EXEMPLARY ACHIEVEMENT
Christopher Bissett
Benjamin Cant
Jacob Chantarat
Liam Covey
Oscar Duretto
Samuel Fox
Harry Gibbons

Daniel Griffin
Cameron Hall
Aaron O'Brien
William O'Donohue
Adhish Panta
Yuvraj Singh

OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT
Max Andersen
Nicholas Bulmer
Caleb Estherby
Oliver Parry

Kevin Pascua
Jacob Roberts
William van Egmond-Jones
Mark Wilson

EXCELLENT ACHIEVEMENT
Sin Fu Cory Cheung
Lachlan Fraser-Bell
Xingchi (Xavier) He
Nicholas Miller
James Somerville

Liam Szabo
Tim Verduin
Jonathon Walker
Zhouyang (Allen) Zhang

2014 outstanding HSC results
• 24 Band 6 scores (across 14 courses)
• Best ATAR 97.9 (many ATARS in 90s)
• One student, Chris Bissett, on HSC "top all – rounders" list (i.e. Band 6 in all courses).
• Daniel Griffin came 4th in the state in Industrial Technology.
• ABHS listed in Sydney Morning Herald Merit list for Mathematics
• ABHS jumped 200 places in Herald's merit list of schools (based on % of students with Band 6s)

Well done and congratulations to the whole of Year 12, 2014.
Thank you to family members who attended this special assembly and supported their sons’ achievements.
PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

2015
We have had an excellent start to the new school year. Classes are very settled and there is a high level of student engagement in learning activities. I take this opportunity to welcome new students and their families to our very friendly Asquith Boys High School community. It was pleasing to meet so many of you at our Parent/Teacher Barbeque this week. The first two major whole-school events on the calendar, the Year 7 Camp and the Swimming Carnival were both very successful, with high attendance and participation rates.

HSC High Achievers
At our first Formal Assembly for the year we recognised the academic achievements of last year’s Year 12 cohort. This was the first group that had gone through the school containing our inaugural 7E and 8E Enrichment classes. Consequently they produced our best HSC results for over a decade, including many high ATAR scores in the 90s. One student, Chris Bissett, achieved a Band 6 in every subject, placing him on the Premier’s HSC All Rounders list. This feat was not achieved by several local comprehensive high schools. Another student, Daniel Griffin, came 4th in the state in Industrial Technology. Asquith Boys jumped 200 places in the Herald’s list of top schools. It is clear that students at Asquith Boys have no limits to their academic success if their level of application is high. The guest speaker at the formal assembly was former school captain Dr Stephen Pickering, an anaesthetist who has been working for many years in Nepal. Dr Pickering delivered an interesting and inspirational address, which is reprinted in this edition of Backchat.

P & C
Following the Parent/Teacher BBQ the P&C Annual General Meeting was held. It was very pleasing to see over 30 people in attendance, with several new faces taking up office bearing positions. Mrs Linda Stanford was once again elected president. Mrs Stanford’s report, and the complete list of office bearers, is also in this edition of Backchat. I urge all parents to follow the activities of the P&C and attend at least one meeting this year. Meetings are held the 4th Tuesday of the month in the school library at 7:30pm.

Homework on SENTRAL
Regular homework is, of course, vital to academic achievement. I urge parents to access our online homework link, SENTRAL, via our website. Instructions on how to do this are also in this Backchat. Teachers will be posting significant pieces on homework on this site on a regular basis, so that parents can monitor their sons’ progress.

Terry Griffiths, Principal

ANNUAL PARENT/TEACHER BBQ
On Tuesday 24th February this annual event allowed staff and parents to meet in a social gathering and get to know one another. It was again a success and a great night was had by all who attended. Thank you to Ms Laffer for organising the evening.
Our 2014 annual Presentation Night was yet again an outstanding success. It was very pleasing to see so many of our students receiving recognition for their efforts in a variety of fields in school life. There was a wonderful celebratory mood in the hall as parents joined staff in acknowledging the outstanding achievements of our students. Well Done!

Thanks to our distinguished guests who attended the night and assisted with handing out the awards:

- Mrs Janet Wasson, Hornsby Director of Schools
- Mr Paul Fletcher MP, Federal Member for Bradfield
- Mr Matt Kean MP, State Member for Hornsby
- Mayor Steve Russell, representing Hornsby Shire Council
- Deputy Mayor Nathan Tilbury, representing Hornsby Shire Council & ABHS Old Boys
- Able Seaman Douglas Ross, representing Royal Australian Navy
- Ms Elizabeth Amvrazis-Katsoulis –Principal Asquith Girls High School
- Dr Kim Pinnock, President, School Council
- Mrs Linda Stanford, President, P&C Association
- Mr Martin Salmon, President Hornsby Legacy
- Mr Colin Hunter, representing Berowra Lions Club
- Mr Graham Hosking, representing Hornsby Lions Club
- Mr Robert Caldwell, representing Hornsby Rotary Club
- Mr Jason McDonald, Hornsby World of Fitness
- Mr Christopher Kent, representing ABHS Old Boys

Below is only a small selection of photos from the evening. There are many more which you can view on a contact sheet at Reception.

To place orders please go to Reception during office hours and fill out an order form. The cost is $5 per photo.

Photography by Ms Cooke
Thank you for inviting me to be part of the school assembly and prize giving ceremony today. It's great to be back at the school I attended many years ago.

Congratulations to all of you who have won prizes for academic achievement. It doesn't matter how smart you are – it takes hard work to achieve excellence in anything. To those of you who didn't win prizes but have improved your standards recently: I also compliment you. There are benefits to putting in the hard yards while at school – benefits that can last a very long time.

I won't take up much of your time and concentration. As Max said in his introduction: I am an anaesthetist. That is the person who puts you to sleep, or to say it properly, makes you unconscious for an operation and makes sure you are safe and stable during the operation and then wakes you up at the end. In this regard, I am used to people falling asleep in my presence – even people who want to stay awake. So if I see you falling asleep, I will not be worried – I might not even notice. I might get confused and think I have done a good job...but then, perhaps your teachers and parents will see it differently.

I have 10 minutes to speak to you and will divide it into 3 parts: First, a few minutes about myself and my path after I left Asquith Boys. Second, I'll outline some of the differences and similarities between your experience as students now and those of mine 40 years ago. Third, I would like to tell you a little about a country that I have grown to love, and work in now, Nepal.

I grew up in a house 220m east of where I'm standing. I know it was 220m because I checked on Google Earth. I went to Asquith Primary School and later Asquith Boys, finishing school in 1979. Whilst my home was 220m away, over the train sheds, it was a 1.4 km walk to school here – which is a bit symbolic of how my life worked out after I left school. I didn’t become a doctor by the shortest route. For some years after school I worked in unskilled and semi-skilled jobs: mowing lawns, gardening, painting, odd-jobbing, and eventually working in hospitals. I was also able to travel and work overseas for a couple of years. After some years I studied at the ANU in Canberra completing an Arts Degree in history and political science. It was during this time, I realised I wanted to be a doctor. It was an Asquith Old Boy, and one of my good friends from my year who convinced me to try out for medical school.

I spent a few years trying to get into medical school, eventually succeeding at Newcastle University. If you don't succeed at something the first time you should not give up, keep trying. Not everything you hope for will eventuate. You can maximise your chances with repeated effort. I would encourage all of you to think broad, think lateral, think big – and try hard here at school, to maximise the options open to you when you leave. While I was a medical student I was able to go to Nepal twice, and that Asquith Old Boy who encouraged me to try out for medical school was my supervisor. He lived in Nepal for 7 years as the surgeon in a leprosy hospital there.

I became a doctor in 1996 and worked for the next 10 years in hospitals in NSW and the Northern Territory, during which time I specialised in anaesthesia. In the past 8 years I have spent more time working in Nepal than Australia. In Nepal I work in a country hospital training nurses and health workers to give anaesthetics. In big hospitals, there will be an anaesthetic doctor for operations but in smaller places, at the moment, this is not possible. My wife is a GP doctor, and works in the hospital also.

Now a few thoughts about how school now compares to when I was a student:

My experience of school was enjoyable. I am still good friends with a few of the guys from my year. In some ways your experience is similar to mine. Classes, sports, homework, lunch breaks, touch football, the library, clubs, teachers, students, and indestructible rumours every few years that ABHS would become a co-ed school ‘in a couple of years’. Of course in other ways it was quite different: There were about 1000 boys in the school when I was a student in the 1970s. The school hall was tightly packed to fit us all in. Another difference I recall was that there was only one computer in the school, which arrived when I was in about Year 9 – and that most of us: myself included, had no idea what a computer was or what it was for or what it could do. It just seemed to use strips of paper with holes in it…or so I thought. I assumed it was a novelty like Frisbees and yo-yos and Dungeons and Dragons, and that it would disappear soon enough. I was wrong.

ABOUT NEPAL

Nepal is a small country between India and the Tibet part of China. Its population is similar to Australia’s. In size, it’s between Tasmania and Victoria. However, those of you who like a maths problem might enjoy the way that some Nepali people say: “Yes, Australia is much bigger than Nepal, but if you flattened Nepal out, so it was flat like Australia – it would be much bigger than Australia”. Perhaps those of you who like Maths can work out
a formula and send it to me – how high do the mountains have to be, for it to be ‘bigger than Australia if flattened out’?

The tallest mountain in the world is in Nepal – Mt Everest – 8848m, about 4 times taller than our tallest, Mount Kosciusko. In fact, of the tallest 10 mountains in the world – 8 are in Nepal. Nepal is home to Sherpas – those people who live in the high country and work taking tourists and mountaineers up those tall mountains. Nepal is however very ethnically diverse, with many different people groups living there, with their own culture, language and customs. Sherpas in fact make up less than 1% of the population.

Although Nepal is very ‘tall’, it’s also very ‘short’: with a large portion of the population, probably about 40%, living on the plains in the south, less than 150m above sea level. 150m is lower than we are today sitting here in this School hall.

For those who like history and politics: Nepal was the world’s only Hindu Kingdom until a few years ago and is the most recent country in the world to become a republic.....meaning, it stopped the reign of kings that had gone on for many centuries. A really interesting question for the history students is: How many ‘last monarchs’ were allowed to live? How many of them died as a result of a revolution? Nepal’s last king lives well in a palace in Kathmandu the capital, on a good pension with plenty of servants – he just isn’t a king anymore. I hope he knows enough European history to know how lucky he is!

For those who like extreme sport, Nepal provides the Everest Ultra-marathon, mountaineering, mountain climbing and bungie jumping.

Nepal is however a very poor country. It’s ranked in the poorest 15% in the world- it’s the poorest country in Asia. There was a civil war there in recent years – many people died. It suffers from poor resources and corruption in the government and public service systems.

The life of a Nepali teenage boy is very different to the life of an Asquith Boy. There are no trains in Nepal. Most kids walk to school. I know Nepali kids who walk for 3 hours to get to school. That’s 6 hours of walking to attend school and return home, each day. Some days they do that walk only to find the teacher is sick, or the school is closed for some other reason. Education is valued, but there is little money from the government or private enterprise to put into schools. Until recently the only requirement for being a primary school teacher was that you had finished high school. Kids work at home on the family farm. During harvest time or when a family member is sick, students stay home to help.

University study requires money. There is no loan system like HECS. One must pay up front for post school education. That is an opportunity only for rich families in Nepal.

I am not describing these things to make you feel pity for the people of Nepal. They are strong resourceful people who make the best of the resources and opportunities they have. Secondly, I am not describing these things to make you feel guilty you have a different life here in Sydney Australia. Guilt is a useful emotion when you have done something wrong – and being able to go to school in Australia in the 21st century is not doing something wrong. I am describing these things though, in the hope you will realise that you have much to be grateful for. Remember to make the best of your opportunities. Academic study, hobbies and clubs, sports – both organised sport and ad hoc – music, drama...there are a lot of opportunities to get involved, learn and enjoy yourself while you are at school. This is a good school, with dedicated teachers and plenty of effort and expertise to give you a good high school education and life experience. I am very grateful to have been to this school, and am a proud Asquith Old Boy.

It’s not just schools and education that are radically different in Nepal and other poor countries. The health system is different too. Hospitals are staffed and equipped in very different ways to the way they are here. Occasionally in the media here you’ll hear people describing an Australian hospital as having “third world conditions” – I suggest next time you hear a statement like that you raise one eyebrow and ask the person saying it, how many third world hospitals they have seen? How many days have they been a patient or a worker in one?

My time is up. You are still awake. Thank you for listening to me. Congratulations again to the award winners. I hope things go well for you in future. I hope those of you still at school will continue to work hard, enjoy yourselves, make good use of the opportunities you have here and like me end up grateful to have been an Asquith Boy.
Deputy Principal’s Report

2015 has begun well, with the boys quickly settling back in to the school routine. I would like to welcome our Year 7 group, who already impressed us with their positive attitude and willingness to get involved in a range of activities.

As we are now half way through Term 1, I would like to take the opportunity to remind students and their families of a few key expectations:

**Excellent conduct:** It is our firm expectation that every boy is following instructions given by staff and conducting himself in a respectful manner every day. This includes settings such as the classroom, playground, when representing the school and when travelling to or from school. Our wellbeing and discipline structures aim to support students to make the right choices in this regard.

**Uniform:** All students are required to follow school uniform policy. During Terms 1 and 4, ties are not compulsory and shirts need not be tucked in. However, during Terms 2 and 3, ties must be worn and shirts must be tucked in. I would also urge families to locate the correct school jumper, or blazer in the case of senior students, for when the weather becomes cooler later this term. Please note that black leather school shoes (not suede) must be worn to school every day, except for Wednesday when the school sport uniform may be worn to school.

**Sport:** All students are required to attend sport every Wednesday, unless they have an appointment which cannot be rescheduled. Students with pre-existing illness or injury must attend the non-sport room and complete private study whilst being supervised by staff. This is not a punishment and they will be allowed to leave at the end of normal school sport time if they have met all requirements. Students are regularly reminded of this.

Please contact me directly for clarification on any of the above points.

I look forward to another fantastic year at Asquith Boys High School.

Andrew Skehan
Deputy Principal

Mr Yates’ Year 7 Science class recently went to the Hornsby Odeon to watch the new Australian movie "Paper Planes". The film is about a young Australian boy’s interest in flight which leads him to compete in the World Paper Plane Championships in Japan. We are learning about variables in experiments and decided to have a competition of our own back at school. We started experimenting with a "Ring glider" like the one below, made from paper rings and a drinking straw. We wanted to see which airplane design (independent variable) flew the farthest distance (dependent variable) with all other variables controlled as much as possible.

We are also watching David Attenborough's new series "Conquest of the Skies" as part of our unit "The Circle of life" to see how animals have evolved to fly.

A Note On Literacy

All Year 7-10 classes participate in a Literacy and Numeracy Program during the extended Roll Call session on Mondays and Fridays. This program aims to enhance the skills and understanding that the boys have of how to succeed in all literacy based tasks. In particular, the program promotes our whole school approach to writing. All KLA areas at ABHS utilise the ToPEEL structure when teaching extended, structured writing. This means that every paragraph conforms to the same structure:

- **To** = Topic Sentence (overview, answer)
- **P** = Point (State your main point/s)
- **E** = Evidence (provide evidence to support your main point)
- **E** = Explain (Expand on the main point and explain in more detail)
- **L** = Link to the question

The Morning Literacy Program coupled with the Whole School Writing Program has resulted in a considerable improvement in writing results across the school. For example, the Year 9 scaled growth data in NAPLAN shows that ABHS is performing 21 points above the state average for writing. Furthermore, the impressive improvement in 2014 HSC results reveal that our boys are able to draw on their understanding of this writing structure in exam situations. This is a considerable success for boys’ education at our school.

Ms J Schadel, Literacy Coordinator
Another Artexpress, another ‘ROAD TRIP’! Ms Holder and Ms Cooke navigated their way across Sydney – no easy feat on a Friday afternoon. From the far north we travelled, on and on, to the southern shire. We had our obligatory one minute of silence as we crossed the ‘Tom Ugly Bridge’ and were dazzled by the water views on such a beautiful Friday afternoon. Our road trip was record breaking as it took us 2 hours to get to our destination. On arrival, the parking fairy was on our side and we scored an outstanding spot 100 metres away from the gallery in the central restaurant area of Gymea. We had learnt from previous experience to leave plenty of time for the journey and that parking was at a premium due to the event. We almost made it on time. On arrival at the gallery, we felt that the numbers were down. We scanned the room and instantly found our lovely sales representative from S&S Wholesalers, Toni. The socialising had begun. Further scanning of the area resulted in us finding a table filled with the Bissetts and Chris’ mates; Kevin Pasqua and his long-time friend from Berowra Christian School. Numbers of patrons began to swell and the atmosphere was filled with the excitement of students, parents and teachers anticipating the wonderful work in the gallery. We were all treated to the usual cubed cheese and biscuits, spring rolls, cheese triangles, calamari and a dry white wine; classic art opening fare.

Artexpress is a showcase of excellence in the HSC. Only about 425 works achieved the cut off mark in the band 6 range. Only 220 works were selected for Artexpress. Chris Bissett achieved selection due to his intellect, ability to sustain the artmaking process, listen and implement advice from his teachers, ability to ‘unpack’ artist practice, willingness to experiment and enthusiasm for learning. Being considered for Artexpress is impressive and a huge honour. His work was hung on a singular wall providing an uninterrupted view of his triptych. Chris was influenced by contemporary Australian painters, in particular Jan Senbergs. His artwork ‘The Fountain’ is an expressionistic representation of the Hornsby Fountain after the apocalypse. He attended holiday studio access and also spent Saturdays and Sunday mornings resolving his body of work. More importantly, he respected the advice and his relationships with the Visual Arts faculty. These were the ingredients to his success. Ms Cooke and Ms Holder weren’t the only proud ladies there. Miss Walker, our student teacher (who now works at James Ruse HS) was also there. She taught Chris in Year 11. His parents were there beaming with pride.

The 2014 Artexpress exhibition is continuing to include all pieces of the works which enables audiences to truly value the brilliance of these young artists and the hard work that they have expended to achieve excellence. Unfortunately due to the vast distance, we will not be taking our younger boys to Hazelhurst but would urge parents to pop in and see the show if you are passing through “The Shire”. The Visual Arts staff will be taking senior boys to the Art Gallery of NSW to see other works in the exhibition however we urge all VA students to get along to the show at any of the venues. I am sure mothers would love a day out with their sons!


Hazelhurst also has lots pics on Facebook. ENJOY!

Ms Caroline Cooke
Visual Arts
UNIFORM UPDATE

Below is the updated Uniform Policy flyer clearly listing the school uniform that the boys are expected to wear each day. Please be aware of the following:

- **Shorts and trousers need to be belt loop style NOT elastic waist or cargo style. They are called “Deluxe College shorts/trousers”**.
- **Sports socks are now available in long and short style – it will depend on what sport your son plays as to what type of sport socks he needs to wear.**

### ASQUITH BOYS HIGH SCHOOL

**Exceptional Learning Opportunities For Boys**

**UNIFORM POLICY**

effective from 2014

Please note that the only official supplier of the correct uniform is Lowes at Westfield, Hornsby.

Every boy enrolled at Asquith Boys High School must wear correct school uniform. Our school uniform requirements were established in 1989 and subsequently revised by a committee of the School Council in 2003, 2006, 2008, 2009 and 2011. The committee consists of parents, teachers and students. The School Council endorses the school’s uniform policy. Students and parents are reminded that only the School Council can change the school’s uniform policy. There are consequences if boys do not wear correct school uniform (refer to the school’s Code of Conduct).

**Normal school uniform days are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.**

**Juniors (summer)** 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) 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.

**Juniors (winter)** 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) with a black sole (as per picture), green shirt with crest. Ties must be worn, with the top button of collar done up and the shirt must be tucked in. Grey socks with school colours, must be worn pulled up to the knee. If a belt is worn, it must be black. A green pullover with crest or polar fleece with crest may be worn.

**Seniors** 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) with a black sole (as per picture), white shirt with crest. Shirts may be worn outside the pants. Grey socks with school colours, must be worn pulled up to the knee. If a belt is worn, it must be black.

**Seniors (summer)** Maroon blazer, 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) with a black sole (as per picture), white shirt with crest. Ties must be worn with the top button of collar done up and the shirt must be tucked in. A maroon pullover with crest may be worn. Grey socks with school colours, must be worn pulled up to the knee. If a belt is worn, it must be black.

**Prefects (summer/winter)** Uniform must be worn as above, with a tie and shirts tucked in. The green blazer is compulsory for formal occasions and must be worn to and from school all year round. Ties must also be worn with the top button of collar done up.

**Please note**

- Boys may wear a white “T” shirt under their shirt on normal school days as long as it has no logos and the sleeves are not visible below the school shirt sleeves.
- Rugby or any other form of football tops are not to be worn on sports days. Team jerseys are not to be worn in place of the sports uniform. They are only to be worn when playing sport.
- Any boy who has a variation to uniform on any school day must have a note from a parent/caregiver noting reasons.
- All items of school uniform are available from Lowes Westfield Shopping Centre, Hornsby.

If you have any enquiries please contact the Deputy Principal.

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**2015 DATES**

**Term 2** – Monday 20th April till Friday 26th June

**Term 3** – Monday 13th July till Friday 18th September

**Term 4** – Tuesday 6th October till Friday 18th December

**Staff Development Days**

Mon 20th April, Mon 13th July, Thu 17th & Fri 18th Dec
12 Things to Try to Remove Acrylic Paint from Clothing

NOTE – at no point should you launder in warm or hot water or tumble dry – the paint sets forever

Suggestion 1 – Spray area with Preen & put into bucket of COLD water & Napisan. Every couple of days scrub, spray with more Preen and put back into the bucket. Repeat process until gone.

Suggestion 2 - Use hairspray. Simply spray the area and rub it together. If it doesn't come out, don't despair, simply SPRAY some more and rub again. Repeat until it is gone!

Suggestion 3 - Laundry Detergent, Hairspray, Rubbing Alcohol, Lime Juice and Stain remover. Combine the hairspray, alcohol, lime and stain remover and scrub it with a scrubbing brush. It should start coming off. Rinse and repeat. Then when it is light enough, use stain remover and now, you should be able to only barely see it unless you look extremely close.

Suggestion 4 – Use sunlight soap – remove any raised paint. Really work the soap into the stain then rub together and/or scrub in with a toothbrush. Then leave in a bucket to soak in cold water for a week. Then repeat the process till it is gone. This took about 4 weeks but got it all out.

Suggestion 5 - Put it into the wash with soap and empty a can of coke (coca cola) into it as well!

Suggestion 6 - Hand sanitizer and dried in paint. Put it on and rub and rinse in cold water. This may take several goes. It also cleans paint from paint brushes.

Suggestion 7 - Nail polish remover. The kind NOT made for artificial nails is stronger. Sometimes rubbing alcohol works, but try the fingernail polish remover. Just dab some on with a cotton ball, wait about 5 min, then keep dabbing with a paper towel. You might also try an old toothbrush to get into the nap. Afterwards, pour on some liquid laundry soap then wash in the machine in warm or cold water. (not hot!) You may have to repeat this 2 or 3 times. DO NOT put any stain in the dryer or iron. The heat will "set" the stain!

If this doesn't work, try the other type of fingernail polish remover (made for artificial nails) OR, they also make a paint remover for clothes. it's sold in craft stores, fabric stores & some home stores.

Suggestion 8 - Apply white spirits to a clean white cloth and rub the area free of paint. Launder as usual once the paint has been removed.

Suggestion 9 - Spray the stained area with WD-40 and allow it to sit for at least 1 minute. Rub the area with a clean, dry cloth until the stain is gone, and launder as usual.

Suggestion 10 - Spray the paint stain with Windex and scrub the area gently with a soft, clean cloth before laundering.

Suggestion 11 - A Home Remedy - to make the home remedy you will need to mix 2 tablespoons of ammonia, 2 tablespoons of white vinegar, and 1 tablespoon of salt together in a bowl.

Step 1 - If the paint is extremely thick in some spots you can take the toothbrush, dip it in the solution you made and start scrubbing. This should start to wear off the paint that is on the clothes. When no more paint will come off the clothes using the toothbrush you can mix up more of the home remedy, about 2 times what you made before.

Step 2 - Plug your sink and fill it with water. Add the solution to the water and stir it around a little bit. Submerge the clothes in the water and let them soak overnight. When you wake up the next morning the paint should be gone. If not go back at it with the toothbrush and then put it back in the sink to soak again. Repeat this step as many times as it may take to get the paint out. Most times it will only take one soaking to get rid of the paint.

Suggestion 12 – Nifty Spray - spray, rub with a cloth and together, rinse. Keep going till gone.
The year is off to a great start in Food Technology with much food preparation and presentation underway. Firstly I must make mention of Max. The last week of school involved much Christmas festivity, some of which included the building of ginger bread houses. Max completed a most spectacular creation, which should be shared!

**Year 10** is studying a unit on **Food Trends**, cooking with the trendiest staple food around; quinoa. Not many students had heard of such food yet all were keen to prepare and consume the recipe: salmon with ginger quinoa. The presentation of their dishes was outstanding!

**Year 11** is studying the unit **Food Availability and Selection**. This is the serious end of the students’ school lives where there is much theory, however there is always time set for practical lessons. The first practical lesson was a recipe to follow without demonstration – *Fettuccine Pomodora*. This is to assess the varying knowledge with some students having never participated in Food Technology in previous years. The next practical lesson demonstrated the influence of other cultures on Australian eating patterns - *Oriental beef stir fry*. This proved far more popular than the vegetarian dish!

**Year 12** are studying the unit **Food, Glorious food**, in particular – **prepare sandwiches**. Not very exciting? Of course it is, with their first practical being a club sandwich with hot chips. By this stage of education in the kitchen the food presentation is a high standard! The next task is preparing sandwiches for their biggest critics, the ABHS executive staff on March 2nd!

*Mrs Karen Bird (TAS Department)*
Make Online Payments

It is now possible for parents to make online payments to the school for amounts owing for students, via a secure payment page hosted by Westpac. Payments can be made using either a Visa or MasterCard credit or debit card. The payment page is accessed from the front page of the schools website [www.asquithboy-h.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.asquithboy-h.schools.nsw.edu.au) by selecting $ Make a payment. Items that can be paid include voluntary school contributions, subject contributions, excursions, sport costs, creative and practical arts activities (these includes band) and sales to students. There is also a category called ‘Other’ - this is to cover items not covered in the previous heading. Other can be used to make a complete payment of a school invoice.

When you access the $ Make a payment you must enter:

- the students name and class and reference number
  
  OR
  
- the students name and date of birth

These details are entered each time you make a payment as student information is not held within the payment system. This is a secure payment system hosted by Westpac to ensure that your credit/debit card details are captured in a secure manner. These details are not passed back to the school. You have the ability to check and change any details of the payment before the payment is processed. Receipts can be emailed and/or printed.

Details of the payments are passed on daily to the school where they will be receipted against your child’s account. As a receipt has been issued from the payment page a further receipt will not be issued by the school.

For any enquiries regarding the Online Payment process please contact the School Administration Office.

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2ND HAND SENIOR BLAZERS

By now all the current Year 10 boys have been measured up and fitted with their required size by Ms Cooke. Senior Blazers are compulsory part of the uniform during the winter terms (term 2&3). As the P&C no longer offers the buy-back scheme for the blazers we have offered to the outgoing Year 12 parents to advertise if they have a blazer for sale. Please see the list below and contact them directly if you are interested.

Some parents have chosen to donate the senior blazer to the school. They are available for you to see/purchase from the clothing pool in the Print room. These range from $30 - $70.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Contact Details</th>
<th>other information</th>
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<td>Leanne Woolsey</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>0409 318 372 <a href="mailto:ljcol1@optusnet.com.au">ljcol1@optusnet.com.au</a></td>
<td>Woy Woy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aaron O’Brien</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>$50</td>
<td>9456 4992 <a href="mailto:dob014@bigpond.net.au">dob014@bigpond.net.au</a></td>
<td>perfect condition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lynda Featherston</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>$90</td>
<td>9456 3856 0405 118 759</td>
<td>dry cleaned, excellent condition (only worn 2 terms)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarah Fox</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>$60</td>
<td>0414 715 847 <a href="mailto:sar.fox@bigpond.com">sar.fox@bigpond.com</a></td>
<td>both in good condition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarah Fox</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>$60</td>
<td>0 415 715 847 <a href="mailto:sar.fox@bigpond.com">sar.fox@bigpond.com</a></td>
<td>both in good condition</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ABHS Year 8
Blue Mountains Camp 2015

3 days and 2 nights camp
Mon 4 May to Wed 6 May 2015

What Are We Doing?

Exploring Scenic World
Abseiling
Archery
Orienteering
Making an artwork
Experiencing Aboriginal culture and history
Staying right in the heart of Katoomba
Being in a gorgeous landscape
Having fun
Making new friendships with staff & students

Coming soon:

$290 payment slip, Excursion permission note, Medical & allergies form all to come.
“Don’t you have any homework?“

How many times have you asked your son that question?

The school has a policy requiring students to use their organiser to record the dates and requirements for all homework and assignments. While this is a good way to organise the students, it sometimes leaves parents wondering whether or not homework has been given.

We have introduced a system last year where staff will post notifications of homework and assessments to an electronically available calendar. Parents are invited to look at this resource to see upcoming work.

Accessing The Calendar: The calendar can be accessed by visiting our school website at

http://www.asquithboy-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/

Then select the “Useful Links & e-Learning menu” and then the “SENTRAL – Homework Calendars” link. Once there, you should bookmark it to avoid this procedure in the future.

Finally, select the appropriate year calendar from the list provided. Each year has their own calendar except for Years 9 and 10 since many of their classes have both Year 9 and Year 10 students enrolled.

Sample: An example part of the calendar is shown below.

The calendar shown here is the Year 8 Calendar. Look through the calendar for entries related to your son’s subjects. For example on Feb 4, there are four entries. Ms Zhou’s 8M2 Maths class has homework set on that day. The details of the homework will appear in the black box when you hover your mouse over the entry.
ENGLISH

The beginning of each new school year is exciting and inevitably offers the opportunity for new ideas, new goals and, for some, a new start.

In all the English classes we are embracing the enthusiasm created by the start of the year by planning specific learning goals and considering the steps needed to achieve these goals. Essentially most of the classes have shown a desire to:

- Be more organised
- Really concentrate in class
- Stick to all deadlines
- Try and become better readers and writers
- Achieve good results in assessment tasks

This self-awareness is such an important step in becoming a successful and intrinsically motivated student. Without a doubt this year promises to be another exciting, engaging and energetic year in the English Faculty!

Our goals this year are firstly to improve the results of all our boys by focusing on skill development, with a particular emphasis on extended, structured writing and secondly to extend the experience of English beyond the classroom by providing the opportunity for boys to attend a fabulous range of excursions and workshops.

Ms J. Schadel
Head Teacher English

SCIENCE

There is plenty of exciting programs happening in Science in 2015. The second stage of the new National Curriculum is being implemented which means Years 7-10 will be following the new course. We have aligned our course structure with the ‘Science by Doing’ program designed by the Australian Academy of Sciences. All boys in Years 7-10 should register for free to gain the full benefit from the new program. This will provide the boys with digital resources to help with school work and homework. Simply go to the Science by Doing website and register.

Year 7 and 8 Reptile Incursion
All boys in Years 7 and 8 are required to attend the reptile incursion as part of the ecology topic. This incursion has been run at Asquith Boys for over 20 Years and lets the boys experience snakes and lizards first hand including viewing some of the world’s deadliest snakes and handling some non-venomous pythons and lizards.

Surfing Scientist
Ruben Meerman, the ‘Surfing Scientist’ will again be visiting in Term 2 to entertain and engage the boys about real world science. His shows are a mix of experiments, questioning ideas, ethics and of course plenty of liquid nitrogen experiments. This year the show will be aimed at the older boys and will involve some higher order concepts to challenge them.

Field Trips
Biology, Senior Science and Earth and Environmental Science will venture down to Gibberagong Field Study Centre in Kuring-gai National Park to conduct field experiments as part of their HSC courses. These days are a great opportunity for the boys to use equipment not available at school and experience real life field work and gain skills useful if they continue further studies in Science.

Mr S. Robertson
Head Teacher Science

MATHS

Firstly, The Mathematics Faculty would like to congratulate the HSC classes of 2014 for their outstanding results, particularly in the Mathematics exams. We hope that the current HSC year has the same drive and determination to achieve.

Secondly, the Mathematics faculty extends a warm welcome to Mrs Gibbs who will be relieving until end of term 1, which is when we expect to have a new Head Teacher appointed.

2014 saw the commencement of the new Australian Curriculum in Years 7 and 9. This year the new Australian curriculum extends into Years 8 and 10. Over the last 2 years the school has purchased new texts for all of the junior years to implement the new curriculum as well as new texts for the Senior General Mathematics courses (approx. $60 per textbook). We therefore insist that all students, junior and senior, carry their text books to and from school in one of the textbook protective covers. The covers can be purchased for $5 from the school if purchased before 10 March (Cost after 10 March will be $5.50).
Could all students please check their rooms for any text books that belong to the school. I am currently organising for the front office to issue invoices to those students who did not return their Mathematics textbook last year. The current Year 9 is being disadvantaged because several students now currently in Year 10 have not returned their texts.

**The Mathematics Competition** will be held on 30 July this year. Notes for entry into this competition should be in students’ hands at the start of week 6. It is compulsory for all students in the top Maths class of each year (7E, 8M1, 9M1, 10M1 and 11MAT) and optional for all other students. Mrs Laffer has past papers which may be borrowed.

*Mrs R Laffer*  
Rel. Head Teacher Maths

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**CAREERS**

**TAFE Enrolments**  
Over 36 students in Years 11 and 12 have now enrolled in various TVET courses as part of their HSC programs. Whilst most students will attend Hornsby TAFE on a Tuesday afternoon, others will gain their TAFE credentials at Bradfield, Meadowbank, St Leonards, and Ryde TAFEs. It is very important that they attend the full 4 hours EVERY WEEK from 2-6pm as attendance is crucial to fulfill course requirements. In addition, there is no occasion when a student can leave a class early!

We are still waiting to see if there is funding for TAFE PPI Courses for Year 10 students.

**Year 10 Work Experience**

Just a reminder that in 2015 there is again a flexible approach to work experience. This means that there is no single week where the whole year group is released on work experience but instead, throughout the year, students shall apply and complete their work experience in a week that is negotiated with the employer and approved by the school. The advantage of this flexible approach is that students are able to gain a better quality or high demand work placement.

Work experience dates are now flexible. Students must check the school calendar before organising a work experience placement. **Work experience will not be approved during examination periods, one week prior to examinations (Weeks 3 & 4 in Term 2 ie 4th - 15th May 2014, Week 8 in Term 4 ie 23rd - 27th November 2014)** or during a week when the student has other school commitments eg Grade Sport Finals, swimming, athletic carnivals, camps etc.

Students must also complete the School’s **Work Placement Agreement**, which includes approval and signatures from all classroom teachers. **Students must catch up on work missed during their work experience.**

In the next week all Year 10 students will be guided through the process of applying for a Work Experience placement. They will be given a copy of the **ABHS Work Experience Information Guide** and a copy of the “**The Parents and Carers Guide to Workplace learning and a copy of the Employers Guide to workplace learning**” (this must be given to the employer). When a placement is arranged with an employer, the **Student Placement Record** must be completed and then returned to Mrs Fry. A copy will then be given to the student, parents, and employer. Students will then be given a work experience package before they go to work experience containing a work experience diary.

Any student who wishes to do work experience in the construction industry must do a **Work Cover approved General Induction course (White Card)**. This is a one and a half day course and will be delivered at school at a cost of approximately $60. Students who need this qualification must see Mrs Fry ASAP so classes can be organized.

**Students should now be actively approaching employers to arrange a work experience placement.**

There are opportunities for **Work Experience with the Fire & Rescue NSW and UTS Science work experience** for Years 10. Please see Mrs Fry for more information. Be quick – these placements go quickly.
Applications are now open for University of Sydney’s 2015 Work Experience Program. This program places students with the Public Programs team where they receive experience working in the fields of research, administration, events and collection management. Placements are open to secondary school students in Year 10 and run for three days. To apply, send a resume and short cover letter to the Public Programs Assistant.

Contact: (02) 9351 8746 or museums.education@sydney.edu.au

Professional Cadetships Australia
This year Professional Cadetships Australia (PCA) will again be running two cadetship programs: The Business Cadetships Program and the Engineering & Technology Cadetships (ETCAD) Program. These cadetships provide cadets with paid employment while they undertake university studies.

Under the Business Cadetship, UBS will be providing cadetship opportunities. Business Cadets study at the University of their choice in Sydney and may select from degree programs in Business, Commerce, Economics and the Humanities. Applications are made online. They open on 9th March 2015 and close on 13th May 2015. Interested Year 12 students should visit the website: www.businesscadetships.com.au

Application for the ETCAD Program open on 28th April. Westpac will again be offering Technology Cadetships and Rolls-Royce intends to offer Engineering Cadetships. More details will come to school in April.

UTS: Bachelor of Information Technology Co-operative Scholarship Program
Round 1 Applications Open: Tue 14th April
Bachelor of Information Technology Co-operative Scholarship Program provides students with $15,500 per year of study, and two six month full-time industry placements with sponsor organisations. There are two rounds of applications in 2015 for the 2016 intake.
http://www.uts.edu.au/future-students/find-a-course/courses/c10143/how-to-apply

Changes to the Secondary Schools Tax File Number Program in 2015
A tax file number is a unique nine-digit number issued to individuals and organisations to help administer tax and other Australian Government systems. The Australian Tax Office has changed the process for students applying for a Tax File Number (TFN). Schools are no longer able to process TFN application forms! The new process involves students completing an online application form and then visiting an Australia Post Office outlet to have their identity verified. To apply for a TFN students need to visit https://www.ato.gov.au/Individuals/Ind/Apply-for-a-TFN-on-the-web/?fb_locale=es_LA or go to ato.gov.au and search for QC27248.

After they have completed this form students will need to print their application summary and take this together with proof of identity documents to an Australia Post outlet. This must be done within 30 days of completing the online form.
Information on the type of Proof of Identity documents that can be used can be found at https://www.ato.gov.au/Individuals/Ind/Apply-for-a-TFN-on-the-web/?anchor=Proof_of_identity#Proof_of_identity

UMAT 2015- Undergraduate Medicine and Health Sciences Admission Test
Registrations are now open for Year 12 students only to sit the UMAT test which is mandatory if you wish to study medicine, health sciences, optometry and dentistry. Registrations close on Friday 5th June and the test date is Wednesday 29th July 2015. Before registering students are required to read the UMAT 2015 Information Booklet which is only available online at http://umat.acer.edu.au. Practice tests, some tutorials and a quiz are available on the UMAT website and should be completed before registering. Please see Mrs Fry for info on the only identification documents accepted.

2016 ADF Gap Year - Register your interest.
The ADF Gap Year will be opening at 9am on Monday 2nd March 2015. It is available in the Navy, Army and Air Force. This Gap year provides an opportunity for students who have finished Year 12 and are aged between 17 and 24 to experience military training and lifestyle whilst gaining new skills and pay over their Gap Year. See Mrs Fry for more information.
Applying to the Australian Defence Force Academy

It is advised that students wishing to study at ADFA apply in Year 11 as it is a competitive selection process which may take up to 12 months to complete. Gaining entry to ADFA is a dual process which requires students to apply directly to the Australian Defence Force while also applying concurrently to UNSW ADFA through UAC.

An offer to study at ADFA is conditional to meeting the academic requirements of UNSW as well as the mental and physical requirements of the Australian Defence Force.


Engineers Australia: 2015 Autumn School of Engineering

Mon 13th – Fri 17th April

Sydney Metropolitan high school students will meet and interact with professional engineers employed by government, private companies, researchers and academics in a wide range of engineering disciplines. Students will attend lectures at NSW universities and participate in industrial visits, enabling them to see the different engineering disciplines at work.

Contact: Katrina Meggitt on 02 9410 5613 or sydschool@engineersaustralia.org.au


UNSW Future Students: Key Dates 2015

Medicine Information Evening: Thu 12th March
Engineering and Science Information Evening: Thu 11th June
Scholarships Information Evening: Wed 15th July


Skills Road: Job Interviews 101 Checklist


One Shift Jobs

Website containing a job search specialising in casual or part-time jobs.

https://oneshiftjobs.com/

A Great Websites for parents and students in Years 10, 11 and 12

In order to help students and parents keep up to date with all the career news, Asquith Boys High has subscribed to the "My High School" Careers Website. This website contains information about Open Days, Expos, Workshops, new courses, scholarships etc. Visit www.mhscareers.com.

Login: student or parent. Password: 14cairns.
You can also send a message requesting weekly email alerts.

Mrs J. Fry
Careers Adviser

Are YOU wondering about what area you'd like to work or study in?

Are YOU aged 16-25?

Not sure where YOUR career interests and strengths lie?

Come along to the ProjectDirection career education course, three small group workshops to understand your profile, start some career planning, and help you find the direction that's right for you.

When: Monday 15 April, Wednesday 15 April and Thursday 16 April (program involves all 3 sessions)
Time: 10:30am until 12:30pm
Where: Macquarie University, Building W3C room 210
Cost: Special discounted rate of $90 (for all 3 sessions)

Registration

Please send email with name of participant, and contact number to jana.provan@mq.edu.au and we will send the payment authorisation form.

For more information about the ProjectDirection career education course go to http://prodirctdirection.com.au/
Canteen Volunteers

Thank you to those who have volunteered your time to assist in Canteen this year. We will be contacting you during this week, if we haven’t yet done so. We still need more volunteers so please consider helping in our school canteen. We are short staffed on several days which means that the boys have to queue for longer periods to be served and preparation of our full menu becomes more difficult. There are vacancies on all days, except Wednesday, at the moment. Please ring us on 9477-3508. Canteen hours, generally, are 9.30am - 2.30pm. Tuesday is an early day, finishing at about 1.30pm. Wednesday finishing time is about 1pm.

Cups of Hot Noodles

A reminder that these are only sold in the second half of lunch. The Canteen is less busy at this time, and therefore safer for foods containing hot water.

We Do Not Heat Food Brought From Home

A reminder that it is our policy NOT to heat foods brought from home by students, except for cups of noodles for which we charge 50c to add hot water. This service is NOT available at recess or the first half of lunch.

Lunch Orders

Lunch orders can be placed at Canteen before school. Ordering can ensure that your favourite food is available at lunch and you can also avoid queues at lunch. To collect your ordered lunch, just wait at the end of the canteen counter…no need to queue.

Price Rises

A Price List is included in this issue of Backchat. Any changes to the menu, or prices, will be notified via Backchat.

Red Days

Canteen usually holds two Red Days per term. On these days, cakes, lollies and soft drink are available. We usually give approximately one weeks notice ahead of a Red Day, via notices displayed in the Canteen.

Ice Creams

We have a variety of ice creams available for sale in the second half of lunch only.

Change to Canteen Sales of Stationary

We will continue to stock Book packs for Year 7 & Year 8 each year. However we will not be continuing to stock a full range of stationary and books as we have done in the past. A minimal amount of stock is still available until stocks are sold out.

Ritchies IGA reward Cards and Keyrings

Canteen participates in the IGA rewards program. During this term we send home information with a card. IGA donates a small percentage of reward cardholders purchases back to Canteen. Please use these cards when making purchases as the donations contribute to the school via Canteen.

Maryanne Miller
Canteen Manager
## Canteen Menu 2015

### ROLLS & LAVASH (available daily)
- Chicken/lett/Mayo $3.00
- Lavash ½:
  - Chicken & Salad (Mayo) $2.50
  - Thai Chicken or salad (Chilli Sauce, Coriander, Cucumber and lettuce) $2.50

### ROLLS & LAVASH (available by order)
- Buttered $0.60
- Cheese $2.00
- Chicken $3.00
- Chicken & Salad $4.00
- Chicken & Lettuce & Mayo $4.00
- Egg & Lettuce $2.00
- Ham $3.00
- Ham & Tomato $3.00
- Ham & Salad $4.00
- Peanut Butter $2.00
- Salad $3.20
- Shredded Beef $3.00
- Vegemite $2.00

### Lavash:
- Chicken/Lett/Carrot/Cheese/Mayo $4.40
- Beef/Lett/Carrot/Cheese/Mayo $4.40

### SALADS (available by order)
- Plate/Tub $4.00
- With Meat $4.50
- Chicken, Potato and Egg Salad $4.00

### SUSHI (Monday & Thursday)
- Tuna/Beef/Chicken $3.00

### HOT FOOD (available daily)
- Beef Roll - with Tom/Cheese/Tom Sauce $4.00
- Chicken Burger - with Lett/Mayo $3.50
- Chicken & Corn Roll $1.80
- Chicken Chips $2.00
- Chicken Wraps: Chilli Chicken Tenders/Lettuce/Carrot/Cheese/Mayo $4.40
- Egg & Bacon Roll $4.00
- Garlic Bread $1.50
- Hot Dogs $2.50
- Lamb Roll:
  - With Tom/Cheese/BBQ Sauce $4.20

### HOT FOOD (available by order)
- Meatball Roll:
  - With Tom/Cheese/Tom Sauce $4.00
- Lunch Roll:
  - Chicken $3.00
- Pizza Pie $3.00
- Potato Pie $3.00
- Potato Wedges $1.50
- Pizza $2.80
- Pizza Rounda $2.50
- Noodles $2.20
- Sausage Roll $2.30
- Sweet Chilli Tenders(2) $2.80

### HOT MEALS (One available daily)
- Butter Chicken & Rice $3.40
- Ravioli $2.20
- Spaghetti Bolognaise $2.20
- Vegetarian Hokkien Noodles $2.20

### DRINKS
- Milk: Plain 600ml $2.00
- Flavoured: 375ml $2.00
- 600ml $3.00
- Juice: 375ml $2.20
- 500ml $3.00
- Up & Go $2.20
- Quencher Flavoured Spring Water $2.20
- Water 600ml $2.00
- Pump Flavoured Water $3.00
- Cans $2.00
- Bottles of Diet Drink $3.50
- Chill Iced Tea 500ml $2.50
- Chill Iced Tea 250ml $1.50

### HOT CHOCOLATE:
- (Before School/Winter Only) $1.50
Hello ABHS community,

Your P&C met for February this week. It was great to see some new faces at the meeting and thank you to all who attended the AGM.

The following have been elected as office bearers to the P&C

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Linda Stanford</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vice Presidents</td>
<td>Michelle Roscarel</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Tempe Bevan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Sasha Parker</td>
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<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Jenny Williams</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ground Maintenance</td>
<td>Susie Wylie</td>
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<tr>
<td>Publicity Officer</td>
<td>Dianne Stoddart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Council Reps</td>
<td>Michelle Roscarel, Rizwan Ali, Edwina Brown, Chris Regan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you wish to email the P&C please use the following email addresses:

- president.abhspnc@gmail.com - Linda Stanford
- secretary.abhspnc@gmail.com - Sacha Parker
- treasurer.abhspnc@gmail.com - Jenny Williams
- grounds.abhspnc@gmail.com - Susie Wylie
- fundraiser.abhspnc@gmail.com - Maddy Bailes
- publicity.abhspnc@gmail.com - Di Stoddard

Congratulations to the 2014 HSC students the school had their best result in years. A special mention to Chris Bissett who was the Dux of 2014 and also for being a HSC all rounder (a student who has scored a Band 6 in all subjects)

Year 7 went on their camp and had a wonderful time; we had the very successful school Swimming Carnival back at Hornsby Pool for the first time in 5 years.

Open Night will be held on Tuesday 3rd March and Parent & Teacher night for years 7, 11, 12 will be happening soon.

There will be 2 overseas tours to this year:

- the annual football tour is going to Japan/Korea
- the biannual Japanese language tour is held in conjunction with Asquith Girls High School

The school has sent out to each family the statement of account for their sons’ school contributions. It would be great if you could pay these as soon as possible to help the school pay for the much needed resources. Contributions can be made in various ways: cash or cheque to the school office, using the POP (payment on line credit card system) or EFT (contact the school for our account details). These options all give you the opportunity to set up your own payment plan if you are unable to pay the full amount in one go.

The fundraising committee has met and the following fundraising events are being planned:

- Mother’s Day High Tea
- Trivia Night
- Father’s Day Breakfast
- Community Fun Day
- Bunnings BBQ.

Please support the above as all the proceeds made will be spent on the school.

Thanks,

Linda Stanford
P&C President
# ABHS Calendar of Events Term 1 2015

## Week 5A
- **February 23**: Parent/Teacher BBQ (Parent/Teacher Night (Yrs 7,11 &12))
- **February 24**: P&C AGM
- **February 25**: Clean up Australia Day
- **February 26**: Backchat
- **February 27**: Backchat published
- **February 28**: Mar 1

## Week 6B
- **March 2**: Parent/Teacher BBQ
- **March 3**: P&C AGM
- **March 4**: Open Night
- **March 5**: Backchat
- **March 6**: Mar 7/8 Enrichment Class Test

## Week 7A
- **March 9**: Parent/Teacher BBQ
- **March 10**: P&C AGM
- **March 11**: Open Night
- **March 12**: Backchat
- **March 13**: Mar 14/15

## Week 8B
- **March 16**: Yr12 Half Yearly Exams
- **March 17**: Yr12 Half Yearly Exams
- **March 18**: Yr12 Half Yearly Exams
- **March 19**: Yr12 Half Yearly Exams
- **March 20**: Yr12 Half Yearly Exams
- **Mar 21/22**: ERFL Upgrade – Computers out all week

## Week 9A
- **March 23**: Yr12 Half Yearly Exams
- **March 24**: Parent/Teacher Night (Yrs 7,11 &12)
- **March 25**: School Council AGM & P&C Meeting
- **March 26**: Formal Assembly (Summer Grade Sport)
- **March 27**: Mar 28/29

## Week 10B
- **March 30**: Parent/Teacher BBQ
- **March 31**: P&C AGM
- **April 1**: Open Night
- **April 2**: Backchat
- **April 3**: Good Friday
- **April 4/5**: Last Day Term 1

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**Invitation from the P&C**

The P&C would like to invite all interested parents to attend the free workshops listed below. These would be very helpful for your own garden or if you’d like to help the school in the following 2 areas:

- **Mr Yates** (Science and Horticulture teacher) if you are available to help out the boys with the veggie garden.
- **Susie Wylie** is the contact for the school grounds maintenance.

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## Ready, Set, Grow Plus

*Save these Dates*

Please put these dates in your diaries. Attendance at these workshops is a great way to involve more teachers, grounds staff or parents in your school veggie garden.

**What:** Propagation workshop

**When:** 3 March 2015, 9.00am start - finishing at 3pm.

**Where:** Pennant Hills Nursery

**What:** Advanced Composting Workshop

**When:** 17 June 2015, 9.00am start - finishing at 3pm.

**Where:** Kimbriki Waste and Recycling Depot, Terrey Hills

**Who are these for?**

- Teachers Buddy’s, P&C, school gardeners, school environmental committees, SRC and anyone else involved in school gardens
- A refresher for teachers who have been involved in Ready Set Grow

For more information on these workshops contact:

Kerry Eusers on 98474889 or email keusers@hornsby.nsw.gov.au
Amanda Watson on 98474835 or email awatson@hornsby.nsw.gov.au
ABHS P&C wish to invite you to our Trivia Night, our theme is “Music”, come along as your favourite band, song, musician - anything that you can think of that is Music themed.

- In the ABHS School Hall. 7.00pm to get your table ready for a 7.30pm start.
- Cost $20 per person with 8 people maximum on each table.
- Bring your own snacks and refreshments (including alcohol if you would like). Tea and coffee will be available.
- Trivia questions (of course!!) Plus a raffle and some games to play. Make sure you bring along some cash so that you can join in.

This sounds like a great night out!! Get your table together and get in contact with us - how do you do that?? Details below….

- ABHS P&C contact email: abhscommunityfunday@gmail.com
- Direct deposit: BSB 032-084 Account 12 0216 Details Trivia (surname)(year your boy is in)
- Pay at the school office with cash or cheque in a clearly marked envelope with Trivia night, your boys’ name and year. Please include the slip below.
- $20 per person - with a maximum of 8 per table.
- Don’t have a group together - that is fine, we can allocate you to a table.

Contact Name for the Table: 
Mobile: 

Or Contact Name for individual bookings: 
Mobile: 

Number of guests at your table: ____ How are you paying:__________
Exceptional learning opportunities for boys

Open Night
Tuesday 3 March 2015
6.15pm for a 6.30pm start in the hall with the official program, followed by tours of the school and faculty displays.

ABHS
Asquith Boys High School
Pacific Highway, Asquith
Phone: 9477 3508
Website: www.asquithboy-h.schools.nsw.edu.au

Come and hear about our exciting and innovative programs designed specifically for the needs of boys.

- Outstanding 2014 HSC results
- Unique Music, Performing & Visual Arts Scholarships for Years 7, 9 & 11
- Senior Academic Scholarship Years 11 & 12
- A fully integrated cross curricular Literacy and Numeracy Program, Years 7-10
- Opportunities for gifted and talented students with an academic enrichment class for Years 7 & 8
- International Soccer Tour & Language Tour

2016 Enrichment Class Examination

Asquith Boys High School is offering places in 2016 for a Year 7 Enrichment Class.

Entrance into this class for academically gifted students, is based on the results of a placement test.

The Enrichment Class placement test will be held on Saturday 7 March 2015.

Applications close Wednesday 4 March.

Leadership and citizenship, technology, community participation, creative arts and sporting excellence
Office for rent — Mount Kuring Gai

Office Share available — daily / weekly / monthly rental

From $215 per week (+ GST)

- One private office (with car park) available for weekly or monthly rental
- Three workstations available for daily, weekly or monthly rental
- Suit micro to small business, regional representative etc.
- Fixed rental for up to 12 months (inclusions below)

Inclusions:

- Air conditioning
- Dedicated Furniture
- Broadband/WIFI
- Power, Water & Cleaning
- Separate Male/Female toilets
- Showers
- On-site tea, coffee & biscuits
- 24/7 Security monitoring

For further information:
www.kdewellassoc.com.au or 0408 757 709

The Golden Kangaroos Hornsby Concert Band may have the solution. Our community band consists of beginner, intermediate and senior concert bands, marching band, stage (jazz) band and a number of smaller ensembles. We welcome musicians of all ages and abilities. Rehearsals are in the evenings at Beecroft Community Centre.

The beginner band will be starting at 6pm on Monday 16th February. No previous experience is required and instrument hire is available. Age is certainly no barrier with people from 7 to 70 participating in previous beginner bands, in fact often Mum or Dad end up learning alongside their children.

Ever wanted to march at ANZAC Day? The Centenary of ANZAC is a chance not to miss. Marching band rehearsals start on Sunday 22nd February.

For more information visit www.gks.org.au, email membership@goldenkangaroos.org.au or phone Paul on 9868 3289

Looking for students who attended Asquith Nursery & Pre-School

Hornsby Council have decided to close the Asquith Nursery and Pre-School to make way for a high-rise residential development. Due to this about fifteen staff who have been employed there for between ten and seventeen years are losing their jobs. Some of the parents are planning to make a photo book of past and present children and their families as a thank you gift to all members of staff. If anyone in your family attended the centre and would like to be involved and included, please email Kristy Probst at ANPS.gift@gmail.com for more information.

Melanoma March is a wonderful family and community event where participants walk, march and parade along a 4km course to raise funds for research and awareness.

There is hope, but we need your help! 1 person dies of melanoma every 6 hours. Help us to change the future of thousands of Australians diagnosed each year.

In recent years research breakthroughs have tripled the life expectancy for advanced melanoma patients.

At Melanoma Institute Australia, a cure is in our sights!

REGISTER, SPONSOR A FRIEND OR DONATE:
WWW.MELANOMAMARCH.ORG.AU

Supporting:
Melanoma Institute Australia
Melanoma Institute Victoria
MIPS (Melanoma Integrated Program for Survival)
Shiseido
Provoston Wattlebird MedicalHealth

Together we can beat this thing!!
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Plan My Gap Year (PMGY)
is an award-winning international volunteer placement organisation based in the UK. We provide the worlds most affordable, need-driven and supportive short-term volunteer programmes in Africa, Asia and Eastern Europe. Our programmes start from just two weeks in duration right up to six months. You can join us throughout the year as we have two start dates per month.

So if you’re looking to travel on your vacation period, or even take a gap year to explore the world – you should consider volunteering abroad and doing something really special during your travels. We have a range of opportunities to suit people of all backgrounds and interests. Check out our website and start your adventure today – www.planmygapyear.org or see this video on their set up in Tanzania https://vimeo.com/112468937

FOR SALE
YAMAHA ALTO SAXOPHONE & BACH TROMBONE

Saxophone (567GL) as new, in original packaging box, only played for 9 months!  $950 neg.

Trombone (TB600) has small dent (doesn’t affect play or slide).  $500 neg.

Contact Evelyn 0419 965 118

DISCLAIMER
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Explore The WORLD With WEP

Your Local Info Session

North Sydney
Stanton Library
234 Miller Street
North Sydney NSW 2060
9 Feb '15 | 7-8:30pm

See our website for more details

“I hardly seem to have a spare moment here! After three weeks, things are starting to feel more and more normal and life here is starting to become natural. Sometimes it feels weird to speak English!”

School, at first, was quite difficult because I am living in a small town, my whole class has known one another since they were little. However, they were all friendly and I have made acquaintance with just about the whole school, so there is always someone to talk to or ask questions. The language difference isn’t too much trouble. Mining is funny anyway and it’s good for breaking the ice!

My host family are very accommodating and always have new things to share and do with me. I am trying my best to do the same back, bringing my own bit of Australia here with me in Belgium. We are celebrating Australia Day tomorrow and I am teaching them how to make pavlova.

See Rome, Paris or New York in 2015 with WEP Student Exchange!

Request a FREE Information Pack NOW!

www.wep.org.au  1300 884 733  info@wep.org.au

Experience The Magic Of Hosting

In July our exchange student, Toon, joined our family. And when I say joined he literally did that. He has become my teenage son. Our experience as a family has been amazing and unforgettable.

Toon is leaving this week and I feel like my son is grown up and leaving home. There is nothing negative that I can say about our time with Toon. Toon has been through all sorts of things with our family. Through good times, like the birth of our new daughter, and not so good times (but nothing bad).

I would like to say my respects to Toon’s parents. They have done a wonderful job raising such a courteous, well mannered, well balanced son. We have so many fantastic stories from this exchange experience. We have enjoyed it so much that we are hosting again next July. We will have a friend for life and will never forget Toon.

Thank you WEP for the chance to meet Toon. It wouldn’t have been possible without the WEP team. Only a quick few words to show my appreciation in meeting Toon and to WEP.

Enrich your home with a curious exchange student in July 2015

Request student profiles now to find out more!

www.wep.org.au  1300 884 733  info@wep.org.au

WHO’S CHATTING TO YOUR KIDS?

Surviving the use of social media with your children

SIGNS YOUR CHILD COULD BE AT RISK

• Your child is spending an excessive amount of time on the internet
• When you enter the room your child’s behaviour is evasive
• Your child is receiving gifts or mail from people you don’t know
• You find pornography on your child’s computer
• Your child is receiving phone calls from people you don’t know or is calling numbers you don’t recognise
• Your child is displaying irregular personality characteristics.

Without parental supervision, it is easier for child sex offenders to form strong relationships with children online. Police investigation have identified occasions when child sex offenders claim they are to lose with the child sex offenders even after their true identity is revealed.

It is important for parents to be aware that some children actively seek and participate in sexually explicit communication and have voluntarily met with people they met online to engage in sexual contact.

CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT FAMILY INTERCEPT SAFETY AGREEMENT