I read recently of the death of Maurice Hertzog, the first person to scale an 8000m peak in 1950 and watched a documentary about Douglas Mawson. Because Mawson was a Yorkshireman like me, I reflected on the character building of the adventures I had there as a boy. My heroes were the members of the 1975 expedition to the NW face of Everest and a teacher of mine, Paddy McCaskie, who took me climbing. More recently, in the Blue Mountains, I would frequently meet, work with and talk to Lincoln Hall, the Australian mountaineer (sadly passed away last year), who famously survived a night at the summit of Everest. All were also committed to volunteering their time towards community projects around the world. How do we nurture that stoicism and altruism which provides us with resilience throughout life? In an increasingly material, technological, virtual world, do boys in Australia experience hardship to develop perseverance? How can we take them out of their comfort zone? What level of risk is acceptable to achieve these goals and how do we manage it? Could they survive in the wild? In the Duke of Edinburgh’s Award, our boys complete their sports activities without much encouragement but it is in the expeditions and community work where we see most value.
Each year, about 40% of our Year 9 boys register with the Duke of Edinburgh’s Award. By creating experiences, which push them beyond their comfort zone, and allow them to contribute to their community, we can develop values which are often lacking in our social network world. One of our key objectives is to develop resilience, decision making and leadership skills. If we foster autonomy in a wilderness environment, where the consequential risks are carefully managed but potentially dire, boys develop self confidence in making rational decisions. This type of program allows adolescent boys to see that they have an identity that affects the decisions and outcomes of other people in a group.

It may take the form of instructors “thinking out loud about a particular decision allowing students to be privy to the instructor decision-making process, when to bail out when difficulties are met and seeing that there is no shame in doing so. Unforeseen circumstances, such as a river in flood, no clean drinking water or a track that is overgrown, can lead to a decision that may jeopardise the group, events which occurred in 2012.

So what evidence do we see that some change is occurring? A comment, which is made by all teachers who assist in an expedition, is that they are able to break down barriers between students and teachers, a situation which endures. They notice a comradeship in the classroom as a result of having endured a shared experience. Sharing resources on a scale rarely seen in the playground is volunteered automatically. The boys regularly discuss a warped sense of time and astonishment that the evenings without mass entertainment seem longer. They become more attuned to the weather and the sun as dictating their activities. We see altruistic behaviour such as offers to lighten the weight of a pack, and sensitivity to the needs and limitations of others. They learn lessons about materialism – what to eat, what is necessary, rationing water. They are observant about changes in vegetation, what is flowering or scurrying in the undergrowth.

We may not breed another Mawson, Hertzog, Hall or McCaskie, but maybe, just maybe someone of character more attuned to their community and natural world.

Mr C Yates 2013, Duke of Edinburgh Co-ordinator

December 2012 Silver and Bronze Expedition
Royal National Park Coast walk

The day started when we all met up at Hornsby station and bought our tickets to Cronulla. Once we arrived at Cronulla we had to catch the ferry to Bundeena. The ferry was extremely cramped and we were all gasping for air in the passenger area. When we arrived at Bundeena we were greeted by the Silver boys and Mr Yates. We then walked through the town of Bundeena until we saw the entrance to the national park and followed the track until we were greeted by the ocean and the coastline. We followed the coast all the way to our campsite, walking up and down hills, crossing beaches and rocks and when we arrived at the campsite it was a race for the high ground. We had heard stories about the flood on last year’s expedition. Once the tents were up the food came out (“not quite MKR” – Mr Yates) followed by a game of beach soccer. We lit a fire and gathered round to talk before bed.

Day 2: Today was the shorter of the days but it was the most gruelling through beaches, jungles, hill tops and cliffs but eventually we made it to the little town of Otford. How surprised we were that there was only one shop. There wasn’t even a train guard at the station. We waited for an hour and boarded our train homeward bound.

Michael Cowell
**PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE**

**ABHS Adds Value**

We have recently received more detailed information about 2012 HSC and NAPLAN results. It is pleasing to note the “value-added” aspect of last year’s HSC results, i.e., the rate of improvement of students from **Year 10 to Year 12**, especially compared to “similar schools” in our area. The graph below clearly demonstrates the progress that our boys are making, especially in the lower and higher band areas.

![Value Adding Graph](image)

Equally pleasing is the rate of **NAPLAN “growth”**, i.e., the rate of improvement of last year’s Year 9 students compared to boys across the state. The graph below shows how far students at Asquith Boys are ahead of boys across the state. (It is worth noting that the MySchool website does not show gender results for students at co-ed schools)

This trend is continuing year after year and owes a lot to our whole-school Literacy and Numeracy Program.

![NAPLAN Results Graph](image)

**Behaviour on Public Transport**

I believe that the vast majority of our students are well behaved on the way to and from school and also on trains and buses. However, there may be a minority who are tarnishing the image of the school by regularly breaking the state government’s code of conduct for school students on public transport. We have included an update on this in this edition of *Backchat*. I urge all students and parents to read this update. It is most important that the highest standards of behaviour are maintained when our students are on public transport. Reports of any poor behaviour will be investigated and backed up by appropriate consequences. I also ask students to stay out of the designated “Quiet Carriages” on the trains.

**Laptops**

Year 9 have now received their laptops, as part of the federal government’s annual rollout. This means that all students from Year 9 to 12 now should have a laptop computer. It is timely, then, to remind parents and students that, as part of the laptop charter, all care must be taken in the use of the laptops and any problems or breakages must be immediately reported to the TSO (Technical Support Officer) Mr Hughes.
Overseas Tours
We have been granted permission to go ahead with two overseas tours to be conducted in the next school holidays. Our annual international football tour, now in its eleventh year will be touring New Zealand. At the same time a group will be going to Japan on a languages excursion. These tours are a tremendous opportunity for our boys to experience other cultures. I would like to thank staff for their organisation of the tours, principally Mr George Moscos and Ms Jody Lorrae. I trust the lucky boys going on tour will have a memorable experience and I know they will be great ambassadors for their school and their country.

Terry Griffiths, Principal

SRC REPORT
2013 is looking like a big year for the SRC. They have been very busy making decisions about numerous items. The SRC have approved and contributed funds to support the Soccer Tour, the Japanese tour and the Out Door Classroom, with many applications requesting for support.
Miss Mashman, Mr Broome, Members of the SRC and Prefects attended the Women's Day Breakfast at Asquith Girls High School in week 6. It was another great breakfast filled with inspiring talks and networking with other schools.
The first mufti day went off without a hitch, with the boys wearing their favourite sports jersey and colours in support of Cerebral Palsy. We raised over $430 for the foundation.

Meetings are held on Monday, first half of lunch in the DEM science room. Everyone is expected to attend, contribute and support their year.

Miss Mashman, SCR Coordinator

P & C organised Working Bee March 2013
On Sunday 3rd March we held our first grounds working bee for the year. Despite it being a very wet weekend we had a great turnout of volunteers. They pruned moved and weeded until the rain got the best of them.
I would like to thank the following people who helped on the day:
Kim Pinnock
George Moscos
Nick and Kirsty Berryman
Tim Anderson
Rizwan Ali
Marcus, Kerry and Graeme Limbert
Lochlan, Nicholas and Keith Roscarel

Thank you also to Steve Sonter for organising some of the equipment we used on the day.

Michelle Roscarel, P&C Grounds Maintenance
Deputy Principal’s Report

It has been wonderful to see the extra effort the boys are making to keep their school environment clear of litter. This is due in no small part to the hard work of the Environment Team, who now run a weekly raffle, whereby students are given a ticket for cleaning up their area without being asked. The staff have also been tremendously supportive of this initiative, and I would like to thank Mr Yates, Ms Woolley and Mr French in particular for their work with the Environment Team and other environmental projects.

Nutrition

I have been quite alarmed at the type of food students are choosing to consume before school each morning. This is often purchased from the local service station or supermarket as boys walk to school from Asquith Station. Foods and drink that are high in fat, sugar and salt appear to be the norm. Examples include large bottles of soft drink, packets of chips, blocks of chocolate and flavoured milk. Numerous studies confirm the fact that the overconsumption of foods such as these cause major health issues and have an impact on students’ attention span and ability to function in the classroom.

I seek the support of parents and caregivers to ensure that the boys eat a healthy breakfast prior to leaving home and help us to educate them on the importance of making better choices with the foods they consume. I recognise that this can be a challenging task with teenagers, but it is one well worth undertaking.

The school runs a breakfast club every morning and our healthy school canteen is open everyday for those boys unable to bring a nutritious lunch from home.

Andrew Skehan
Deputy Principal
Student responsibilities

Whenever you’re travelling with your School Student Rail Pass, stay safe and respect your fellow passengers.

Stay safe
- Stand behind the yellow line on the platform.
- Board and alight the train in a way that’s safe for you and other passengers.
- Move well inside the carriage in order to keep doorways clear.
- Never board a train or holding the door open after the whistle has blown. Some train doors are not like lift doors and will continue to close even if obstructed.
- Never ride bicycles, skateboards or scooters on station platforms.
- Never play with sporting equipment on the platform.

Respect your fellow passengers
- Offer up your seat if all the seats are full and adults are standing. Don’t wait to be asked.
- Be polite. Wait for all passengers to leave the train before you get on.
- Be aware of where you’re standing. Remember, your backpack can bump into people behind you.
- Have a look at the carriage before you get on. If it’s full, spread out along the platform and use different doors. You’ll see your friends again later.
- Take care with your school bag. Make sure it’s not in the way of other passengers or blocking the walkway or doors and keep it off the seat.
- Help others. Keep an eye out for elderly people and those with disabilities. These people often travel by train and they could do with your help. Also people with babies in strollers or prams may appreciate a helping hand.
- Understand your behaviour counts. When you apply for your School Student Rail Pass, you’re giving permission for CityRail to show security camera footage to your school principal or teachers should you be caught misbehaving and breaching the code of conduct.

Code of conduct
In order to comply with the code of conduct for school students on CityRail trains and stations, make sure you:
- Obey all signage instructions on stations and trains.
- Respect the needs and comfort of other passengers.
- Behave safely at all times (e.g. avoid running or riding bikes, scooters or skates on stations and trains, keep off the train lines, keep arms, legs and other body parts inside the train, refrain from touching train doors, safety equipment or any part of a moving train).
- Use non-offensive language and behave appropriately at all times on rail property (e.g. avoid swearing, spitting, fighting, throwing items, keep feet off seats).
- Protect rail property and report graffiti and vandalism.
- Keep yourself and anything you are carrying clear of aisles, steps, thoroughfares and behind the yellow line on platforms.
- Take your rubbish with you and dispose of it thoughtfully.
- Follow the instructions of station staff, drivers, guards and transit officers.
- Carry your School Student Rail Pass during all school-related travel.
- Spread out along the platform so as not to overcrowd one carriage. Avoid boarding carriages that are already overcrowded.
- Allow other passengers to alight before boarding and then board the train without delay.
- Move inside the carriage and stand away from the doors during travel.
- Adhere to the Rail Safety Act 2008 that bans all commuters from carrying knives, spray cans and permanent marker pens.
- Adhere to the law that bans smoking and drinking alcohol at stations or on trains.

Your pass may be confiscated and a fine may also apply if you don’t follow the rules.

Vandalism is a serious criminal offence. Students caught tagging, etching or vandalising stations or trains will be arrested and may face criminal charges.
On Monday the 18th of February the Year 7 boys waited patiently in the playground; they were packed and ready for their first big excursion of high school after only 3 weeks of classes. After some rather quick and other more lingering goodbyes to mums and dads the boys boarded the buses with anticipation for our morning’s destination, the Great Aussie Bush Camp.

A few hours on the bus and one short stop at Wyong Service Centre to pick up our Central Coast boys saw us arrive at our destination with excitement and eagerness to get stuck into the camp activities. By two o’clock the boys had settled into their tents and the Year 10 Transition Leaders moved into their cabins, after which we headed off on a rather bumpy bus ride for some fun and adventure on the nearby sand dunes and a swim at Jimmy’s Beach.

After an early barbeque dinner the boys and the teachers participated in some challenging outdoor activities. These ranged from bullrush, human noughts and crosses, to a circle strategy game. Finally, after a very long day the evening was rounded off with toasted marshmallows and hot chocolate around the campfire, then swiftly off to bed for a good night’s rest for the next two days of challenging activities.

Each morning the boys were up bright and early, eager to get started on their two days of challenging and exciting activities. So with their Year 10 Transition Leaders, teachers and camp leaders, the groups began their two day rotation around the camp, meeting challenges such as the Team Challenge Trial - a high rope course completed by teams, the Giant Swing, Tandem Flying-Fox, the giant slide and my personal favourite, Lost Island - a commando style mud-course that left the participants muddy and rather smelly.

Each activity was met with enthusiasm and excitement with many of the boys having a go of each activity and some activities such as the Giant Swing and Tandem Flying Fox quickly became camp favourites for those who were not scared of heights. The teachers and Year 10 Transition Leaders also participated with enthusiasm, encouraging and sometimes setting the pace for those who were more reluctant to participate in activities that tested courage and daring.

After three long and exhausting days the Year 7 boys as well as the teachers and transition leaders boarded the bus back to Asquith with stories of who was most covered in mud after Lost Island and who was brave enough to tackle the Giant Slide. We all had a fantastic time on camp and it was great opportunity for the boys to forge strong friendships that will last throughout their time at high school.

I would like to congratulate the Year 7 and Year 10 boys on their excellent behaviour during the camp as well as their enthusiasm for participating in each task to the best of their ability. I would also like to give a special mention to the Year 10 Transition Leaders. The Year 10 boys were exceptional on camp particularly in encouraging the Year 7 boys to participate, supporting the teachers and camp leaders and setting a good example by being responsible and respectful role models for the Year 7 boys. Finally I would like to thank the wonderful and supportive group of teachers who attended the camp.

Miss R Woolley, Year 7 Year Adviser
We publicised our 2013 Carnival Program as “53 years and on the move”. That’s right, yet again, with Hornsby Pool still a distant memory and Woy Woy Peninsula Leisure Centre unable to host us this year, we were left to find a new place for our swimmers to show how well they could master the pool.

This led us to Knox Community Aquatic Centre on Friday 22nd February - a fabulous venue relatively close to ABHS and with most of the latest and greatest features. For the first time ever, all our swimmers got to experience the use of the Official Electronic Touch Pad Timing System – technology normally reserved for higher levels of competition. For some of our elite swimmers it also meant that swim times created by the timing system could be used as ‘official times’ Australia wide.

As the facility was indoors, weather was not a huge concern, but we were nevertheless blessed with a decent day which allowed our Seniors to set up camp outside the pool on an inviting lawn area. Here Year 12 also set up their BBQ which kept the troops all well fed.

The staff and students were amazing on the day and took to the new venue like ‘ducks to water’ (sorry about that!)

Participation was great on the day and all students who attended are to be congratulated.

The day also served as ABHS selection for the North West Met Zone Swimming Carnival. As usual, our team was strong and reflected some excellent individual performances on the day but none better than the achievements of our Age Championships, which are as follows:

12 yrs - Timothy Gillies
13 yrs - Jack Ryan
14 yrs - Bryn Lom
15 yrs - Hayden Dudfield
16 yrs - Matthew Evans
17 yrs+ - James Thompson

A number of records were also broken on the day and are as follows:

13 years 50 Butterfly (old record 31.86 D. Arnamnart 2002)
- NEW RECORD: 30.03 – Caleb Alipate

13 years 50 Breaststroke (old record 40.60 D. Wilson 1979)
- NEW RECORD: 37.04 – Caleb Alipate

13 years 50 Freestyle (old record 29.53 D. Arnamnart 2002)
- NEW RECORD: 27.34 – Jack Ryan

15 years 100 Freestyle (old record 1.05.89 D. Arnamnart 2002)
- NEW RECORD: 1.02.16 – Jack Ryan

Finally, our House Points for the day consisted of

4th – Kurrajong
3rd – Wandoo
2nd – Cooba

And congratulations to Myall for winning the Swimming Carnival.

Yours in Swimming

Mr G Corbitt, Carnival Co-ordinator
Asquith Boys 1st XI & the Alan Davidson Shield Success

In the Alan Davidson Shield a state wide cricket knockout competition the Asquith Boys School Cricket 1st XI has made it to the series finals in Bathurst in early April. In a competition that stretches back over a year for the school and in which they have played 8 schools, they made it to the finals after beating Wauchope High School. At Bathurst the remaining State High School and the two remaining Sports High Schools will make up the series finalists.

After winning the Regional Competition of the Davidson Shield Asquith overcame Blaxland High and Maitland High to earn an away tie against Wauchope High School. Wauchope were restricted to 105 but in 4 overs Asquith took the remaining 7 wickets of the innings for only 13 runs. Indeed, they took the last 5 wickets for 0 runs to shock the home side who had looked comfortable going into the last overs of their innings.

After a solid start to Asquith’s innings the batsman played sensibly and the total was chased down with 6 overs to go to record a very good win by six wickets.

Asquith’s batting has been consistent, their fielding has improved and they also possess a terrific team spirit. The team has some outstanding individuals but as a team they work hard for each other and at all times bring an excellent attitude and sportsmanship to the game.

In the School Grade Competition Asquith Boys 1st XI also made it 3 Premiership wins in a row when they beat Epping Boys in the final of the North West Met Zone Competition.

Mr M Blackwood, Coach

Student Achievement In Shot Put

Harry Frederick (Year 8) has been competing in Shot Put for the past 2 years and has an impressive record to date:

- Asquith Boys - Year 7 record holder
- NSW State Schools Champion 2012
- NSW All Schools Champion 2012
- NSW Junior Club Championship 2013 Under 14 - Bronze Medal
- Australian Junior Club Championship 2013 Under 14 (Perth) - Bronze Medal

Harry has set himself a target of winning the under 14 Australian junior club championships in 2014 and also competing in the national All Schools championships later this year (he was too young to compete last year!!).

Well done Harry and all the best as you continue to train and pursue your goal!
ENGAGING BOYS IN VISUAL ARTS
YEARS 7 & 8
CREATURES UNIT
Ancient History Excursion

Ancient Past reveals itself in Macquarie University Study...

Two weeks ago, our senior Ancient History students visited the Museum of Ancient Cultures at Macquarie University to consolidate their recent studies in both Years 11 and 12.

While the Year 11 class of Miss Evans examined the roles of discovery and evidence in past diggings, the Year 12 students revised in depth the excavations and revelations of the work done at Pompeii and Herculaneum which directly related to the HSC Core Study. They were first addressed by Philippa Metcalf with a visual display of photos relating to the two cities and as she questioned the group, more answers and problems about the sites were revealed.

After a short break, the students were treated to actual evidence – touching and probing artefacts well over 2,000 years old.

Finally both groups were invited into the Museum itself where Philippa and Suzanne regaled the boys with stories about the acquisition of the artefacts in the cabinets, especially how priceless they were!

A most edifying experience, made perfect by the excellent behaviour and interest of the boys. Thanks especially to Miss Evans for her organisation and enthusiasm.

Mr G Moscos, Head Teacher HSIE

Year 11 Maths Excursion - Buying A Car

Our Year 11 General Mathematics boys took part in an excursion to the Waitara/Hornsby car yards.

The assignment looked at budgets including income and expenditures, a chosen car with the associated additional costings and an application for a suitable, affordable loan. This tied in well with the recent changes to increase the number of hours covered on cars in the new Year 11 syllabus.

All boys enjoyed the opportunity to look, feel and sit in their dream car. However they were smart enough not to buy a car from the eager eyed sales team.

Our thanks to Nissan and Mazda for agreeing to show our boys around.

New….New…New…New…New…

Want to make new friends and have some fun? Come along to Games Club.

Games Club is held in the AV room in the library every Monday and Tuesday lunch times.

Bring your lunch with you.

All welcome. See you there!

Colleen Sweeney, Student Welfare Officer
Year 9 & 10 incursion - "Life Choices" is a High School program presented by the Jesus Racing team to more than 30,000 high school students across Australia every year. We look forward to hosting Andrew "Fishtail" Fisher and Jesus racing team at ABHS! This energetic and entertaining hour-long presentation, held in schools across the country, addresses the value of courage both on and off the racetrack, as well as the importance of making positive life choices.

The Jesus Racing team weaves the thrills and spills of motor racing with hard-hitting examples to demonstrate the lasting consequences of making bad decisions. On the day they will also be bring a replica racing ute for the students to see and hear!

Years 9 & 10 will be attending the incursion on 4th April.

**Phil Banton, Christian Studies Teacher**

---

**CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY**

On Friday the 1st March our Clean Up afternoon was postponed due to heavy rain. We regathered on Tuesday the 5th March and sent year 7 and 8 troops around our school grounds during period 5. The students did a fantastic job collecting rubbish and sorting the recycling. The school looked lovely and clean.

The Environment Committee, that includes student and teacher members, was so impressed they decided to initiate a yearlong campaign to keep our school clean. This campaign has been launched with a raffle drive. Students, who pick up rubbish without being asked, or without complaining when asked, receive a raffle from selected teachers. A raffle will be drawn each Thursday on assembly and the winner receives a $6 voucher to the school canteen. The committee is looking forward to rewarding students who keep our school clean.

**Miss R Woolley, Environment Committee member**

---

I raised $883 in total when I did "be brave & shave" last Friday at school. I wanted to shave because I realised lots of people die from leukaemia and I wanted a cure found, so no one else has to die with that illness.

Aaron Parise 7E
EXCURSIONS OF CULTURAL INFUSION

As a wise man once said, “it is not about the destination, it is about the journey” and WOW!!!! have Year 11 & 12 been on a few of those in recent times. Ms Holder and Ms Cooke have gone excursion CRAZY trying to infuse the boys with cultural experiences. It must have been their excursion to “The Shire” that got the ball rolling.

Chapter One

The first excursion was very much “a tourist in your own town” experience. Meeting at Hornsby Station, everyone purchased their “Multi Day Pass” - a ticket that would get them on any mode of transport. Ms Holder had done her research on Sydney’s transport system to the second! We hopped on the Newcastle train to Central. Ms Cooke luxuriated on the soft seat and in the air conditioned comfort. A change of train delivered teachers and students to Martin Place where it was only a quick jaunt across The Domain to the Art Gallery of NSW.

The first exhibition of the day was “Francis Bacon – Five Decades”, a part of the Sydney International Art Series. Bacon was a remarkable painter and the boys were able to experience his work first hand and develop an understanding of his life and practice. They have been able to build on the experience in the classroom with written responses and their own art making experiences. The next exhibition on the itinerary was Artexpress. It is important for the boys to see works of a band 6 level so that they can set their own goals, standards and ambitions for their own art making for the HSC.

A dash across Hyde Park saw the group having their first bus experience. Off we went to Surry Hills, up Flinders Street past the old Alexander Mackie site (art college for those not in the know), a brisk ten minute walk through inner city streets filled with classic Sydney urban architecture of the 19th Century with the end of the journey at the Brett Whiteley Studio. The exhibition complemented the Francis Bacon exhibition. “The London Years” showed work that Whiteley had made during his time in London and Europe during the 1960s. Whiteley had been fascinated by events such as the serial killer, Christie and visits to the London Zoo. He was also influenced by Bacon and met with him on numerous occasions during his time there. The guides provided opportunities for the boys to sketch and make notations in an environment that is a legacy of Whiteley’s creativity.

Just when the boys thought they had had enough, Ms Holder said, “WAIT, there’s more!”. Out came the map and up the street we went to the main road. Surry Hills shopping area is filled with trendy boutiques, groovy cafes and international dining opportunities. The boys were devastated that there wasn’t a McDonalds? They made the best of the situation. Mrs Barlow grabbed the coffee that she had been yearning while Ms Cooke and Ms Holder took advantage of the gelato bar. Our quick break ended with our next bus ride. We were now off to Paddington and more walking to Stills Gallery. There are several boys, in both Year 11 & 12, who have a passion for photography. It is essential that they experience contemporary photomedia practice to give them the edge in their perceptions and ways of seeing it in their own work.

It goes without saying, that at this point of the day, the boys were keen to make a break for it. It was decided that the best and closest mode of transport was the train. A 1.4km walk, mostly up hill, through Darlinghurst to Kings Cross station had us all doing a last bit of cardio vascular exercise before we could sign off on the day. We were exhausted but that didn't stop creativity. Body of Works were discussed at the stations and on the way home on the train. It is called artistic momentum and making the best of the day.
Chapter Two

Just when you thought this missive was done, there was our second excursion and what a fantastic day it was! We repeated our mode of transport, once again catching the Newcastle train to the city. We would have taken an earlier train but James, a novice “P” plate driver, did not anticipate it would take him 45 minutes to park his car. Thank goodness for mobile phones. He was able to inform us of his dilemma. On the way in, our other James provided us with a lesson on his iPad. He had a new photography app and was keen to show us what it could do. Ms Cooke was happy to model. Joey told Ms Cooke that “she looked fat” but was very quick with his come-back that the “photo looked fat not Ms Cooke”. End of lesson. We also had discussions as to how the suburb Beecroft was named. Was it a bee keeper call Croft who lived in the area?

Eventually we arrived at the MCA only to be met by the Ellen Caravan (American talk show host). Very exciting! We were provided with caps, bags and pens. At the MCA we were taken to the new education centre where we were given a lecture with slide show on the sculptor, Anish Kapoor. The work encourages the audience to be a part of the experience. It is interactive and the boys loved photographing themselves in the reflections. They provided insightful responses to the works as they were guided around the exhibition by the gallery education officers. The time went very quickly and I am sure your son’s would recommend a visit, but, just be mindful that it ends on 1 April. Here are some reviews:

'a ground-breaking exhibition that challenges, intrigues and excites’
art almanac

'this rare and inspiring exhibition could hardly help but elicit wonder’
altmedia

'the artist is a magician ... nothing short of extraordinary ... this is a staggering exhibition by a major artist’
concrete playground

The boys were delighted that we had time to visit their favourite Caledonian restaurant, McDonalds before making our way up to the Art Gallery of NSW. On this occasion we visited the Australian collection and the Contemporary collection. Year 11 were able to explore portraiture while Year 12 concentrated on contemporary works and the spaces they are exhibited in.

We left the city once again in a state of exhaustion. We have decided that this is a good sign that it has been a full day of learning. Sleeping boys on the train is also a pretty good indication!

Where next? The Archibald, Wynne and Sulman.

Stay tuned for Chapter Three!

Ms C Cooke
VA EXCURSION PHOTO ALBUM
YEAR 11 PORTRAITS – Bacon and Basquiat
AIM ROCKS THE VERY BEST

On Thursday 21 March twenty nine students were entertained at AIM (Australian Institute of Music) in Chalmers St. near Central Railway. The students were drawn from Stage-Band, Elective Music year 8, 9/10 & HSC classes. The students left school at recess, travelled by train to Central & then consumed a healthy lunch near a park which was a few minutes’ walk from the venue.

The 80 minute concert was designed to reinforce the core topic in the curriculum ‘Australian Music’ and featured students of AIM with the help of their teachers. The repertoire contained songs from the last six decades and included some outstanding moments, including a finale by Glenn Shorrock of Little River Band fame which was the highlight of the entire show. Some of the other bands represented were: Skyhooks, Tina Arena, Jimmy Barnes, INXS, Johnny O’Keefe, The Living End, AC/DC, John Farnham etc.

A quick train ride home & all students were back at Hornsby station by 4 pm.

Mr M Williamson, Music Teacher
Asquith Boys High School's INAUGURAL trip to The Land Of The Rising Sun is taking place these upcoming school holidays and both students and teachers are excited as we count down the three weeks remaining until we meet at 5.15am at Sydney Airport. Our journey will be taking us on many adventures where we will be experiencing Japanese life and culture on different levels in the midst of the spectacular Cherry Blossom Season.

This awesome opportunity gives our boys the chance to take their language and communication skills to a new level whilst deepening their understanding of this fascinating culture where traditional and modern society interlock.

We would like to thank everyone involved for the support and energy they have put into this wonderful opportunity for our boys and hope this will be the first of many more trips in the future for our students. Hope you look forward to our article in the next Backchat.

Ms A Robinson and Ms J Lorrae, Japanese Teachers

Two of the places we will be visiting.

SHIBUYA, known as one of Japan’s fashion centres particularly for young people. It is famous for its ‘scramble crossing’ which is often featured in movies and T.V. shows. “A great example of what Tokyo does best when it’s not trying” Julian Worrall. Shibuya station is one of the busiest in Tokyo.

And MIYAJIMA, one of the crown jewels of Japan.

These two locations alone will be a beautiful contrast for our boys to experience.
THE WORD FROM ENGLISH
The first term in English has been incredibly busy and productive for all the boys in Years 7 to 12. The end of the term is primarily dominated by assessment tasks and examinations in all classes, therefore it is essential that boys aim to complete their very best work and showcase the skills and knowledge they have gained throughout the term. It is also important to remember that the learning process does not end when the assessment task is handed in. At the conclusion of each assessment task the boys are given extensive written feedback about their results both individually and as a cohort, as well as the opportunity to formally reflect on their learning. In English, this reflection focuses the boys on specific areas of their writing they are good at as well as those they need to improve and encourages them to consider strategies to address areas of concern. Mistakes are only of use if you learn from them! Each reflection includes a section for parent comment; hence parents are encouraged to look at the results their child has achieved and provide feedback to the teacher.

The following boys have already achieved outstanding results in their first assessment task of the year:
Year 12 Advanced English:
• Tom Tuynman
• Zac Waddell
Year 12 Standard English:
• Ben Gunther
• Brandon Liquete
• Sam Penno
Should you have any questions or concerns about the progress of your son in English please do not hesitate to contact his class teacher or me (Jessica.schadel@det.nsw.edu.au) as a collaborative effort between the home and school is incredibly beneficial.

Ms J. Schadel
Head Teacher English

SCIENCE
ESSA (Essential Secondary Science Assessment)

ESSA is the compulsory state science assessment taken by all Year 8 students each November. We have just received the 2012 results (for our current Year 9 boys) and achieved the best results since the inception of the assessment 8 years ago. We significantly lowered the number of boys in the lower levels and increased the percentage of boys in the upper levels. These results reflect the higher level of engagement of boys in Science as well as the literacy and numeracy focus over the last few years. Well done to the boys.

HSC
Year 12 boys are nearing their half yearly exams so it is critical they are practising past HSC questions, especially concentrating on the verb in question and writing appropriate responses. As has been clear in the last decade there has been an increased focus on writing and literacy in the HSC, even in more mathematical and technical subjects such as Physics and Chemistry.

Biology
Ms Tharmarajah took her Year 11 Biology class to Homebush Bay Field study centre at Bicentennial Park. The boys conducted a number of environmental experiments such as soil and water pH, water quality as well as transects and quadrant surveys for plant and animal populations. The boy's attitude and behaviour was excellent and this was noted by the Field Centre staff.

Physics
Year 12 Physics are currently investigating quantum physics and its impact on photo cells such as solar panels. The boys were able to wire up solar panels in various formations to produce a usable amount of current and voltage.

Senior Science and Biology
Year 12 Senior Science and Biology are visiting the Museum of Human Disease at UNSW as part of their Human Body topics. This is a world class facility that is a great resource to students studying human science at HSC and University level.
Year 9
Year 9 Science is starting the Contextual topic of the Hawkesbury River. As part of this topic there is a compulsory field trip to Gibberagong Field study Centre at Bobbin Head. They will be measuring environmental factors such as temperature, light, pH, wind speed as well as population estimates and species distribution. There will also be a local aboriginal ranger as one of the guides so the boys can appreciate the aboriginal heritage in the park. The cost of the excursion will cover return buses as well as hiring field study staff to guide the boys through each session.

Year 7
By the time of print, Year 7 Science will have had their annual Reptile Incursion. This experience has been running for many years now and allows the boys to understand the passive nature of most reptiles and fully appreciate how lucky we are to have such a diversity of the animals in Australia. The boys will be required to write a recount of their experience which will be an assessable writing exercise.

Mr S. Robertson
Head Teacher Science

Greetings from HSIE!
As we come to the end of term one and with the Easter Holidays approaching, this “gap” period between these two events is a good period to reflect and consolidate. Have the students been more engaged; and are they more committed to improvement?
Well, let’s take these individually.
I am happy to report that through observation, I feel that the boys are very settled and getting on with work in the classroom. This however does not indicate that their homework routine is being carried out to a very satisfactory level. I would encourage all parents to actively engage with the Homework Calendars provided on Sentral and know what and when work is being issued. In particular, senior students need to be doing a minimum of three hours work a night and turning in their work on time to their teachers. In HSIE, students are actively encouraged and supported so that the work schedule is maintained.
This leads to the second point – commitment to improvement. I would encourage all students to ask for feedback when work is returned and develop improvement from teacher comments. Do a number of drafts of your work so that it can be refined. I encourage all parents to be positively engaged in your son’s work at home.
So far, the quality of teacher-pupil engagement and the work being submitted is very encouraging and indicative of our fine NAPLAN results.
Good luck to the HSC cohort as they finalise preparations for their half-yearly examinations and all the best to the rest of the years as they complete their first term’s work.

Mr G. Moscos
Head Teacher HSIE

MATHS
Australian Mathematics Competition
The Australian Maths Competition is on the horizon again and takes place this year on Thursday 1st August and will involve challenging questions for our top Maths classes as well as problem solving. It is one of the largest competitions in the world and Asquith Boys has a tradition of participation in the AMC since its inception over 30 years ago. The aim is to encourage and sustain interest in the study of Mathematics amongst secondary students and to recognise excellence. Prizes include cash and certificate of merit. There is a minimal cost of $5.50 for each student which should be paid to the front office as soon as possible by no later than Wednesday 10th April.

Open evening
The Maths department along with the rest of the school invited parents from the local community and beyond to come along and get a sample of some of the work and programmes that our students engage in. Mr Lappas, Ms Zhou and Mr French welcomed parents with an interactive whiteboard lesson and question and answer session. In addition there was a prize of a graphic calculator to the first person with the correct answer drawn out the hat (in Maths terminology thats an open cylinder enclosed by a circular cloth!). The first name drawn by Mr Griffiths was a Mr Tony Thompson who gratefully accepted the prize. Apparently he is still “counting” his blessings!!!!

End of term Exams
It’s that time of year again when the students embark on their 1st exam of the year. The students have been working hard on revision for their exam’s over the last week or two. It is with this in mind that we remind parents and students
alike of the fantastic resources available to study with access to the internet. The board of Studies website has a substantial store of past papers going back more than 10 years with solutions. There is also access to Moodle via the school website. Each student should have a password which allows them to use this valuable resource. This year the Maths Dept. is encouraging students in Year 12 to buy HSC practice papers from the school. All interested should speak to Mr Lappas sooner rather than later.

**Problem of the month**
What is the maximum number of pieces which you can cut a pizza into using 3 straight lines from one end to another? (careful the answer is not the obvious one!)

*A Answer in the April Backchat*

From the Faculty of Mathematics - hope you all have a great Easter

*Mr J French*
*Teacher Maths*

---

**CAREERS**

**Barista Boys Café news**
Four of our Barista Café workers made an outstanding effort to provide cappuccino and flat white coffees to a large number of appreciative parents at ABHS Open Night. Jacob Sheldon and Keegan Waters displayed great skills in producing coffees in record time, Michael Cowell and Jack Baldock took orders as well as providing parents with an interesting outline of the training provided for the students and the running of the Barista Boys Café. Nick Bepper showed his IT skills in creating some great posters to advertise the café.

**Coming Events**

**Chartered Accountants Cadetship Evening,** Wednesday, 15 May 2013 from 4.30pm Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre for Year 12 students - Year 12 students can apply for a 2014 cadetship! A cadetship is the opportunity to do paid work for a company while studying their university business degree. It is a great way to enhance their learning as they combine theory and practice. At the Chartered Accountants Cadetship Evening students will get the chance to meet a wide range of employers, network with the right people to get ahead and attend an information session on how to excel themselves and be successful in the cadetship recruitment process. Register at: [http://www.charteredaccountants.com.au/Students/Whats-on/Event-listing/NSW/NSW-Cadetship-Evening.aspx](http://www.charteredaccountants.com.au/Students/Whats-on/Event-listing/NSW/NSW-Cadetship-Evening.aspx)

**The Sydney Morning Herald HSC and Careers Expo 2013**
Thursday 30th May, Friday 31st May, Saturday 1st June and Sunday 2nd June 10am-3pm Royal Hall of Industries, Moore Park
The SMH HSC and Careers Expo brings together over 140 exhibitors providing HSC, tertiary course, career, study skills and gap year information and resources. Exhibitors include Australia’s major universities. The Expo also features 120 seminars on HSC subjects including English and Maths, tertiary courses, career and study advice. Admission is $10 and is valid for all 4 days of the expo. (There will be an excursion for interested Year 12 ABHS students to attend on Friday 31st May). Please see Mrs Fry for a list of seminars and exhibitors.

**Important information**

**TAFE lessons continue on Tuesday 2nd April** even though it is a pupil free day at school. All TVET students should attend their TAFE classes on this day!

**Year 10 Work Experience**
This will be held in the week from Monday 14th October to Friday 18th October 2013. All Year 10 students have been issued with the necessary paperwork and should be actively looking for suitable employers.
All placements should be finalized by the beginning of Term 3.
Taronga Zoo Meet a Keeper Day
The Meet a Keeper Program is a presentation style program for students in Years 10, 11 and 12 who have expressed a genuine interest in pursuing a career within the Zoo Industry. Students will have the opportunity to learn about all aspects of zoo keeping including required qualifications, career opportunities, core responsibilities, career structures and wages. Following the morning presentation, students are invited to explore the zoo as they make their own way to a mystery ‘Behind the Scenes’ tour. Dates for this year are the 21st of August, 11th of September and the 23rd of October. To book or to find out more, go to www.taronga.org.au/education/education-sydney/school-work-experience/meet-keeper Please see Mrs Fry if interested

2013 Business Cadetship Programs
Professional Cadetships Australia provides Year 12 students with the opportunity to apply for a cadetship with leading companies in the financial services industry. The cadetships provide cadets with paid employment while they undertake university studies. Please visit www.businesscadetships.com.au Applications are made online. They open on 11th March and close on 15th May 2013.

“Live the Life”
Congratulations to Matthew Douglas (Year 12) who has been successful in his application to be part of this program on 18th & 19th April. Matthew will stay at the hotel and have the opportunity to meet senior managers and participate in a behind the scenes tour of the InterContinental. It will provide Matthew with an operational overview of a leading 5 star hotel.

www.mhscareers.com
A reminder to all students to visit this website for important information on career activities. www.mhscareers.com Login with “student” and the password is mhs2013. Parents can also login as “parent” This is a very useful site for career researching and finding out about all the career events and opportunities that come up throughout the year.

UMAT Test Registrations open early April - Closes 7J une.
To select students for medicine, dentistry, health science degree programs. http://umat.acer.edu.au/

Mrs J. Fry
Careers Adviser
Hello ABHS community,

Our P&C met for March on Tuesday 26th with another great attendance.

Welcome to our new Deputy Principal Andrew Skehan. The P&C looks forward to working closely with Andrew over the course of 2013, and beyond.

As we did in 2012 we have established our two key committees for 2013, to manage our major initiatives for the P&C:

- Grounds Maintenance
- Community Day

These committees are already actively meeting and formulating plans for these two important areas for this year. Over the coming weeks we will have more to report as progress is made, ideas and options evaluated and decisions are made.

The P&C conducted the first of our two grounds Working Bee’s for this year on Sunday 3rd March. Thank you to all those parents and community members for attending, despite the inclement weather.

A really great, new initiative for this year at ABHS is the forthcoming languages tour of Japan. During the April school holidays Jody Lorrae, from our languages faculty, will be leading our ABHS Japanese students on the tour. This is a first for ABHS and is another innovative initiative.

Well done to the ABHS Cricket Team for conquering all non-sports schools in the state and advancing to the final state knock-out tournament. This team has received some great recognition outside of our school for this achievement and their dominance of the annual grade schools competition for the past three years. Well done to all those staff and our boys involved in this great achievement.

Congratulations to all those boys selected for this year’s International Soccer Tour of New Zealand. This is “back to the future” for ABHS as New Zealand was the location of the first tour 11 years ago. These tours are always successful both on and off the field, and we are expecting this year to follow that trend. The P&C are sure that our touring boys will continue to be great ambassadors for ABHS.

All of the School Fees notices have been sent out to all ABHS families during March. Your school fees play an important part in the ongoing functioning of our school. The general fees are important to support the ongoing resources across all faculties, our school library and support many of the initiatives in the day to day running of the school. The fees for elective subjects are especially important for the specifically requested subject choices of our boys. The fees combined are extremely important for our boys’ educational experience and the P&C urge all parents to ensure that their contributions are paid promptly to our school.

Your P&C continues to make significant financial contributions to our school, so far this year we have supported the;

- Refurbishment of the school cricket nets
- New Student Welfare officer role for the school
- Students “Breakfast Club”
- Maintenance of the school oval
- “Quick smart” learning program
- Admin/Support staff wages for one day per week for this year
- Head Teacher - Teaching & Learning wages for this year

Another great initiative is the students “Breakfast Club” where our boys are able to obtain a nutritious breakfast each morning before classes commence. We are looking for parent volunteers to provide support to our boys, and this important, initiative from 8:00 to 8:40 each school morning. Please contact the school office to register your interest, 02) 9477 3508.

Your P&C Office bearers for 2013 are:

- President - John Koellner
- Vice President - Kim Pinnock
- Vice President - Kerry Limbert
- Treasurer - Jenny Williams
- Secretary - Nicky Morrison
- Registered Signatory - Fiona Wilson
- Ground Maintenance - Michelle Roscarel, Kirsty Berryman & Kerry Limbert
- Publicity Officer – Di Stoddard
Thanks to all those P&C office bearers for 2013, your support of our school is greatly appreciated by our Principal Terry Griffiths, our School Executive, faculty leads & teachers, and our boys. From me, thank you and I am looking forward to working with you all over the course of 2013.

Some important dates to already lock into your calendars:

- Grounds & Gardens Working Bee – Sunday 25th August: your attendance and assistance would be greatly appreciated
- Community Day – Sunday 8th September

Also look for a special notice from your P&C in the first week back after the April school holidays outlining several special upcoming events.

Once again, thank you to all those who have attended this month’s P&C meeting.

The next meeting is Tuesday 28th May at 7.30 in the school library, looking forward to seeing more of you attending in May.

Thanks,
John Koellner
P&C President

President: John Koellner
Vice Presidents: Kim Pinnock, Kerry Limbert
Secretary: Nicky Morrison
Treasurer: Jenny Williams
Ground Maintenance: Michelle Roscarel, Kirsty Berryman & Kerry Limbert
School Council Reps: Linda Stanford, Kim Pinnock

The next P&C meeting
@ 7.30pm
Tuesday 28 May
in the Library.
All welcome.

ABHS CALENDAR OF EVENTS TERM 1 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>April 1</th>
<th>April 2</th>
<th>April 3</th>
<th>April 4</th>
<th>April 5</th>
<th>April 6/7</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10B</td>
<td>EASTER MONDAY</td>
<td>STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY</td>
<td>Community of Schools Day</td>
<td>Life Choices - CS Incursion</td>
<td>Yr 12 Half Yearly Exams start</td>
<td>Sat/Sun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11A</td>
<td>April 8</td>
<td>April 9</td>
<td>April 10</td>
<td>April 11</td>
<td>April 12</td>
<td>April 13/14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Yr 12 Half Yearly Exams</td>
<td>Yr 12 Half Yearly Exams</td>
<td>Yr 12 Half Yearly Exams</td>
<td>Yr 12 Half Yearly Exams</td>
<td>Last Day Term 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ABHS CALENDAR OF EVENTS TERM 2 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
<th>Sat/Sun</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1B</td>
<td>April 29</td>
<td>April 30</td>
<td>May 1</td>
<td>May 2</td>
<td>May 3</td>
<td>May 4/5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2A</td>
<td>May 6</td>
<td>May 7</td>
<td>May 8</td>
<td>May 9</td>
<td>May 10</td>
<td>May 11/12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>ATHLETICS CARNIVAL</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3B</td>
<td>May 13</td>
<td>May 14</td>
<td>May 15</td>
<td>May 16</td>
<td>May 17</td>
<td>May 18/19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week</td>
<td>May 20</td>
<td>May 21</td>
<td>May 22</td>
<td>May 23</td>
<td>May 24</td>
<td>May 25/26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4A</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Formal Assembly</td>
<td>ZONE X-COUNTRY</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(Soccer Tour, etc)</td>
<td>SCHOOL PHOTOS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>ATHLETICS CARNIVAL (back-up)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Yr 12 reports issued</td>
<td>Stage Band Tour to Port Macquarie</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week</td>
<td>May 27</td>
<td>May 28</td>
<td>May 29</td>
<td>May 30</td>
<td>May 31</td>
<td>June 1/2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5B</td>
<td>Yr 7 &amp; 9 Vaccinations</td>
<td>HPV Dose 1 &amp; HepB Dose 1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>School Council</td>
<td>School Photos</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week</td>
<td>June 3</td>
<td>June 4</td>
<td>June 5</td>
<td>June 6</td>
<td>June 7</td>
<td>June 8/9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6A</td>
<td></td>
<td>Science Competition</td>
<td></td>
<td>Yr 12 Vaccinations</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Dtpa, Boostix</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week</td>
<td>June 10</td>
<td>June 11</td>
<td>June 12</td>
<td>June 13</td>
<td>June 14</td>
<td>June 15/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7B</td>
<td>QUEEN’S BIRTHDAY</td>
<td>Formal Assembly (Sports Carnivals)</td>
<td></td>
<td>MAD Night (Music And Drama)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week</td>
<td>June 17</td>
<td>June 18</td>
<td>June 19</td>
<td>June 20</td>
<td>June 21</td>
<td>June 22/23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8A</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Last Day Term 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>School Council</td>
<td>School PHOTOS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week</td>
<td>June 24</td>
<td>June 25</td>
<td>June 26</td>
<td>June 27</td>
<td>June 28</td>
<td>June 29/30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9B</td>
<td></td>
<td>Yr 9 &amp; 10 The Hurting Game Workshop</td>
<td>April 9</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**About the Schoolkids Bonus**

**What is the Schoolkids Bonus?**
The Schoolkids Bonus is a payment to help eligible families and students with the costs of primary and secondary school. It is a payment of up to $5,000 per year.

**Who is eligible?**
You must be a resident of New South Wales and a child who is attending an eligible school to be eligible for the Schoolkids Bonus.

**When does the Schoolkids Bonus start?**

**How much will I receive?**
It depends on your family’s income and the number of children your family has. The bonus is paid quarterly, with the first payment due in March, June, September, and December.

**When will I receive it?**
Eligible families will receive the bonus every three months during the school year. The bonus is paid by direct deposit to the nominated account.

**What do I need to do to get it?**
To apply for the Schoolkids Bonus, you must fill out an application form and submit it along with supporting documents to your local office.

**Who can apply?**
Any family with children attending eligible schools can apply for the Schoolkids Bonus.

**How will I be paid?**
The Schoolkids Bonus is paid by direct deposit to the nominated account, with the first payment due in March.

**How will I be paid?**
The Schoolkids Bonus is paid by direct deposit to the nominated account, with the first payment due in March.

**Has the Schoolkids Bonus replaced the Education Tax Refund?**
The Schoolkids Bonus replaced the Education Tax Refund, which means you no longer need to keep receipts and claim the refund each year.

**Is the Schoolkids Bonus less than the Education Tax Refund?**
No - the Schoolkids Bonus is available for both primary and secondary students, compared to a maximum of $1,975 for primary students and $2,976 for secondary students under the previous Education Tax Refund system.

**Where can I find more information?**
CAPA BACK PAGE GALLERY

Year 9/10
Visual Arts
Water Colour
Joshua Yeldham
Appropriations
Advertisements in this newsletter are included as a community service or a source of revenue to offset newsletter production costs. They should not in any way be seen as an endorsement or recommendation by the school.
Outdoor Group Fitness Sessions
at Rofe Park, Hornsby
Monday & Thursday @ 5.45am
Tuesday & Thursday @ 11.30am
Mention this ad and receive:
50% off the first 10 weeks of training*
Bas Green
Phone 0416 977 963
facebook.com/BASHealthandFitness
B.Ex.Sc., M.ExSp.Sc
*Must join for at least 2 sessions a week
Only 1 discount per client

Experience the love of dance with
TERPSICHERE DANCE COMPANY
Ballet
Jazz
Tap
Lyrical Jazz
Stretch
Ages 2 - Adult
Toddler Classes
Children’s Classes
Teen Classes
Adult Classes
Boys Only Classes
School Holiday Classes
Year End Recital
First class is FREE!
Phone: 8006 2098
www.dancewithtdc.com.au

Teaching someone to drive can be a happy experience.
You can learn all the simple steps on how to teach a learner driver at a FREE two hour workshop.
The next workshop in your area will be held:

TIME & DATE: 6:30pm to 8:30pm Tuesday 9 April 2013
VENUE: Hornsby Central Library Meeting Room
28-44 George St Hornsby
(enter via Hunter Lane)
BOOK NOW ON: (02) 9847 6856

Helping learner drivers become safe drivers

JSW Plumbing
We are your local experienced Plumber.
We are just around the corner and are able to help you no matter how large or small the job is.
We can help you with:
- Leaking taps and blocked toilets
- Rain water tanks and water wise solutions
- Maintenance
- Bathrooms, Kitchen & Laundry renovations
- Guttering and roofing
- Hot water heaters and installations
- Gas services - Natural and LPG
- Blocked drains
Call James now for an obligation free quote:
0412 511 700
JSW Plumbing Pty Ltd Licence # 204677C
Small changes, big differences.

Teen Triple P Group for parents of teenagers 7 week group work program

The Teen Triple P Group is a 7 week parenting program aimed at parents or carers of teenagers aged 12-15 years who have or are at risk of developing behaviour problems. Teen Triple P teaches parents how to encourage assertive self-regulation and to help their teenagers develop the social skills they need to get along with others and be successful at school and in the wider community. Teenagers who grow up with positive parenting are more likely to develop appropriate skills, feel good about themselves, and are less likely to develop serious problem behaviours.

BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL AND PRE-SCREENING REQUIRED
Please contact Melissa or Laura on (02) 8732 6700 or email teentriples@brookvale.facs.nsw.edu.au
Please note children are not able to attend and childcare is not provided.

www.triplep.net

Australia's First Coloured Commemorative Coin!
LIMITED EDITION

For a $10 donation the $2 Poppy Coin will come with a Certificate of Donation

Australia's first commemorative $2 coin in colour has been unveiled by the RSL and the Royal Australian Mint. A unique Australian legal tender this ground breaking $2 coin is simply an instant talking headpiece for every Australian.

The coin depicts the Red Shielded Poppy, which is synonymous with Remembrance Day and the sacrifices made by Australians in conflict.

All funds raised go to support our valued RSL programs helping thousands of Veterans and serving Defence personnel and their families in homes and communities across Australia.

Available from the RSL National Office at 15-33 Constitution Avenue, CAMPBELLTOWN NSW

Please order online at www.rsl.org.au

For further details call 1300 477 656

www.rsl.org.au

Children and Families Research Centre, Institute of Early Childhood

Literacy Tutoring Program at Macquarie University

The Children and Families Research Centre is offering places in a free 10 week Literacy Tutoring Program for children aged 5-10 who are in the lower two bands of their grandstands and are experiencing difficulties in reading and writing. We know that these children sometimes struggle with literacy and that professional tutoring can help them raise their band levels.

University student volunteers, trained and supervised by academic staff, will deliver the training individually to each child, using research-based programs. These tutors will work in pairs with each child and will be paid through a Working with Children Check.

When
After school days and weekends, 3pm - 4pm
 Freddie and Handy text: 0411 895 544

Where
Macquarie University, David Bowdler Centre, Building 32c, Macquarie University North Ryde, Sydney

To register your interest in participating
Contact Sally Thompson with the following information:
Your name and contact details
Your child's name and date of birth
Preferred day(s) of the week (Monday and Thursday)

Details

Where: Hornsby Central Library
Main Meeting Room
28-44 George Street, Hornsby
Entry via Hunter Lane

Date: Wednesday, 24 April

Time: 10.30am

Cost: Free

Booking: Essential, to register please call 9847 6014 or library@hornsby.nsw.gov.au

For more information visit hornsby.nsw.gov.au

CYBER WISE
Cyber Safety Talk - Parents and Teens

For many young people today the internet and social networks are where they engage with friends out-side-school

This session presented by Hornsby Police Youth Liaison Officer will cover
- Threats to their safety online
- Rules and Regulations
- Tips and Tricks for staying safe online

We welcome Parents and their Teens to this valuable session.

For more information visit hornsby.nsw.gov.au