

Northlakes High School Newsletter

"Opportunities for future success"



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Principal's Report:

This week, 14 of our teaching staff have travelled to Melbourne, as we continue our school's involvement in the Advancement via Individual Determination (AVID) program. We have had very pleasing results from our trial this year, and now we are expanding it into Years 7 and 8. Staff involved have already had significant training, and are working together to get all programs ready to start 2016.



Mrs Garside & Mr Mansfield with AVID presenters Central Hicks & Steph McDonald

Last week we held a very successful Orientation Day for our 2016 Year 7 students. Organised by Mr Wilkinson and Ms Byrnes, students had a lot of experiences. It was an excellent opportunity for our parents to come into the school, and have a good look at our facilities...and enjoy a coffee, made by our Hospitality students.



Some of our future Year 7 students during their orientation

At the same time, our choir was performing at Lake Haven Shopping Centre. We now have a lovely photo of them all with Santa!!



Northlakes High School Choir at Lake Haven Shopping Centre

Last week and weekend, our students were involved in the School Spectacular. As students were staying in the city for the event so were some of my staff! Particular thanks to Ms Lois Hewett, Ms Gail Byrnes and Ms Simone Byrnes who stayed there then returned to work at

school or continued to supervise students! The whole event is a credit to all involved.



Our School Spectacular performers with Ms Byrnes

Our Support Unit has farewelled our four Year 12 school leavers, Jackson MacDonald, Amanda Kelly, Kallan Burley & Thomas Perceval. A formal night was held last week. A very special occasion for all involved. Great to see so many staff there; a reflection of the important role these exceptional young people hold for us.



We hosted a large group of staff and students from Tumby Umbi Campus, Tuggerah Lakes Secondary College last week. They were very impressed with our progress and outcomes in the Positive Behaviour for Learning Program, and our quite unique House structure. Our school captains, Brad and Suzy, once again showed their leadership qualities, and all the students involved were able to connect meaningfully with the students from Tumby. Mrs Pidgeon, as usual, was an exceptional

organiser and leader. I was very impressed. Also, once again, our Hospitality staff impressed everyone with the milkshakes, coffee, biscuits and muffins.

Mrs Hewett organised a very valuable experience for Year 10 last week with our Mock Interviews. There were eighteen visitors in the school from various organisations conducting interviews with our Year 10 students. For many students this was their first ever interview experience. The students arrived looking very well presented for their interview and earned high praise from the visitors.



Some of our Year 10 students at their Mock Interviews

The following was sent to us by Mr David Pearson of the AIM HIGH Program:

Thank you so much for today. It was a pleasure to take part in this fabulous initiative.

I would just like to say that these students were absolutely fantastic. Their preparation and responding in the interviews were well considered and very appropriate. Their personal attribute shone through for a prospective employer to see. They all have so many positive characteristics - I'm sure any employer would love to have them.

I'm sure this also has a lot to do with all off the fantastic work yourself and your fellow teachers do with the students throughout their high school years. Well done to you all and in your efforts today for a well organised event.

On behalf of AIM HIGH - we gladly partner your school and we look forward to contributing in any way we can in the future.

*Kind regards,
David.*

DAVID PEARSON
*AIM HIGH School Partner
Centre of Excellence for Equity in Higher
Education Academic Division*

Year 10 have work experience this week. I would like to publicly recognise the efforts of Mrs Hewett, in trying to get a whole year group to take responsibility for themselves and organise a work placement. Congratulations to all who did, it is a credit to you. Taking early steps into the world beyond school can be daunting, but they are always worthwhile.

Our school recently completed an external Validation process. We were a trial school. The Department of Education will eventually assess every school in the state. While we were only given a few weeks to prepare for this, we were deemed excelling in the following areas Wellbeing, Curriculum and Learning, School Resources, Management Practices and Processes. We are now finishing our Management Plan for 2016, to ensure we address any areas which need more attention. We have improved on many in the past few years, as proven by data from the Department of Education and surveys of our school community, such as Tell Them From Me, and internal data, such as students on discipline cards or suspension. I am happy with our progress!!

*Yours in Public Education
Ms M Rowley
Principal*

Year 7 Report

I have been really pleased to hand out Year Advisor's Awards on nearly every assembly in

the past two weeks. There is still time to hand in your 5 Classroom Commendations so that you can receive a Year Advisor's Award before the end of the year. The effort that has gone into earning these awards shows that Year 7s are doing their Personal Best over and over again. I look forward to the Presentation Assembly next Thursday where I will be awarding a number of Year 7 students with a variety of special awards.

It has been great to see how far this year group has come since the start of term 1. Many students have matured and shown responsibility with their learning and respect with their behaviour. This will carry them in good stead moving into Year 8 next year.

Reports will be handed out shortly. Please read these carefully as it will give you a guide as to where you can improve next year. I am sure many parents and carers will be happy with the overall results their student has achieved this year.

During the past three weeks, Year 7 have been involved in Positive Behaviour for Learning lessons centred around positive relationships, uniform/self-image and cyber warfare. Students have participated well in the activities and while working in groups on specific tasks such as surveys and producing a video. Great job everyone!

The end of term is fast approaching. I hope everyone has a safe and happy holiday. See you next year!

*Fiona Davis
Year 7 Advisor*

Year 8 Report

Year 8 has finished their second year of high school – it is unbelievable how quickly these two years have gone.

Our formal Presentation Day is on Thursday, 10th December. This is a chance to celebrate the achievements of our students, both academically and in creative areas of the school. Students who have been invited to the

presentation day have been given invitations for their parents to attend. This will be a great day for both parents and students to celebrate their achievements in a formal assembly. We are also celebrating students' success and achievements this year by rewarding all Year 8 students who have no negative Sentral entries to a free pizza lunch with drinks and lucky door prizes. Congratulations to these students, what a fantastic effort!

Reports will be issued to students in Week 10. These are Semester Two reports. Parents are advised to look at both the comments and grades section of the reports in order to gain an understanding of the students' overall achievements for 2015.

A reminder for all parents, when purchasing school uniforms for 2016 please consider the purchasing of appropriate footwear so students can participate in all practical lessons.

Elective subjects have been published to students for next year and 2017. If there are any problems with these elective choices, please see Kate Pidgeon or myself to assist.

I would like to thank Kate Pidgeon for all her help acting as Year Advisor whilst I was relieving as Head Teacher. She has done a fantastic job and students love working with her.

Parents, caregivers and students – I wish you all the happiest of holidays and a fantastic New Year. See you in 2016....in Year 9!

Kerry Bissaker
Year 8 Advisor

Year 9 Report

It has been a very quick and busy term for Year 9. Students at this stage have completed their 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.

Students are being encouraged to strive towards receiving gotchas and classroom commendations for class participation and application to their classwork. Please remember to collect these Classroom Commendations and hand 5 of them to me in the Science staffroom to be awarded your Year Advisor Commendation. I would like to congratulate Kirrily Sargenson for recently receiving a Year Advisor Commendation I would love to give out more so hand them into me so I can.

I would like to congratulate Piper Nowland, Alexis Madden, Jasmine Privetera, Chloe Tarleton and Daniel Studt for participating in the 2015 Premier Debating Challenge for Years 9 and 10.

Presentation Day is on Thursday the 10th December at 9am. This is a chance to celebrate the achievements of our students, both academically and in creative areas of the school. It would be great to see parents and guardians sharing in this special day.

I remind all students to prepare for their school year in 2016. Ensure that books, pens and pencils are brought to school in order to start the year off in the best possible way! Another reminder for parents and students to ensure that full school uniform is worn in 2016. Correct leather enclosed shoes are mandatory, along with complete school uniform.

As 2015 draws to a close, I wish all of you a wonderful holiday a Merry Christmas and a fantastic New Year. I have had a wonderful time being the Year 9 Year Advisor, it has been rewarding to meet and talk with my students and their families and watch them grow into great people also a privilege to be able to come into their lives and hopefully make a difference for students and families at school. These students truly are a great asset to the school and its community. Please do not hesitate to

contact me if there are any queries on 0243900555.

Mrs Sue Fulwood
Year 9 Advisor

Year 10 Report

Term 4 is ending on a positive note for Year 10 this year. We have had over 70 students on work experience this week in areas such as retail, plumbing and teaching. Students successfully completed their mock interviews which were conducted by members of the community. The interviewers came from various sectors of the community including; training and employment, TAFE and University. The feedback provided to the students was positive and the interviewers were impressed with the level of confidence and personal direction demonstrated by our Northlakes students.

With Year 10 moving into Year 11 next year, full school uniform consisting of white button up shirt/polo shirt, black pants/shorts and senior school skirt is essential. This will be available at the uniform shop until the end of the year.

With two weeks left, just a reminder to the students that they will need to come to school in full school uniform, with all school equipment prepared to work.

On behalf of Year 10, congratulations to Mrs Lawson and her husband on the arrival of baby Olivia!

Have a safe a happy Christmas!

Stacey Ewer
Year Advisor - Relieving

Community News

TOY DRIVE

New toys can be dropped off at the Doyalson Fire Station from now until the week before Christmas for a Toy Drive. Toys will be picked up by The Salvation Army.

Dates to Remember:

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



2016 REGISTRATIONS ARE NOW OPEN!

2016 junior registrations are now being accepted for boys and girls turning 8 next year to u17s.

Get in early and grab your spot in the team!

Registration fees \$120
Includes
affiliation fees, umpire fees, cub shirt, shorts and socks.

For more information call
0428 196 667







Christmas Lunch on the Coast.

**Come along to the Wyong Racecourse on
Christmas Day and Celebrate the Joy of
Christmas with us.**

There will be plenty of festive food, fun and
entertainment.



Samaritans

Christmas Lunch on the Coast

WYONG RACECOURSE

Howarth St, Wyong

25th December

Join in The Fun From 11 am

Contact Samaritans 4384 8403 or

visit www.samaritans.org.au

for more information or just turn up on the day

Guests seeking Public Transport Options

**Please contact the transport line 131500
for Xmas Day timetables**

Busways – Buses 78, 79 & 80
service Lake Haven to Wyong Station

Red Bus – Buses 24 & 27
service The Entrance to Wyong Station



*Santa will be making a special visit with
his bag full of presents to hand out*