PRINCIPAL’S REPORT
Both Parent Teacher nights this year were a great success (with excellent attendance) and thank you to all parents and teachers for making the time to discuss our students’ learning and achievement. The data shows an increase of 258 interviews from last year (an excellent improvement). The attendance over the last three years is as follows;

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years 7/11/12</th>
<th>Years 8/9/10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total</td>
<td>Grand Total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1125</td>
<td>1043</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>955</td>
<td>955</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>891</td>
<td>847</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The trend over the last three years confirms strong support and partnership of parents and teachers working collaboratively for the best educational outcomes for our students.

Year 12 students have almost completed their Trial HSC examinations and best wishes to all students as they receive their marks (and more importantly the teacher feedback). A special thank you and commendation to all the Year 12 teachers that have prepared students so well for these examinations.

Requirements for students diagnosed with an anaphylaxis reaction
An ASCIA action plan for anaphylaxis is required which is a special form signed by the doctor that provides instructions about what response should be made if a student has an anaphylactic reaction at school as well as confirming allergens to be avoided and how to use an adrenaline auto-injector. As it is the emergency response plan for anaphylaxis it should be part of the student’s individual health care plan.


The parents of each student diagnosed with anaphylaxis should provide the school with an ASCIA action plan for anaphylaxis signed by the doctor for that student and an adrenaline auto-injector.

Recent school successes include;
- The open girls’ soccer team achieved our best result by qualifying for the state quarterfinals and only just beaten to qualify for the state semi-finals.
- At the NSW Combined High Schools Men’s Gymnastics competition, Sam Tall was placed 1st on the high bar and 2nd on rings and vault. Cameron Walsh was placed 1st on floor.
- Students from years 7 to 12 participated in the ICAS Science Competition and students received 3 distinctions and 11 credits.

The next P&C meeting is on Monday night (19th August) beginning at 7pm. Ms Tarasenko (Head Teacher Creative and Performing Arts) will be the guest speaker and talk about programs provided by the faculty.

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Deputy's Report – Mr Baczymskyj

Year 12 students are currently completing their HSC Trial examinations and all reports indicate that their efforts are showing through in their responses. At the same time, all of those students with HSC major works have had to submit their final pieces. These have included Timber constructions, in-depth reports and performances. To complete one of these tasks is a massive achievement and I would like to not only acknowledge the efforts of the students but also our extremely committed staff who have guided these students throughout the last 12 months. All Year 12 students need to now be absolutely focused on their studies as their final weeks of high school approach and then, of course, the HSC examinations.

Year 8 students will be making their elective choices in the next couple of weeks. The most important thing to realise is that these electives will make up their pattern of study for the next two years. Student choices should be based on the student’s levels of interest. Choices should definitely not be made on the basis of friends, teachers or what their parents would like to have done if they were back at school. Students will need to think carefully about their choices and the order in which they nominate their electives. Once the timetable is created it may be impossible to alter a student’s choice. If parents have any questions at all, please do hesitate to call and find out more information.

Whilst every year group had representatives at the Deputy Morning Teas, It was excellent to see so many significant improvers in the Year 9 group. Many students were attending their first Deputy Morning Tea and some receiving an invite after improving more than 50 ranks within their year group! Sometimes it seems as if Year 9 students start to ‘drift’ through their studies but this group appears to be breaking the trend. The ability to improve is within us all and I encourage all students to set their sights on achieving their best – even if it is just to eat food with Mr Schomberg, Ms Stavros and myself.

Last week I had the opportunity to visit the Leadership camp which forms a part of our extremely successful leadership program. It was wonderful to see students from all year groups 7-11 working together in developing their team work, responsibility and visionary abilities. It is always reassuring to know that the future is going to be in very capable hands – both in terms of our school and the wider community. As I talked with the Year 11 Prefects it was obvious just how far they have developed over their high school years.

I would like to remind parents that Picnic Point HS has a very extensive and supportive welfare team. If for any reason there are concerns in relation to your child and school, it is important that you call and inform us. Sometimes children will tell their parents not to call the school. This is poor advice from them. Like you, we always have your child’s best interests at heart and the best way for us to meet their needs is to have knowledge of anything that may be influencing their enjoyment of school life. I know that this may only relate to a very small number of students; however, we would like every student to have a wonderful time at Picnic Point HS.

Deputy Report – Mr Schomberg

It was with a great deal of pleasure that Mr Baczymskyj and I were able to host the Deputy’s morning teas again this year to celebrate and congratulate those students who have shown significant academic improvement since last semester and also those students ranked overall in the top twenty of their year group. The really encouraging aspect was that there were at least 10 students in each year group who were receiving their first invitations to a Deputy’s morning tea. I also sincerely thank Mrs Myra Bates in the TAS faculty who put the morning tea together.

Year 11

Year 11 students are fast approaching the end of their preliminary studies with the Yearly Examinations commencing on Monday 9th September (Week 9). The great majority of students are well on top of their work and performing at quite a high level. There are some students, however, that need to improve their performance especially as we move into the HSC studies that commence in term 4.

The very important Ryda Excursion is also coming up on the 21st August. Students will be given expert tuition on the dangers and responsibilities involved in driving motor vehicles. This is very timely as many of our Year 11 approach the age when they can get a driver’s license.

Year 10

It is that very important decision making time for our year 10 students. We are now in the process of assisting them to make informed decisions about the subjects they wish to study in Year 11 next year. Subject selection day is on Thursday 22nd August. On this day we will interview all students in Year 10 to confirm their requests for their pattern of study for next year in the preliminary year. All students have been timetabled with a meeting with Mr Eaton (career’s adviser) and Head Teachers have provided valuable information about the subjects being offered at PPHS next year. Some students have made a decision to leave at the end of the year and follow pathways involving employment or apprenticeships and Mr Eaton and Ms Harding (COOL program co-ordinator) have been working extra hard to help these students achieve their desired pathway.

A few students in year 10 have let their performance slip in some areas and I have been working hard with these students to make sure that any N Award warning letters have been addressed and the assessment tasks completed. It is expected that all students will complete the necessary requirements to qualify for the RoSA award at the end of the year.

Year 7

Year 7 students continue to make a great transition into the high school way of life. It is very pleasing to see the wide variety of learning that is happening across the school. I encourage all year 7 to continue to approach their learning with enthusiasm and hopefully some will be rewarded with invitations to the next Deputy morning tea for significant academic improvement.
What’s On - Term 3

Week 5  Year 12 Trial HSC Continue
Mon 19/8  P&C Meeting
Wed 21/8  RYDA Excursion
Mon 26/8  School Captain Selection
Tues 27/8  Year 7 Brainstorm Production
Thurs 5/9  Leadership Workshop
Mon 9/9  Year 11 Exams Commence
Mon 16/9  P & C Meeting
Wed 18/9  Year 12 Parent / Teacher Dinner
Thurs 19/9  Year 12 big Day Out
Fri 20/9  Year 12 Graduation Ceremony

P & C News
The last time P & C met was for the June meeting prior to the school holidays. I hope everyone had a good break and you are all enjoying the rather balmy winter we are having.

Our June meeting was another small but active meeting at which Mr. Negroh presented the school’s draft policy on electronic devices which had been circulated to all parents prior to the meeting. This promoted some healthy discussion with questions raised and answered.

Prior to the meeting the school council met and held the AGM at which Mrs. Michele McGregor (our community representative) was returned as chairperson for another year. Michele has been leading the school council for a number of years and has an extensive working knowledge of the school which facilitates her role.

Since the meeting a number of P & C based activities have been held, the first of which was a used uniform sale conducted in the hall by Deborah Driver and her sub-committee. I thank all those ladies who assisted Deborah in setting up and selling on the day. We had a steady flow of parents coming through and purchasing items and following the sale, the stock was culled of unsalable items. The sub-committee plan to hold another sale toward the end of the year and always welcome the donation of school uniform items in good condition, especially girls’ tunics and skirts.

We then coordinated a fundraising raffle and sale of 50th anniversary items and set up shop at the Parent Teacher Interview nights in June and July. We had a steady flow of interest throughout the two evenings and also had the opportunity to have a chat with parents and highlight the activities of the P & C. My thanks go to Adele Wardrop for manning the stall on both these evenings and to the other parents who supported her. The raffle tickets are still on sale through the school office and the raffle will be drawn at the September P & C meeting on 16th September. Prize winners will be notified by phone to collect their prizes before the school holidays.

Some P & C members have been assisting Mr. Eaton (Careers Advisor) in conducting practice job interviews for our Year 10 students. This is a valuable exercise for the Year 10 students and I would encourage others to nominate to undertake this role as an interviewer next year.

From the beginning of this term we have been asking all Canteen volunteers to sign on and off at the front office when they are on a roster in the Canteen. This is a safety measure for them as it allows the school to know who is on the premises especially in the case of any emergency.

As I write this, Year 12 Trial HSC exams are in progress and on behalf of the P & C, I wish all our Year 12 students the best of luck for their exams and the coming months ahead as they do their final preparation for the HSC exams.

The dates for the P & C meetings for the remainder of the year are as follows: August 19th, September 16th, October 21st and November 25th. These meetings are preceded by School Council meetings. I hope to see some more new faces at the August meeting.

Christine Butters - P & C President
Email: bjcmbutters@yahoo.com.au

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Triple P positive parenting program
Triple P resources
Triple P’s founder, Professor Matt Sanders, is Professor of Clinical Psychology and the Director of the Parenting and Family Support Centre at the University of Queensland.

He is an experienced clinical researcher in the prevention and treatment of child and adolescent mental health problems. He has received many competitive grant awards and has published extensively in international peer reviewed journals on the nature, causes, prevention and treatment of behavioural and emotional disturbance in children and adolescents.

### Michel's (Revesby)  
**Student of the Month**  
**May 2013**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>REASON FOR THE AWARD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7 Cameron Walsh</td>
<td>Excellence in sport and great academic achievements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Hannah Regester</td>
<td>Consistent and positive application to her studies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Serena Lloyd</td>
<td>Excellent effort in all her subjects.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Taylor Dawson</td>
<td>Excellent and ongoing commitment to Social Inc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Samantha Carmichael</td>
<td>Consistent and positive application in Mathematics.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Christi Forster</td>
<td>Studious and conscientious effort</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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### Michel's (Revesby)  
**Student of the Month**  
**June 2013**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>REASON FOR THE AWARD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7 Andrew Ahern</td>
<td>Consistent good work in class, involvement in school activities and excellent citizenship.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Ziad Khodragha</td>
<td>Consistent and positive application to his studies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Theodore Totsis</td>
<td>Improvement and effort in all his subjects.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Bianca Howard</td>
<td>Consistent effort and adequate transition into Year 10.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Nicole Simpson</td>
<td>For significant improvement in her overall results.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Shane Keen</td>
<td>Achieving outstanding results in all subjects, an excellent report.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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### Michel's (Revesby)  
**Student of the Month**  
**July 2013**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>REASON FOR THE AWARD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7 Chevette Carnegie</td>
<td>Excellent involvement in extra-curricular school activities including sport and creative arts. Consistently great work and marks in class.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Mustafa Malass</td>
<td>Significant improvement in his overall results for Semester One.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Brandon Cook</td>
<td>A very good effort overall in his Semester 1 report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Kate Smalley</td>
<td>Excellent and ongoing commitment to Social Inc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Jack Ismay</td>
<td>Consistent and positive application in all his subjects.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Nicola Osborne</td>
<td>Committed efforts in all subjects and an excellent report for Semester One.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Michel's (Revesby) are proud sponsors of the PPHS 'student of the month' award.

Dr. HAYFA HADI

Shop 2-3/61-65 Eton Street, Sutherland. Tel: 9542 2255
"Specialist dental care for ALL children and teenagers"

As a mother of two Dr. Hadi believes in a "Friendly, caring & gentle environment"

- Orthodontic treatment
  - braces at competitive prices, easy payment plan, latest technology, faster working & fewer appointments
  - expanders & early intervention appliances
- Laser technology for dental treatment & bleaching
- White fillings & white crowns
- Preventative care and early detection of decay
- Sedation, 'happy gas' & general anaesthesia available
- Emergencies and new patients welcome
- Ground level, parking at front
- Our patients enjoy DVD entertainment whilst being treated
This 3 session parent group provides strategies for parents/carers of adolescents to:

- Understand the nature of adolescence.
- Identify what behaviours need to be ignored,
- Coach teenagers to consider the consequences of their actions
- Hold difficult conversations when agreements are breached.
- Avoid common parenting traps such as spontaneous problem discussion, nagging, and arguing.

Attend this program and create more harmony!

WHEN:  Wednesdays 10.30am – 12.30pm
August 26th, September 2nd & 13th

WHERE:  Georges River Life Care Centre
23 Stanley St, Peakhurst

COST- covers workbook: $20 Learning Links members
$30 non-members

Facilitator:  Maree Magee, Psychologist.

Bookings:  Telephone Maree on 8525 8227
or email mmagee@learninglinks.org.au
Dance Dr. is a dance company specialising in ballet, jazz and contemporary styles. We offer both private and group lessons for all age groups. Choose between a practical or theoretical focus.

HSC Dance Tutoring

Make a booking with Lucy 0400 445 336 or dancedoctor@hotmail.com or find
Lasertag & Bowling Rewards Day Trip 2013
What a blast. The morning started off normal, we met after roll call on the last day of term 2. After a long bus ride, many conversations, singing and several “are we there yet?”, we arrived at Darling Harbour.

For our group, it was bowling first on the agenda. We got into our lanes and started to bowl; many strikes, spares and gutter balls were heard, along with the cheering on of teammates and the friendly banter of classmates making fun of your bowling abilities. Everyone was involved in conversations and enjoyment of the day, most just simply thrilled to be on the excursion. The game ended shortly enough, many ranged scores later, we were off to play the arcade games and prepare for the Lasertag to come.

Excitement brewed as we waited outside to go in and start shooting people in Lasertag, numerous pictures and chats were had before we were inside the room choosing our packs and names for the game. Let the games begin! Running around trying to find a place to hide, getting shot and shooting others, adrenaline pumping as we dash and duck from opposing teams, whilst attempting to rack up as many points as possible. Lasertag being one of the highlights of the day, what felt like too soon after, our two games were over and it was time to move on to lunch.
Some of us already premeditated what we were going to eat for lunch while others walked around looking at all the delights on offer. Our yellow shirts filled up countless seats in the food court, creating a sea of yellow. After a yummy and much needed lunch, we were headed back to the bus, not before a candy stop by many students on the way out. We got on the bus, for some of us, this was spent half sleeping on a seat near the back of the bus and engaging in minimal conversation, while others took the opportunity to catch up with friends and relive the day's enjoyment.

A wonderful and enjoyable day, and the perfect way to end the term, can't wait for the movies in term 3.

Mary Molloy (Year 11)
Library News

The 2013 Premier’s Reading Challenge finishes on August 23, so log the rest of the books you have read with Ms Aranjo, or directly on the NSW Premier’s Reading Challenge website. Several students have almost reached the 20 book goal. These students have met the “Challenge” and have listed their favourite books:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Book Title</th>
<th>Author(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Genevieve Webber</td>
<td>7Y</td>
<td>Pet Trouble</td>
<td>(by T.T. Sutherland)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nancy Nguyen</td>
<td>7E</td>
<td>Diary of a Wimpy Kid</td>
<td>(by Jeff Kinney)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huy Pham</td>
<td>7R</td>
<td>The Third Wheel</td>
<td>(by Jeff Kinney)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jaylee Manukau-Papa</td>
<td>7Y</td>
<td>The Hunger Games</td>
<td>(by Suzanne Collins)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teisha Okunowski</td>
<td>7Y</td>
<td>The Hunger Games</td>
<td>(by Suzanne Collins)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nicholas Fail</td>
<td>7Y</td>
<td>Diary of a Wimpy Kid series</td>
<td>(by Jeff Kinney)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brad Wheeler</td>
<td>7E</td>
<td>Diary of a Wimpy Kid series</td>
<td>(by Jeff Kinney)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daniel Papagianopoulos</td>
<td>8E</td>
<td>Animal Farm</td>
<td>(by George Orwell)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nathan Linbury</td>
<td>7E</td>
<td>The Animorphs series</td>
<td>(by K.A. Applegate)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matthew Fartek</td>
<td>7R</td>
<td>Too many to mention</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hayden Ormerod</td>
<td>7E</td>
<td>The Angel Experiment</td>
<td>(by James Patterson)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew Alexakis</td>
<td>7E</td>
<td>Diary of a Wimpy Kid series</td>
<td>(by Jeff Kinney)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patrick Christodoulou</td>
<td>7E</td>
<td>Lord of the rings series</td>
<td>(by J.R. Tolkien)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Katie Vernon</td>
<td>7E</td>
<td>The sound of colours</td>
<td>(by Jimmy Liao)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sara Allouche</td>
<td>7E</td>
<td>Saving Francesca</td>
<td>(by Melena Marchetta)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew Ahem</td>
<td>7E</td>
<td>Too many to mention</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anthony Pham</td>
<td>8E</td>
<td>Skulduggery Pleasant series</td>
<td>(by Derek Landy)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carley Parmaxidis</td>
<td>7R</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debesh Regmi</td>
<td>7R</td>
<td>Batman: The dark knight</td>
<td>(by Stacia Deutsch)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amy Currie</td>
<td>7B</td>
<td>Surf ahome</td>
<td>(by Gerry Bobsein)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adrienne Mhalopoulous</td>
<td>7R</td>
<td>Linger/Shiver/Forever series</td>
<td>(by Maggie Stiefvater)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serena Lloyd</td>
<td>Yr 9</td>
<td>The Hunger Games</td>
<td>(Suzanne Collins)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connor Whitley</td>
<td>7Y</td>
<td>My Hiroshima</td>
<td>(by Junko Morimoto)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christos Mangos</td>
<td>7E</td>
<td>The invention of Hugo Cabret</td>
<td>(by Brian Selznik)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maddison Mavin</td>
<td>7B</td>
<td>All cats have Asperger syndrome</td>
<td>(by Kathy Hoopmann)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Daniel Papagianopoulos was the first Year 8 student to complete this year’s Challenge. Please let us know what books you’d like to have in the school library through our “Suggestion Box.” We want to buy resources that students want to read!

Marion Aranjo (Teacher Librarian)

Social Inc. Cake Stall Fundraiser – a ‘THANK YOU’ note

We would love to thank everyone for their fantastic support on Wednesday, 31st of July.

It was greatly appreciated by all the kids who are involved in the program and we hope that you all enjoyed the yummy treats.

Social Inc. group at PPH has achieved its goal. We have raised more than $500 and all funds will be going towards Social Inc. activities.

THANK YOU SO MUCH! We couldn’t have done it without your support!

Monika Bray
Social Inc. has been launched at PPHS!

What is Social Inc.?
Social Inc. seeks to overturn the stigma and social disadvantage around disability in high schools. This program challenges youth to help change the perception of disability in their school through awareness, active social networks and engagement.

Social Inc. is a project which is founded by ADHC and proudly sponsored by Cerebral Palsy Alliance. Social Inc. will take school communities on a guided journey of understanding, acceptance, belonging and giving back.

Why is Social Inc. so important?
- Research shows that Australian youth with a disability were more socially excluded in 2011 than they were in 2001.
- Children with visible physical conditions or disabilities can be more likely to be excluded from social activities and called names.

How does Social Inc. operate at PPHS?
- Principal Commitment to Social Inc. letter signed and displayed
- Official Launch at school Year Assemblies in the last week of Term 2
- Social Inc. meetings held every Monday Week B in C23 for students to interact with each other and to plan for upcoming events
- Social Inc. excursion every term, such as ice skating & bowling
- Social Inc. Camp September 9th-11th at Stanwell Tops
- ‘I say Hi’ campaign in November 2013
- Whole School Awareness Modules during mentoring lessons

How can I find out more information?
See Mrs Bray in A5 or contact her on the school number 9772 1700

A visit to Jordan’s workplace
On Wednesday, the 26th of June, students from Mrs Bray’s class went to visit Jordan Chavez. Our former student works 2 days at the CJS Sandwich Factory Café. Jordan was extremely surprised and happy to see his old friends and teachers. We enjoyed the lunch together and look forward to another catch up.

Well done Jordan! We are very proud of you!  
Mrs Monika Bray

Cheap Thrills with Year 9
Year 9 were fortunate enough to experience a one man show all focused on the theme “Cheap Thrills.” It was a drama production with a difference as we watched the actor take on numerous typical teenage characters.

Making us all laugh he took Year 9 through the stages of different choices that can be made when engaging in risky behaviour.

Students even had the opportunity to engage themselves and be a character in the play (pictured above is Chloe Burgess) who added to the entertainment of the play.

Kirsty Elwell – Science Faculty
Year 8 Report
All Year 8 students have now received their Semester One Reports and are to be commended for their conscientious application to their studies. It is wonderful to see so many students achieving their best. Some students have made significant improvement in many of their subjects and have attained a very pleasing rank within the grade. All students are encouraged to look at the teacher comments carefully, as this provides meaningful feedback and strategies to improve in Semester Two. Thank you to all parents who attended Parent-Teacher Interviews. We trust this was a worthwhile opportunity to discuss your child’s progress with their classroom teachers.

Thank you to Drew Fitisemanu and Madeline Carroll for being chairperson at the Term Two, Week 9 Formal Assembly. At the assembly, students from Social Inc. spoke with Year 8 about a wonderful program that buddies mainstream students with support students to promote inclusivity in our school. We would love Year 8 students to become involved with this program too! Any Year 8 student who would like further information about this program or would like to be involved in this rewarding experience, please see Ms Mitchell in B15A or Mrs Bray in A5. Thank you also to Clarice Mok for her performance of ‘Canon in D’ and ‘River Flows’ on the piano. Year 8 is full of amazing talent! The next formal assembly will take place during Week 6 of this term. Any students wishing to be a chairperson or perform at a Formal Assembly are encouraged to see Ms Mitchell or Ms Kourouche for more details.

Please remember to bring a ‘Notification of Absence’ buff form to school if you are away from school for any reason. If you are sick for more than two days – please go to the doctors and bring the medical certificate to school. All absent days must be accompanied by an explanation.

Ms S Mitchell

LOTE Faculty
Language Perfect World Championships
Each year, all elective Japanese students are offered the chance to use the Language Perfect Online Learning Program. This program contains every Japanese word and phrase that students from Year 9 through to Year 12 are required to learn. The program assists students to learn Japanese in a fun and competitive environment. For 10 days each year, the Language Perfect World Championships are held. Students from Australia, New Zealand and the UK compete to answer questions, gain the most points and win some fantastic Apple prizes. This year, our Year 9 Japanese class accepted the World Championships challenge and for 10 days spent hours of time increasing their points tally, competing against each other and against schools around the world. We are so proud of the efforts of our Year 9 Japanese students – congratulations on being such enthusiastic language learners!

Here are the results for Picnic Point High School:
Total Questions Answered: 57,546 Competing students: 35
School Achievements:
- 587th overall globally [out of 1054 schools]
- 49th overall in the 1-50 students category [out of 249 schools]
- 409th overall in Australia [out of 705 schools]
- 22nd in Australia for the 1-50 students category [out of 140 schools]
- 111th overall in NSW [out of 163 schools]
- 7th in NSW for the 1-50 students category [out of 27 schools] This is a fantastic achievement!
- 187th overall in Japanese [out of 775 schools]
- 17th for Japanese in the 1-50 students category [out of 131 schools]
- 133rd for Japanese in Australia [out of 539 schools]

Students receive awards based on how many points they achieve. Here are the results for Picnic Point High School:
Gold Awards: [3000+ points] Luke Dilonardo and Caitlyn Smith
Silver Awards: 3 [2000+ points] Emma Peake, Stella Lee and Sam Mourtad
Bronze Awards: 3 [1000+ points] Tatiana Escorcio, Shontelle Swinfield and Kiarnie Bitz
Credit Awards: 1 [500+ points] Lachlan Bligh

Year 12
Year 12 Continuers students have completed their Trials and are finalising their revision for the Japanese Continuers HSC exam on Thursday, October 31, 2013 – we congratulate all students on their efforts so far! All Year 12 students will be completing their HSC Speaking Exam on Saturday, September 7 at Blakehurst High School.

Year 11
Year 11 Japanese Continuers students are diligently completing their coursework in preparation for their Yearly Exams at the end of this term. We wish our students all the best as they prepare and complete these important exams.

Year 10
Year 10 students have been developing their Japanese grammatical knowledge and will soon begin preparation for their speaking and writing assessment task in Week 8 of this term.

Year 9
The Year 9 Japanese class have now finished the Hai! 3 Course Book and Workbook and have excitedly begun work from Hai! 4. The students are actively engaged in reading, writing, listening and speaking Japanese and have completed many tasks using their laptops. The Year 9 class should be commended for their diligence towards Japanese and are encouraged to keep working towards improving their Japanese communication skills. All students should now begin preparations for their Yearly Exams which will be held during Term 4.
Year 8
Year 8 classes are currently completing the final chapter of their Hai! 2 course and will soon begin their in-depth study of the Hiroshima bombing in 1945. Students will view documentaries which put this devastating event into a historical context and learn about the significant effect this event had for people all around the world. At the end of this unit of work, students will undertake an in-class assessment on the Hiroshima bombing, which will replicate one of the text structures of the NAPLAN assessment. Preparations for this assessment will occur in class.

Year 7
Year 7 students have continued to demonstrate enthusiasm and interest in developing their language skills – all Chapter 4 tests were completed to a very high standard. Students are now learning how to say where they live and to write and present a self-introduction – entirely in Japanese!

Japan Trip
Picnic Point High School is very excited to be taking 30 enthusiastic students to Japan in the September/October holidays in 2014. These students will be immersed in the language and culture of Japan, visiting many amazing sites and experiencing family and school life in Japan. A reminder to all participating families, the Official Paperwork Meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 14, 2013 at 6pm in the Picnic Point High School Hall. This meeting is mandatory. Please bring a pen.

AIUU Exchange Program
AIUU is a non-profit organization with a mission statement to promote international friendship and understanding through their high school exchange programs. AIUU is looking for host families for Japanese students who will be arriving in Sydney next year. If your family is interested in hosting a student, please contact Jenni Mackaway on 9533 6193 or 0438 584803.

Winter Tip
冬に気をつけてね！

Ms Marquis and Ms Mitchell

Reminder
To Parents - Pic News
Picnic Point High School would like all Parents and Carers to have regular access to PIC NEWS.

To assist in the distribution of the electronic copy of PIC NEWS we ask that Parent and Carers please provide the school with an updated E-Mail address(es) so the school can include you in our PICNEWS distribution list.

The school calendar can also be accessed from the school website.

You can update the school with your details via the school e-mail address of picnicpt-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au, 02 9772 1700 or via letter.

South West Sydney Netball Knockout
On Tuesday, June 18, 2013, a selected team of Year 7–12 girls participated in the South West Sydney Netball Knockout. Although the team was unsuccessful, they played to the best of their abilities and are to be acknowledged for their outstanding teamwork and sportsmanship on the day. The following girls participated in the knockout competition:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chloe Goodwin</td>
<td>Brittany Durrant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nada El-Debel</td>
<td>Shelby McCaw</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madison Harvey</td>
<td>Jasmine Williams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lauren O'Shea</td>
<td>Brooke Weatherill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rebecca Hughes</td>
<td>Karissa Dunn</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A big thank you to Monique Larkin who umpired for our team on the day.

Ms S Mitchell - Netball Coach

East Hills Junior Oztag
2013 Summer Registrations

Marco Reserve, Panania played Wednesdays
Registrations being held:
Wednesday 21st & Wednesday 28th August 13 4.00 – 6.00pm
at Marco Reserve, Panania at the canteen

Registration $75 per player
Both teams & individual players are welcome

COMPETITION COMMENCES SEPTEMBER 2013

For further details contact Karen: 0438 755 373
karen332@bigpond.com.au
www.easthillsoztag.com
Personalised Learning and Support Tool (PLASST) 2013 Trial

During the next few weeks our school, along with other public schools in the area, will be participating in the trial of a new tool (PLASST) being developed by the Department of Education and Communities for teachers to identify the learning and support needs of their students. This trial is focussed on the development of a sound and reliable online tool that, when finalised, can be used by teachers in collaboration with parents and carers to identify the strengths and educational needs of students with additional learning and support needs. This information will assist schools in planning and personalising learning and support for individual students who require adjustments in their day to day learning.

The trial will involve teachers completing an online questionnaire about the educational needs of some of their students. Students themselves will not be required to complete any additional work or be formally assessed as part of the trial. This trial will not impact on students’ education provisions.

Further information about the PLASST trial, including the collection and use of data in the trial, will be provided by the school in a letter to parents and carers.

If you have any questions about the PLASST trial, would like to discuss your child’s involvement or would prefer that your child does not participate, please telephone the school on 9772 1700.

Telephone Interpreter Service

If you need help with English to make an enquiry contact the Telephone Interpreter Service on 131 450 and ask for an interpreter in your language. The operator will call the number you provide and get an interpreter on the line to assist you with your conversation. You will not be charged for this service.

Science Report

Solar Car Competition

9R Science students were lucky enough to be given solar cars by the ATSE (Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering) and API (Australian Power Institute). Without any instructions and only a kit, we were given two weeks to design, build and race a solar car that is able to move fast up a steep ramp. We incorporated science concepts as well as trial and error to build the “best” environmentally friendly car.

I hear you ask, who won the competition? DRUM ROLL. The winners are Alex Jackson, Lochie Cole, Alison Martyn, Kiarne Bitz, Mitchell Driver and Peter Markantonatos.

Assessment tasks

This term all students are completing the following assessment tasks:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Assessment Task</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7 Science</td>
<td>Practical Test due week 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Science</td>
<td>Independent Research Project due week 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Science</td>
<td>Research Task due week 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Biology</td>
<td>Research due week 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Chemistry</td>
<td>Practical Test on 30th August</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Peer Support Report
Peer Support has been an amazing experience for both Years 7 and 10. For the Year 10’s it was an opportunity to bond with the Year 7’s on a level that didn’t exist for them before. For the Year 7’s it showed them that students in high school are not scary.

During the weeks of Peer Support the Year 10 students have had plenty of fun teaching the young students the skills they need to get through their first year of high school.

Every activity that was given out was one where the older students were able to work together with the younger students and share stories with them.

Over all it has been an amazing experience and on behalf of all of the peer support leaders we would like to thank Ms Stavros the one who organised every workshop and lesson we had.

Written by Anthony Carver - Year 10
Peer Support Leaders
Year 10 2013
Congratulations to our leaders who did a wonderful job throughout Terms 1 and 2!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Isabella Bull</th>
<th>Shelby McCaw</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thomas Sansom</td>
<td>Mathew Kahla</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ellie Ormsby</td>
<td>Monica Chouefati</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jacob Farrow</td>
<td>Sarah Little</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panaiya Liamakeros</td>
<td>Joshua Bull</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarah Lepre</td>
<td>Maddison Zanoni</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joshua Kleckin</td>
<td>Ronja Blixt</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marah Grice</td>
<td>Matthew Roberts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kate Smalley</td>
<td>Toni Cooper</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Tyler Hockey-Smith</td>
<td>Angus Munro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samantha Jones</td>
<td>Michelle Harradine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mitchell Gray</td>
<td>Kate Cremasco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taylor Dawson</td>
<td>Alturo Fa‘amausili</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lenae Zmoda</td>
<td>Kathryn Ricciardone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nathan Arfanis</td>
<td>Madeleine Buckley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kristen Dick</td>
<td>Daniel Kotsapas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holly Nettleton</td>
<td>Rebecca Hughes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nathan Anderson</td>
<td>Naryna Dawes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaghan Bartley</td>
<td>Lachlan Gandy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kirsty Hilliard</td>
<td>Stacey Hayward</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alisha Cole</td>
<td>Zac Trifon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maceon Goder</td>
<td>Holly Atherton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Katrina Mihalopoulos</td>
<td>Hayley Soban</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emma Jackson</td>
<td>Sarah Lord</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rachel Ualesi</td>
<td>Kyla King</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anthony Carver</td>
<td>Nicola Mihajek</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caleb Trindall</td>
<td>Isaac Heslop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tonika Watson</td>
<td>Tara Edmiston</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Computing Studies Report
Year 9 students have successfully completed for the very first time their Lego Robots assessment task. The students were very enthusiastic as they undertook to complete the requirements of the challenge they had before them.

The following links provide three examples of student work recently undertaken in class.
http://tinyurl.com/nxv8gqw
http://tinyurl.com/nsngd2v
http://tinyurl.com/mzmurnq

Students in Year 10 have also been busy completing their Android Apps and submitting them for marking. Students have been creating games of chance, quizzes and apps about facts that can be installed onto Android phones.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish the year 12 IPT class all the best for their Trial HSC examinations.
Mr O’Mullane - TAS Faculty

Can you help us?

We need volunteers to assist us in a range of activities.

**Can you**-
- Drive a Mini Bus
- Cover books
- Read for students in exams
- Offer work experience placements
- Donate resources, tools, building materials, gardening equipment.

**Do You**-
- Have expertise in an academic or practical area such as Technology
- Business
- Engineering
- Hospitality
- Trades
- Sport
- Medicine

**Can you spare some time to -**
- Demonstrate trade skills to small groups of students
- Talk to small groups of students about your experiences in your job or in your life

If you can help please contact Michelle Harding on 97721700 or by email on michelle.harding5@det.nsw.edu.au or contact the PPHS Community Partnerships Team.
Gymnastics
Sam Tall and Cameron Walsh competed in the NSW Combined High Schools Men’s Gymnastics competition at Hunter Sports Centre, Glendale.

Sam placed 1st on high bar and 2nd on rings and vault. Cameron placed 1st on floor. The boys' regional team, Sydney South West, placed 2nd overall.

Congratulations to the boys on their performance and fantastic achievements on the day!

Rugby Wrap
Over the months of June and July the School’s Open Boys’ Rugby Team competed in two Rugby 7’s tournaments organised by the Australian Rugby Union and the NSW Rugby Union. Both tournaments were held at Forshaw Rugby Park, Sylvania Waters.

Our boys competed against a range of teams from both the State School system and the Catholic system. As was the case in previous years our team was the surprise packet of both tournaments recording victories over two Sports High Schools. One of these Schools, Matraville Sports High School, is the educational home of the famous Ella brothers- Australian Rugby legends.

Only two schools were able to represent the Sydney Zone at the State finals in September and unfortunately our boys went down to Georges River Campus in the Southern Sydney zone, 14-12. The other Sydney school will be representing the Northern Sydney Zone.

The team was brilliantly led by Jayden Okunbor who certainly attracted the attention of Rugby officials at the tournament. However, it must be said that for a number of players these tournaments were their first taste of Rugby. The boys performed at an outstanding level and most importantly really enjoyed playing this version of the game they play in heaven. Most of the boys involved in the team are in Year 12 and this was their last experience of Schoolboy Rugby. However, a core group remains and these boys will form the basis of another strong Rugby side in 2014.


Thankyou boys, the spirit in which you played was thoroughly impressive.
Mr. Goman - Rugby Coach.
Year 9 History Elective
Making the Terracotta Warriors
As part of their study in History Elective, students are required to develop skills of interpretation and empathy. Students are encouraged to understand past societies, historical periods and significant events and people in the context of their own time through historical investigation and inquiry.

One of our class case studies this year centred on the First Emperor of China, Qin Shi Huang and the legacy he left behind for the world; his mausoleum and terracotta army.

Students engaged in web-quests, watched documentaries and analysed a range of historical sources and artefacts throughout this unit to progress towards their in-class assessment – writing an essay on the significance of the First Emperor for China as well as his legacy for the world.

What better way to understand artefacts and what they reveal about the societies they come from than to MAKE them yourselves?

To better comprehend the First Emperor’s Terracotta Army and what it revealed about China during the time it was made, students were given a source booklet and were asked to make their own terracotta warriors. They needed to analyse their armour, hairstyles, detail and use it in the formation of the Terracotta army.

This enabled students to build on their awareness of army formations, weapons, armour and mass production from the time of the Qin dynasty.

When studying History and matters of the past, it is important for students to take a ‘hands-on’ approach to their learning. This allows for them to visually connect with and appreciate the past as well as the lives, significant events and wonders created by the people who came before them.

Katerina Karavias – History Faculty
Our Student Council Representatives have been elected for 2013. Students are members of the Student Leadership program and this year have an additional role to fulfil. Every SRC member will be a group leader of a nominated project devised by the leadership group. The groups that have been formulated are:

- Anti-bullying
- Student Newspaper
- Exhibitions
- School Spirit
- Talent Show
- Gardens
- School Competitions
- School History
- School Sports Uniform
- International Food Day

These groups meet on a regular basis and are led by the SRC members. The SRC then meet as a group to discuss the progress of their groups and any management or other issues. Students learn many leadership skills in this role along with the students of the group who learn about group dynamics, action planning, organisation, resource management, conflict resolution and keeping to deadlines. The contribution to the school community that these projects will provide will be beneficial in many ways.

### SRC Co-ordinator
- Anna Peterson

### Year 7
- Michael Rasera
- Debesh Regmi
- Hayley Macdonald
- Rachel Stace

### Year 8
- Daniel Papagianopoulos
- Tommy Lang
- Annalise Summers
- Madeline Carroll

### Year 9
- Cameron Blight
- Antonia Mangos
- Annie Zhai

### Year 10
- Nathan Anderson
- Jarod Bui
- Isaac Heslop
- Mathew Kahla
- Madeleine Buckley
- Toni Cooper
- Stacey Hayward
- Sarah Lord

### Year 11
- Billy Allagiannis
- Matthew Bennett
- Zac Hatzis
- Jack Ismay
- Ryan Mackey
- Jamie Romcke
- Marie Christofides
- Juanita Halls
- Chloe Larcombe
- Ellie McWilliams
- Emily Frazer
- Emily Rotziokos

### Aboriginal Education Update 2013

Aboriginal Education Update 2013

Reconciliation Week Barbeque

On Friday the 31st of May, Picnic Point High School held its second Reconciliation Week Barbeque. We started this event last year to acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture and history and to work towards reconciliation. Just like last year, we held a History quiz about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture on morning assemblies every day for two weeks before the barbeque. Our winners received a free sausage sizzle as a prize for their knowledge and effort. It was great to see the whole school participating in this fun activity!

On the day of the barbeque, Wayne Clay helped cook up a feast, Ms Myles and the Year 11 Entertainment class set up live music equipment and Miss Gourlay's music class contributed some amazing music for students. Caleb Trindall and Cory Brown also played the didgeridoo to open our barbeque, demonstrating their talent and passion for their culture. We would like to thank all our helpers for their efforts which created an amazing experience.

We also had a special guest, Denzel King of the under twenties Canterbury Bankstown Bulldogs, who came to talk to us about his experience as an Aboriginal person. He has
since been awarded the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Trainee of the Year Award for his work in the NRL’s School 2 Work program. The students had a great time playing football with Denzel as well as hearing his story and we thank him for sharing his time with us.

A special thanks must also go to Miss Kyriacou who co-ordinated the event.

**Belonging Collaboration Day**

On Monday the 24th of June, Picnic Point High School hosted Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students from 5 other schools in the region including Picnic Point Primary School, Panania Public School, Revesby South Public School, Newbridge Heights Public School and Tower Street Public School. The students, along with teachers and parents, met together to reflect on their identity as Aboriginal students and their place in the community.

The students were engaged in a variety of activities which included planning a field trip to Kamay Botany Bay National Park at Kurnell, the site where Captain Cook landed in 1770, where the meeting of Aboriginal and British cultures took place. The students were in control- deciding what questions they wanted to ask, how they wanted to record their experiences and what final ‘product’ they would like to make to represent their learning. All students were active learners and displayed enthusiasm and interest.

One of the best aspects of the day was that Aboriginal students from Picnic Point High School became group leaders, helping students from kindergarten to Year 6 engage in their learning. Our students demonstrated impressive leadership skills, patiently and confidently guiding the younger students. We would like to congratulate them for their effort and maturity on this day.

We would also like to thank all teachers who gave up their time and contributed to this great event. **Belonging Field Trip Day to Kamay, Botany Bay National Park, Kurnell.**
Order of Merit List for Semester 1

The following list of students shows those who have made significant academic improvement since the last semester as well as those students who are ranked in the top 50 of each year group. Students with an asterisk (*) after their name were ranked in the top 20.

Year 10 Significant Academic Improvement

Year 10 Top 50 Students

Year 9 Significant Academic Improvement
Emma-Lee Borg, Brandon Cook, Daniel Eata, Billy Kotob, Serena Lloyd, Kaitlin Macdonald, Alexandra Mandile, Peter Markantonatos, Hamish McGeoch, Joshua Moran, Sam Mourad, Aidan Murphy, John Rotziokos, Jack Stevenson, Joshua Thompson-Reynolds

Year 9 Top 50 Students

Year 8 Significant Academic Improvement
Tess Anderson, Brianna Brook, Nick Callegari, Loana Carver, Caitlin Dennis, Nada El-Debel, Jessie Endicott, Ethan Fa’Amausili, Emma Gilbert, Ziad Khodrarga, Maggie Loizou, Mustafa Malass, Emma O’Brien, Kenny Phan, Mark

Year 12 Significant Academic Improvement
Jihad Al-Dehab, Stephanie Baxter, David Cochrane, Anthony Costa, Rebecca Currie, Ryan Denmeade, Corey Gardner, Kahl Hawke, Thomas Kovacs, Kasie Lippis, Nichola Osbom, Ayman Osman, Joshua Saeedkhan, Jimmy Sithichai, Ronny Thai, Daniel Wilson, Katie Wynter

Year 12 Top 50 Students

Year 11 Significant Academic Improvement
Adrian Damaskos, James Dasios, Brad Forster, Courtney Gerrard, Samantha Gray, Jesse Heywood, Leah Kabourakis, Alexander Langdon, Taylah Leung, Nicole Simpson, Nicole Strickland, Brittney Taylor, Sarah Wardrop

Year 11 Top 50 Students
Pitchford, Perri Rowe, Liam Sansom, Bianca Semsarian, Xiao Wu

Year 8 Top 50 Students

Year 7 Top 50 Students

Science Competition
On June 5th this year, 62 students from years 7 to 12 participated in the ICAS Science Competition. Recently the certificates have been presented to students. Our students received 3 distinctions and 11 credits.
The following students received distinctions:
Matthew Cash Mitchell Driver
Thomas Alexakis

The following students received credits:
Tori Aricidacono Adam Jackson
Kevin Lim Emily Rotziokos
Tim Carroll Stacey Hayward
Daniel Morris Dylan Deegan
Wing Pang Robin Tran
Thomas Bush

Congratulations to all students who participated in the Science competition.
Dianna Brown

Open girls’ soccer
The open girls’ soccer team travelled up to Gosford on Monday 29th July to take on Gosford High School in the quarterfinals of the state competition. Travelling up the F3 for the second time in the space of a week the girls were quietly confident after previously beating Kotara High School in Newcastle.

The game was a hard fought battle and we went down a goal early in the match but this didn’t seem to faze our girls. Time after time they have managed to come back and they showed that this game. Jessica Martinez and Jessica Burgess were able to score some magnificent goals and they put us up 3-1 with 10 minutes remaining. Unfortunately for us the Gosford girls didn’t give up and managed to level the scores at 3-3 and then with a minute remaining were able to score the match winner to send them through to the last 4 of the state competition.

Overall, it was a magnificent achievement by our girls to make it to the last 8 of the state. We had previously won 5 games to get to the quarterfinals and managed to score 34 goals in our 6 games. They girls were a credit to themselves and represented the school with pride.

A special thanks must also go to our assistant coach and bus driver Wayne Clay for his help throughout the competition.

The team consisted of:
Ashleigh Meredith (yr12) Kacey Hanna (yr12)
Monica Stopins (yr12) Julia Panovski (yr12)
Rachael Zorbas (yr12) Jessica Martinez (yr12)
Manelle Habib (yr12) Kaylee Bunyan (yr12)
Maddie Pirie (yr12) Jessica Burgess (yr11)
Mary Molly (yr11) Toni Cooper (yr10)
Tara Edmiston (yr10) Sarah Little (yr10)
Kristen Dick (yr10) Kyla King (yr10)
Angalene Pavlovic (yr10)
Mr Nikolovski Coach
6pm on Thursday 29th August

MAJOR PROJECTS OPEN NIGHT

Come and Celebrate our HSC Student’s Achievements

Picnic Point High School
61 Kennedy St Picnic Point
02 9772 1700