GOLD DUKE OF EDINBURGH WALK
50 km from Cape Otway to the Gables Lookout, Victoria

Wednesday 11th November, Day 1
An early start to the day at 5am as Mr Sheldon kindly gave Michael, Jacob, James and myself a lift out to Mascot for our flight to Avalon, just outside Geelong. It took us nine hours of travel by plane, taxi, coach and shuttle bus to get to our destination of Cape Otway. Perfect conditions for walking made our 10 kilometre trek to the Aire River campsite over the next three hours enjoyable. It was cool, strong sea breeze; coastal heathland and a wild ocean with huge crashing surf. We found a sandy site for comfortable sleeping and began our freeze dried food experience.

Thursday 12th November, Day 2
10 kilometres today took a little over six hours. More coastal walking, heathland and a final long beach walk brought us to our Johanna Beach campsite. We finally got to wet our feet in Johanna Creek and at the surf edge followed by the boys stunt practice until everybody ate sand. The usual activities followed – tents up, topping up water and more freeze dried food. We introduced ourselves to the Year 9 environmental group camping out from Bellarine High School with their two teachers. Our gold boys were impressive and gave the students a talk about Duke of Ed and independently ran an impromptu games activity for well over an hour.

Friday 13th November, Day 3
Another 15 kilometre day from Johanna beach to Ryans Den. This was the most scenic part of the walk. Have a look at Google images! A change of scenery as we walked along ridges on farmland, eucalypt forest and down to the stunning Milanesia Beach. The next 5 kilometres was a series of up and downhills through lush forest protected by the headland. Unfortunately more freeze dried food and you know you are getting tired when you find fresh pure tank water exciting.
Saturday 14th November, Day 4
A quick 10 kilometres to the Gables Lookout in three hours; a lot of up and down through gullies and a decent hill to make it a challenge. Up to the carpark and our 50 kilometre trek is nearly complete. Abby from GOR shuttles drove us the extra 30 minutes west to the Twelve Apostles: A stunning sight that took our breath away. The return journey began and as expected takes about eleven hours until we arrived back at Berowra. Many thanks to Mr Seidl for the lift home from Mascot.

It sure was an adventurous journey. There were physical and mental challenges over the 50km journey; trying to sleep on hard ground and the freeze dried/cous cous meal plan. It was hard work at times but always fun, great scenery and exciting to walk a world renowned track. Jacob and Michael Sheldon and James Seidl are well on their way to completing their gold award and deserve recognition for the way they have developed their resilience and confidence.

If you are keen to join the Duke of Edinburgh program, come and talk to Mr Murphy or Mr Yates in the Science staffroom.

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BRONZE MEDALLION EXPEDITION
8-9th November

Sunday morning at 7am saw 23 bronze Dukes students start their journey by train to Cronulla which is about two hours away. A half hour ferry ride later we were at Bundeena, the start of the Coast Track in the Royal National Park which winds for over 27 kilometres down to Otford. Meeting up with Ewan at the wharf, we moved on to the local shops for last minute provisions and the essential coffee.

The walk began on a fire trail but moved quickly onto cliff top walking and coastal heathland. There was a change in effort as we crossed Marley and Little Marley beaches. A brief lunch in light rain was savoured at Wattamolla before Mr Yates engaged in the Olympic sport of chasing down an overly enthusiastic lead walker. As the light rain continued, we pushed on through heathland and up and over numerous steep headlands. The trek along Garie beach brought us to fresh water, wedding photos and high performance cars at the SLS Club.

Over the hill and past the cabin community was our campground for the night, North Era. After putting up tents and getting organised, activities included ‘Who can jump the creek without falling in’, cricket with bat shaped objects and a favourite; ‘Walk up the hill to get phone reception’. Dinners consisted of pasta, cous cous, freeze dried options or canned food. A small fire with damp wood finished off a day that had pushed most of the boys with approximately 17 kilometres of walking. Eventhough day 2 was shorter with 10-11 kilometres of walking, there were challenges ahead. Passing more cabins and grassland, we moved on past Burning Palms Beach and up the steep palm jungle bush track towards the ridge line. As we moved on, final views of the ocean were seen before ferns and forest led us to Otford station. The boys (and teachers) had a weary 2 hour train trip back home before much needed showers, food and rest.

Another great achievement from the Bronze Duke of Ed boys. Everyone had to dig deep at some stage and this is a great training ground for resilience, teamwork and constantly assessing a new environment. Many thanks to the stalwart Mr Yates in his 25th year of Duke of Edinburgh involvement.

Mr M Murphy, Duke of Ed Co-ordinator
## Principal's Message

### Leadership Opportunities at ABHS

Our recent formal assembly highlighted the numerous leadership roles that exist at ABHS for our students. This assembly saw the induction of the SRC Year members and executive, the induction of House Captains, and presentations to Legacy collection participants and Duke of Edinburgh scheme participants. At an earlier assembly we saw the induction of Prefects and Sports Captains. Of course there are many other formal or informal leadership roles in the school. In addition it was very pleasing to see the number of students receiving Principal’s Awards and Medallions. Congratulations to all these boys. **Asquith Boys High is an established leader in the promotion of student leadership. I am not aware of any other school that has such a high proportion of boys involved in leadership responsibilities.**

### End of Year/ Presentation Night

The last school day for all students is Wednesday 16th December. The last two days of the school calendar (Thursday 17th and Friday 18th December) will be Staff Development Days. Presentation Night is on Monday 14th December. I look forward to celebrating the 2015 achievements of our students with you on this night. My thanks to Ms Holder and Mrs Beckerleg for co-ordinating this event.

### Our Community

I would like to once again thank all members of the ABHS School Council led by President, Mrs Michelle Roscarel, and our hard working P&c, led by Mrs Linda Stanford for their tremendous commitment to our school community. Thanks also to all staff for their continued dedication to boys’ education.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and I look forward to 2016 with great anticipation.

**Terry Griffiths, Principal**

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### Message from Administration

**Not returning to ABHS in 2016?**

If your son is not returning to ABHS in 2016 he will need to sign out before the 16th December.

Please email or phone the school and speak with Ms Simms who will let you know of the sign out procedure.

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### Canteen News

A copy of the current **Canteen Price List** is included in this Backchat. These prices will continue into next year, until further notice.

**Bookpacks** for Year 7 and Year 8, 2016, are available now from the Canteen.

- Year 7 Bookpacks cost $120,
- Year 8 Bookpacks cost $32.

A big thank you to everyone who has used the **IGA Community Benefits Card** when shopping at Ritchies IGA. Over the years, the ABHS Canteen has received thousands of dollars with which we have purchased new equipment etc for Canteen. As you know IGA has closed after a massive fire destroyed the shop. Hopefully the new owners will be able to continue supporting the community.

Thank you to all the 2015 Canteen helpers. Your support and contribution is appreciated. If you’d like to volunteer in the Canteen in 2016 please contact Maryanne – there are always vacancies ready to be filled!

**Maryanne Miller, Canteen Manager**
Excerpt from current ABHS Uniform Policy:

- dark grey belt loop trousers/shorts (no elastic waist cargo pants or cargo shorts are permitted)
- lace up (black laces only) black leather shoes (not suede, cut below ankle) with a black sole (as per picture)
- green shirt with crest. Shirts may be worn outside the pants
- ties are only required in Terms 2 and 3
- grey long socks with school colours must be worn pulled up to the knee
- if a belt is worn, it must be black

I would like to thank all members of the Asquith Boys High community for making 2015 another great year at the school.

I look forward to working with everyone again in 2016.

Andrew Skehan
Deputy Principal

2nd Hand Blazers

Senior Blazers are compulsory for the winter terms (term 2&3) for ALL Senior students. Please see the list below of outgoing Year 12 blazers for sale (both Senior and Prefect Blazers). Contact the person directly if you are interested.

Some parents have chosen to donate the senior blazer to the school. They are available for you to purchase from the clothing pool in the Print room. These range from $30 - $70, depending on condition and if they have been dry cleaned.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Maroon Senior Blazers</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Name</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Jo Grant</td>
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<td>Jillian Vanderlaan</td>
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<th>Green Prefect Blazers</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Name</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Janine Dudfield</td>
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<td>Celia Hayes</td>
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The night was perfect, and not a cloud was in the evening sky, as the sun set upon the grounds of Bicentennial Park on Tuesday 17th November. The surrounding grounds were green and primed for the perfect backdrop photos. The boys, and their partners, arrived in style with stretch hummers, limousins and fancy cars delivering them to the entrance of the dining hall at Waterview Bicentennial Park in Homebush.

The boys looked stylish, in either a black or blue suit; with a coloured tie or a waistcoat being the trend, and on their arm a partner looking just as stylish.

After numerous pre-formal meetings, the boys selected the venue and decided on the alternate drop menu – with chicken tenders or Greek salad the choices for entrée, and lamb shanks or chicken for mains; finishing with a raspberry cheesecake or chocolate torte for dessert. Being the boys’ choices all plates were cleaned by the end.

A witty and clever student-teacher roast ensued, delivered by the wonderful Harry Tuynman, created by Harry Tuynman, Ben Gibson and Liam Stone. Many laughs and jokes were had in good spirit. Thank you to the very kind donation of a photobooth for the event. The boys enjoyed taking silly photos, with their groups and partners, creating memories of a fun evening.

I was worried that the boys would up and leave right after dessert and the dance floor would remain empty. However, the boys and their partners took over the dance floor and shuffled, gabbled, swayed and boogied the night away until it was time to leave at 11pm. Mr French and his Irish jig certainly helped the dance floor vibe.

As you can see from the photos, courtesy of Ms Holder, and from the many thanks received as they were leaving, the boys had a wonderful time. It was a great night, and hopefully one they remember as one of their final memories as the ABHS cohort of 2015.

Ms L Mashman
8 selected students from Year 10 recently participated in a 3-day camp as part of the NSW Premier’s Sporting Challenge. The camp was held at Milson Island Sport and Recreation Centre and involved 70 students from local high schools and the Central Coast as part of the ‘Leading Through Change’ program.

The boys, which included Riley Turner, Benjamin Parnell, Beau Thierry Lukich-Yang, Riley Gibson, Daniel Jollie, Nicholas Chidgey, Nick Fowler and Nicholas Withford, participated in a range of challenge activities and initiatives that aimed to refine their leadership and communication skills.

The boys should be very proud of the way they conducted themselves whilst on camp. I received many positive reports from Camp staff and other teachers about how well the boys approached each activity and mixed well with students from other Schools.

The Premier’s Sporting Challenge is continuing to grow and is a fantastic initiative for students to be involved in and I am looking forward to all the events planned for next year.

Mr D.Jones, PDHPE

Milson Island Camp

Eight boys were selected from Year 10 to go and spend two nights and three days on Milson Island for the Premiers Sporting Challenge camp which was all about leadership, making friends and team building activities. There were nine schools on this camp which were Asquith Boys, Asquith Girls, Swansea, Cardiff, Kincumber, North Lakes, Lake Macquarie, Galston and Pennant Hills.

Day 1 - We were picked up by a coach and taken to Kangaroo Point in Brooklyn where we waited half an hour for our boat to take us to the Island. Once we arrived at Milson Island we all gathered around and were then escorted to the place we would meet every morning. We were then put into our groups and our lodges. We were paired with Kincumber HS which we were quite happy about as they seemed like really nice, fun people. Everyone was then escorted to the dining hall for lunch. After lunch we were given the run down on what was going to happen throughout the camp and how we were going to have to do a swimming test to see if we were allowed to swim on the camp. After dinner we then went to the Rec hall for night time activities where we played fun games and went on to make even more friends. The main focus of our activities was leadership, being out of our comfort zones and dealing with conflict.

Day 2 was all about our Challenge activities. High ropes were first. We joined groups with Cardiff and North Lakes and we all paired up with someone from a different school and had to hold a small length of toilet paper between us on the high ropes and attempt not to break it. Up next was Archery and we paired up in groups of two and had a turn at firing the arrows. We then had to blindfold the person shooting and guide them and tell them when and where to fire. After that we then attempted to shoot a piece of fruit off the top of the target, sadly no one hit the fruit. We moved on to do the Vertical challenge which was a giant ladder with wooden poles about a metre and a half separated from each other. We had to use teamwork and a belay system to climb to the top and get back down.

Day 3 was the final day and we all woke up and packed our bags, talked with all the other schools and then went to breakfast. After breakfast we met up and joined with Cardiff and North Lakes to build a raft that would carry the weight of at least one person the length of the pool. We had competitions on who was the fastest and who could take apart their raft the fastest. After this we got fitted for life jackets and put on our enclosed shoes and walked down to the river and hopped in our canoes. We had to get into the canoes with someone from different schools. I paired with a girl named Megan from Cardiff and a girl named Jess from Kincumber, and after we had a practice on the canoes two people in the boat were asked to close their eyes and the person with their eyes open had to guide the others. As a final challenge we were asked how many people we could get into a canoe before it sunk - we got about fourteen. After our activity we cleaned off, got changed and went to lunch. Afterwards, we all gathered around and talked before we were escorted down to the boat which took us back to Kangaroo Point.

Over all this camp was for sure one of the best camps I have ever been on and I would no doubt do it again.

Riley Turner, Year 10
WHAT A FANTASTIC DAY!

This year, High School Experience Day at Asquith Boys High School was clearly a resounding success. Nearly 150 Year 5 boys attended this day which is specifically ‘designed’ for them. Although the weather was somewhat unkind, the boys responded with enthusiasm to the class programmes set out for them. The boys learnt a great deal about how exciting High School can be. Each of the eight groups, led by two Prefects, experienced 4 classes from a variety of subjects such as TAS, English, Maths, Science, History, Languages, Creative Arts and PDHPE with each group having had a cooking class as well. Lunch was the obligatory Sausage Sizzle provided by the Yr11 Hospitality class.

Feedback of the day by the boys themselves was mostly very positive.

Answers to the question: “What was the best part of the day?” included:

"Science – when we used the Bunsen burner", “Making lightning in Science.”, “Science – seeing our Leaders hair stand up.”, “PE - the best part of the day was playing Patika with Mr Broome.”, “Everything!”, “Cooking ....We made cookies !!!”, “...eating the cookies...”.

What if anything would you change about today?

"Making us stay longer!", “Nothing – it was perfect.”, “...that we could stay for another day!”

Both Mr Griffiths and I were impressed by the enthusiasm and interest shown by parents as we toured the school. Most encouraging to us were the positive observations and questions asked about the quality of the lessons presented by the teachers at Asquith. Parents appreciated the effort that was put in to run such a day – as well as the day to day education taking place at ABHS.

Some of the parent comments from their evaluation questionnaire:

“My son was nervous and anxious about the thought of high school. After spending the day at your Experience Day he is excited and looking forward to going to Asquith Boys.”

“The Experience Day was fabulous! It was well organised. The student guides were friendly, knowledgeable and helpful.”

“My son’s word to describe his day: ‘AWESOME’…”

Thank you to Miss Evans for her professional timetable and organisation of the classes; to all the staff who volunteered their time on the day; to Mrs Beckerleg for her organisation of the day, experience and understanding in putting this day together. Thank you to Ms Booth and Ms Bird for providing an amazing spread of "yummies" for the parents to have with morning tea at the conclusion of their tour of the school.

Last but not least thank you to our quality school student leaders who each year never cease to amaze and who were outstanding role models as team leaders and group co-ordinators.

Congrats to all on a job well done.

Mr G Moscos
Events in the Music Department

The music faculty has been busy this term with workshops, excursions, performances for parents, and some of our boys participating in Schools Spectacular.

On Friday 28th November, 7E showcased their creative talents for their families, friends, and teachers. Every class member was involved, with some whole-class items, as well as a number of smaller performances. Callum Riddle, Logan Townsend, Elliot Nicolas, Nathan Jollie, and Mitchell Kissick performed an instrumental arrangement of “Demons” by Imagine Dragons; and Cameron Jacob-Clarke sang “Counting Stars” by One Republic. Thomas Hardwick read his horrifying horror story which he wrote for English, with sound effects from a small group of his class mates. Nathan Jollie played piano beautifully. Zac Ficker worked with his creative team to design the amazing invitation (see above) which went out to their families. These boys certainly have a lot of creative talent and they have been wonderful to work with. Some of them surprised themselves with what they were able to achieve in such a short amount of time. After the performance they served their guests afternoon tea. Well done to all of 7E.

Ms N Jackson and Ms K Salisbury

In week 6, all of Year 7 participated in an African Drumming Workshop as part of the unit on Non-Western Music. Tuza, a master drummer from Ghana, had the boys playing for the whole workshop, with every student having a go. There was certainly some hidden drumming talent discovered, with Thomas Mol, Rek Flemming, Josh Pryde, Bradley Medworth, Otis Van Egmond-Jones, Rowan Fisher, Callum Riddle, Matthew Busby (also discovered as dancer extraordinaire), Mitchell Ceccini, Robbie Gavin, James McLean and Morgan Harris all getting up to play in front of the rest of the group. Congratulations to all the boys for a wonderful workshop, it was fantastic to see your musical talents at work.

Two of our students, Joel Winch and Jack Argent, were involved in the annual Schools Spectacular, held for the last time this year at the Sydney Entertainment Centre. This is a huge commitment from the boys, with weekly rehearsals leading up to the event and intensive rehearsals the week before the concert. The boys were involved in a full scale dress rehearsal on Thursday, had two performances on Friday, and another two on Saturday. The performances themselves are massive, with over 3500 students from NSW public schools involved. Congratulations to our boys, I hope you had a valuable experience!

Earlier in the term 10 Elective Music students went to the Sydney Opera House to see Audra McDonald, a 7 time Grammy winning Broadway singer from America. The boys heard the classics from the stage and had the opportunity to hear music they may not usually listen to. McDonald was accompanied by the Sydney Symphony Orchestra. It was a wonderful experience for the boys.

Congratulations must be made to two students who have completed their AMEB Rock School exams on the drums. Keegan Morris (Year 7) completed his 3rd grade exam, and Joel Winch (Year 11) completed grade 5. Both boys received high marks and should be proud of their commitment to their chosen instrument.

Ms K Salisbury, Music teacher
Global Dignity Day

Global Dignity Day happens on the third Wednesday of October every year since 2006. It is now celebrated in over 70 countries and Australia’s celebration was hosted in NSW Parliament House, organised by the Andrew and Renata Kaldor Centre for International Refugee Law. Two Year 10 students were invited from all Sydney based schools to listen to keynote speaker, former High Court judge, the Hon Michael Kirby AC CMG.

The first event of the day was registering all the people that arrived and then seating them in the theatrette. Once all were seated they were introduced to Michael Kirby who discussed his own experiences with dignity, how the concept of dignity has changed within Australia over the years and how dignity came into play in court cases he presided over as a high court judge. His most relevant story would have been his experience of dignity within the school environment when he attended school. He mentioned that his school was made up almost entirely of white boys. It was an all-boys school, with only around 7 or 8 Asians who were forced together as no one else wanted them as friends. They were outsiders and disliked. He admits that he probably also was one of those wary of non-whites as that was the norm. He was pleased to note the wide array of different cultures sitting in front of him from a wide range of schools around Sydney. He was also pleased to note that when he recently visited his former high-school that it was much more of a multicultural school.

Saber Attar Motlagh & Jonah Kuhnke-Barakauskas (10)

AGHS Multicultural Day

On Tuesday, November 10th, Nicholas, Jackson, Andrew, Michael and Jonah from our Year 9/10 Japanese class attended Asquith Girl’s Multicultural Day. A group from Auburn Girls was also invited to participate. It was a day to celebrate diversity in Asquith Girls and Australia. The main event was an assembly where some girls performed in outfits representing their nationality heritage. These performances consisted of speeches, dancing, singing and playing musical instruments. While I would’ve liked to say the boys were the main spectacle, we soon found out just how outclassed we were. The ladies were pulling off dance moves and singing notes which we could only hope to achieve. Some of the speeches were very moving, with girls talking about their experiences in migrating to Australia.

The finale was a fashion parade. The boys took part in the fashion parade, dressing up in traditional Japanese outfits. Everyone thought we were quite fabulous especially Michael and Jonah whose sense of style rivalled that of the ladies. After the assembly there was a fete where there were many different foods available to purchase from other cultures. We decided that we must escape before Jackson ate everything in sight.

It was a great experience for everyone involved and a fun day. It is really wonderful that Asquith Girls and the people from our Japanese class had this opportunity to experience the wide diversity of culture and life-experiences that the girls bring to that school and to our community.

Andrew Morrison, Nicholas Roscarel and Jackson Tuynman

Peer Mediation

Peer mediation is the process that involves two senior school students who are trained to help, facilitate and support other students, who are in disagreement. These students are there to provide support and are to listen and offer advice.

Mediation is a process that emphasises the participants own responsibility for making decisions that affect their lives.

Eleven boys were selected by Mr Johnston, and trained by myself, in the last weeks of Term 4. We believe these boys to be a great addition and confident mediators within the school.

Ms Mashman, Peer Mediation Trainer

2016 Peer Mediators

Saber Attar-Motlagh  Benjamin Parnell  Andrew Wilson
Mitchell Claydon    Michael Smith    Nicholas Withford
Riley Gibson         Julius Stockman   Rhys Young
Jonah Kuhnke-Barakauskas  James Stoddart

Nicholas, Andrew, Michael, Jonah, Jackson & Mr Nicklin
Science News ...

Infra-red camera

The Science Faculty has a new Infra-red camera to aid the boys’ understanding of surface temperature. This camera can be used for many purposes including comparing surface temperature of different coloured objects, heat distribution in different parts of living things, night vision goggles and how ‘hot spot’ works with cricket bats.

The Infra-red camera is small and fits into the bottom of a mobile phone or tablet and gives colour graduations with a temperature reading.

The ‘coloured can’ experiment:

A light and dark can were placed in the sun. Traditionally we measure the air temperature inside which gives us a rough indication of heat absorption but a far more accurate way of measuring is the surface temperature of each can with the infra-red thermomenter.

Mr S Robertson, HT Science

Year 7 Biology Excursion to the Education Centre

Bicentennial Park, Homebush Bay

Year 7 learned about Ecosystems. They had to collect and analyse data and information and draw conclusions from their findings. These type of excursions provide great hands-on opportunities for the boys to observe and acquire new scientific skills and knowledge.
One of the units of work students in Year 7 were engaged in this semester was the exploration of **horror writing**. In the task below, students were given an image of a monster and they had to write a narrative description. Here are two samples produced by students in 7E.

I stared down, hypnotised in fear, as the small, furry creature in front of me. Its nostrils were flaring; its teeth were on display like trophies, too big to fit in its mouth. I noticed the claws that were its toes and its short stubby tail. It was a crocodile, a gorilla, a hog, a god of pain. The last thing I saw was its cheeky grin: the entrance to the abyss.

by Logan Townsend and Morgan Hamer

I threw open the lid of the dumpster and searched through its contents. A half-eaten sandwich and a rotted apple core. Better than nothing. I grabbed the loot and ran out of the alley.

A large waft of rotting flesh snakes into my nostrils. I look up. Skinned human bodies hang from the power lines semi-decomposed. Suddenly, there is a thud and I turn around. I was met with what I thought was a pile of bones drawn together with skin and leather. I remember looking deep into the creatures dark black eyes; all four of them. I remember that stench that made me gag.

It was about two storeys tall, spikes impaling its skin, jutting out like deadly rocks. A bent neck snaked out from its body. Withered clothing made from human skin and hair, hung loosely from its body. Long teeth were arranged in its deadly mouth in an eerie smile. But the most frightening thing was the bony hand and tail flipping me over. The last thing I remember was collapsing.

by Tom Hardwick, Julian Austin, Cameron Jacob-Clarke and Callum Riddle

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**Work Studies Excursion to Bunnings**

Year 11 Work Studies visited Bunnings Warehouse, Thornleigh on 9 & 16 November to develop teamwork skills part of the Teamwork and Enterprise HSC topic.

8 Students (Tom Bennett, Ritchie Conigrave, Jackson Hughes, Liam Husband, Fletcher Murphy-Beattie, Wesley Faupula, Darren Wan and Oliver Williams) attended the DIY workshops along with their teacher Ms Stopford and teacher’s aide Ms Barlow. In the first workshop the boys were shown the workings of power tools and then in pairs assembled four timber benches to be given to a local primary school.

In the second workshop the boys were given a demonstration on finding the stud on a wall in order to hang a picture. Next they assembled a small table for them to take home.

The staff at Bunnings was very pleased to have the students participate in the activities. The boys worked well on the small projects developing teamwork skills, being interactive and interpersonal with each other as well with the Bunnings staff. Thanks to Simone Krazula of Bunnings Warehouse, Thornleigh for organising the workshops and the gifts to the students.

Currently, the boys are refurbishing an old storeroom for HSIE as their Work Studies school project. The new looking storeroom should be ready for next year to hold new laptops, books and other school resources.

*Ms L Stopford,*

*HSIE Teacher*
Year 8 Textiles Technology

At the end of term 3 the Textiles Technology students were privileged enough to be invited to Asquith Girls High School to participate in their TAS display fashion parade. These students have learnt and implemented new sewing skills to construct boxer shorts. Many were clever enough to complete their shorts with the addition of pockets, both internal and external.

The chosen students spent the day rehearsing at the girls’ school and displayed exemplary behaviour at all times. They returned in the evening to model their boxer shorts on the catwalk along with the Year 8 girls and they were the stars of the show receiving individual applause as they walked the catwalk to the latest music. I am very proud of these students not only for their sewing skills but also for their bravery and willingness to participate in the fashion parade.

I would like to thank AGHS TAS head teacher Mrs Dawe for inviting our boys to participate again this year. I would also like to thank the parents who attended the evening and supported their sons. A special mention must go to ABHS TAS head teacher, Mr Philip, who took time from his busy schedule to come along and support the Textile Technology students. Thank you. Well done boys!

8TAS1 have had a productive term learning new sewing skills. The class have been successful in constructing boxer shorts, more with the addition of internal pockets which is quite difficult for first time sewers! Congratulations on a great effort!

Ms Bird, TAS Teacher

Staff Melbourne Cup High Tea

On the first Tuesday in November, Year 10 Food Technology catered for the Staff High Tea. The students were studying the topic ‘Food Service and Catering’ and spent all day preparing and producing quality food for the staff to enjoy in the afternoon. The staff dressed in their Sunday best with a hat or a fascinator and enjoyed the beautiful spread of food.

Ms K Bird, TAS teacher
White Ribbon Day - Involvement and Support

“...It’s a national disgrace.” -Malcolm Turnbull, Australian Prime Minister

It is horrific that domestic violence against women is continuing to increase in Australia. White Ribbon Australia is a recognisable charity that has persistently educated and impacted the horrendous domestic violence predicament Australia faces. White Ribbon Day, held on the 25th of November, recognises violence against women attempting to increase awareness about this growing issue as well as providing various support services to those in need. It has been recently released that the number of female deaths caused by domestic violence in Australia has shockingly increased from 1 to almost 2 every week. The compelling vulgarity of Australia’s situations calls for change, support and involvement.

Asquith Boys High School has ensured its overwhelming acknowledgement and assistance to White Ribbon Australia. The school has pledged the White Ribbon Australia oath at the formal assembly held on the 26th November 2015, whilst also promoting and advertising the cause’s importance through announcements and posters. ABHS has also sold white ribbons and accepted donations during this process raising over $150, a sensational effort considering this is the first time the school has taken significant action in support of this terrific cause.

In addition, four Asquith Boy Seniors Jack Balldock, Zac Duretto, David Mays and Artem Nosostev, represented the school in their participation of the Normanhurst Seminar held on 12th November, promoting White Ribbon Australia. The evening involved education on support services as well as personal experiences with domestic violence. A deeply compelling occasion also allowed for socialisation between schools and guest speakers, providing insight into the need for community action and holistic belief when developing solutions for domestic violence. Asquith Boys High School is proud to closely support White Ribbon Australia, the start of continual involvement for the years to come.

Finally, it is necessary to outline potential assistance to anyone suffering from domestic violence. Students are always able to access the School Counselor, Year Advisers and teachers if required, and anyone can call 1800 RESPECT for further help.

“What I want people to take from this is that it isn’t simple.
People judge you; people tell you what you should do. You do the best you can.”
- Rosie Batty, victim of domestic violence in Australia expressing her experience

WALK THE TALK

Last Friday, our prefects, those of other local public high schools and a plethora of community members took part in the second annual “Walk the Talk STOP Violence against Women” walk to raise local awareness about the overwhelmingly prominent incidence of domestic abuse against women.

The Walk is an initiative of Soroptimist International Hornsby Club in conjunction with the White Ribbon Foundation (Australia’s only male-led campaign combating violence against women) and supported by Hornsby Police. The hour-long walk began at 7:30am and took place around the streets of Hornsby and Waitara. Schools and locals alike were provided with powerful banners and signs that educated onlookers about the alarming statistics related to rates of domestic abuse within Australian households.

The slogan “Zero Tolerance. Zero Violence. Zero Violence.” was the underlying message that remained engrained within the minds of everyone taking part.

Local member Matt Kean spoke about the pivotal nature of events such as ‘Walk the Talk’ in the act of raising awareness about an issue which is “simply un-Australian”. His words were further indicative of the spotlight that has been put on the eradication of domestic violence lately, and particularly within political circles.

White Ribbon ambassador Peterson Opio then spoke of the undoubted importance of the education of Australians at a
young age in regards to letting young people know that simply, domestic violence is not on. The 2015 “Walk the Talk STOP violence against Women” was an undeniably enlightening and crucial event that brought together diverse members of the community in some fresh Hornsby air. We acknowledged the impact of domestic violence and joined together to enjoy the benefit of a complimentary sausage sizzle afterwards. The walk and speeches afterward helped the ABHS Prefects understand that this issue is indeed of epidemic proportions, and that the only way to reduce the impact of domestic violence is to encourage appropriate knowledge, attitudes and most importantly positive behaviours in young men like ourselves.

Griffin Sleigh, ABHS School Captain

**WALKATHON PRIZE WINNERS**

It has taken some time but finally we were able to present the boys, who participated and gathered sponsorship for the annual Spring Walkathon, with their prizes. Overall ABHS students raised $10,700 by participating and getting sponsorship for the Walkathon. From that a $750 donation will be made to the Royal Flying Doctor Service

Students who raised over $100 and received a $20 JB Hi-Fi Voucher

Students who raised over $150 and received a $30 JB Hi-Fi Voucher

Students who raised over $200 and received a $40 JB Hi-Fi Voucher

Students who raised over $250 and received a $50 JB Hi-Fi Voucher

Christopher R (Yr 9) - Runner up
Raised $332 and received a signed Sydney FC jersey

Elliot N (Yr 7) - Top prize winner
Raised $363 and received a Nintendo 3DS
Work Experience 2015

This has been the second year of the flexible approach to Work Experience with students doing Work Experience at different times during the year. It has been very successful with a large number of Year 10 students completing their week of Work Experience. Reports from employers have been encouraging and several students have gained fulltime apprenticeships and casual work.

Some of the interesting placements were with NSW Fire and Rescue, National Parks and Wildlife Service, Taronga Zoo, Captain Cook Cruises, Mt Wilga Private Hospital and Macquarie Uni Museum of Ancient Cultures. Year 10 student, Daniel Jollie, gained a great placement in Engineering with the RMS involving the construction of a new roundabout at Maitland and Nicholas Roscarel experienced the life of a country GP at Canowindra.

The current Years 9 students have been issued with a letter for parents outlining Work Experience in 2016. Early in February 2016 all Year 10 students will be issued in class with the Student Placement Record, Employers Guide to Workplace Learning, Workplace Learning Guide for Parents and Carers and a Work Experience Information Guide.

A White Card is compulsory for all construction type Work Experience placements. The White Card course scheduled to be held on Monday 8th December has been postponed until Term 1 2016.

Ms Jan Fry, Careers Adviser
Inevitably, as the year comes to a close our minds should turn to reflect on the achievements made and the goals pursued through another year of learning at Asquith Boys High School. American Journalist Hal Borland stated that “Year’s end is neither an end nor a beginning but a going on, with all the wisdom that experience can instill in us”. I think it is important that all students consider carefully the wisdom they have (hopefully) gained this year in their English studies. For so many students in our English classes this has been a fantastic year. As a faculty it is our hope that all the boys in all the classes have enjoyed their learning in English as much as we have enjoyed our teaching.

In particular, I would like to congratulate the high academic achievement of the following students who have showcased their sophistication of expression, creativity and dedication to all areas of the English course.

**Year 7**
Matthew Hiebl

**Year 8**
Blake Hancock

**Year 9**
Aiden Martin

**Year 10**
Andrew Morrison

**Year 11 English Studies**
Luke Purcell

**Year 11 Standard**
Sam Harrison

**Year 11 Advanced**
Zac Duretto

**Extension 1 English**
Zac Duretto

I would like to acknowledge the teaching team in English for their incredible hard work, dedication and passion this year. Specifically, I congratulate Christie Hills for her coordination of the debating season, Rebecca Kelly for the adroitness with which she led the Extension 2 English students, Nicholas Kennedy for his organisation of the NAPLAN testing and the annual English Faculty Best Work booklet, Tom Melrose for his never ending enthusiasm for teaching English, and finally it is with a melancholic heart that we farewell the wonderful T’Neal Maher and congratulate her on her permanent appointment to Campbelltown Performing Arts High School – we will miss her greatly!

Enjoy your holidays, have a wonderful break and most importantly take advantage of the extra time this will allow you to read widely, for pleasure.

*Mrs J Schadel*
*Head Teacher English*

**MATHS**

It has been a busy time of the year for the Mathematics faculty. Year 10 has had their formal yearly examinations and many other year groups have had testing as well. The Mathematics Faculty have been very impressed with the effort and behaviour of all of the students involved. Students from 8M1 have also been involved in researching and presenting on famous mathematicians. The judges Mr French and Mr Miles where very impressed with the results! Well done boys.

Most importantly I have been impressed that all students have been working hard right up to the end of the year. This shows a great deal of maturity and is commendable.

*Mrg M Miles*
*Teacher Maths*

**CAREERS**

**Coming Events**

**Macquarie University: ATAR Information Events**
ATAR release – online chat: Thu 17th December, 9.00am – 12.00pm
Get more from you ATAR – information evening: Thu 17th December, 5.00pm – 8.00pm, Atrium, Campus Hub, Building C10A, Macquarie University
Macquarie University’s future student team will be available to answer questions about alternative pathways, flexible study options, applications, offers, and enrolment.
http://www.mq.edu.au/about/events/view/atar-release-online-chat/

**Studying at US Universities: Information Sessions**
Wed 6th January, Mon 11th January, Wed 13th January, Wed 20th January, 2.00pm – 4.00pm
EducationUSA, US Consulate General, Level 10, MLC Centre, 19-29 Martin Place, Sydney
A series of free information sessions that will cover the opportunities at US universities including undergraduate admissions and sport scholarships.
UTS Science Bridging Courses
Mon 8th February – Fri 4th March 2016
UTS offers bridging courses for students both attending UTS and other universities, who feel their knowledge does not meet the assumed knowledge requirements for their degree. These courses are designed to bridge the gap between students’ high school knowledge and university studies, and serve as introductory information on subjects.

UMAT 2016 Registrations Open Soon
The test takes place nationally on Wed 27th July 2016.
UMAT is a test that is used specifically to assist with the selection of students into the medicine, dentistry and health science degree programs at undergraduate level at the universities listed on the website.
http://umat.acer.edu.au/

Important Information

TVET 2016
Students have been informed if they have received an offer to study a TVET course in 2016. Tafe courses will start in Week 2 Term 1 2016.

Tax file number
Students can no longer apply for a tax file number through school.
You can apply for a TFN at a participating Australia Post retail outlet if you’re an Australian resident and able to attend an interview. There is no fee for lodging a TFN application.
The easiest way to apply for a TFN is to:
1. Complete the online form.
2. Print the summary, which will include your application reference number, and take it to your Australia Post interview.
3. Attend an interview at a participating Australia Post outlet within 30 days of completing your online form. You’ll need to take your printed summary and proof of identity documents to the interview.

ADFA Education Award
Applications close 28 February 2016
For current year 11 students: Award presented to year 12 students in recognition of leadership potential, and academic and sporting achievements exhibited during year 11. Award comprises of laptop and certificate along with plaque of recognition for your school.
For eligibility and application:

The Importance of Maths
Visit the Australian Mathematical Sciences Institute’s website to view a range of career profiles from apprentice chefs to Electricians to Nurses where mathematics is a necessary part of their everyday jobs.

Jobs for School Leavers
The Australian Training company is offering a variety of traineeships in Sport & Recreation Cert III, Telecommunications Cert III, Marketing/Business Cert III and Business Cert III. Please contact Mrs Fry for more details.

AFL Sports Ready Traineeships
AFL Sports Ready is an independent, not-for-profit company dedicated to helping young Australians develop careers through traineeships and educational opportunities. To view the traineeships available in NSW, visit:

University Bridging Courses
Many universities offer bridging courses in a range of areas. These courses are designed to provide students with the necessary information to study certain courses and replace pre-requisites for certain courses. For example, bridging courses can be offered in science so that students can undertake a science degree without having studied science at high school. These courses are generally run in the lead up to first semester admissions.
For more information, check your desired course & university to see if bridging courses are available.
University of Newcastle: https://www.newcastle.edu.au/future-students/uonprep-bridging-courses/about-uonprep-bridging-courses
Macquarie University: https://web.science.mq.edu.au/bridging-courses/
University of New England: http://www.une.edu.au/study/study-options/landing/foundation-units
University of New South Wales: [http://www.science.unsw.edu.au/future-students/bridging-courses](http://www.science.unsw.edu.au/future-students/bridging-courses)

Mrs J Fry
Careers Adviser

**CAREERSWORKS**

CAREERSWORKS is a directory of careers resources and sources for secondary students and those who care for them. Including HSC, ATAR, BOSTES, UAC, bonus points, EAS, SRS, universities, scholarships, fees, subject selection, apprenticeships, the RoSA, USI, TAFE, industry areas, jobs, gap year, resumes, profiles/tests, uni open days, international students, disability, employment and much more.

Visit the website at: [www.careersworks.com](http://www.careersworks.com)

CAREERSWORKS is a student friendly website based on “back to the source” for all information. CAREERSWORKS is accessible anywhere, anytime from any online device including mobile phones, iPads, laptops and tablets.

Please contact Mrs Fry for the entry password.

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**WEP Australia**

WEP Australia offers not-for-profit student exchange programs to over 25 countries around the world! Are you dreaming of a white Christmas in Europe next year? Maybe you’re keen to discover the ‘real’ USA or Australia’s cooler cousin, Canada! Whatever your style, there’s a place for you!

To find out more, visit our website: [wep.org.au](http://wep.org.au) or connect on social media at [@wepaustralia](http://twitter.com/wepaustralia) and /wepaustralia!

Not the right time for you to be jet-setting? Hosting an overseas exchange student allows families to gain insight into another culture and way of living, without leaving the comfort of their own home. WEP host families live all around Eastern Australia. Some live on farms in the country, others live in apartments in the city. Not all our host families have kids, some are young couples and some are single. In fact, host families can come in any shape or form, but they all share a desire to learn more about other peoples and cultures! For more information and to view the profiles of students eagerly awaiting news of their host family, head to our website, [www.wep.org.au/host](http://www.wep.org.au/host) email info@wep.org.au or call 1300 884 733 to speak to our friendly hosting team!
Hello ABHS community,

Welcome to end of a very busy term.

Jake Bartley (Year 12) has been nominated for ArtExpress, congratulations and well done Jake.

The School Representative Council (SRC) 2 day Leadership Camp was held recently, with the leaders of our school learning leadership and team building skills, as well as electing their 2016 office bearers.

Congratulations to Jake, Aiden and Callum who represented the school at the recent 2015 Schools Spectacular.

We are coming to the end of a very productive and eventful year. The school Presentation Night is on the 14th December and I would like to congratulate all the students receiving awards.

I would like to recap on the fundraising the P&C have done this year.

- raising $5,000 from the Community Day which is going towards the Quick Smart Literacy and Numeracy programs the school runs
- Assisting with the kitchen in hall paying for the appliances around $4,000
- contributing towards the Pip projects awards
- supplying games to the Library for the students to use
- funding the Toolbox program

On behalf of the P&C we would like to wish everyone a safe holiday and look forward to seeing everyone again next year.

Next year will be another busy one with several fundraising events already planned. There will be a Trivia Night, the annual Community Day as well as another Mother/Son high tea and Father’s day breakfast.

Linda Stanford
P&C President

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**2016 DATES**

**Term 1** – Wednesday 27th January till Friday 8th April

Years 7, 11 & 12 start Thu 28th January, Years 8, 9 & 10 start Fri 29th January

**Term 2** – Tuesday 26th April till Friday 1st July

**Term 3** – Monday 18th July till Friday 23rd September

**Term 4** – Monday 10th October till Tuesday 20th December

**Staff Development Days**

Wed 27th Jan, Tue 26th April, Mon 13th July, Mon 19th & Tue 20th Dec
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<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
<th>Sat/Sun</th>
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<tr>
<td>1B</td>
<td>January 25</td>
<td>January 26</td>
<td>Australia Day</td>
<td>January 27</td>
<td>January 28</td>
<td>Year 8, 9 and 10 return</td>
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<td>Jan 30/31</td>
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<td>2A</td>
<td>February 1</td>
<td>February 2</td>
<td>February 3</td>
<td>February 4</td>
<td>Formal Assembly (HSC High Achievers)</td>
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<td>February 6/7</td>
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<td>3B</td>
<td>February 8</td>
<td>February 9</td>
<td>February 10</td>
<td>February 11</td>
<td>February 12</td>
<td>February 13/14</td>
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<tr>
<td>4A</td>
<td>February 15</td>
<td>February 16</td>
<td>February 17</td>
<td>February 18</td>
<td>Forensic Science Incursion Yr 9 &amp; 10 Boys</td>
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<td>Year 7 Camp</td>
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<td>5B</td>
<td>February 22</td>
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<td>February 24</td>
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<td>February 26</td>
<td>Vaccinations</td>
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<td>February 27/28</td>
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<td>6A</td>
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<td>March 3</td>
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<td>OPEN NIGHT</td>
<td>Big Day In</td>
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<td>(all day careers seminar for Yrs10-12 boys)</td>
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<td>7B</td>
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<td>March 10</td>
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<td>8A</td>
<td>March 14</td>
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<td>Yr 12 Half Yearly Exams</td>
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<td>9B</td>
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<td>Good Friday</td>
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<td>Yr 12 Half Yearly Exams</td>
<td>P&amp;C Meeting</td>
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<td>School Council AGM</td>
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<td>10A</td>
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<td>March 31</td>
<td>April 1</td>
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<td>Easter Monday</td>
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<td>Dural (Band Fundraising)</td>
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<td>11B</td>
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<td>April 7</td>
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<td><strong>ROLLS &amp; LAVASH</strong></td>
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<td>Chicken/lett/Mayo</td>
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<td>Lavash ½:</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Chicken &amp; Salad (Mayo)</td>
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<td>Thai Chicken or salad (Chilli Sauce, Coriander, Cucumber and lettuce)</td>
<td>$2.50</td>
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<td><strong>ROLLS &amp; LAVASH</strong></td>
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<td>Cheese</td>
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<td>Chicken</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Chicken &amp; Salad</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Egg &amp; Lettuce</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ham</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ham &amp; Tomato</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ham &amp; Salad</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Peanut Butter</td>
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<td>Salad</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Vegemite</td>
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<td><strong>Lavash:</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Chicken/Lett/Carrot/Cheese/Mayo</td>
<td>$4.40</td>
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<td><strong>SALADS</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Plate/Tub</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
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<td></td>
<td>With Meat</td>
<td>$4.50</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chicken, Potato and Egg Salad</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
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<td><strong>SUSHI</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Tuna/Beef/Chicken</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
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<td><strong>FRUIT</strong></td>
<td>Seasonal Fruit available daily</td>
<td>Price varies</td>
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<td><strong>YOGHURT</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>$2.00</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CAKES &amp; SNACKS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cheese &amp; Bacon Rolls</td>
<td>$1.50</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Pikelets (2)</td>
<td>$1.00</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Banana Bread</td>
<td>$2.50</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Muffins (Low Fat-when available)</td>
<td>$1.80</td>
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<td>Fun Buns ( “ ” )</td>
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<td>Chips</td>
<td>$1.20</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Mamee Noodles</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>HOT FOOD</strong></td>
<td>(available daily)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Chicken Burger - with Lett/Mayo</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Chicken &amp; Corn Roll</td>
<td>$1.80</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Chicken Chips</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
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<td>Chicken Wraps: Chilli Chicken Tenders/Lettuce/</td>
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<td>Carrot/Cheddar/Mayo</td>
<td>$4.40</td>
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<td>Egg &amp; Bacon Roll</td>
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<td><strong>Lamb Roll:</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>With Tom/Cheese/BBQ Sauce</td>
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<tr>
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<td>$4.00</td>
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<td>$3.20</td>
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<td>$3.20</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Pizza Rounda</td>
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<td>Sweet Chilli Tenders(2)</td>
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<td>Chicken Burger:</td>
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<tr>
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<td><strong>DRINKS</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Milk:</strong></td>
<td>Plain 600ml</td>
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<td>Flavoured:</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>300ml</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>500ml</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Juice:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>500ml</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Up &amp; Go</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Quencher Flavoured Spring Water</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Pump Flavoured Water</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Cans</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Chill Iced Tea 500ml</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Chill Iced Tea 250ml</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Chill Aloe Water</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Powerade 300ml</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Hot Chocolate:</strong></td>
<td>(Before School/Winter Only)</td>
<td>$1.50</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
The Athlete's Foot Hornsby

Rewards Program is a proud supporter of Asquith Boys High School

The School Rewards Program is a great fundraising opportunity with $5 from every pair of shoes purchased being donated back to your school. This applies to the whole family across our fantastic range of school, sports, work and casual shoes. Ask one of our friendly staff in store for more details.

$5 FROM EVERY PAIR OF SHOES PURCHASED IS DONATED BACK TO YOUR SCHOOL

Mount Colah Football Club Inc.

Junior Teams

U12 - U18

Qualified Coaches

Register at www.mtcolahfc.org.au from 1st January 2016

Also available........

- Junior Teams U6-U11
- Girls only Teams U8-U18
- Men's & Women's All Age Teams
- Men's & Women's Over 35 Team

FREE Pre-season Skills Clinic U6-U11 (Term 1)

Enquiries Michelle 0425 200 290