



PICNIC POINT HIGH SCHOOL

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Principal
Mr Wolly Negroh
B Ed, Dip Teach

September 2013

PIC-NEWS

51 years of Quality Education

RELIEVING PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Mr S Schomberg

Recently we conducted the selection process for our School Captains and Vice Captains from our prefects for 2014. This was a very inspirational process for me and the quality of our student leaders once again set a new bench mark. I congratulate the new School Captains for 2014, Emily Frazer and Jamie Romcke and Vice Captains Chloe Larcombe and Zachary Hatzis.



It has also been a busy time for all of our HSC students involved in their major works culminating in the annual Major Works Showcase. I give a very big thank you to Paul Burgess, Brenton Monger and the TAS faculty and Suzy Tarasenko, Cathy McManus and Anna Peterson for the display of amazing major works produced by our Year 12 students. The display on the Thursday night was a real testament to the hard work both staff and students have put into getting these major works ready for the HSC markers. Every year I am amazed at the works produced and this year was no exception. In excess of 200 parents and friends came and viewed the works and many passed on their sincere thanks and gratitude to the Year 12 teachers.

Recently our selected student leaders were invited to the Annual Student Leadership Camp. This whole program has evolved into one of the strongest initiatives we have put in place in our school. The leadership skills that are fostered and developed in our young people from Year 7 through to Year 12 is a testament to the great success of this program. Once again the camp was rated by our students as the best ever - the same rating it has had for the last 6 years. Is it possible for a program to continue to get better and better? Every year our dedicated staff led by Anna Peterson, Kirsty Marquis and Vicki Stavros simply deliver.

Some individual student performances come to note in this edition of PIC-NEWS. Congratulations to Ashleigh Gardiner and Mary Malloy from Year 11 who have both been selected in the NSW U18 Women's Cricket side to compete in the National Competition later this year. Ashleigh has also been selected in the National Talent Development Squad for Cricket.

Congratulations also go to Jordan Grochala from Year 11 who has been successful in being selected in an elite Australian Youth Soccer Squad. He will be travelling to England at the end of September for a 16 day tour. The team will get to play youth teams from Manchester United, Liverpool, Everton, Blackburn and Rangers. He will also get the opportunity to attend some Division 1 soccer games and meet some of the world's best players after these games.

Congratulations to Lisa Gourlay for her outstanding contribution leading up to the East Hills Choral Festival. See the fantastic photos in this PicNews



From time to time, we are in contact with our Police Youth Liaison officers and other members of the police force from the Bankstown Local Area Command. I would like to draw all parents' attention to an article about the dangers of two apps on smart phones, "kik" and Ask.fm. The article appears later in PIC-News.

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Deputy's Report – Mr Baczynskyj

Year 12 are at the completion of their formal studies and now will begin their own final preparation for their HSC examinations. All students with practical components to their HSC studies have completed this aspect of their courses and reports indicate that they have done extremely well. Many teachers will offer additional lessons for Year 12 during the next holiday period to assist them in their final preparations. It has been wonderful to be so closely associated with these students who have set high standards across the school in all areas; academic, social, sport and extra-curricular. Our best wishes go to all of them as they face this last challenge of their high school education.

At school in this last week there are some final opportunities for them to celebrate the end of their schooling. They have a 'Big Day Out', Parent/teacher/student dinner and of course their graduation on the last day of term. They will also attempt to regain the 'golden boot' from the staff in the annual volleyball, basketball and soccer matches. This was won by the staff for the first time in the school's history last year and the students will need to step up a notch in order to recapture this prestigious trophy.

Year 8 students have completed their subject selections for their electives over the next two years. Work on the timetable has commenced and students will find out which subjects they have received towards the end of next term. As mentioned many times, it is unlikely that any changes can be accommodated from this time on, so hopefully the students considered their choices and priorities closely as was advised on many occasions prior to them making their selections. It should be remembered that these electives are for the next two years of their study pattern.

Over this term I have been fortunate enough to see some outstanding student work and performances. The East Hills Choral Festival showcased an extensive amount of PPHS talent from Year 7 through to Year 12. The Evening of Dance saw new improved standards of performance across all year groups. The Year 12 presentations through their Music night and Major Works Open Night celebrated wonderful skill and creative attributes. As always, as students commit themselves and pursue improvement, the results are quite outstanding. There are many academic and extra-curricular opportunities across our school for all year groups. If your child has particular talents or even just an interest, please encourage them to participate in as many programs as possible – it can add a lot of pleasure to the experience of schooling.

Mr Baczynskyj

Deputy's Report – Mrs N Sherry

Year 7

Year 7 students are almost at the end of their third term at high school. Students are finishing their assessment tasks this term with their final examinations being held in Week 1 next term. Students will need to use their time in the remaining week and over the holiday period to revise their course work in preparation for their examinations. Many students are unfamiliar with the process of purposeful study. Parents and guardians are encouraged to assist their children in strategies that will assist them in maximising their knowledge and recall of important concepts and skills. Setting up a quiet study space at home and assigning periods of study time are a good way to begin this process.

Year 10

Year 10 students have completed the process of subject selection for their studies in 2014. This process has involved the co-operation and extensive discussions between staff, students and their parents. Selection of subjects for study is an important step towards students setting themselves up for their future careers. Mr Le and the timetable team are busy drawing up lines for the curriculum structure for next year. Students should find out their subjects early next term.

Year 11

Year 11 students are currently completing their Yearly Examinations and at the end of this term have come to the conclusion of their Preliminary year of study. When they return in Term 4 they will begin their HSC courses and they will receive their Year 12 Assessment Booklet. Students are encouraged to utilise the calendar in the booklet and plan their time effectively, ensuring that they can complete all tasks on time and to the best of their ability. Families are asked to refrain from removing their HSC child from school for prolonged periods of time as this will disadvantage them in their learning and overall understanding of their courses. Planning for major works is essential at this time of the year so that deadlines for next year can be met.

As with previous years there will be no changes to the curriculum patterns for students this year. At PPHS we discourage students from dropping subjects. This is based on the very strong evidence we have collected over the last few years that shows that students who continue with at least 11 units of study or more to the HSC examinations, perform better than students who have dropped subjects. Students must continue their studies through to the end of this year and complete all assessment tasks that are required before the end of the year. Curriculum patterns will only be altered next year if students can demonstrate that the change requested will improve their overall performance. Students who have not completed work in any of their current subjects will not be allowed to drop any subject. Every student requesting a change will be interviewed and there is no guarantee that changes will be approved.

Mrs N Sherry – Relieving Deputy

What's On - Term 3

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
	Term 3 Ends
Tues 8/10	All Students Return Term 4 Begins



P & C News September 2013

The August meeting of the P & C was held on the 19th August and was very well attended. The meeting commenced with a presentation by Ms. Suzy Tarasenko, the new head of the Creative and Performing Arts Faculty. Ms. Tarasenko gave us a briefing on her background of teaching and experience and followed up with the aspirations that she has for the Faculty and the students at Picnic Point High School. It is great to hear from our Head Teachers and certainly adds a different dimension to the P & C meetings.

Mr. Negroh gave a report on school activities and of course with term three being well underway the exam schedules are also very busy and all the Year 12 students are working hard toward their upcoming HSC. It was pleasing to hear that displays of HSC major works are being conducted at the school as well as Music and Dance evenings to showcase the work of these students.

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 rostered on in Canteen and I once again remind all volunteers to do this as an extra safety measure for the school.

The P & C is currently quite financial with over \$40,000 in the bank and we were also delighted to have \$20,000 handed over from the Canteen. We are seeking prices for installing an electronic sign at the front of the school and will also be looking at other resources to fund before the end of the year. As is the case in past years we approved funding of the buses to take the year 12 students to their formal at the end of the year. This has been a long held tradition and enables the students and staff to travel in to the formal together and provides safe travel home for those not attending the after party.

At the September meeting we will be drawing our major raffle. Anyone who wishes to purchase tickets prior to the draw can do so at the school office.

The dates for the P & C meetings for the remainder of the year are as follows: September 16th, October 21st and November 25th. These meetings are preceded by School Council meetings. I welcome all interested parents to these meetings.

Christine Butters - P & C President

Email: bjcmbutters@yahoo.com.au



Michel's (Revesby)

Student of the Month

August 2013

	Name	REASON FOR THE AWARD
7	Connor Keen	Excellent contribution and commitment at leadership camp and in all classes.
8	Stephen Howard	Improvement in his commitment to learning this semester.
9	Ella Cooper	Effort and enthusiasm in the Environment Group.
10	Michael Spanos	For his outstanding effort and commitment to his studies.
11	Sarah Wardrop	For improving her overall rank by 76 places this year.
12	Aaron McAndrew	Continued effort and hard work in all subject areas.



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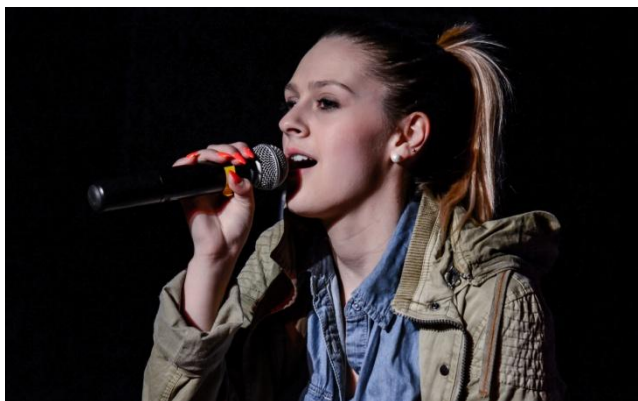
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HSC Music Recital 2013

The HSC Music Recital was held on Wednesday 21st August. Our talented Music students performed their HSC repertoire in front of an audience of family and friends. The night was a wonderful success and included a range of repertoire.

A big thankyou to the Yr12 Entertainment Students, who organised and looked after all technical aspects of the night. A special thankyou to Ashley Meredith who was the Photographer on the night – the photos are amazing!

I would like to wish our Yr12 Music Students all the very best of luck for HSC Examinations in September.



Alise Imparato



Brendon Lambert



Renee Oldfield



Jack Hallows



Glynn Meredith



Tim Easterbrook

Congratulations to Nicole Thornton – yr12

A Big Congratulations to Nicole Thornton who has been selected as the 'Voice of McDonalds'. Nicole is 1 of 11 people that have been selected from the Asia-Pacific/Middle East/Africa regions to perform in the Semi-Finals in Hong Kong in September. If successful, she will then travel to the US to perform in the Grand Final.

In addition, Nicole has progressed through to Round Three of the Audition process for the Talent Development Project. Nicole is an incredible talent and we wish her all the very best in Hong Kong and her future Musical career.



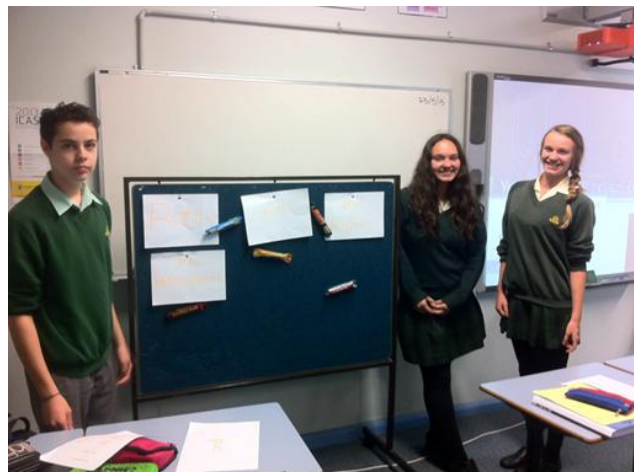
Nicole Thornton

Ms Suzy Tarasenko - HT Creative and Performing Arts

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 year's 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 in this competition.

Here is a sample question from a 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 in the Semester one Mathematics results.

Mr Le - Head Teacher Mathematics Faculty



Aboriginal Education Update 2013

Belonging Field Trip Day to Kamay, Botany Bay National Park, Kurnell

On Tuesday the 6th August, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students from 7 schools in the region attended a field trip to Kamay, Botany Bay National Park at Kurnell. On the excursion there were approximately 65 parents, teachers and students from Picnic Point High School, Moorebank High School, Picnic Point Primary School, Panania Public School, Revesby South Public School, Newbridge Heights Public School and Tower Street Public School. We had planned our experience at our Collaboration Day in Term 2, so we were ready for an interesting, fun and educational day!



We wanted to learn as much as we could about how the Dharawal people, the traditional custodians of the land, used the land before the British came to Australia. We also wanted to learn about the first days of contact between the Aboriginal and British people.



Our three guides, including local Aboriginal elder Uncle Dave Wright, captivated the students with their extensive historical

and cultural knowledge. For example, Uncle Dave told us how the leaves of the Coastal Wattle could be used as soap and showed us how to make 'snake whistles' out of local grasses.

The students had a great time taking pictures, recording interviews, drawing illustrations and asking questions. They even got to try out spear and boomerang throwing! They gathered some really interesting information that they will craft into 'products' such as paintings and books which will be displayed on the final Belonging Day next term.

We would like to thank the guides, parents, students and teachers for a wonderful and productive day. A special thanks must go to Cristy Hoffmeister from Panania Public School who helped organise the field trip.

Gabriella Hespe-Poulos



Congratulations

Congratulations to Lisa Gourlay for her outstanding contribution leading up to the East Hills Choral Festival. Many of our students were involved and performed in music, dance or compering roles and from all reports it was a truly magnificent performance from all of our students. Our featured soloists included Katelyn Middlemiss, Lauren O'Shea, Rene Hewson, Samantha Regler, Daniel Hart and Nicole Thornton. Thank you also to Justine Shlom for assisting with our dance performances. Further congratulations go to Justine on the wonderful display of dancing that was seen at the Evening of Dance last Tuesday. There were many students involved in the program including a boys group and some wonderful comperes. Recently parents were also treated to the outstanding performances at the HSC music recital night. This night showcased the talents of our HSC students in their last performances before the HSC exams. Congratulations go to Suzy Tarasenko for her amazing work with these students as they prepare for their HSC exams

A big thankyou also to Lisa Gourlay and Melissa Myles and the support provided by the entertainment students in helping the different nights have that professional touch with lighting, sound, various microphones and stage adjustments all having to work at precisely the correct time. There were many parents and friends here to watch these events and we have had a lot of positive feedback.

Steve Schomberg & the PPHS Community



Bouquets to you Lisa

TAS Report

I would like to congratulate both the Year 12 Industrial Technology and the Textiles students on the completion of their Major HSC practical projects. These students and their dedicated teachers have worked tirelessly to produce practical projects of a very high standard.

These projects represent a year of hard work and display the incredible talent we have within the TAS faculty.



Karissa Dunn – Parasol



Brendan Marshall – Buffet



Kirsty Knebusch - Suit Case



Azmi Derbras - Fish Tank Stand



Glynn Meredith- Electric Guitar



Taylor Pritchard – Coffee Table



Chloe Farrell - Marilyn Monroe Inspired dress



Rita Salloum – Costume



Study Desk Matt Leedham



Chess Table Tom Kovacs



Checkers Board Isa Soylu



Doona Cover Madeline Strachan

Below are some photos of the Year 11 Industrial Technology's hall tables:



Brad Fosrter



Jack Ismay



Michael Marsh



Jayden Okunbor

As you can see there has been a lot of hard work and effort put into these projects and folios and all students are to be congratulated on the effort and application that they have displayed.

Students that undertake practical subjects will produce a series of projects or 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 require any further information regarding student learning please do not hesitate to contact me.

Mr P Burgess – TAS



Library News

The 2013 Premier's Reading Challenge has finished. Congratulations to these students who have read at least twenty books.

Sarah Hatton	7R	Sally Anne Scamarcia	7O
Lauren Flanagan	7G	Leon Duryea	7R
Thomas Truong	7R	Rachel Stace	7E
George Bakopoulos	7E	Keely-Shaye Parnell	7Y
Zac Borkowski	7E	Holly Humphrys	7E
Tiffany Nguyen	7E	Nicky Ta	7Y
Andrew Pham	7E	Michael Rasera	7R
Adrian Vasilj	7G	Matthew Blight	7E
Jenny Tang	7Y	Jay Comino	7Y
Cameron Walsh	7E	Martin Nguyen	7E
Joshua Williams	7G	Tahlia Brackley	7R
Harrison Walther	7Y	Samantha Wong	Year 9
Sarah Luscombe	9	Isabel De Araujo	7E
Tim Gray	7E	Scott Thompson	7E
Wendy Tang	7R	Simone Myers	7R
		Hayden Sherry	7E

Overall, 68 Year 7 students have completed the Challenge, 2 Year 8 students and 6 Year 9 students.

I would like to encourage all students to read, and students in Years 7 and 8 to continue reading for the 2014 PRC.

The PRC supports NAPLAN, the national initiative which measures the progress of students in literacy and numeracy. In addition the Literacy continuum for the Australian Curriculum states an expectation of Year 7 students reading for sustained periods, and that by the end of Year 9 students should be able to 'independently select and read an increasing volume and range of texts'. So students read a variety of books and try different genres – you might surprise yourself with something unexpectedly great!

Marion Aranjó - Teacher Librarian



Mathematics Competitions Update

Some Picnic Point students have achieved excellent results. Firstly, Matthew Cash has achieved a High Distinction and \$100 prize. Congratulations Matthew.

The Australian Mathematics Trust competition sponsored by the Commonwealth Bank (formerly Westpac) is an internationally renowned competition and the select few were invited to participate in this challenging competition. Once again there were exceptional achievements by students from Picnic Point. There was 1 High Distinction, 3 Distinctions and 13 Credits from 28 participants. Congratulations must go out to Jay Ng, Catherine Nguyen (Junior division), Dai Le (Senior) for their Distinctions and Matthew Cash for his High Distinction in the Senior division.

Have a go at the following question from the junior paper:

Three non-zero digits are used to form six different 3-digit numbers. The sum of five of them is 3231. What is the sixth number?

The first three correct entries via email to Mr Le (trieu.le@det.nsw.edu.au) will receive a prize.

Malcolm Ismail – Mathematics Faculty



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The East Hills Choral Festival was held on Tuesday 27th & Wednesday 28th August at the Whitlam Auditorium, The Revesby Workers' Club. Close to 500 students from Picnic Point High School, East Hills Girls Technology High School, Panania Public School, Picnic Point Public School, Padstow North Public School, Padstow Heights and Revesby South Public School created a spectacular concert of song and dance.

Picnic Point High School students have been exceptional role models to the younger performers from our feeder primary schools. It has been an amazing showcase of the talent of students at Picnic Point High School in Music and Dance. The theme for the 2013 East Hill Choral Festival was SOUNDTRACKS. The Festival featured a range of very well-known songs from movies from the 1950s through to present.



The festival began with a very special Welcome to Country performed by Year 11 Students Jasmin Williams and Jesse Heyward. Following the Welcome to Country, the girls were joined by the choir to sing the beautiful Aboriginal lullaby 'Ngurra Burra' which featured in the movie The Sapphires.



Our two Comperes, Daniel Papagianopoulos and Annalise Summers, are to be commended for a fine job. Both students are in Year 8 at Picnic Point High School. Already members of the Leadership Program, these students are destined to represent our school as leaders in the future.



Our first featured soloist was Year 9 student, Dakota Smith. Dakota performed 'Circle of Life' and 'Shadowland' from The Lion King.



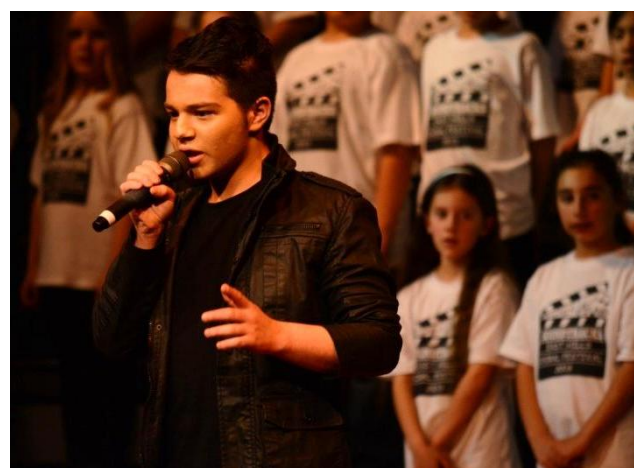
The Choir looked amazing dazzled in colourful lights. All students united with beautiful voices to create a wonderful large ensemble.



Ms Shlom's talented Year 10 Elective Dance class excited the audience with an upbeat dance to 'A Little Party' from The Great Gatsby.



Cooper Dallimore brought Aladdin's blue Genie to life with the Disney classic 'A Friend Like Me' from Aladdin. He even painted himself blue!



Picnic Point also featured the following soloists; **Katelyn Middlemiss, Lauren O'Shea, Rene Hewson, Samantha Regler, Daniel Hart and Nicole Thornton**. They are to be congratulated for their fantastic performances.
Suzy Tarasenko – Head Teacher CAPA

Year 12 Body Of Work 2013

Students completed their Body of Work on August 26. They worked across a broad range of genres and media. Many challenges were overcome and skills developed. The students worked very hard to produce a high standard of work and are congratulated on their achievements.



"My Safe Place" Acrylic on Canvas, Emma Katsilis, 2013



"Your Face is a Canvas", Digital Media, Madeline Strachan, 2013



"Ocean: Forces of Attraction", Digital Media, Ashleigh Meredith, 2013



"Portraits of..." Oil on board, Nicole Thompson, 2013



"Heritage, Ancestry, Prosperity", Mixed Media, Justine Alcalde, 2013



"Grecian Vessels", Ceramics, Gabriella Kousoulas, 2013



"Memories are Intertwined", Mixed Media, Kacey Hanna, 2013



"Avante Garbe", Mixed Media, Katie Wynter, 2013



"Nostalgia", Mixed Media, Steven Skintzis, 2013
Anna Peterson – CAPA



"Periphery of the Mind", Mixed Media, Madeline Guthrie, 2013



"The Devine Birth of Femininity", Mixed Media, Jade Newbery, 2013

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 picnict-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au , 02 9772 1700 or via letter.

Student Leadership Camp - The Tops 7-9th August

First day and the bus trip went so quickly as everyone was anxiously sitting in their seats, excited to get to 'The Tops'.

As soon as we arrived you could feel the excitement in the air and see the shock on everybody's face as we didn't come to camp, it was more like a resort! After meeting our amazing leaders, who instead of instructors felt like friends we've known forever and after playing some GREAT warm up games, we took on our first challenge.



The high ropes and vertical climb! We had to mark off certain criteria including debriefs and helping others do their climb by checking their safety until we were able to climb ourselves and collect a small water balloon. Everyone was confused about collecting a balloon, until we found out that it was our 'balloon buddy' and we would have to take care of it for the next 3 days! Looking after our balloon buddy and taking them everywhere with us taught us all the importance of ownership and accountability. If we broke our buddy, not only ourselves but our whole team would have to complete a challenge to earn another. This in turn showed us that our actions don't only affect us, but others as well.



After the fun activities and games we did that day, Mr. Baczynskyj and Mr. Burgess joined us for a great night of Trivia!



As soon as everyone went to their rooms we dropped like flies as we'd had such an action packed day and were looking forward to the fun tomorrow!



Day 2 was even more action packed then Day 1 and everyone had a lot of fun. In the morning we had a great talk by two of our leaders where we learnt more about ownership, accountability and other aspects to being a leader. We played games during this chat, which were as well as fun, also extremely wise and meaningful.



After lunch, we formed into groups of 3 and created rockets, this activity allowed us all to work as a team and enjoy watching our rockets fly up into the air! As we were all outside huddled because of the cold, wet and wind there was a sense of happiness and achievement amongst the entire group, a definite highlight of the camp.



After the rockets we congregated in the meeting room for another seminar where the leaders showed us how capable we all are at achieving our goals. During this there were large amounts of thinking, laughing and learning. Hayley McDonald's birthday was on that day, so we all sang happy birthday any chance we got and enjoyed yummy cupcakes from home! Ryan Mackey also got a leech during one of the activities this allowed the teachers to put their 'First Aid' into action, and was very exciting as everybody wanted a glimpse at the leech.





After dinner on Day 2 it was 'Animal Game Night'. This proved challenging in the games, activities and artworks we produced. The artworks were animal masks that we all made, and then had to play all the games in them. Many people put time and effort into their creative masks that Mr Negroh and Mr Clay kindly judged. The games night proved eventful for everybody, with singing, dancing, laughing, and new friendships being formed. After a long day and a night filled with laughing, learning, and encouragement, the juniors went to bed by 9.30pm however, the seniors and the teachers enjoyed some hot chocolates, assessment task notifications, music, and laughs just before bed, a bonding session for all.



As morning came on the last day everyone anticipated what was going to happen. After a delicious breakfast we formed new small groups and went on a treasure hunt. This treasure hunt quickly became challenging and exciting for all groups involved. After the treasure hunt we had a choice of 3 different activities, Giant Swing, Go-Karts, and Archery. This was the cherry on the cake for all it topped off an amazing camp filled with excitement, encouragement, and leadership opportunities!



Thank you to all of the teachers involved for such a great leadership camp!
Emily Frazer and Juanita Halls

Outstanding News in Sport

It never ceases to amaze me the outstanding achievements of students from PPHS in various sports. I am very pleased to report that Ashleigh Gardner in Year 11 has been selected in the Australian Under 18 Talent Development Squad for cricket and has also been selected in the NSW Under 18 team to play at the Australian carnival later this season. Ashleigh is a brilliant off spin bowler who has the ability to change the game with her batting in the blink of an eye due to her phenomenal timing and power. Ashleigh has been identified by Cricket Australia as one of the most promising talents in the country and considering she is only 16 this is quite amazing.

I am also pleased to report that Mary Molloy has also been selected in the NSW Under 18 team to play at the Australian Carnival later this season. Mary is a brilliant opening bat with a wonderful technique who also bowls leg spin with amazing control and variation. This means 2 of our students will be playing together for NSW and hoping to be selected in the Australian team.

Both of these girls are fantastic cricketers and great sportswomen and we wish them every success in the championships ahead.

Mr Millican

Koori Cup Rugby League Carnival

On Monday 19th August PPHS entered a team in the Koori Cup Rugby League. This is a competition run by the NSW Rugby League to promote participation and awareness of Indigenous sport in NSW. 15 teams entered the Under 16's boys which were placed into 5 pools. We were definitely placed in the toughest pool against James Busby, Airds, Brisbane Waters and Picton.

We had 5 indigenous (the highest of any of the participating schools) and 6 non-indigenous players ranging from Year 8 to Year 11. The Year 8 and 9 boys including Kodi Donovan, Corey Brown, Jake McMahon, Josh Thompson-Reynolds, Tristan Evans-Tsoi and Jack Stevenson were playing against much bigger and older opposition and more than held their own. In a very tough first game against Picton we lost 8-4 before another tough game against a very big and strong James Busby team. After going try for try their size eventually took its toll on our boys and we lost 24-16.

The next game was against Airds High who were also big and strong but some awesome footy from Jayden Okunbor, Aaron Gilbert, Nano Ualesi, Fatu Togagae-Fanu, Josh Thompson-Reynolds and Tristan Evans-Tsoi saw us win 24-12. We then had a forfeit from Brisbane Waters due to their injuries and thought we had missed the Quarter Finals.

At the bus with Mr Clay deciding on which "Maccas" to frequent on the way home we were informed that we came 8th and were in the quarter final against the undefeated Robert Townson High. We had 6 minutes to fully change back into footy gear and be on the field. We made it by 10 seconds against the protests of the opposition coach. After a great game of quality footy the scores were locked at 16-16 until

Luke Parmaxidis spotted a gap in the defence and dived over as the siren sounded to give us a great 20-16 victory.

This meant we were in the semi-finals and the No 1 team was on their way home. How funny. The semi was against Miller High and was a great game of open footy. After 5 games all the boys were very tired but both teams dug deep and produced some great tries. Unfortunately, a 50/50 decision went against us which put us behind 28-24 and a late intercept as we pushed to tie the scores meant we went down 32-24.

The boys are to be congratulated for their wonderful effort, participation and behaviour over the course of the day. We participated in the true spirit of the day and against some much bigger and stronger teams we only just missed out on the final. Thanks go to Mr Clay for driving the bus and coaching the boys and Alturo for running the water on a hot and windy day.

These boys represented PPHS with distinction and were a credit to the school.

Mr Millican - Aboriginal Ed Co-ordinator



Year 10 History Excursion to Canberra

On Friday the 16th of August the History Faculty conducted its annual field trip to the nation's capital, Canberra. Approximately 150 students who attended were able to enhance their knowledge of Australian history by visiting two significant sites in the capital.



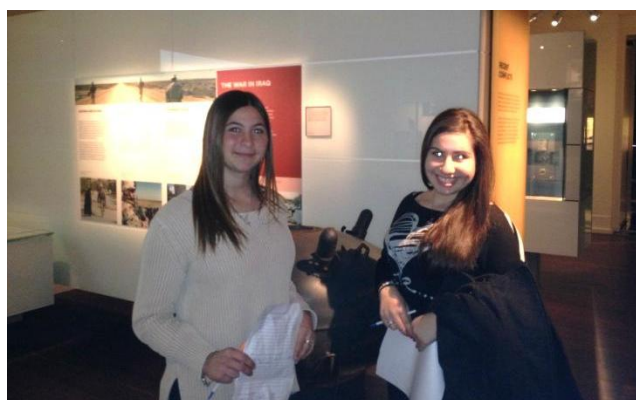
Students were given a guided tour of the nation's parliament where they had the opportunity to answer and ask questions. Their knowledge of how our system of government works was greatly enhanced by the experience.



After lunch students visited the National War Memorial where students had the opportunity to pay their respects to the fallen as well as those who served. As well, students conducted research into the various roles of the Australian defence forces from the Vietnam War Era onwards.



A special focus for our students was the role Australia has played as a global citizen via peace keeping duties. The visit to the war memorial was and always is special for our students.



I'm pleased to be able to say that our student's behaviour was exemplary. Moreover, our students came back from the trip as better informed Australian citizens

Mr. Goman - Head Teacher History

Excursion Through a Student's Eyes

On Friday the 16th of August 150 Year 10 students went on a trip to Canberra. We woke up at 5:00am to go on this excursion. When arrived at school all we lined up and had our rolls marked, then buses arrived and we made our way to Canberra. The bus ride was fun. We had breakfast at Maccas after lining up in very long lines.



When we arrived in Canberra we made our way to Parliament House. When we got to Parliament House we had to go through metal detectors. Here, we followed our tour guide to the House of Representatives where she talked about the parliament; she also showed us all of the portraits of past Prime Ministers.



We then left for a park where we had lunch.

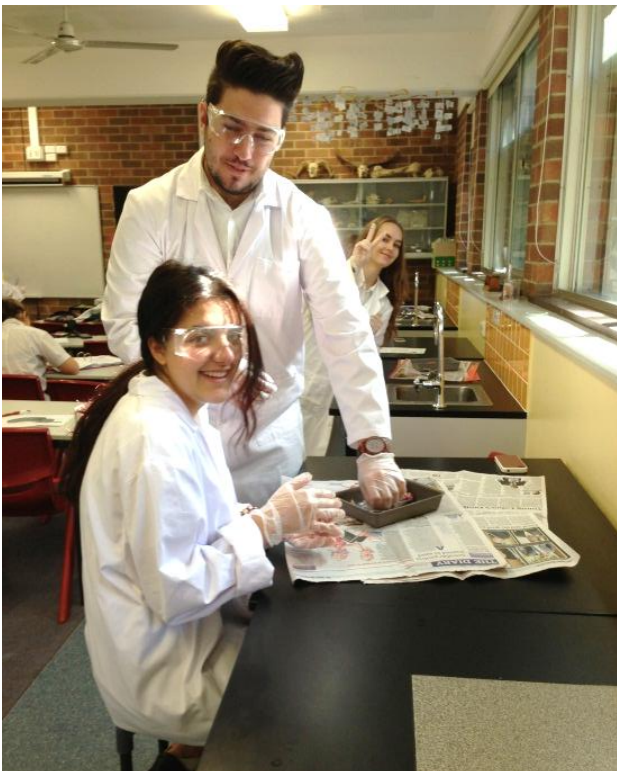


Finally, we went to the War Memorial where we walked around answering questions and looking at the things on display. This was very interesting. Then after that we got back on the bus and went back to Maccas for dinner arriving home at about 8:00pm. The day was fun.

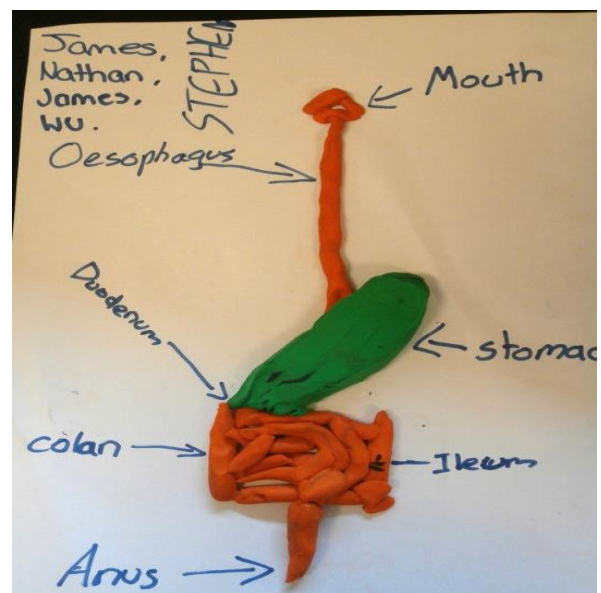
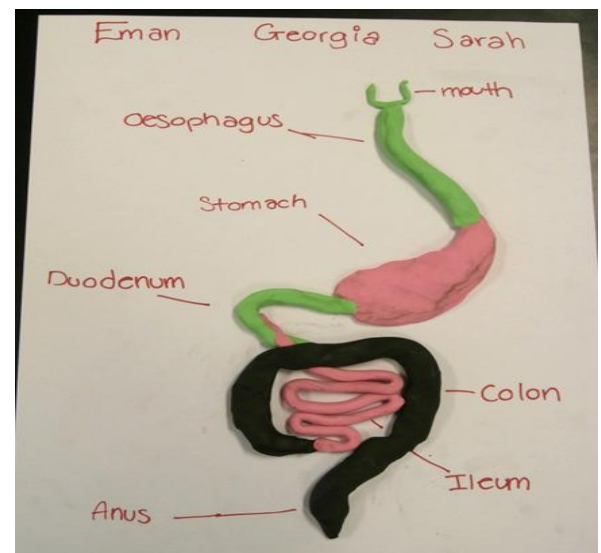
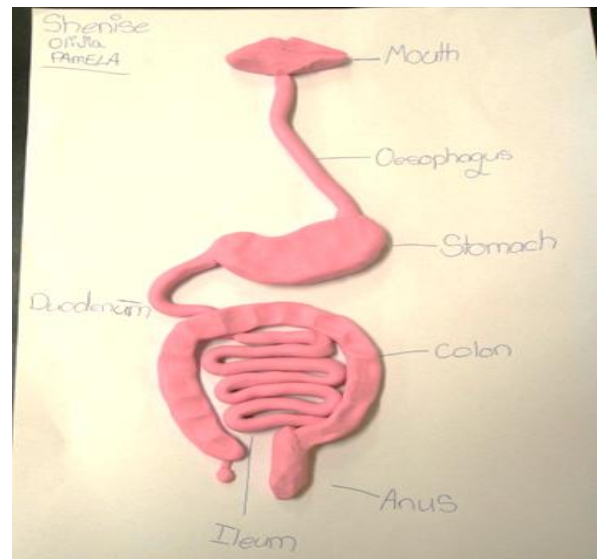
Jeremy Shepherd

Science Report

Year 12 Biology are finishing up their course work and have recently studied the communication topic. In this topic they learn about the ways humans communicate with their surroundings. Within this topic they had an opportunity to dissect a sheep brain. They enjoyed the experience and gained valuable hands on experience of the parts and colourings of the brain.



Over the last few weeks, **year 8** have been learning all about the human body. The students in **8G** recently had fun in a challenge to see which group could make the best labelled model of the digestive system using plasticine. The models were judged by three Science teachers. And the winning group is.... Eman El-Hassan, Georgia Korch and Sarah Beitelis.



Science Week at the Australian Museum

8E and 8R visited the Australian Museum as a part of Science Week Celebrations. Students participated in a workshop on Aboriginal Technology, a lecture on Science matters and then an expo featuring Universities and organisations selling Science. Students were able to get hands on and even compete against the clock to win prizes if they could correctly find elements on the periodic table. We even had time to look around at the dinosaurs and mega fauna exhibits.



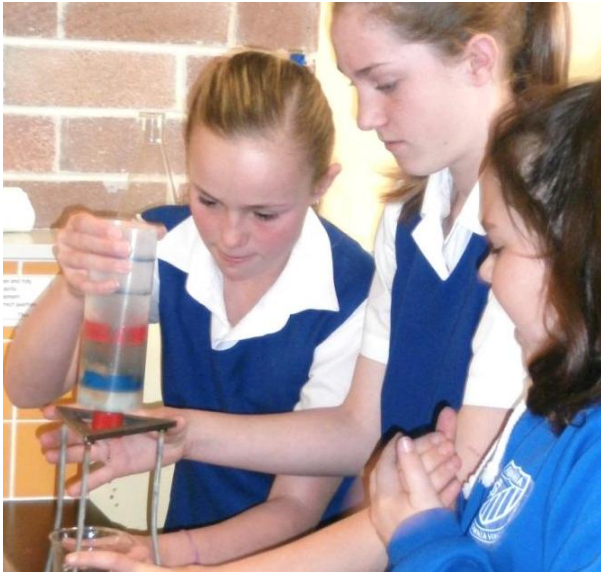
Year 9R Science has also been working on building mousetrap cars looking at the simple machines involved.



Science Faculty

Visiting Year 6 Students

This week, year 6 students from 4 local primary schools have been visiting Picnic Point High School. They are working through a cross curricular program to allow them to experience a range of high school experiences.



The students have completed 2 lessons so far with 4 more lessons to go during term 4.

Mrs D Brown – Science Faculty



Community Relations Commission Youth Leaders Day

On Tuesday, August 6th the Community Relations Commission Youth Leaders Day was held at the Novotel Hotel in Parramatta where two students from various schools around NSW attended. This year's theme was 'Participate and Contribute' meaning young people would discuss why, how and what it meant to participate and contribute in today's world. The day ran from 9:00am until 3:30pm and was split into a number of workshops where students could meet new people and learn new things regarding multicultural society.

Maceon Goder [Year 10] and I were privileged enough to be selected to attend the Youth Leaders Day where we were able to gain new knowledge about our multicultural community. Registration was held at 9:00am where people found out the workshop they would attend throughout the day and at 9:20am we were given a welcome by George Papas and Stepan Keryasharian who are both involved in the Community Relations Commission [CRC].

At around 9:40am we were addressed by Mohamed Taha, a journalist from the ABC, before we set off to our workshops at 10:00am. Maceon was placed in the Leadership workshop, whereas I found myself in the Media workshop which was very interesting and allowed me to meet new people from different schools and to explore aspects of the media and multicultural facets involved.

Morning tea was conducted at 11:30am, and then moved back to our workshops at 12:00pm to conclude our work. Lunch was held at 1:30pm where there was an entrée and main course, while we received the entertainment of a puppet show. Once this was over, a member of each workshop spoke to all those attending the Youth Leaders Day, briefly discussing what they did. After this, a raffle was drawn five times for five lucky winners and I was fortunate enough to have my raffle ticket drawn and receive a \$50 Westfield voucher. Then the day came to an end where we had a concluding discussion of the day's events before we returned home.

All in all, it was a fantastic day and everyone there was friendly and interesting. The Youth Leader's Day runs every year and I would love to return in the future.

Antonia Mangos – Year 9

Dangerous Apps for children – “kik” & “Ask.fm”

In this modern era of technology, it is proving to be more difficult to keep up to date with developments and applications that change so often. Social media applications like Facebook, Twitter and Instagram are used by most teenagers through their smart phones and their computers at home. And while the majority of children use these applications to keep up to date with friends, there are some that use the social media to be nasty, hurtful and mean to other people. This is referred to as Cyber bullying when it becomes relentless. While people are offered a certain degree of protection (blocking people, reporting abuse etc) and inappropriate messages can in most cases be tracked by the police if required, there are some new applications that children are downloading now that are very dangerous.

Children can receive threatening and quite disturbing messages and photos through the applications “kik” and “ask.fm” if they have downloaded these applications onto their phones. The advice from the police is that no child should use these applications at all. They are dangerous and place young people at great risk of harm. Both of these applications require the person to verify they are 17+ years old (a click of a button) and then they are able to receive adult related messages etc. The advice from our Police Youth Liaison officers is that parents should monitor ALL applications that their children download onto their phones. Once these applications are downloaded onto the phone, they run in the background and other people can access the child's contact details etc off their phone. There are no safeguards in place. The other problem with these applications is that it is almost impossible to track where the messages come from.

Mr S.Schomberg - Deputy Principal