



# PICNIC POINT HIGH SCHOOL

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Principal  
 Mr Wolly Negroh  
 B Ed, Dip Teach

June 2011

PIC-NEWS

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Congratulations to students for the mature and conscientious manner they completed term 2 assessments and a very big thank you to our committed staff who have worked tirelessly to complete semester one reports in time for parent teacher night. Parent teacher night (7, 11, and 12) is on Tuesday 28 June and I encourage all parents to take the opportunity and meet with your child's teachers to discuss their learning. Booking sheets will be distributed to students this week.

*The following are some useful hints for parents to help their children be successful with work at home and at school:*

- Create a place at home that is conducive to studying. Good study environments are well-lit and quiet. Although every child's learning style is different, most educators agree that students do best when the television is off and the student is free from distractions.
- Set aside a specific time for homework/study each day. This might involve limiting television-watching or phone calls until homework is finished. Parents should be careful, though, not to pit homework against activities students enjoy, or to create situations in which students rush through their work in order to get back to other activities.
- Make sure students have all the supplies they need. Parents should check in with students ahead of time about the kinds of projects they will be doing: It might be tough to find a calculator or a report cover at 9:00 the night before an assignment is due.
- Be available if students have questions. Parents can support their children by looking over homework and giving suggestions, but should not do the homework for them.
- Communicate regularly with teachers.
- Avoid linking rewards or punishment to school performance. While it is important for parents to recognise students' achievements, they should avoid external motivators for performance. Instead, parents should emphasise the value of learning and show they appreciate their child's hard work.

MADD night was highly successful and very well attended. The audience were entertained with some wonderful performances, from dance, drama and music and there was an outstanding display of art work which was an amazing selection of our

student's work. Well done to the talented and hard working CAPA students and teachers.

## 50 Year PPHS anniversary news - Save the Date

There will be a School Open Day on Saturday 31 March 2012 followed by a dinner at a local venue.

Whilst Mr Baczynskyj will be on long service leave Mr Andrews will relieve as Deputy Principal and Ms Peterson will be relieving HT CAPA for the next three weeks.

Congratulations to our school leadership team with the organisation of elections for **2012 prefects**. This was a very keenly contested election and the final selections are, as you would expect, just wonderful students.



## School Prefects 2012

Kodi Graham	Rebecca Kotsapas
Hazel Klimczak	Tayla McGregor
Ruby-Leigh Tonks	Lara Wilson
Chris Bale	Patrick O'Reilly
Jack O'Connell	Kieran Pirie
Christopher Gavrielatos	Jyles Reynolds

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### Deputy's Report – Mr Schomberg

I try as many times as possible to visit classes and be a part of the wonderful learning opportunities that are happening in our school. Just recently I have been a part of a lesson involving pirates, another involving HSC Chemistry and another involving some challenging mathematics work. Teachers often send students to me to show some outstanding work that they have completed. More recently, I have seen outstanding story telling from Year 7, amazing textiles work from Yr11 and some delicious cooking from our special education classes. This is one part of my job that I draw so much inspiration from. Sometimes I get a bit tied up with the never ending paperwork I deal with on a daily basis. It refreshes and revitalises me when I do get these opportunities to visit and watch young people taking such pride in what they are achieving and learning.

As we approach the half way mark in the year, you will be able to review your child's progress through their Semester 1 reports and I encourage everyone to attend our parent teacher nights to discuss your child's progress with their teachers. This is an excellent opportunity to meet the teachers and find out exactly how much homework your child should be doing and what extra things could be done to improve their performance. Report time is always a time of celebration and a time of reflection. Celebrate your child's successes and reflect on what could be done to improve performance in the second half of the year. When parents and teachers all work together, the end result is happy children performing and achieving at their best.

We have recently had a visit from our Police Youth Community Liaison Officer, Constable Billie Jo Brooks. She took Year 7 through a unit on the dangers of Cyber Bullying and the use of the electronic media for inappropriate messaging. Her presentation was well received and we continue to give the message that students not use the electronic media and social networking sites to threaten, intimidate or bully other students. As parents, the strongest input you have is to reinforce this message at home and actively supervise, wherever possible, your child's use of the internet. The problem we are facing at the moment is the increasing use by children of the i-phone or similar devices to access the internet and social networking sites without being directly supervised by an adult. If we all give the same message that using this medium to threaten, abuse and intimidate other people is a crime and will be dealt with severely by the police in accordance with the law, then we are a step closer to having children making better decisions about their behaviour.

As this is the last PIC NEWS before the holidays, I would like to congratulate the majority of the students who have worked so hard to achieve excellent results this semester and wish everyone safe and enjoyable holidays. I look forward to visiting more classrooms in the Second Semester this year.



Michel's Students of the month March

### P&C News

Winter is well and truly upon us now, but thankfully it didn't stop people coming out to our May P & C meeting which was held on the 16<sup>th</sup> May. 15 parents came along to hear Mr. Gary Grant talk about his role as Careers Advisor at Picnic Point High School. He outlined how he works with students from Years 9 -12 and the various tools he has at his disposal to assist our students to embark on the careers of their choice or to gain meaningful employment in the community. He spent some time talking about the work experience program and also all the various TAFE courses and learning opportunities available. He then demonstrated a website for careers which is being setup and answered numerous questions from those present. Thank you Gary for a most informative session.

In the last PicNews I mentioned a Taste testing opportunity which was to be held at the school in late May. Unfortunately due to lack of support we were unable to go ahead with it. It saddens me that in 14 years of organizing these sessions both at primary and high school, this is the first time I have had to cancel one. I thank all those who did make themselves available and also gathered up friends to come with them, we even had some students lined up, but still could not get 69 people to make it viable! In a school with over 600 families you wouldn't imagine it would be that difficult to muster 69 adults for a one hour session! On that note I have decided it is time to leave this type of fundraising alone for a while and look at other methods.

The P & C has been offered to run the canteen at the district athletics carnival on the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> June so I am aiming to get 8-10 assistants to do this and I thank Mrs. Worthington for offering us this opportunity. If you are available on either of those days for an hour or two, please email or call me as I could do with a few more helpers.

Our other venture is the Pie and Muffin drive which is being held to coincide with the Parent-Teacher interview nights. Order forms were included with the last PicNews and will also be in with this one. You can download and complete a form to order your pies and muffins for the second pickup date of 28<sup>th</sup> July. Those orders for the first pick up date of 28<sup>th</sup> June are due into school by 20<sup>th</sup> June.

Our second meeting of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee was held prior to the P & C Meeting. The date for these celebrations is the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2012 with an open day at the school and dinner at a local Club in the evening. We have now set up a Facebook page and you can access it as follows: **Picnic Point High School 50th Anniversary – 2012**. We will also be on Friends Reunited in the near future so the word is getting out there. If you are an ex-student or know of any let them know the date and we will keep spreading the word. Also prior to the P & C meeting the AGM of the School Council was held. At this meeting Patricia Waskiw stood down as Community Rep and Michele McGregor took on this role.

**Christine Butters**

**P & C President**

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

## WHAT'S ON

Thurs 16/6	Regional Cross Country
Mon 20/6	Zone Athletics
	P&C School Council
Tues 21/6	Zone Athletics
Tues 28/6	Parent Teacher Night 7/11/12
Wed 29/6	Leadership Camp (3 Days)
Fri 1/7	Term 2 Ends
Mon 18/7	Term 3 Begins - Staff Development Day
Tues 19/7	All Students Return
Wed 20/7	Careers Market Yr10 & 12
Fri 22/7	Year 9 Subjects Information Issued
	CHS Cross Country
Mon 1/8	Year 10 Practice Job Interviews
Wed 3/8	Regional Athletics (2 Days)
Thurs 4/8	Maths Competition
Mon 8/8	Trial HSC
	Japanese Competition
Tues 9/8	VET Meeting

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**Michel's(Revesby)**

**Student of the Month**

**April 2011**

|    | Name             | REASON FOR THE AWARD                                                                           |
|----|------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 7  | Brittany Ebbs    | Excellent application effort to class work in all areas of study                               |
| 8  | Tara Edmiston    | Performing very well in Geography                                                              |
| 9  | Justin Stevenson | For his excellent attendance and diligence in each subject area.                               |
| 10 | Brandon Grochala | For winning 7 gold medals at the All School Games and was male swimmer of the meet.            |
| 11 | Abbie Dawson     | For applying herself well to her Senior Studies, especially in Communities and Family Studies. |
| 12 | Claudia Alamein  | Excellent first semester report and consistent efforts in class                                |



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**Michel's(Revesby)**

**Student of the Month**

**May 2011**

	Name	REASON FOR THE AWARD
7	Antonia Mangos	Diligence in all subject areas and excellent skills in public speaking
8	Isabella Bull	Outstanding half-yearly results and very diligent approach to learning
9	Samuel Tall	For his excellent work ethic in all subjects.
10	Krishneel Singh	Excellent Half-Yearly Report.
11	Lara Dakhoul	She has successfully completed her travel training from PPHS to Chester Hill and return. She has also been attending work experience and is getting fantastic reports on all aspects of her placement. She is also travelling independently to and from work experience.
12	Kevin Phan	Excellent half- yearly report and consistent efforts in class



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



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**Kip McGrath**  
EDUCATION  
CENTRES



## SPORT OF THE MONTH



Bankstown City Council has teamed up with Hamptons Tennis and Leisure to offer residents a **FREE** Trial Tennis Lesson in June 2011.

The free trial lesson is available to anyone over the age of 4 years to seniors at Smith Park or Coleman Park Tennis Courts.

To book your **FREE** 15 min trial lesson simply call the pro-shop at the Tennis Courts of your choice on:

Smith Park - 9773 1070

Coleman Park - 9724 2932

For more information download the [Tennis Sport A Month Brochure](#)



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TO STUDENTS OF PICNIC POINT HIGH SCHOOL



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Mondays - Milperra Public School, Pozieres Avenue, Milperra  
 5 & 6's - 4.30-5.30pm  
 7 & 8's - 5.30-6.30pm  
 9 & 10's, 11 & 12's 6.30-8.00pm  
 Ladies 8.00pm

Tuesdays - Endeavour Hall, River Road, Revesby  
 13,14,15 & 1st Year Seniors - 7.00-8.30pm  
 2nd Year & Open Seniors - 8.30 till lights out

Saturdays - Girls Guide Hall, Weston Street, Panania  
 Under 5's - 9.00-10.00am  
 Louise - Secretary - 0415 339 035  
 Debbie - President - 0404 465 439  
 Janet - Treasurer - 0405 706 179  
 Helen - Teacher - 0407 893 967  
 Kirsty - Associate Teacher - 0422 476 325  
 Email us - lscastellan@bigpond.com

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### Girls open soccer

Congratulations to the girls open soccer KO Team on being the South West Sydney Regional champions. We are now off to play the winner school from the Hunter region. All girls displayed sublime skills in winning all games that were played. We are through to the top 16 of the state.



The team consists of the following girls.

Aleesha Bow	Jessica Martinez
Taylor Bell	Ashleigh Meredith
Emma Callahan	Jessey Meredith
Hayley Dick	Mary Molloy
Kacey Hanna	Kaylee Nettleton
Angalene Pavlovic	

**Mr Burgess**

### The Australian Geography Competition Results

The school recently received our results in this extremely challenging competition held in April. It was a very difficult competition because multiple pieces of stimulus were used in nearly every question.

The students' knowledge and understanding of World Geography and contemporary events was extensively examined. Over 80 000 students from 746 schools Australia-wide competed. Our outstanding results were:

#### SENIOR COMPETITION

- **High Distinction** Kieran PIRIE
- **Distinction** Apurva SHAHAPURKAR
- **Credit** Billy ISMAY
- **Participation** Joseph TESORIERO

#### INTERMEDIATE COMPETITION

- **High Distinction** Mathew CASH, John GEORGIU
- **Credit** Timothy EASTERBROOK
- **Participation** Amy AHERN, Lachlan GANDY, Jayne JARDINE, Riley KARSSEMEYER, Amanda LLOYD, Kira VANAGS

#### JUNIOR COMPETITION

- **High Distinction** Nicholas MORRIS
- **Distinction** Nathan ANDERSON
- **Credit** Emily KANNEDY, Daniel MORRIS
- **Participation** Mitchell DRIVER, Tyler HOCKEY-SMITH, John NGO



By far the most impressive performance in our school was the "score" of 34/40 attained by **John Georgiou**. John is a student in Ms. Wilson's 10R class. Congratulations to all competitors.

**Keith Brennan - Head Teacher Social Science Faculty**



### 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 will have another opportunity to practise their Speaking Skills at a specialised "Speaking Skills" workshop event run by the Japanese Teachers Association of NSW on Saturday the 11<sup>th</sup> of June at North Sydney Boys High School. At these workshops, students will be given tips on preparing for their exam and will have 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 the 6<sup>th</sup> of August, are now in full swing, and we wish the Year 12's well as they undertake this challenging task.

#### 42nd NSW Japanese Language Speech Contest

This contest will be held on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> September at Macquarie University, North Ryde. Students are able to select a topic of their own choice and speak about this topic in Japanese. The contest is intended to encourage learners who are studying Japanese to showcase their language skills in a challenging context and to foster their interest in learning the Japanese language and culture. Apart from the speeches, the day will be filled with activities (eg. traditional Japanese gift wrapping, cosplay) and opportunities to meet students from other schools who share the same interests. Closing date for application is 31<sup>st</sup> August.

For more information, please see <http://speechcontest.jpfsydney.net/> or [www.humanities.mq.edu.au/mjs/](http://www.humanities.mq.edu.au/mjs/)

### Host Families Needed

Host families are needed for a group of Japanese students visiting Sydney from Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> July to Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> August, 2011. If any families are interested, see the Labo Exchange Organisation website [http://www.labo-exchange.com/australia\\_homestay.htm](http://www.labo-exchange.com/australia_homestay.htm)

**Ms Marquis and Ms Mitchell – Language Faculty**



### Industrial Arts

What a Term it has been and feels only like yesterday that we were back from holidays.

Term 2 has been a hive of activity in the Industrial Arts Faculty with many practical projects being completed, Year 12 are nearing the completion of their major HSC practical Projects and the VET students are undertaking many exciting practical projects around the school. These projects are an excellent way for students to put learned theory skills into practice.



Year 7 and 8 Technology Mandatory will soon be rotating with Home Economics. These students have had the opportunity to undertake projects within many different mediums.

Year 12 Industrial Technology students are nearing the completion of their major projects. This will see the end of many hours of hard work.

Below are some examples of the outstanding level of student achievement in Industrial Arts.



Due to the practical nature of the subjects undertaken by students in this area, it is important that all OHS regulations are followed: this includes closed toe leather shoes and aprons.



I would encourage students to promptly pay their required course fees; this will ensure the students have all required materials to continue their practical projects.



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

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



### Vocational Education and Training

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate one of our VET Construction students Andrew Lloyd.





Andrew was selected to represent Picnic Point High School in the VET in Schools Student of the Year. Andrew was successful in his application to progress to the regional level. At this stage Andrew has sat an interview and submitted a further written application. Andrew received an award of commendation for his high level of commitment shown to all aspects of the VET course. This is a huge achievement and one of which Andrew deserves and should be very proud of. VET subjects are an excellent avenue for students to make connections into industry, gaining the relevant skills and knowledge to succeed in the framework.

VET subjects allow students to gain a nationally recognised Australian Qualification Framework as well as obtaining a Higher School Certificate. The examination from one framework may also be included in the calculation of students ATAR.

It is a mandatory that all VET students undertake the 70 hours of structured work place learning. It should be noted that if a student fails to undertake any mandatory work placement component it may be determined that the student has not made a genuine attempt to complete course requirements.

If any student has outstanding hours they are to see Mr Burgess immediately to make arrangements to complete these hours.

I would encourage students to promptly pay their required course fees; this will ensure the students have all required materials to continue their practical projects.

If you require further information on any Vocational Educational and Training courses please do not hesitate to contact me.

**Mr P Burgess - VET Coordinator**



## **Creative and Performing Arts Collaborate**

On Tuesday, 31 May 2011, a number of our students were involved in a performance at the Seymour Centre. Timothy Easterbrook, Amy McCann and Sezgin Aygun represented our school in 'Collaborate', the Arts Unit showcase. Collaborate combines the talents of the Dance, Drama, Music and Visual Arts programs, the showcase is an annual demonstration of the creative and artistic excellence attained by NSW public school students. Congratulations to our talented students who were involved.

### **Year 9 Music Group**

As there is no Year 9 Music class this year, Mr Andrews has been running a lunchtime class on Mondays. A group of ten dedicated students have been attending. The purpose of these lunchtime classes is to continue to develop students' skills in analysing, listening to, reforming and creating Music. If you would like to join us, please come and speak to Mr Andrews. It is very encouraging to see the passion for Music that these enthusiastic students demonstrate.

## **MADD**

Friday night 6:30pm, 3<sup>rd</sup> June, the packed school hall was a haven of excitement... MADD night 2011 has begun! MADD (Music, Art, Dance and Drama) Night showcased the hard work of the talented Creative and Performing Arts students of Picnic Point High School.



There were 14 Music items, 6 Dance items, 5 Drama performances and a large number of Artworks on display. This totaled two hours of live entertainment.



The technical aspects of the show (sound, lighting, vision and staging) were operated by the Year 11 Entertainment students who did an outstanding job considering that this was their first large production!



**Koreena Leverett and Jack Little**

There were so many highlights throughout the concert that it is not possible to list them all here.





***Daniel Wilson and Peter Kallas***



***Ashley Judge***

As Head Teacher of Creative Arts and Performing Arts, I am immensely proud of the work that the students and staff put in to make MADD Night 2011 such a wonderful display of talent for our parents, students, staff, friends and the wider community.



***Analise Imparato***



***Jade McKinnon***



***Jueun Na***



***Reily Karssemeyer***



***Daniel Cvetkovski***

Thank you to the amazing support of those who attended.

**M. Andrews - Head Teacher  
Creative and Performing Arts Faculty**

## Society and Culture

Ms Elwell came to Mr Russell's Society and Culture class last week where students designed questions to ask her about her time and teaching in Vanuatu. The topic was "Life and culture in Vanuatu" and had a specific focus on the role of women in this society.



Here is a picture of the traditional, national Mother Hubbard dresses the women wear in Vanuatu!

### Year 12 Society and Culture



## Year 9 Food Technology

Year 9 Food Technology were involved in an assessment task this term that required them to research a culture of their choice and then cook an authentic meal as part of their practical requirements. There was a wide range of cultural dishes, ranging from 'spring rolls' to 'toad in the hole'. Here are some of the students showing off their culinary skills:



*Looks like we have some Master Chiefs of our own here at PPHS*



**Nathaniel Ualesi**



**Aaron Haddon**

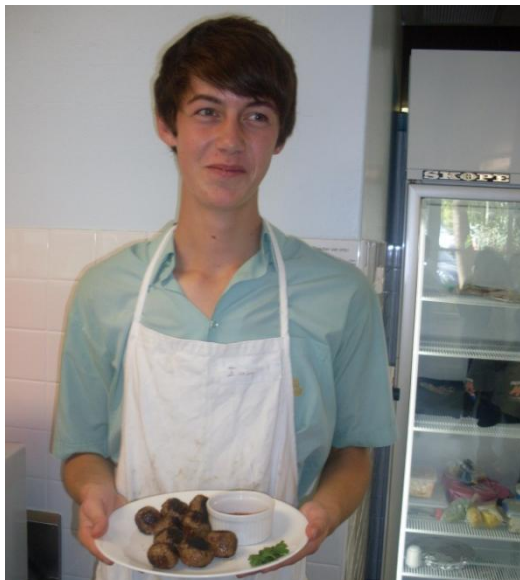


**Jamie Romcke**





**Chelsea Mihaljek Palacinke Pekmezom ( Croatian Pancakes)**



**Ian Mc Bay- Thai Chicken Ball with sweet chilli sauce.**



**Nicole Strickland- Greek Lamb Souvlaki**



**Joshua Pratt - Frango Frito- Brazilian chicken in lemon juice**

**Alison Buller – Home Economics Faculty**

### **Social Science Report**

Recently Yr.7 were given a question that required each student to construct a piece of persuasive writing arguing that the Great Barrier Reef is the most important World Heritage Site in Australia. I hope you enjoy reading the answer from Nicholas Morris in 7R.

**Keith Brennan**

### **Great Barrier Reef Is The Greatest UNESCO Site.**

There are over 911 UNESCO sites in the world, 180 of which are natural. However, very few are reefs, let alone marine parks. Above all others, our greatest blessing is the Great Barrier Reef. Some people say the Great Barrier Reef is not the greatest UNESCO site. To be honest, if I agreed with you, we'd both be wrong. The Great Barrier Reef is not only the largest reef in the world; it is the largest World Heritage Site and the oldest Australian one. Its beauty is vast and colourful and the variety of life leaves you breathless. All these are reasons why the reef is Great. The Great Barrier Reef is agreeably the best UNESCO site of all. If you don't agree, then after reading this, I'd be very surprised if your opinion hasn't changed dramatically.

It is remarkable that the Great Barrier Reef dwarfs all other sites. Every other natural UNESCO site can very much fit into the reef. It's astounding that it took a relatively short time of 500,000 years to produce the 344,400 square kilometres of reef that make up the Great Barrier Reef. This is one of the few Heritage sites that continue to grow, unlike a site like the Australian Fossil Sites that are actually being "dug up". It is absolutely gigantic when you compare it with the runner-up, the New Caledonia Barrier Reef, only 24,000 square kilometres. The size and beauty is hard to take in. It is so amazing that the Great Barrier Reef can be so delicate and still so vast in its diversity so that it takes people's breath away. People don't get this feeling in other places around the world. In the Greater Blue Mountains, maybe they don't experience this because the area is teeming with tourists, buildings hog the cliff edges and the hotels smell like lemons. So the Reef must be greater because it hasn't

got another human for over 78 kilometres, it has no hotels or parking and there isn't a lemon in sight. It's this absence of humans, for so many years, which has produced the greatest abundance of life on the planet.

While the Greater Blue Mountains has eucalyptus trees, the Great Barrier Reef always "rises" high above it. If you were to include the polyps in a coral, there are billions of living creatures on the reef. Overall, a fourteenth of all species in the world are found at or on the Reef. Places like Fraser Island are made of sand but the Reef is 100% life because it's made of coral! The evidence proves that the Great Barrier Reef is the most beautiful collection of marine diversity and an example of life at its prime. You simply can't find this sort of diversity anywhere else on the planet. With so many migrating animals, such as birds and whales, it shows its importance to the ecology of the ocean. If the Reef were non-existent, many birds and whales would perish, destroying food chains around the world. Without the Great Barrier Reef's vast expanse of 3000 square kilometres of sea grass; populations of rare dugongs would cease to exist, many fish which use the Reef to breed would struggle to out-populate the amount caught by the fishing corporations and also migrating animals would lose one of their resting spots which they need to survive. There is no other place in the world that is maintaining the entire ecosystem of the ocean. I'd like to see the Purnululu National Park being able to support the planet. This breathtaking reef not only supports the animal kingdom, it helps us as well.

Queensland and the surrounding areas are gifted with the Great Barrier Reef's revenue. Divers come from far and wide to dive on the reef. With so many tourists spending money in Australia, jobs and companies are dedicated to that tourism industry. Over two million people visit the Great Barrier Reef each year, a quarter of all UNESCO tourists for all Australian natural sites. While places like Uluru barely make over a million dollars, the tourism industry of the Great Barrier Reef makes over \$12 billion dollars a year. When the Queensland floods cost the state billions it seemed impossible to fix. Not to worry because the Great Barrier Reef has enough revenue to fix that state 27 times over each year. Without the Great Barrier Reef, we would lose our tourism industry's major source of revenue. If we just relied on Macquarie Island and the other sites we would not be able to support our growing economy and couldn't possibly keep up with the other superpower countries of the world.

To make it even easier to understand, a brief description of each Australian UNESCO site shows how inferior they are compared to the Great Barrier Reef. Uluru is a rock; no matter how big it is, it is still a rock. Unlike a big rock, the reef is ALIVE and actually does something. Shark Bay, I've seen more sharks in an aquarium! The Greater Blue Mountains aren't the largest of its kind or even the most visited, unlike the Great Barrier Reef. Fraser Island is made of sand; you might as well go to a sandbox. Who would you visit a place like Purnululu National Park when they can't even pronounce the name? Be honest, do you really know where Gondwana rainforest is? Point to the coast of Australia and you're probably pointing to the reef. So, other sites aren't enough to be compared to the reef, let alone remembered. The Great Barrier Reef "dances over all of them with glitter and a blue ribbon".

To sum it all up, the Great Barrier Reef is *obviously* the greatest UNESCO site. It is the world's largest, the Australian oldest and undoubtedly the most beautiful site in the world. With its landscape untouched by civilisation it is capable of earning the revenue of a really rich king's ransom because it's a tourist magnet and it keeps Australia on its economic feet. Its brilliance, beauty and the sense of adventure makes Shark Bay look like a McDonald's playland. At the end of the day, acknowledge The Great Barrier Reef because it has to be Great for something. It has inspired me to spend an hour of my life stuck to a computer screen. So, after all this, if you don't agree with me then you're insane.

**By Nicholas Morris**

### **Year 11 Geography Excursion to Marley Beach**

On Friday the 29<sup>th</sup> April Year 11 Geography went on a fieldwork trip to the Royal National Park. It was a long and tiring day and unfortunately because it rained very heavily we all came home soaked!



We travelled by train from Revesby to Cronulla. The journey via boat to Bundeena was spectacular because the 72 year old vessel is the oldest ferry operating to a regular timetable in Australia.

**Keith Brennan – Head Teacher Social Science Faculty**

### **Science Faculty**

A big good luck and congratulations must go to Mrs Taleski who will begin her maternity leave at the conclusion of this term. She will be on leave from her classes for the remainder of the year. We wish her and her family all the best with the birth of her new baby.

We would also like to thank Ms Cook who has been filling the Science/Maths position this year. Unfortunately, she will not be returning in the third term. Ms Cook has been an outstanding asset to the Science Faculty preparing quality lessons that have seen her students achieve pleasing results. She has become an integral part of our faculty and will be greatly missed. We wish her all the best in her future endeavours.

The Science Faculty hosted a Science Teachers Inservice in week 4 after school. This workshop was designed to show Science Teachers strategies on how to implement Technology into their teaching practice. It displayed the outstanding skills of teachers at Picnic Point High School in teaching with technology. Ms Ng, Ms Cook and Ms Mitchell all presenting a session on Interactive Websites and how to



make them work in the classroom to maximise student learning. Mr Andrews and Mr O'Mullane led a session on on-line quizzes. Ms Elwell ran an inspiring session on the night sky program called "Stellarium" and how she uses it to teach Aboriginal Dreamtime myths including "The Emu in the Sky". I ran a session on using the iPad and iPod in the classroom and Data Harvest Data Logging on the DER 3 laptops. Feedback from the evaluation completed by participants was extremely positive with all participants gaining much out of the activities. I would like to thank all these staff members who spent numerous hours of their own time in preparation for the event. I would also like to thank Mrs Muldoon and Mrs Warner who prepared afternoon tea, an important part of the evening.

All students have continued to receive a **homework booklet** for each unit of work studied. Each booklet contains weekly worksheets. Students are required to complete a given amount of work each week and on most occasions this will be one worksheet. All sheets should be handed in at the conclusion of the topic for marking. We will be emailing these booklets to each students' school email account and will be providing a copy in the student common file on the school intranet for students who may misplace their copy. Homework activities are designed to supplement the work given in the classroom and provide activities for repetition and will have a literacy focus.

We would like to thank the Walmsley Family for the donation of Laboratory Apparatus. This equipment is greatly appreciated and will supplement the equipment used by our students.

We would also like to send a big thankyou to Ms Kaur for doing such a great job in organising the Science Competition.

**Nicole Sherry - Head Teacher Science Faculty**



### Our Talented Students

#### Wakeboard Champs

In the last school holidays Joel and Teaghan Bartley participated in the Australian Wakeboard Nationals held on the Gold Coast.

Both Joel and Teaghan achieved impressive results with Teaghan finishing 6<sup>th</sup> overall in her age division and Joel finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> for his first podium finish at a National Level.



**Teaghan in action**

Conditions were not ideal and the competition was of an extremely high standard. As a result Joel has been selected

by Wakeboard Australia to attend a High Performance Camp. This in itself is an honour as it is regarded that these selected riders could go on to represent Australia at the upcoming World Titles or future competitions at the top level. We all here from Picnic Point High wish both Teaghan and Joel the best of luck!



**Joel in action**

#### 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](mailto:picnicpt-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au) , 02 9772 1700 or via letter.

#### SRC/Prefect Elections

The SRC/Prefect Elections were held during Formal Assemblies in Week 5. The SRC provides students with a great opportunity to represent their year group and become involved in the many different events that occur within the school. All nominees should be congratulated on presenting interesting and informative speeches about their leadership abilities. Congratulations to the following students who will form the new SRC for 2011-2012:

Year 7	Courtney Oldfield	Nicholas Morris
Year 8	Tayla Kelly	Joshua Bull
Year 9	Chloe Larcombe	Jamie Romcke
Year 10	Misa George	Monica Stopins
	Brodie Gwilliam	Daniel Wilson
<b>Year 11 Prefects</b>	Kodi Graham	Rebecca Kotsapas
	Hazel Klimczak	Tayla McGregor
	Ruby-Leigh Tonks	Lara Wilson
	Chris Bale	Patrick O'Reilly
	Jack O'Connell	Kieran Pirie
	Christopher Gavrielatos	Jyles Reynolds

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### Students who attended the rewards day BBQ

|                         |                      |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Paul Dilonardo          | Holly Atherton       |
| Hayden Walker           | Timothy Carroll      |
| Wally Obeid             | Kathy Karaolis       |
| Luke Briggs             | Maddison Zanoni      |
| Timothy Easterbrook     | Ahmad Barakat        |
| Angel Oreibi            | Madeline Strachan    |
| Samantha Regler         | Kyla King            |
| Russell Butters         | Kendall Hull         |
| Jessica Maude           | Ashleigh Judge       |
| Isabella Bull           | Daniel Marriott      |
| Jack Dadour             | Nicholas Morris      |
| Lara Dakhoul            | Lauren O'Shea        |
| Liam Greenwood          | Eric Panayi          |
| Stacey Hayward          | Melissa Petrovski    |
| Emma Jackson            | Manisha Banga        |
| Rebecca Strickland      | Kate Cremasco        |
| Dylan Roberts           | Nathan Evans         |
| Rochelle Boakye-Danquah | Alturo Fa'amausili   |
| Amy Ahern               | Shelby McCaw         |
| George Alam             | Sarah Pratt          |
| Christopher Xu          | Lourance Haddad      |
| John Rotziokos          | Jamie Romcke         |
| Justine Childs          | John Georgiou        |
| Rory Fenton             | Mitchell Driver      |
| Jacqueline Le           | Jordin-Lee O'Connell |
| Alex Jackson            | Christopher Smith    |

**Ms Stavros, Mrs Peterson and Ms Marquis**

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### Year 12 Food Technology

As part of their current topic-Food Product Development, Year 12 were asked to develop a healthy snack food, which was low in fat and incorporated a fruit or vegetable. This healthy snack food was initially aimed at Primary and High school students and the first point of sale would be a school canteen. The students were also asked to produce a prototype and test it by way of a taste test with family and friends. Once their prototype was completed they were then asked to prepare it in class.

The students came up with some good ideas and here are some photos to illustrate their hard work and finding:



**Leah Edwards- Raspberry yoghurt Slice**



**Paige Kovacs- Orange and Strawberry Yogurt**



**Kaylee Nettleton- Sesame and dried fruit Muesli Bar**

**Ms Lucy Angelone – Home Economics Faculty**

### Public Education Ambassador

We would like to congratulate Adrian Tolhurst who is our Public Education Ambassador for 2011. Adrian has immersed himself in all aspects which public education provides. He has



been an active member of S.R.C. and represented our school in regional S.R.C. meetings. Adrian has been involved in school drama productions in recent years.



He is a part of the leadership group and has participated in workshops and leadership camps. Adrian does not shy away from extra-curricular activities and always has his hand up to be involved in projects, which benefit the school, and add to his leadership experience. Adrian's first official appointment is to attend a leadership conference as our nominated ambassador on the 24<sup>th</sup> June where he will participate in activities and workshops with other ambassadors in our region.



### Year 11 Photography Excursion

The city of Sydney became a work in progress for the students of Yr 11 Photography, Video and Digital Imaging. students were armed with their cameras, both old school (analogue) and digital SLRs with the aim (pardon the pun!) of taking photographs that represent Australian culture.



Iconic landmarks such as the Opera House, the Rocks and Luna Park were visited by train and ferry. We look forward to seeing their results after they are processed in the darkroom in future Pic News editions.

### Australia's Biggest Morning Tea

On Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June a group of compassionate Year 11 students held a fundraising event for the Cancer Council Foundation. They hosted a morning tea selling cakes and raised over \$300. Many students were involved in the baking, setting up, cleaning up, and selling but a special mention must go to Lenore Gurney and Ruby-Leigh Tonks who were the main organisers of this event. We would like to thank

everyone for their generosity in hosting and supporting this event.



### The RYPEN camp

On Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> of May to Sunday the 15<sup>th</sup> of May, 4 students from year 10, Monica Stopins, Stephanie Deering, Steven Skintzis and Joel Moseley went to Blue Gum Lodge, Springwood for RYPEN camp. RYPEN is an organisation that funds charity events for communities all around the world and works in conjunction with local Rotary clubs. The 4 students from Picnic Point HS were sponsored by the Revesby Rotary Club and were lucky enough to be chosen to participate in the camp. The camp included about 8 schools from the Sydney and Blue Mountain Regions.

At RYPEN we participated in a number of team building activities so that we could get to know each other and develop skills to enhance our leadership potential. The camp was hosted by Rotoractors, who were our mentors and leaders throughout the camp. These Rotoractors provided an excellent example to follow as well as organising all the fun and resourceful activities. These activities included motivational speakers, team challenges and team building games.



On the first day we went to 2 seminars as well as a Bushdance. The Bushdance was a great way for everyone to meet and get to know each other. It involved a lot of line and country dancing as well! In the morning of the second day, we split into groups and some went bushwalking while others went to aerobics. After this, we did a series of teamwork and group building which made us think and helped us learn to communicate with each other better. We also went to 2 more seminars which had more motivational speakers. At night, we attended a formal dinner where we got dressed up and had dinner with many Rotarians from across NSW. This gave us a chance to talk to people from our local rotary club, as well as people from other rotary clubs. At the formal dinner, we also got to listen to some Rotarians speak which was very helpful and motivational.

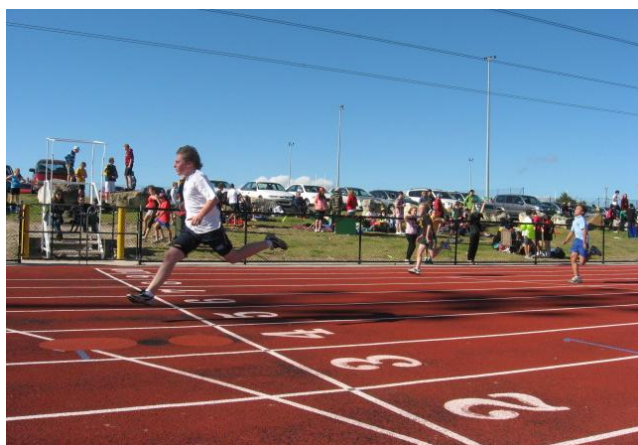
On the last day of the camp, we had 2 more seminars as well as aerobics or bushwalking once again in the morning. Before we left camp, we had a barbeque with rotary members from the district, as well as our parents, so they could see the progress we had made during the camp. Before we left, we also had an award ceremony. During the camp, as well as camp activities, we had duties of washing up, or setting up, which each group took turns in completing.

It was a great experience and allowed us to gain skills in many aspects of leadership, as well as meeting lots of new people. The RYPEN camp was a great opportunity for all of us; we thank the Revesby Rotary Club and especially Helen Horton, for sponsoring us.



### Sport Report

The school carnival season has drawn to a close, and now we are into the Zone and Regional Carnival season. The Zone Cross Country carnival was held on May 26 at Flinders Slopes. At the time of writing, the school point scores have not been received, but Picnic Point did exceptionally well. We will have nearly 40 students attending the Regional Carnival that will be held at Hurlstone Agriculture High School in mid June. Our girls performed exceptionally well, with Hayley Millar (12 years), Stacey Hayward (13 years), Emma Godbier (14 years), Stephanie Baxter (15 years) and Shannen Caffrey (16 years) all winning age champion for their age group.



Our school athletics carnival was held at a different venue this year. We made our way to the Ridge Athletics Track at Barden Ridge and couldn't have asked for better weather. Attendance and participation were great, with many students entering all the events available for their age group.



The age champions for the carnival in the boys were Ethan Higgin (12 years), Ryan Nagle (13 years), Mathew Simpson (14 years), Opal Pesanan (15 years), Jackson Okunbor (16 years) and Dwayne Brown (17 years). The girls' age champions were Courtney Wylie (12 years), Stacey Hayward (13 years), Kyla King (14 years), Stephanie Baxter (15 years), Ashleigh Judge (16 years) and Rochelle Boakye-Danquah (17 years). The points for age champion were very close in a few age groups, with some friendly rivalries between competitors.



We also had a number of records broken on the day by Shannen Caffrey in the 1500m and 800m, Dwayne Brown in the discus and 400m, Maddie Pirie in the 100 and 200m, Sean Nagle in the 1500m, Daniel Koliopoulos in the discus, and Stephanie Baxter in the 1500m. Congratulations to everyone who went on the day and made it such a successful carnival. We have our largest contingent for many years of students attending the Zone Athletics on June 20 and 21, with over 100 students attending over the two days.



Two of our swimmers have had continuing success with Brandon Grochala and Samantha Abbott competing at the New South All Schools swimming meet. Samantha won two gold medals, and Brandon won an amazing seven gold and was named Male Swimmer of the Meet. Both will be competing in Melbourne, and we wish them every success.

Grade sport is continuing to run with our teams having some success. We have only a couple of weeks remaining before we are into the finals season. We have many students involved in Recreational Sport this term. Unfortunately, we still have some funds outstanding for these sports. If your child participates in a Recreational Sport and has still not paid, can you please make your payments promptly.

Congratulations to Michael Clamovski for fantastic achievements in **under 13 Surf Life Saving** including:

- State Bronze in Medial Cameron Relay
- State 5<sup>th</sup> Beach Sprint
- State 6<sup>th</sup> All Age Beach Relay
- Sydney Branch Champion – 1<sup>st</sup> in Beach Flags.
- State 4<sup>th</sup> Beach Flags

**T. Northall and C. Worthington - Sport Organisers**







**Picnic Point High School P & C Assn.**

Pies will be delivered on....

***Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2011 or Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2011***

**Monday 20th June 2011 or Wednesday 20th July 2011**

**Please indicate your preferred date for delivery**

Name:

Class / Room / Group:

**Contact Ph:**

[illegible]