



PICNIC POINT HIGH SCHOOL

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Principal
Mr Wolly Negroh
B Ed, Dip Teach

JUNE 2013

PIC-NEWS

51 years of Quality Education

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

The 2013/2014 school Prefects have been elected and congratulations to the following elected leaders that will assist the Year 12 Prefects for the remainder of this term and all of Term 3. The year 11 students that presented themselves for prefect elections gave excellent speeches and I think all of them would have made confident prefects and uphold the outstanding school leadership tradition at PPHS.



Back row: Billy Allagiannis, Matthew Bennett, Zac Hatzis, Jack Ismay, Ryan Mackey, Jamie Romcke,
Front row: Juanita Halls, Emily Frazer, Marie Christofides, Chloe Larkin, Ellie McWilliams, Emily Rotziokos

The Best Buddies program now called Social Inc. is underway at PPHS and one of our teachers and two of our students starred in a lovely promotional movie which is well worth the look. Well done to Mrs Bray for leading this very positive and worthwhile program which highlights inclusivity (which our school does so well at with thanks to the committed staff and students an accepting community). To view the movie please click on the link. www.socialinc.org.au.

Some high achievements include;

- The Reconciliation Week Barbeque was held at the conclusion of Reconciliation Week, in order to recognise the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. By participating in Reconciliation Week activities, students and staff acknowledged both the positive and negative aspects of Australia's history with a view to make Australia a place in which all people experience equal rights and opportunities.
- The open girls' soccer team are now Sydney South West regional champions and will play in

Newcastle next week in a final 16 round of the state Championships.

- The Junior Sport Group and Senior Company performed brilliantly in the Regional Dance Festival at the Sport Centre Homebush last week.
- MADD night this week was very well attended and the number and quality of student performances was amazing. The items of music, art, dance and drama were the best I have seen and the night uncovered some brilliant talent.

A Parent/Teacher evening for the parents of Years 7, 11 & 12 is organised for Thursday 27th June 2013, commencing at 3pm and concluding at 7pm. At Picnic Point High School we value the opportunity to meet with parents and discuss how we can best meet the individual learning needs of each child we teach.

Appointments should be organised by your child/children on the appointment sheet distributed to students this week. Please note that students are responsible for booking parents into an appointment slot with their teachers. All parent teacher interviews will be conducted in the hall. Please contact the school if you have any questions or concerns regarding access. It would be helpful to bring a copy of your child's report to your interviews.

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What's On - Term 2 & 3

Wed 26/6	Zone Athletics
Thurs 27/6	Zone Athletics
	Parent / Teacher Night (7, 11, 12)
Fri 28/6	Term 2 Ends
Mon 15/7	Staff Development Day
Tues 16/7	All Students Return – Term 3 Begins
Thurs 25/7	Parent / Teacher night (8, 9, 10)
Tues 30/7	Regional Athletics
Wed 31/7	Regional Athletics, English Competition
	Year 10-11 Subject Selection
Mon 5/8	Year 12 Trials Begin
Wed 7/8	Leadership camp
Tues 13/8	Maths Competition
Mon 19/8	P & C Meeting
Wed 21/8	RYDA Excursion



P & C News

The May meeting of the P & C was held on 20th May preceded by the School Council meeting. This was to have been the AGM of the School Council but without a quorum this was postponed to June.

Numbers at the May P & C meeting were reduced somewhat no doubt due to the cooler weather. It is always difficult to come out to meetings on cold nights, but I encourage you to do so as it is at these meetings we can work with and support the school for the benefit of our students.

The P & C is financially sound, as at the end of April we had \$24,000 plus in the bank alongside a term deposit of \$23 921.49. I thank our Treasurer Fiona Gray for her sound financial management of our accounts.

We discussed at this meeting the upcoming Parent Teacher nights and the P & C tradition of holding a pie drive and "information stand" to coincide with these nights. In the past two years the support for the pie drives has waned dramatically however all agreed that having an information stand manned by P & C members is useful in that it allows us to have a presence and also to answer questions about the school and "direct" parents to the teachers they need to see. Along with this information stand this year we will be selling 50th Anniversary memorabilia at greatly reduced prices and we will also be conducting a raffle (see the advertisement elsewhere in Pic News for information). It is hoped that many families will support us by purchasing tickets either at the Parent teacher nights or from the office beforehand. They will be available for sale from 17th June and the prizes will be drawn at the September P & C meeting.

The P & C meetings are a forum for parents to raise general issues about school related activities and have been a great avenue to also praise the school for the positive activities and outcomes for our students. I remind parents however, that should you have a child specific issue you wish to raise, it is important to go through the correct channels, i.e. child's teacher, Head of Faculty, Year Advisor and/or Principal. Mr. Negroh is always very receptive to discussing individual

issues with parents but the P & C meetings are not the forum for this.

We were very pleased to hear that the new Head Teacher CAPA, Ms. Tarasenko, has commenced at the school at the beginning of Term 2 and we have asked that she attend one of our future meetings so that parents can meet her and get some insight into her teaching and planning for CAPA within the school.

At the May meeting we were to have a presentation by Mr. Schomberg on the school's draft policy on electronic devices. Unfortunately he was unable to attend, however the draft policy has been circulated to parents via email and will be discussed at the next P & C meeting. I encourage you to come along and learn more about this policy, why and how it was developed and how it is to be used in the school.

Following the P & C Meeting, I had discussions with Mr. Negroh about visitors to the school and the safety aspect of this. We defined all our canteen volunteers as visitors, as they come through the school on their way to and from canteen duty and may also seek out and meet with teachers in this time. To this end, Mr. Negroh has asked that all canteen volunteers sign on and off at the office when they are on duty. This will give the school a better record of who is on the premises at all times and allow for accountability in the event of an emergency/lockdown etc. I would ask all canteen volunteers to undertake this from the start of Term 3 please.

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

Christine Butters - P & C President

Email: bjcmbutters@yahoo.com.au



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Michel's (Revesby)

Student of the Month

April 2013

	Name	REASON FOR THE AWARD
7	Christos Mangos	Positive approach to his studies in all subject areas. Excellent performance at the Year 7 camp talent quest.
8	Nathan Eirth	Consistent and positive application in all subjects.
9	Luke Dilonardo	Excellent effort in Japanese and English
10	Joshua Kleckin	Outstanding contribution to school assemblies.
11	Alex Adams	Consistent and positive application in Mathematics
12	Manelle Habib	For consistent effort in all her subjects.



NSW School Immunisation Program 2013

There has been a change of date for round two of the school immunisation program for both Year 7 students and Year 9 boys. Please change all previously published information to the following:

Round 2 is now Friday, July 19, 2013 [Term 3, Week 1]
[not Friday, June 14, 2013 as previously published]. This date is for BOTH Year 7 and Year 9 boys.

Year 7 Vaccination Information ONLY

The Sydney South West Area Health Service has also added the varicella vaccination to the vaccines to be administered on July 19. Previously, the varicella vaccine was to be administered in Round 3.

Round 2 now consists of the HPV vaccine, the first dose of the Hepatitis B vaccine and the Varicella vaccine.

Following is a reminder of the vaccines that NSW Health offers to high school students.

Year 7

All Year 7 students will be offered the following vaccines:
Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis [whooping cough] 1 booster dose for all students - COMPLETED MARCH 14

Human Papillomavirus – 3 dose course. This vaccine provides protection for girls and boys against a virus which could lead to a range of cancers later in life. HPV is a common virus that affects both males and females.

Hepatitis B – 2 dose course. A catch up for students **not** vaccinated for Hepatitis B as babies.

Varicella [chickenpox] – 1 dose. A catch up for students who have **not** had the Chickenpox or the vaccination.

In Term 1, all Year 7 families were mailed information and consent forms regarding the School Immunisation Program for 2013. All 2013 vaccination dates are included in the table below.

Year 9 Boys

All Year 9 boys will be offered the **HPV** vaccine ONLY. This is a 3 dose course, with all dates for vaccinations included in the table below. In Term 1, all Year 9 [boy] families were mailed information and consent forms regarding the School Immunisation Program for 2013.

Vaccination Schedule for 2013

On each immunisation day, it is important that your child eats a healthy breakfast and brings a bottle of water to school. If you have any questions about the immunisation program, please contact Ms Marquis on 9722 1700 during school hours or the Immunisation Unit, Public Health on 9515 9420.

Dates	Year 7 Immunisation	Year 9 Immunisation
March 14, 2013	dTpa and HPV	HPV
July 19, 2013 *NEW DATE*	Hepatitis B, Varicella and HPV	HPV
November 20, 2013	Hepatitis B and HPV	HPV

Ms K Marquis - Immunisation Co-ordinator



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INFORMATION SESSIONS

To discuss your course selection

Thu 13 June 2013 6:00pm – 7:00pm

Tue 25 June 2013 6:00pm – 7:00pm

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award.**



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Open Girls Soccer

On Thursday 30th May 2013, the open girls' soccer team participated in the Sydney South West regional finals. The girls had to win two games to be crowned regional finalists and progress through to the next round of the knockout tournament.

In the opening game we were up against St Johns Park High School, knowing only a win would see us through to the next round. The girls played well and came away with a comfortable 7-2 win.

In our next game we were up against Elderslie High School for a chance at becoming Sydney South West regional champions. In a hard fought game the girls prevailed 3-0 and now progress through to the next stage of the competition as the Sydney South West representative. Congratulations to the girls on their performance and behaviour on the day.



The Team

Kacey Hanna (yr12)	Jessica Martinez (yr12)
Toni Cooper (yr10)	Manelle Habib (yr12)
Tara Edmiston (yr10)	Kaylee Bunyan (yr12)
Jessica Burgess (yr11)	Maddie Pirie (yr12)
Monica Stopins (yr12)	Kyla King (yr10)
Julia Panovski (yr12)	Angalene Pavlovic (yr10)
Rachael Zorbas (yr12)	Mary Molly (yr11)
Sarah Little (yr10)	Jaidean Brew Springett (yr12)
Kristen Dick (yr10)	Ashleigh Meredith (yr12)

Mr Nikolovski - Coach



Gymnastics

Alana Cox, Tahlia Brackley, Cameron Walsh and Sam Tall competed in the Sydney South West Regional WAG gymnastics competition at Westfield Sports High School. Tahlia came first overall for division C, and all will now represent the region at the CHS gymnastics at Newcastle on the 7th August.



From left to right: Alana Cox, Tahlia Brackley, Cameron Walsh, Sam Tall.

As a parent I was very proud of the exemplary behaviour that all of the kids from PPHS displayed on the day.

Cherayne Brackley



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.

PPHS P & C Giant Raffle

Tickets \$2 each or 3 for \$5.00. For sale from the office from 17th June 2013 and at Parent Teacher evenings on 27th June and 25th July. Raffle drawn at the September P & C meeting and winners will be contacted to collect their prizes.

Please support us to support the school
in providing resources for our students.



Years 11 and 12 Hospitality Excursion

On the 30th May, Years 11 and 12 Hospitality students visited Loftus TAFE on excursion.



We were hosted by Julie Webster, one of the commercial cookery teachers.



We were then treated to a Masterclass, where Julie made a delicious Baked Alaska dessert. As you can see, there were many willing taste-testers!
Alison Buller – TAS Faculty

Library News

Have you visited the updated Library pages of the school's website? You can access it through the tab "Faculties". Some of the information you'll find includes Recommended Reads, Books For Boys, links to free e-books, and Useful Websites, including Year 12, essays, study and exam skills and referencing.

More fantastic readers have finished the Premier's Reading Challenge, bringing our current overall total to 16. These are their favourite PRC books:

Phoebe Payet	7G	Shadow Forest (by Matt Haig)
Brian Yue Lap Wan	7G	Diary of a Wimpy Kid series (by Jeff Kinney)
Sally Lindberg	7G	Dear Jack (by Tammi Sauer)
Rhea Yan	7Y	Hating Alison Ashley (by Robin Klein)
Daniel Bui	7G	Skulduggery Pleasant (by Derek Landy)
Adam Gibson	7E	Skulduggery Pleasant (by Derek Landy)
Kayla Markantonatos	7G	Ruby Parker, Hollywood star (by Rowan Coleman)
Yousef Kahla-Dunn	7G	Eighth grade bites (by Heather Brewer)
Renee Hewson	7G	The Adventures of Scarygirl (by Nathan Jurevicius)
Katelyn Wood	7G	City of Bones (by Cassandra Clare)
Jasmine Roche	7G	Grim and Grimmer series (by Ian Irvine)



Jasmine Roche

James Butler (7R) and Sruti Janakiraman (Year 9) were not able to choose a favourite book! Mr Ang and Mr Clay are equal on 8 books (the race is on to see who will finish first), while Ms Worthington has read 19 – one more to go!

Come on Year 8! We need to see you finishing the Challenge along with everyone else. The Challenge finishes on 1 September, so visit the library and stock up on some holiday reading.

Some students and teachers have placed requests for particular books to be included in the library that have been pleased to follow up. The golden "Suggestion Box" is kept on the borrowing desk for all to use. It is terrific to build the library's collection together.

Marion Aranjo - Teacher Librarian



Girls Touch Football

On Friday the 10th of May the Year [9/10](#) Girls Touch Football Team competed at the NSW State Championships. Last year at the same competition level, the girls were only able to score one try. So our expectations weren't too high.

However, we triumphed in our first game 4-2 and we came fourth in our pool. Despite some glorious coaching from Angus Munro, the girls did not progress to the semi-finals. However, they are still stoked at their achievement.



We would like to thank all the players who played their hardest :

Kyla King, Angelene Pavlovic, Toni Cooper, Sarah Little, Stacey Hayward, Luluvida Kapisi, Taylah Probert, Talia Burke, Shaylie McWilliams, Hayley Riley, Shaylee Larkin and Courtney Peterson.

Miss Hespe-Poulos in collaboration with the Team.

Our 1st Social Inc. Event of 2013

On Monday the 27th May our newly established Social Inc. Group at Picnic Point High had a fantastic day sailing on Sydney Harbour with Sailors with disAbilities where we had a fun day 'learning the ropes' about sailing a yacht.



This was the first time when students with and without a disability got a chance to spend some relaxing and educational time together. These happy moments were captured by Chelsea Symons, Year 10 student and Mrs Bray in two consecutive sailing sessions.

We would like to thank Sailors with disAbilities for this fantastic sailing opportunity and look forward to gaining more experience in the future.

Monika Bray

The Launch of a New High School Program

On Thursday the 30th of May a group of students from Picnic Point High attended the launch of a new high school program at Luna Park organized by *Social Inc.* Group, which is proudly supported by Cerebral Palsy Alliance.



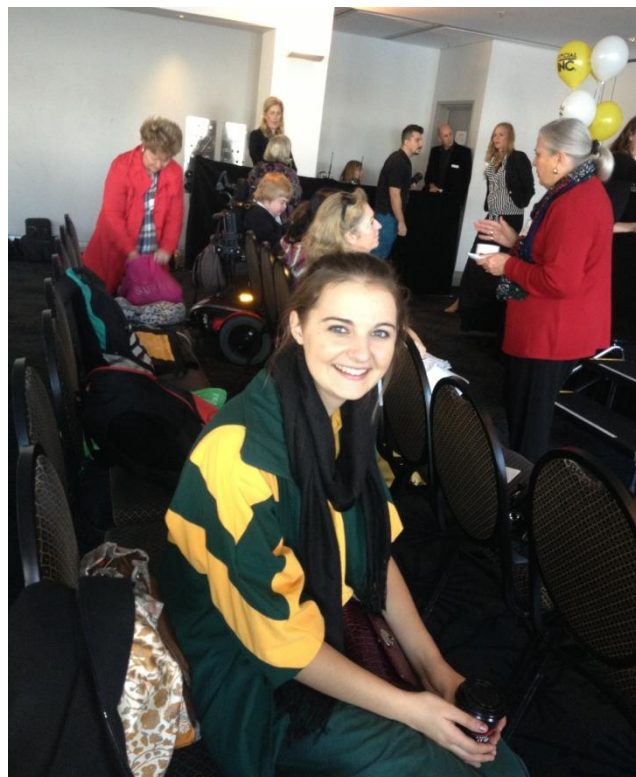
This new initiative is designed to foster acceptance and social inclusion of students with a disability. By engaging with resources and support created by *Social Inc.*, schools will be able to successfully promote social inclusion and work towards changing their culture.



Participation in the *Social Inc.* program will benefit both mainstream and special education students by enhancing mutual respect, increasing social understanding and acceptance as well as providing learning/leadership opportunities.



At Picnic Point High we have made the first step towards social inclusion – we have established our school *Social Inc.* Group and contributed to creating promotional and awareness material for the program. We believe that with the continued support and encouragement of the Principal and Staff, we will be able to influence the school community so that our school can become an even safer and more inclusive environment for all.



Students who attended the event were:
Kate Smalley Yr10, Taylor Dawson Yr 10, Joshua Bull Yr10, Jayden Zangari Yr10, Caleb Trindall Yr10, Nicholas Sim Yr12 and our former student Jordan Chavez (2012). Thank you to all for representing our school on the day.

You can view *Social Inc.* @ PPHS by going to School Leadership on our school website:
<http://www.picnicpt-h.schools.nsw.edu.au>
or go to: www.socialinc.org.au or
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o8wU8WniGgs&feature=player_embedded
Monika Bray

Young Women's Leadership Seminar

We were lucky enough to be invited to The Young Women's Leadership Seminar held at the Parliament of New South Wales on Wednesday 15th May, along with approximately 50 girls from schools all around Sydney. There, we were able to gain a broader understanding of being a young female leader by various women who all held different leadership roles.

We were able to meet some inspiring women who shared with us their past history that got them to where they are today. We learned great advice from every speaker who presented, but our personal favourite was Alex, who is the co-founder of 'The Youth Food Movement'. She taught us 4 key lessons that she learnt throughout her life from being a prefect in high school, moving away and studying nutrition at university, entering and coming second and Australia's Next Top Model to finally volunteering to work 7 days a week at 'The Youth Food Movement' as well as working at a university.



All in all it was a great opportunity and we are sure to take what we have learnt into mind throughout our lives. We are so very grateful for this experience.

Juanita Halls and Chloe Larcombe - Year 11



LOTE Faculty

Half Yearly Assessment

All students who study Japanese have now undertaken assessments for the Half Yearly reports. We are proud of the way the majority of our students have approached the assessments and we would like to remind students that regularly revising their work provides the best preparation for assessments in language courses. Our results are once again very encouraging and our students continue to excel in their studies of Japanese at Picnic Point High School!

HSC Speaking Skills Exams

Year 12 students had another opportunity to practise their speaking skills at a specialised 'HSC Oral Examination Preparation' workshop event run by the Japanese Teachers Association of NSW on Saturday, June 8, 2013 at North Sydney Boys High School. At this workshop, students were

given tips on preparing for their exam and had the opportunity to practise speaking in Japanese in an HSC-style examination environment. Preparations for this section of the HSC exam, to be held on Saturday, September 7, are now in full swing, and we wish the Year 12's well as they undertake this challenging task.

Lions Club Youth Exchange

The Lions Clubs International Youth Exchange Program provides an opportunity for Australian youth aged 16-21 years to travel to Japan every December-January for a six-week stay costing approximately \$4000. All accommodation is provided free-of-charge by Japanese families vetted by Lions Clubs Japan. Youth do not attend school during their visit. By living with Japanese people in their homes, youth experience Japanese lifestyle and culture as a family member, not as a tourist, and can practise their Japanese language skills every day.

Applications close on 30 June 2013 for youth wishing to travel to Japan in December 2013.

All enquiries should be directed to helend222@hotmail.com or mobile 0408078847.

Japan Trip

On Wednesday, May 29, 2013, we hosted the Japan Trip Information Meeting and discussed with interested families the planned trip in 2014. We are very excited to be organising our school trip to Japan! We will be visiting Kyoto, Hiroshima and Tokyo during the September/October school holidays in 2014. A reminder to families, that the final date to pay the \$300.00 deposit to the front office is **Wednesday, June 19, 2013!** Please do not hesitate to contact us by phone or email if you have any further questions.

みなさん、気を付けて下さい!

Ms Marquis and Ms Mitchell



TAS Report

Wow week 7 already and what a busy term it has been. The TAS faculty has been a hive of activity with all students busily completing a variety of different projects. Below is a quick snap shot of some of the excellent projects that have been completed throughout the term.





A very big reminder to all Year 12 students that are completing either a Textiles or Industrial Technology Timber project that they are ***DUE ON MONDAY 12 AUGUST AT 9AM.*** I encourage all students to make good use of the remaining time and also the extra time that both Miss James and Mr Dass have made available after school.



Students that undertake practical subjects will produce a series of projects, food items out of their chosen medium. The materials and food used for these projects incur a cost payable by the student. Please ensure that this payment is made in a timely manner. If you have any further inquiries regarding student learning please do not hesitate to contact me.

Paul Burgess Head Teacher - TAS



Science Faculty Report

On Friday the 24th of May, the Science Faculty of Picnic Point High School had some friendly visitors. The Year 11 Biology classes and the Year 8 extension class had the special opportunity to learn about the adaptations of a number of Australian Native Animals.





During the last four weeks we have had the pleasure of a student teacher, Erin Costelloe, who brought in a range of Australian Native Animals and taught not only her class but also the other Biology class and the Year 8 extension class about adaptation.



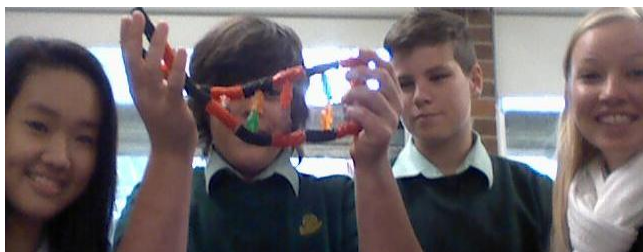
In the collection she had a Green tree frog, a Black headed Python, Tawny Frogmouth, a mother and a baby Ringtail Possum and a Bearded Dragon.



Students got a close up look at a number of adaptations of each animal. The animals were looked after with care and responsibility.

During this term, Year 10 has been learning about Genetics and Biotechnology. During this topic students have modelled the structure of DNA using lollies. This allows students to gain a stronger understanding of the concepts that are hard to grasp in a fun and engaging way.





Our school also recently became one of just 60 schools from around Australia lucky enough to be participating in a Solar car program sponsored by ATSE (Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering) and API (Australian Power Institute).

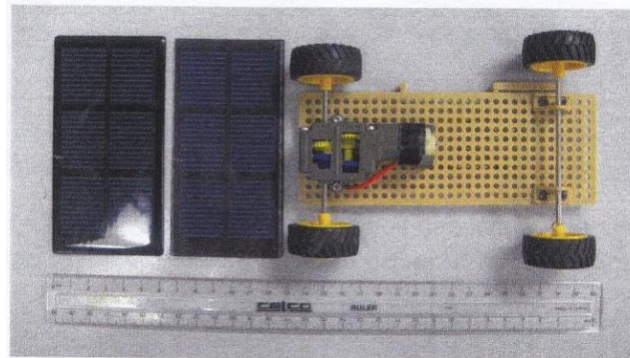
This innovative program provides schools with 15 sets of equipment that will enable students to build their own unique solar vehicle or other solar powered device.

Our extension students will be designing, building and racing their cars and during that week the school will be visited by an API Bursary holder. These bursary holders have been given a yearly bursary to study power engineering at universities around Australia. They visit the schools to encourage secondary students to study engineering, and will be presenting students with the winning car design with prizes donated by API.

This term, students in Year 7 are learning about separating mixtures and designing experiments to separate a range of different substances. In Year 8 students are learning about ecology with many students drawing food webs and food chains. In Year 9, students are rotating between three topics (Acids and Bases, Machines and Body Balance) where they are completing experiments and building models of machines using lego kits. In Year 10, students are learning about genetics and biotechnology where they are drawing pedigrees of observable traits within their families.

We would like to remind all students that the homework booklets for each topic can be found on the Picnic Point High School Web page where students can open and download a copy if they have misplaced the copy given to them by their teacher. We have now finished at least two topics for each year so homework for two separate topics should have been completed by now.

Each student in Years 7 to 10 have now completed two out of four assessment tasks. The following students are to be congratulated for earning the top 5 places in each year group for semester 1.



Year 7: Thomas Bush (equal 1st), Isabel De Araujo (equal 1st), Nathan Linabury (3rd), Rachel Stace (equal 4th), Jade Weston (equal 4th).

Year 8: Nikki Kayatz (1st), Wing Pang (2nd), Thomas Alexakis (3rd), Daniel Papagianopoulos (4th), Hayden Probert (5th).

Year 9: Daniel Morris (1st), Peter Markantonatos (2nd), Cameron Blight (3rd), Alison Martyn (4th), Elle Bogar (5th).

Year 10: Liam Greenwood (1st), Isabella Bull (2nd), Jayden Zangari (3rd), Stacey Hayward (4th), Mathew Kahla-Dunn (5th).



Lastly, on the 5th of June, 64 students ranging from Year 7 to Year 12 completed the Science Competition in the School Hall. It was an excellent turn out and numbers have increased from previous years. The results will be posted later in the year and they will be sent home to students.

Mrs D.Brown - Science Teacher

**WHAT: PRELOVED
UNIFORM SALE**



**WHEN: WEDNESDAY 21st
JUNE 2013
TIME : 8AM – 9.30AM**

Regional Dance Festival 2013

On the 6th June 2013 both the Junior Sport Group and Senior Company performed in the Regional Dance Festival at the Sport Centre Homebush.



Both groups have been rehearsing since January and performed extremely well on the day. The Junior Group consists of dancers in years 7, 8 and 9 and performed a dance called "The Battle". It focused on the idea of hiding, fighting and retreating.



The Senior Company consists of elite dancers in years 10, 11 and 12 and performed a dance called "In my nightmare". It focused on the concept of being controlled in your dreams.



Both groups should be commended on their outstanding efforts; it was great to see the dedication and enthusiasm shown. Also thank you to all the parents who helped out on the day.

Justine Shlom - Dance Teacher



Year 8 Adviser Report

Thank you to Sean Klimczak and Georgia Korch for being the chairpersons at the Year 8 Formal Assembly in Week 4. During this assembly, we had a beautiful musical performance by Pamela Papacharalambous, Hannah Eirth and Olivia Togagae Fanu and discussed cyberbullying, with particular reference to the importance of bystanders. The next formal assembly will take place in Term 2, Week 9. Any students wishing to be a chairperson at a Formal Assembly in the future or wish to perform are encouraged to see Ms Mitchell or Ms Kourouche for more details.

Well done to the many Year 8 students who demonstrated their amazing track skills at the recent Zone Cross Country Carnival. Good luck to those who have also been selected to represent Picnic Point High School at the Zone Athletics Carnival at the end of this term. It is wonderful to see so many Year 8 students representing our school in many extra-curricular activities.

Many Year 8 students continue to submit merit certificates and completed passports. This is very exciting to see! Keep up the good work! Congratulations to the students who have been invited to the Laser Tag and Ten Pin Bowling Rewards Day. Please see the Year 8 notice boards outside B15A and the English Staffroom to view the points tally list – the list is updated regularly. Reports will also be issued shortly and the merit tally will appear on the cover page of the report. This is a timely reminder for students to do their very best in every class. I look forward to reading these reports soon.

A reminder to all students and their families, that attendance at school is compulsory. Students must arrive to school on time every day and medical appointments should be made outside of school hours, wherever possible. All absences must be explained by providing a note and a medical certificate [if obtained] to the roll-call teacher on the first day the student returns to school.

Ms S Mitchell



Cross Country

The school cross country was held on the school grounds on the 10th May 2013. The course was walked, jogged and ran by all students in years 7-10 and registered students in years 11 and 12. Well done to all students on their participation, determination and stamina.



Congratulations to the following students who received School Age Champions:

Age	Boys	Girls
12	David Knox	Rhea Yan
13	Taren Wilson	Elle Seeto
14	Hayden Probert	Hayley Millar
15	Jack Stevenson	Rebecca Hughes
16	Yianni Kazanis	Emma Godbier
17	Daniel Curran	Mary Molloy
18	Peter Kallas	



Zone Cross Country

Under a bright blue sky, 89 students competed for Picnic Point High at the Bankstown Zone Cross Country Carnival. All students represented the school to the very best of their ability and 30 students placed high enough to compete at the Sydney South West Carnival. Picnic Point High finished 2nd in the girls division and 3rd in the boys division.



Congratulations to the following students who received Zone Age Champions:

13yrs Boys: Taren Wilson

14yrs Girls: Georgia Anderson

15yrs Girls: Stacey Hayward

17yrs Girls: Stephanie Baxter

Lauren Martin - Carnival Organiser

The C.O.O.L Project 2013 (Career Opportunities and Options for Life)

This semester Picnic Point High School has been assisting some of our Year 10 students prepare for the workplace and gain work and employability skills every Tuesday as part of The COOL Project. The boys have all gained their Workplace Health and Safety (WHS) certification with the assistance of Mr. Burgess, as well as many of them participating in work experience, TVet and TAFE short courses in their chosen fields.



The COOL Project boys have also all joined in the "School Work Crew" to do practical projects around the school. They have completed many jobs ranging from painting, mulching, installing whiteboards in classrooms and even speed humps on our road!! A number of guest speakers , excursions to Trade Expos and Apprenticeship Centres have also helped the students find out what they need to do to prepare for and apply for jobs successfully.



The COOL Project boys have been on a steep learning curve this semester in preparation for the "real world", and are doing well. They are keen to learn new practical skills and we always appreciate any "tradies" dropping by to demonstrate their tools and trade skills any Tuesday.

Michelle Harding - COOL Project Co-ordinator

A reminder to parents to notify the school about your child's health

We welcome information from parents about your child's health, even if you are not requesting specific support from our school. Our school asks for medical information when you enrol your child. It is also important that you let us know if your child's health care needs change or if a new health condition develops.

Information about allergies, medical conditions such as asthma and diabetes and other health care related issues (including prior conditions such as medical procedures in the last 12 months) should be provided to the school by parents. Please provide this information in writing to the principal. This will greatly assist our school in planning to support your child's health and wellbeing.

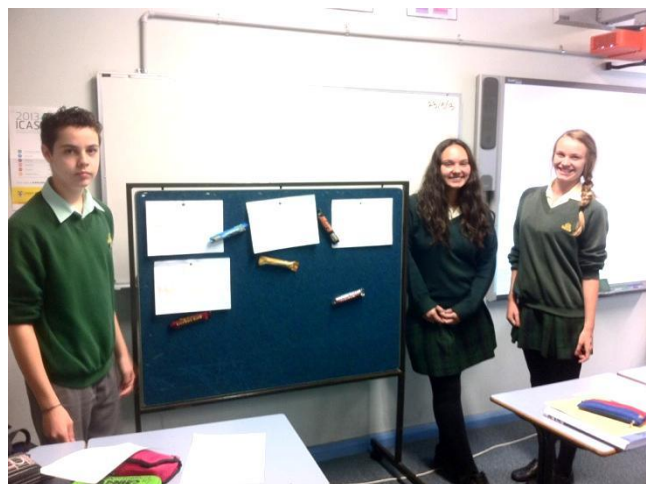
Please also remember to notify staff in the school office of any changes to your contact details or to the contact details of other people nominated as emergency contacts.

We appreciate your assistance in this regard and assure you that any information you provide the school will be stored securely and will only be used or disclosed in order to support your son or daughter's health needs or as otherwise required by law.

Mathematics

As part of the staff professional development on Gifted and Talented, three students from 10R Mathematics including Stacey Hayward, Katrina Mihalopoulos and Mathew Kahla-Dunn were recently given the opportunity to present to the Mathematics and Physical Education department about their understanding of complex ratio. The students were well prepared for the after school presentation which included an entertaining power point slide show and chocolate bars to motivate their audience.

The students should be congratulated for their effort in sharing their thought and opinion of the teaching of Mathematics.



In other news, Mathew Cash currently in Year 12 and last years winner of the ICAS Mathematics Competition Medal has been invited to participate in the 52nd Annual Mathematics Competition conducted by UNSW. He is one of the one thousand students in Australia participating in a 3 hour long examination with 5 questions. We wish Matthew the best of luck this competition.

Here is a sample question from past competition and a prize will be awarded to the first parent or student for the correct answer submitted to Mr Le.

A set of fifty pairwise distinct integers between 1 and 100 is chosen such that;

- (a) the sum of the numbers is equal to 2525; and
 - (b) the sum of any two numbers never equals 101.
- Find the sum of squares of these integers.

This year students will be able to participate in 2 Mathematics competitions: Australian Westpac and ICAS Mathematics Competition conducted by UNSW. Students participating in the Westpac Competition are selected based on the students' performance based on the Semester one Mathematics results. However, all students are encouraged to participate in the ICAS competition taking place in the middle of August



LANT - Literacy and Numeracy Tutorial

The new initiative at Picnic Point High School has been created to enhance the learning experience of students in Year 7. The Literacy and Numeracy Tutorial Program (LANT) has allowed student the opportunity to seek assistance in matters relating to homework and examination preparation. During Semester one attending students were assisted in the following areas:

- Assessment understanding and preparation across the different key learning areas
- Literacy and Numeracy Skills including NAPLAN practice tests
- Homework
- Access to ICT to complete homework and assignments



All Year 7 students are encouraged to attend future tutorial sessions where four teachers are available to render their expertise in the key learning areas. Permission notes can be obtained from Mr Le in the Mathematics staffroom.

Senior study is also available every Wednesday afternoon where afternoon tea is provided for all students.

Mr Le – Head Teacher Mathematics



Year 12 IPT Excursion

On the 15th of May 2013 the Year 12 IPT class attended an educational excursion. The class of only 10 boys attended the Petersham RailCorp training facility to participate in simulation activities as a part of the IPT Multimedia System's topic currently being studied.



The day consisted of a detailed tour of the various technical simulators on hand at the facility. Our first experience there was on the newer Waratah simulator with a mock up half cabin, three projectors and a large curved wall in which the images are projected giving a "surround" experience. We then each took turns experiencing what it is like to operate a train. We then moved on to the older simulators of the Tangara and the K-Set train simulators. With this we also saw and created our own training scenarios such as children or obstacles on the track, in which we also got to test. We also saw the new motion simulator that RailCorp has acquired and were able to operate it also.

Joel Moseley - Year 12 IPT