days at Northlakes High School.

Attendance is still an ongoing concern to our welfare team. If for any reason your child is unable to attend school you must contact the school and explain their absence within 7 days of the first day absent day. If we can assist in any way to prevent ongoing student absences please contact your child's Year Advisor. Remember it is not ok to be away!

ATSI News

Schools Spectacular is all next week from the 23rd November. Congratulations to our students who made it into such a prestigious event. We wish our students all the best for their performances!

Personalised Learning Plans are currently being completed by staff, students and parents. These will enable the school to adequately provide support to our ATSI students in 2016. Thank you to all staff involved in this process.

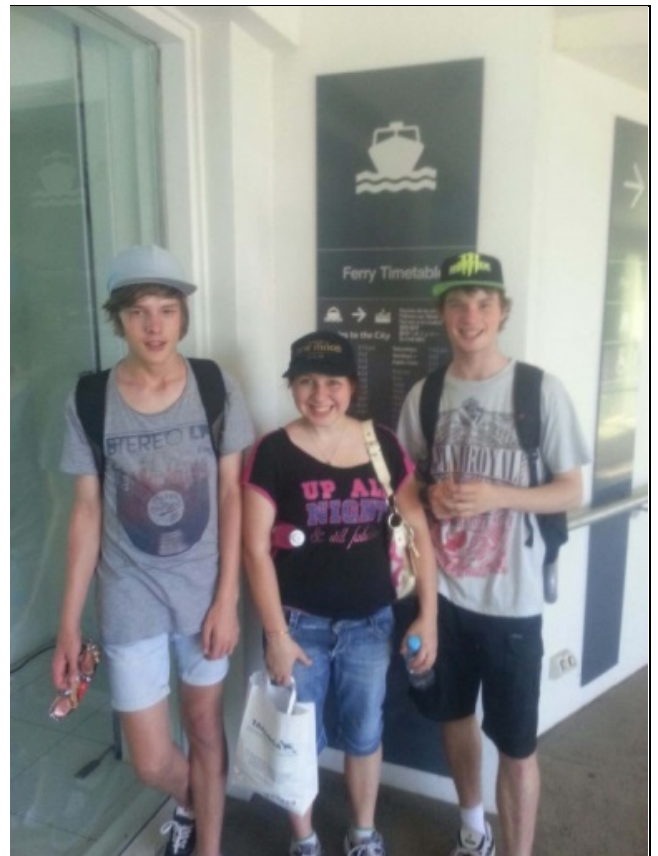
In Week 10 a group of Northlakes High School ATSI boys will participate in a camp at Mangrove Mountain. This will be a great experience for our boys and will aid them in resilience, self-worth growth and goal setting.

Four of our ATSI students will be attending Newcastle University summer school, it is such a great program that our school has been participating in for a few years now. They get to experience University life and see what course and programs they offer and what they may one day be able to achieve.

Head Teacher Welfare
Jodene Garside and Simone Byrnes

Support Unit Senior class excursion to Sydney

Senior students worked hard and saved profits from Soup kitchen and Super Salad programs to enable a great three day excursion to Sydney to farewell our Year 12 students: Jacko Macdonald, Kallan Burley, Thomas Perceval and Amanda Kelly. Based in Glebe students extended their travel training and community access skills travelling by trains, ferries and buses to visit various sites and places of interest around Darling Harbour, Circular Quay and the city. Students worked well together living in a large communal accommodation situation pitching in to cook, clean-up and look after each other. Well done on outstanding behaviour and social skills! Liam McClung, Adam Fielding, Brodie Woods, Dylan Parsons, Amy Hardy, Lachlan Nowland, Joshua Bedford, Rachel Bade, Jackson MacDonald, Kallan Burley joined Ms Milne, Mr Goodenough and Mrs Schneider for an awesome Sydney experience.



*Mr Roy Goodenough
Head Teacher Support Unit*

DATES TO REMEMBER

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|--------------------|--|
| 23/11/15 | AECG Meeting 5:30pm Gorokan |
| 23&27/11/15 | Vaccination |
| 23/11/15 | Year 10 HSIE Skywalk |
| 24/11/15 | Orientation Day Year 6-7 |
| 24/11/15 | Students to perform at Lake Haven Shopping Centre 11:30-1:00pm |
| 24/11/15 | Newcastle newspaper competition ceremony |
| 25/11/15 | White card course |
| 25/11/15 | Year 9 AVID excursion |
| 26/11/15 | Year 10 Mock Interviews |
| 26/11/15 | Ourimbah Campus debating cup |
| 27-28/11/15 | School Spectacular |
| 30/10/15 - 4/12/15 | Year 10 Work Experience |
| 30-4/11/15 | Mini transitions Year 6 |
| 2/12/15 | Year 12 Geography excursion |
| 2/12/15 | Premiers Sporting Camp |
| 4/12/15 | GAT Excursion |
| 4/12/15 | Support Unit visit V8 |
| 7/12/15 | Glow Luncheon |
| 9/12/15 | End of Year concert Pd 2&3 |
| 9-10/12/15 | Aboriginal cultural school camp |
| 10/12/15 | Year 7-11 Presentation Assemblies 9:00am |
| 14/12/15 | House Excursion |
| 16/12/15 | HSC results released |
| 17-18/12/15 | Staff Development Days |
| 18/12/15 | Uniform Shop will be open 10-12 |

SPL SKATE PARK LEAGUES 

2015/16 **NEW SOUTH WALES** SERIES

ROUND 1 SAT NOV 21

UMINA

SKATE PARK

Sydney Ave & The Esplanade, Umina

Divisions: Scooter and BMX 14 & Under / 15 & Over
Skate 12 & Under / 16 & Under / Open Male / Open Female
Times: Scoot 10:30am / BMX 12:00pm / Skate 2:30pm Register on the day

WWW.SKATEPARK.YMCA.ORG.AU

SAN REMO / BLUE HAVEN 

COMMUNITY

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

Wednesday 2nd December 2015
5pm to 8pm
Blue Haven Public School

Visit from Santa!

ENTRY - GOLD COIN DONATION
Food, Fun Activities, Carols, Performances, Community Stalls, Lions BBQ & More!

Santa Photos
Santa's helpers will take a photo for a gold coin donation
No skateboards, bikes or scooters!
Enquiries: 4390 7888
San Remo Neighbourhood Centre

This is a drug & Alcohol Free Event
Rain, Hail or Shine

Wishing Tree Appeal Donate a gift to local families in need this Christmas. Gifts are distributed through the San Remo Neighbourhood Centre Emergency Relief Christmas Program

Sluggo the Community Bus will circulate between San Remo & Blue Haven, Stops: Willis Rd (closed end), Camp Breakaway, San Remo lakeside Shops, Blue Haven Community Centre, Blue Haven Shops, Redgum Hilltop Park (Roper Rd)



THANKS
FOR HELPING CANCER COUNCIL
BEAT WOMEN'S CANCERS

WHERE WOULD WE BE WITHOUT PEOPLE LIKE YOU?
Your generous contribution will help Cancer Council fund women's cancer research, prevention programs and support services.

Northlakes High School

pinkribbon.com.au