



# PICNIC POINT HIGH SCHOOL (1962 – 2012)

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Principal  
Mr Wolly Negroh  
B Ed, Dip Teach

September 2012

PIC-NEWS

*50 years of Quality Education (1962-2012)*

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

It has been a very busy term with all assessments now complete for Year 12 and Year 11 currently doing their final examinations in the Preliminary Course. Many students in all years have achieved outstanding success (in both curricular and non-curricular programs) and I congratulate all them.

The release today of cuts in education brings significant challenges and this combined with pending changes in other areas such as curriculum and structures and procedures will make it increasingly demanding on teachers and the school. I will keep the community informed on all future updates regarding this.

The new 2012/2013 Captains and Vice Captains were announced to the school and I have every confidence they will continue the wonderful leadership example set by previous prefects, Vice-captains and Captains. Congratulations to Captains Stephanie Deering and Christopher Bush and Vice Captains Analise Imperato and Matthew Cash.

At the NSW Public Schools education week launch at Martin Place, Sydney 30th July 2012 two of our elite dancers (Holly Dean and Jasmine Ziher both in the State Dance ensemble) appeared in the flashmob at Martin Place. It's worth a look at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jmul6aX3oUs> (Holly is in the front at the beginning of the dance).

### Some school successes include;

- Caleb Trindall of Year 9 was selected as the Regional Aboriginal SRC Representative. Caleb was nominated because of his commitment to and promotion of Aboriginal culture in our school and the region, as well as his approachable manner and exemplary public speaking ability.
- Two of our Year 10 students, Jesse May Heywood and Jasmin Williams, successfully auditioned for the VIP program this year. The VIP program provides students with the opportunity to work individually with a trained vocal coach to improve their performance skills.
- The drama ensembles were a great success at Regional Drama and thank you to Ms Myles for all the work she has put into preparing the talented drama students.
- The Annual Evening of Dance was an outstanding success with excellent

performances in dance and song. Well done to Ms Schlom, Ms Robinson, Ms Elassi and the fantastic student performers.

- A record number of 101 students completed the NSW Premier's Reading Challenge this year. Congratulations to everyone.
- Chloe Larcombe (Year 10) represented NSW All Schools at the Australian U/15 Netball titles in Darwin with NSW winning the Championship.
- The school's "Helping Hand" transition program is currently underway with many students enrolling next year (Year 7, 2013) attending lessons at PPHS.
- Harley Munro was recently presented with a South West Sydney Regional VET Award for his exemplary studies in VET Construction.



With the term coming to an end I farewell Year 12 and wish them the very best for the coming HSC examinations (and beyond) and extend a big congratulations to the rest of the student body for an excellent term. I hope everyone has a very relaxing and enjoyable spring school holiday.

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## Deputy's Report – Mrs N. Sherry

**Year 8 and Year 11** students have completed the process of subject selection for their studies in 2013. This process has involved the co-operation and extensive discussions between staff, students and their parents. Selection of topics for study is an important step towards students setting themselves up for their future careers.

At the end of this term, Year 11 students have come to the conclusion of their Preliminary Year of study. When students return in Term 4 they will receive feedback from their teachers on the Yearly Examination. Students need to reflect on their learning for this year and work on strategies to improve their performance now that the HSC has started. Planning for major works is essential at this time of the year so that deadlines for next year can be met. Students will receive their Year 12 Assessment Booklet at the beginning of the term and students are encouraged to utilise the calendar to plan their time effectively. It is essential for all students to submit each and every task on time for marking.

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.

**Year 7** students are busy collecting passport stickers and submitting them to their year advisor. It is extremely pleasing to see that 95% of the year group is at green level or above on the welfare system. Students are encouraged to continue this excellent work ethic into the coming years.



Michel's Student of the Month for July

## Deputy's Report – Mr S. Schomberg

With term 3 quickly coming to an end, the focus for the majority of our students will be the preparation for their final exams approaching soon.

### Year 12

The completion of their formal education is less than two weeks away and as the pressure mounts for the upcoming HSC exams it is timely to give some consideration to some strategies to help cope with this process. It is very helpful to review performances in the recent trial exams and use the results and feedback from teachers to direct where the major study needs to be focussed. It is important that students identify areas that still need to be developed and spend time studying and improving in these areas. This is where significant improvement in marks can be gained. A good strategy is to visit the Board of Studies web site (<http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/>). Here, you will find past papers for all subjects going back several years. You can also gain some valuable practice with completing on line multiple choice tests which are marked providing valuable immediate feedback. It is also advisable to download the examiners comments as this provides valuable feedback from the marking centres every year.

It is hoped that as year 12 approach the end of their schooling that they engage in safe and sensible practices and use their time wisely.

### Year 10

Once again year 10 students were put through their paces in the Practice Job Interviews, and once again we had nothing but fantastic feedback by the interviewers.

All year 10 students will participate in a work experience program from Monday 26th November until Friday 7th December. Mr Eaton is co-ordinating the work experience program – it is imperative that all the necessary paperwork has been returned to Mr Eaton.

The subject selection process for Yr10 went well and 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 8

The subject selection process for Year 8 students selecting their elective subjects for next year is almost completed and as soon as the timetable team have finalised the elective line structure for next year, students will be informed of their elective subjects for next year.

As students enter Year 9, the makeup of their classes will change. Students will be placed in classes based on faculty decisions about where students need to be placed in order to best enhance their learning. Students could quite easily be in different classes for English, Maths, Science and History / Geography next year. So it is very important that all students work hard on their performances in all remaining assessment tasks this year and put that extra effort into preparing for their Yearly Exams.

## What's On - Term 3

Mon 10/9	Year 11 Exams Commence
Mon 17/9	P & C Meeting
Wed 19/9	Year 12 Parent /Teacher Dinner
Thurs 20/9	Year 12 Big Day Out
Fri 21/9	Year 12 Graduation
	Term 3 Ends



### P & C News September 2012

It is lovely to see the spring weather arrive. It certainly makes carrying out day to day tasks more enjoyable. The next couple of weeks will see our current Year 12 students complete their high school education and on behalf of the P & C may I wish them all the best in the upcoming HSC exams.

At the August P & C meeting we received a letter from the Year 12 organising committee for their school formal requesting the P & C fund the buses to transport them to and from their formal and we happily agreed to do so. It is important for the group to travel together to their formal as it builds the mood of the night for them and we happily provide a return bus to get them home safely.

The August P & C meeting had a very low attendance and the cold weather at the time didn't encourage people to venture out. This was a shame as we had a very enlightening talk about the Leadership Program at PPHS. This was conducted by Ms Stavros and Ms Marquis and I thank them for their time and effort. The ensuing discussion among those present was also very interesting and we have asked these teachers to put something in print for all parents to read and be informed about the program. One of the key points commented on is that all students have the opportunity to participate in the leadership program at some point in their high school life and it gives the students skills for life, not just for school.

Following our guest speakers Mr. Negroh reported to the meeting about some Head Teacher position changes brought about by the forthcoming retirement of Mrs. Wardrop. He also identified that there will be a number of positions coming up for interview in the near future and the interview panels will need parent representation. There are several parents currently "panel trained" but it would be handy to have a few more. If any parent reading this is interested in taking on the short training and subsequently being involved in interview panels please contact Mr. Negroh or me.

Following Mr. Negroh's report there was general discussion held about the involvement of parents in the school community and ways in which we can more effectively communicate with parents. It is hoped that we will develop a parent questionnaire to email out to families in 4<sup>th</sup> term.

Several weeks ago I was privileged to be a part of a team of parents and community members who carried out practice job interviews for our Year 10 students. This has been something I have been involved in for several years now and I thank Mr Eaton for the tremendous effort he has put in to get these

students to the interview stage. He has taken on the role of careers advisor only in Term 2 so has had a lot to pack in with these students in a very short time. Well done also to the students, most of who presented and conducted themselves very well in what was a fairly nerve-racking exercise.

The school canteen is running fairly smoothly with most days achieving takings above \$1000. This is very positive for us as the canteen is our main source of P & C funding and allows us to assist the school in purchasing resources for student learning. To this end we will be reviewing a "wish list" of resources at the September meeting and deciding what items to fund. If you wish to have a say in how we spend our funds please come along to this meeting.

The next meeting of the P & C will be held on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> September at 7pm.

Christine Butters - P & C President

Email: [bjcmbutters@yahoo.com.au](mailto:bjcmbutters@yahoo.com.au)



**Michel's (Revesby)**

**Student of the Month**

**August 2012**

	Name	REASON FOR THE AWARD
7	<b>Courtney Stamos</b>	Consistent application and effort in all subjects
8	<b>Taylah Probert</b>	Enthusiasm and energy in grade basketball
9	<b>Timothy Carroll</b>	Most improved results across all subjects
10	<b>Ned Annous</b>	For his care and concern for others.
11	<b>Christopher Bush</b>	For his excellent efforts and commitment to his studies in Biology and Business Studies.
12	<b>Tony Bui</b>	Excellent efforts in Japanese Continuers and English Standard



## M cQ SMASH REPAIRS

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**Michel's (Revesby) are proud  
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'student of the month'  
award.**



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### Bangarra Dance Excursion

On Friday the 24<sup>th</sup> of August 9 Aboriginal students from years 7-10 attended the Bangarra Dance piece 'Terrain' at the Illawarra Performing Arts Centre (IPAC) Theatre in Wollongong. The performance explored Aboriginal culture and connections to the Australian landscape. After the performance, students were fortunate enough to meet members of the Bangarra Dance Company, and received signed posters from the artists.



On the way home students were asked to think of one word to describe the performance; they offered 'hypnotic', 'amazing', 'spectacular' and 'talented'. Miss Elasi and Miss Hespe-Poulos would like to thank the Bangarra Company for generously donating the use of a bus to and from the venue.

### Regional SRC Representative-

Caleb Trindall of Year 9 has been selected as the Regional Aboriginal SRC Representative. Caleb was nominated because of his commitment to and promotion of Aboriginal culture in our school and the region, as well as his approachable manner and exemplary public speaking ability.



**Caleb Trindall**

So far, Caleb has attended a planning day and the State SRC Camp, where he was involved in discussions about school issues for students. In particular, the SRC are in the process of developing a Facebook site, forum and pledge to 'diffuse incidents of cyber bullying on social networking forums'.

This worthwhile initiative is called the *Put the Boot into Bullying* and will be made available to all schools in the South Western Sydney region. We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Caleb on his success in this role- we know it is the start of great things for him.

### Belonging Day Excursion

On Friday the 20<sup>th</sup> of July and Thursday the 9<sup>th</sup> of August Aboriginal students from Picnic Point High School joined primary and high school students from the region to attend the Belonging Day Excursion. This year, the excursion was held at the Australian Botanic Gardens in Mount Annan.



The excursion was designed to enhance the relationships between Aboriginal students across the region and also build students' connection to their culture. On the excursion, Aunty Fran led the group bush tour which described traditional uses of native flora. For example, did you know that the tea tree can be used as an antiseptic? And that the leaves of the lemon myrtle tree create a delicious flavour in meats?



Students also visited the Stolen Generations memorial, which was sculpted by Badger Bates, an Aboriginal sculptor from Wilcannia NSW. The sculpture, carved from Australian sandstone, depicts a mother, father and child. Visitors can scoop water from a pond and pour it down the sculptor to create a pool of tears and remembrance.

On the second day, students played traditional games which came from a number of different Aboriginal groups across the region and Australia. Our high school students demonstrated their growing leadership skills by guiding the younger primary school students through these activities. A special mention must be made of Courtney Baxter of Year 7 who demonstrated her care and commitment by looking after a primary school student the whole day.

We would like to thank the students for their exceptional behaviour and attitude on this excursion.

### VIP Program and Concert

Two of our Year 10 students, Jesse May Heywood and Jasmin Williams, successfully auditioned for the VIP program this year. The VIP program provides students with the opportunity to work individually with a trained vocal coach to improve their performance skills. The program also includes a series of workshops, where students work together to create a final performance piece.



On the 24<sup>th</sup> of August, Jesse, Jasmin and the other students performed in a concert at the Casula Powerhouse. Jasmin and Jesse had solo performances and sang with confidence and grace. We would like to congratulate them on representing Picnic Point High School in this wonderful program. The program coordinator, Natalie Pierson, praised the girls for their commitment and enthusiasm.

**Ms Gabriella Hespe-Poulos & Ms Danielle Elasi**



### Library News

A record number of 101 students completed the NSW Premier's Reading Challenge this year (last year it was 69). Congratulations to everyone. The books that you read from September 2012 can be entered in the 2013 Challenge, so see Ms Arango to organise your reading record. It is great to see the number of enthusiastic readers increasing over the years. There are so many wonderful books being written and we are lucky to have lots of them in our library.

A big thank you to the staff that participated and read along with our students – Mrs Warner, Mrs Heap, Miss Myles, Mrs Goovan, Mrs Harding. It is great to have your support in promoting literacy in our school.

### Recent students who have finished the Challenge are:

#### Year 7:

Jacob Adams  
Maher Alfaham  
Tess Anderson  
Riley Butler  
Tom Butler  
Luke Colley  
Jayden Contreras  
Caitlin Dennis  
Hannah Eirth  
Ziad Khodragha  
Katherine La Vite  
Tianah Leung  
Kathleen Lowman  
Mustafa Malass  
Melissa Markoski  
Tijana Ott  
Hannah Regester  
Madeline Rowell  
Mehmet Soylu  
Jake Tabone  
Naomi Tall  
James Thurnham  
Olivia Togagae-Faanu  
Connor Urquhart  
James Vasiliadis  
Ben Woudsma

#### Year 8:

Cameron Blight  
Anna Bui  
Tahlia Burke  
Alana Cox  
Luke Dilonardo  
Georgia Gale  
Elly Georgiou  
Lilly Hassett  
Angela Humphrys  
Stella Lee  
Nicholas Morris  
Eric Panayi  
Emma Peake  
Louise Stace  
Samantha Wong  
Year 9:  
Stacey Hayward  
Katrina Mihalopoulos  
Isaac Heslop



**Marion Arango Teacher Librarian**



### Talented Sport Report

The talented program is continuing in full swing this term and into term 4. Our Year 7/8 boys and girls Touch Football teams recently competed at the Regional Qualifying tournament. Both teams went through to the State finals undefeated and the girls did not concede a try on the entire day. In fact, our Boys B team only lost the semi-final in drop off, otherwise they would have played our A team in the final. We wish both teams all the best in the State Finals.

Our U/15 girls' basketball team has been training Monday afternoons with the NSW U/18 coach. They are through to the central venue day on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> September where we hope they can progress to the last 20 in NSW as they did last year. They have also been entered in the State Cup to be played at Condell Park Stadium on the last 2 days of term.

Our cricket teams are all about to get into full swing for term 4. The Open boys and girls will be looking to win through to the Regional Final and hopefully progress to the last 16 in the State. Our girls' team came 4<sup>th</sup> in NSW last year and we are preparing to improve on that result. Mary Molloy and Ashleigh Gardner recently gained selection to play in the City vs Country game that is a season warm up match for the NSW Breakers players. They were playing with and against our current NSW and Australian cricketers which is incredible recognition for their outstanding talent and bright futures in the game.

Our Mark Waugh Shield U/14 boys will be trialling for selection before the end of term. Their first match is against Prairiewood High and we are hoping they can progress through to the final round this year as our reputation in this competition is incredibly strong.

The Water Polo squads for the U/15' boys and girls are both underway and we hope to win the Regional Finals and progress through to the Raymond Terrace State Finals once again. Mr Sparks is working hard, as always; to get the students up to the level they need to be at to challenge the top schools in NSW.

A final congratulation goes to Chloe Larcombe in Year 10 who recently represented NSW at the Australian U/15 Netball titles in Darwin. A fantastic achievement to be selected and to cap it off NSW won the Championship which means she is now an Australian title holder. Well done Chloe.  
**Mr Millican Talented Sport Organiser**



### Fathers & Fellas - Come Read With Us

On Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> August the school bus (piloted by Mr Wayne Clay) took a group of our Year 10 boys who were invited to Revesby South Public School in recognition of Fathers Day and Literacy Week. Dads, uncles, grandfathers, older brothers and male friends read to the younger students for 1 hour.

The morning started with egg and bacon rolls for breakfast – always a favourite with growing Year 10 boys.



John Georgiou  
 James Cremasco  
 Aaron Greening  
 Joel Moseley  
 Arin Cockle  
 Eric Bull  
 Alexander Hassett  
**Well done boys!**

James Murphy  
 Anthony Costa  
 Brodie Gwilliam  
 Ben Fletcher  
 Jamie Romcke  
 Zachary Hatzis  
 Kendall Hull



### Year 12 Upcoming events

Payments for end of term celebrations Wednesday 12th September  
 Traditional Teacher Vs Student Volleyball Match Friday 14th September  
 Traditional Teacher Vs Student Basketball Match Monday 17th September  
 Traditional Teacher Vs Student Soccer Match Wednesday 19th September  
 Formal payments due Wednesday 19th September  
 Parent Teacher Dinner Wednesday 19th September  
 Big Day Out Thursday 20th September  
 Year 12 Graduation 21st September



### Industrial Arts

I would like to congratulate the Yr 12 Industrial Technology students on the completion of their Major HSC practical projects. This project is to completion of a year's hard work and effort. Below are some pictures of the finished items:



*Hall Table Mitchell Cowell*



*Bird Enclosure Lachlan Davis*



*Clock Joseph St John*



*Entertainment Unit Jake Kercheval*



*Entertainment unit Peter Reztis*



*Tool Box Andrew Sander*



*Out Door Bench Andrew Haira*



*Tall Boy Daniel Cklamovski*



*Display Unit Simon Manoulios*



*Entertainment Unit Justin McSweeney*



*Display Cabinet Brendan Dabaja*

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.

On Monday the 3<sup>rd</sup> September I had the pleasure of attending the SWSR VET awards night where one of our Construction students Harley Munro, received an award for excellence in VET. I congratulate Harley on his well-earned award.

If you require any further information regarding student learning please do not hesitate to contact me.

**Mr P Burgess - Head Teacher Industrial Arts.**



### **Youth Leaders Day**

On the 28<sup>th</sup> of August, the Community Relations Commission organised a Youth Leaders Day and Michael Yue and I were lucky to be chosen from our school as delegates to attend this prestigious event at the Park Royal Hotel in Parramatta along with hundreds of other students from other schools across New South Wales. The event was to give young people the opportunity to develop a greater understanding of social and multicultural issues.

After registration in the grand hotel lobby, we were served morning tea before entering the governor's ballroom where leaders from various parts of Sydney's community, including an Indigenous woman and a politician, told us their inspirational and funny stories of how they became leaders in their own communities. Then all the delegates were split according to their choice of workshops which included global leadership and opportunities, creative ways of working within constraints, getting yourself heard, playing an important role and making it happen.

Each workshop had presentations from youth and/or multicultural groups. Both Michael and I chose the workshop of playing an important role, where Fairfield City Council talked about how they work with and encourage young people to be involved in their local community by showcasing and developing their talents in events such as the *Bring It On! Festival*.

Once we were finished with the presentations, we were served a gourmet lunch (that included dessert) while watching a magician who was the entertainment of the day.

The day concluded with a lucky door prize which unfortunately neither of us won but I came back with a better understanding of what it takes to be a leader.

**Michelle Lee (Year 10)**



### **SRC Report**

The SRC recently attended the leadership camp at The Tops Conference Centre at Stanwell Tops. We all had a great time getting to know each other through our participation of leadership activities. We learnt many skills in how to develop not only as a leader but also as a team member.

The SRC are busy at work on our new project decided by the leadership group at leadership camp. Our project is called 'mini Olympics' a day like multicultural day with a different theme. We are currently in the planning time, but it will be a great success.

Recently we had Wendy week. Wendy is our sponsor child who lives in Zambia. We successfully raised money for Wendy. Thank you for all the donations.

**Sarah Lord**



### **Year 9 Textiles & Design**

Students constructed cushions that would coordinate with existing furnishings in their home. A range of fabric decorating techniques were implemented into their designs, including patchwork, reverse appliqué, machine embroidery and ribbon weaving. Mrs Thompson and Mrs Angelone are both very proud of the girls work this term.



**Year 7 Technology (food)** students enjoyed creating their own 'cup cakes' this term. We have some master chefs in the making. Well done year 7.





Mrs Angelone

#### Year 11 Textiles and Design students Apparel Unit



#### Home Economics Faculty Report

As we approach the end of another busy term, I would like to congratulate all students on their achievements. As Head Teacher, I see a range of student work and it is always pleasing to see the pride that students have in their own achievements.

Congratulations to all Year 12 students who showcased their work at the recent Evening of HSC Major Works. It is a real credit to all of the hard work that has gone into producing such outstanding projects.

On behalf of the Home Economics Faculty, I would like to wish Year 12 students every success in the HSC and in their future endeavours.

After 27 years, this is my final newsletter as Head Teacher Home Economics. I will be retiring early in term 4, however I will continue in an acting position until the end of the year. It has been a real privilege and honour to have been given the opportunity for the learning and development of so many students over the years. I have always been well supported by the students, the faculty, the office and support staff, the senior executive and the school community. I would like to acknowledge the wonderful work and support of the P & C, especially with resourcing the faculty. The transition of the new Head Teacher TAS will be seamless as Mr Paul Burgess will take over the management and future development of the faculty as the result of combining the two faculties. He is eager and willing to take over the faculty and lead the team in a new direction and I wish him every success and support for 2013 and beyond. So in the words of Alan Alda "Goodbye, farewell and amen".

**Mrs Cheryl Wardrop - Head Teacher - Home Economics 1986-2012**

#### 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 COOL Project (Career Options & Opportunities for Life)**

Over the last few Tuesday's the COOL Project students have been busy organising their resumes and practising their interview techniques in preparation for "Get That Job Day".

On Tuesday 21st August the boys all changed into their interview attire and transformed into 14 fine young men on a "Get that Job" mission. The day was held at Bankstown Sports Club where a range of Year 10 – 12 students from the Bankstown area were interviewed for a specific job or apprenticeship. A spokesperson for the event said that the students from Picnic Point High stood out as well groomed and well behaved. Mrs. Goovan and I were very proud of the "COOL students" and were pleased to see them perform so well despite their nerves and entertaining questions. It was a fantastic learning experience for them all and to hear that one student received a follow up interview was impressive.



We would appreciate any support from our parents and the community for this project. If you know anyone retired or available to help students work on a practical project from landscaping, electronics or mechanics on a Tuesday afternoon we would love to hear from them.

**Michelle Harding - (COOL Co-ordinator)**



### **LOTE Faculty**

#### **Year 12**

Year 12 Continuers students have completed their Trials and are finalising their revision for the Japanese Continuers HSC exam on November 5 – we congratulate all students on their efforts so far! Students completed their HSC Speaking Exam on Saturday, August 11 – all students were pleased with their ten minute conversation in Japanese.

#### **Year 11**

Year 11 Japanese Continuers students are currently completing their Yearly Exams. We wish our students all the best as they prepare and complete these important exams.

#### **Year 10**

Year 10 students have recently completed their speaking and writing assessment task. All students should now begin preparations for their Yearly Exams which will be held during Term 4.

#### **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 undertaking their in-depth study of the Hiroshima bombing in 1945. Students are currently viewing documentaries which put this devastating event into a historical context and they are having fantastic class discussions about the event and the implications for people all around the world. Shortly, 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 over the next few weeks.

#### **Year 7**

Year 7 students have recently completed their ICT Culture Task – they have been working in pairs to research and present an aspect of Japanese culture. All students chose exciting topics and spent a lesson in the computer room to begin their presentations. We look forward to watching these presentations in Term 4.

### **Japan Trip**

In less than 2 weeks, 16 very excited PPHS students and 4 very-excited-slightly-stressed PPHS teachers will be flying to Japan to visit one of the most amazing countries in the world! We are all eagerly anticipating visiting as many shrines and temples as possible, eating waaaaay too much sushi and screaming very loudly on the rides at Disneyland [even It's a Small World!] We would like to thank our 15 Japan Trip families for all their hard work and support over the last 8 months – we are going to have an unforgettable experience!!

### **AIJU Exchange Program**

AIJU is a non-profit organization with a mission statement to promote international friendship and understanding through their high school exchange programs. AIJU is looking for host families for 26 Japanese students who will be arriving in Sydney next year. If your family is interested in hosting, please contact Jenni Mackaway on 9533 6193 or 0438 584803, or see



Ms Marquis or Ms Mitchell for an information flyer.

はるやすみはたのしんでください！☺

Ms Marquis and Ms Mitchell

## Year 7

Year 7 students recently watched the Brainstorm Production called 'The Hurting Game' which presented ideas about bullying, cyber safety, self-esteem and peer pressure. The response to this production was very positive and students are to be congratulated on their mature approach towards question time at the conclusion of the production.

Congratulations to Xiao Wu, Student of the Month in July, for his conscientious effort in all subject areas and Courtney Stamos Student of the Month in August, for her consistent application and effort in all subjects.

Thank you to Madeleine Rowell and Luke Colley for being chairperson at the Term Three Formal Assembly. Thank you also to Drew Fitisemanu and Bronte Tonks for their performance. The next Formal Assembly will take place during Term 4. Any students wishing to be a chairperson or perform at a Formal Assembly in the future are encouraged to see Ms Mitchell or Ms Kourouche for more details.

All Year 7 students are currently completing the 'Study Skills' program. This program will assist all Year 7 students to complete their assignments in a timely manner, use the school diary effectively and adequately prepare for their Yearly Examinations during Week 1 of next term.

Congratulations to all students who have achieved a high level of merit points this term – these students will be participating in the Term 3 Rewards Day to the movies at Cronulla, in recognition of this fantastic achievement.

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 doctor and bring a medical certificate to school. All absent days must be accompanied by an explanation. Have a lovely holiday! ☺

Ms Mitchell – Year 7 Adviser



**Provides our  
school with a  
5% rebate on all  
uniform sales.**

**PLEASE SHOP  
"at LOWES"**

## HSC Set Design



## IO1 Zoo Excursion

On Monday 3rd September Ms Todd-McInerney's class went to Taronga Zoo. The students met at Revesby Station at 8.00am to get an early start and caught the train to Circular Quay and then the ferry to the zoo.



When we got to the zoo we rode the Skyrail to the top and walked through the zoo seeing all the animals that we wanted to see on the way down the hill.



Our favourite is the bird show but we also saw the meerkats being fed, the orang-utan talk, the seal show and lots and lots of other animals.



It was a perfect Sydney spring day for the excursion, the students were fantastic and Ms Todd-McInerney and Ms Goovan had a great day.



We travelled by train and ferry home again and met parents at 4.00pm.

Ms Goovan

## Student Leadership Camp

Arriving at school, everyone seemed sleepy, but certainly excited! The bus ride felt quite quick and once we had almost arrived everyone was buzzing in their seats with excitement. We decided on this year's project, Mini Olympics! After we'd collected our bags we headed for a couple of activities before lunch started. The activities were a great way to get to know everyone's names and a little bit about everyone who was at the camp. We soon had some super yummy chicken burgers for lunch and got a chance to see some great scenery. Afterwards we did some indoor group activities with our great leaders Pat, Carol & Lisa.

After the fun activities and group games we did that day we ended it off with some trivia night fun! Mr Negroh even came to visit us. We'd had such an action packed day that by 9:30pm it was definitely time for a good night's rest. Because camp was on during the Olympics, some of the students woke up early the next morning to watch them.



Day 2 was even more action packed than day 1, we did lots of leadership activities that required everyone's full attention and co-operation. One game that was great was an activity where we were given a certain amount of money and there were shops scattered around the indoor camp area and we had to buy equipment to participate in an egg challenge. The game consisted of an egg that was going to be dropped from a balcony and our task was to buy materials that could protect the egg from cracking. Most teams succeeded, but of course there were a few that failed, but it was alright because everyone in every team co-operated and tried their best – and that's all that matters.



The night of day 2 was just as good as the first night, we had Mr Clay, Mr Schomberg and Mrs Goovan come down to be a couple of fantastic judges for the games we played. It was loads of fun! We also did a 'warm & fuzzy' activity, where we were able to write little letters to three people of our choice that were encouraging and thoughtful. The night was quite sad, because it was our last night at Leadership Camp, but also sad because it was unfortunately our last day!



We did some high ropes activities on ropes courses that challenged most people to take a step out of their comfort zone – which was what this camp was all about. Taking that leap of faith and doing something not crazy, but something that you wouldn't normally do. I think everyone made plenty of new friends; well at least I know I did!



A big thankyou to the camp co-ordinators Ms Peterson, Ms Stavros, Ms Marquis and Mr Burgess for your hard work and dedication to making this camp one to remember! I had a great time and I know everyone else did as well, so overall Leadership Camp was a great experience that I'll remember for a very long time.

Madeleine Buckley Year 9

# HSC Body of Work for Visual Arts 2012



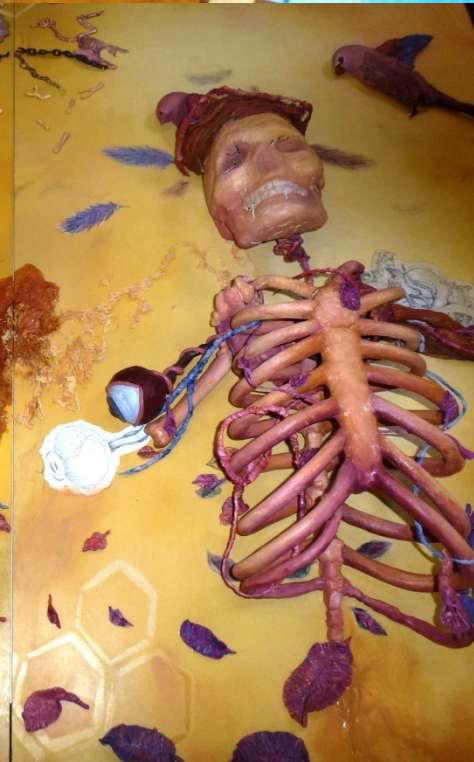
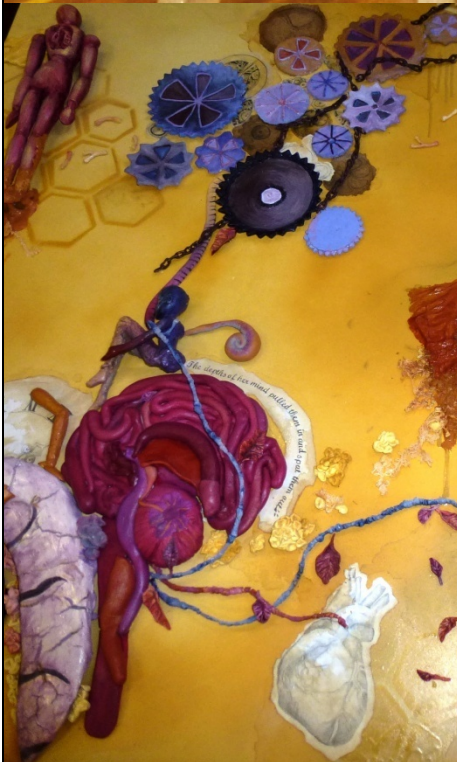




I shot My  
EYES and  
all the World  
Drops Dead;  
I Lift My  
Lids and all  
is Born Again



I think I  
made you up  
inside My  
HEAD!  
The stars go  
waltzing out  
in Blue and  
Red.



# Leadership Camp 2012

