EXEMPLARY ACHIEVEMENT
Zachary Duncan  Jacob Hamilton
Matthew Evans    Liam Harris
Kamahl Farache   Liam Stone
Cooper Fitzgerald Harrison Tuynman
Benjamin Gibson  Siyi (Daniel) Xue

OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT
Matthew Claydon  Dominic Ducusin
Max Darwin       Michael Sheldon

EXCELLENT ACHIEVEMENT
Jake Bartley      Thomas Smith
Michael Cowell    William van Egmond-Jones
Jacob Sheldon

EXCELLENCE IN ARTEXPRESS
Jake Bartley’s imposing series of portrait paintings titled ‘Turmoil & Volatility’ were selected for the ARTEXPRESS exhibition at the Armoury at Sydney Olympic Park. Jake follows the success of several previous students who excelled in Visual Arts and had their HSC works selected for ARTEXPRESS.

Well done and congratulations to the whole of Year 12, 2015.

2015 Higher School Certificate

2015 Dux - Cooper Fitzgerald
Thank you to family members who attended this special assembly and supported their sons’ achievements

Photography by Ms Cooke
PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

2016
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. 2015 HSC results were again very strong. While the number of Band 6 scores were not as high as the previous year, students achieved above state average scores for boys in 70% of all courses. Results were particularly strong in English and Mathematics. Dux for 2015 was Cooper Fitzgerald, who will study Medical Science at Sydney University. It is clear that students at Asquith Boys High have no limits to their academic success if their level of application is high. The guest speaker at the formal assembly was Asquith Old Boy Dr John Reynolds, a prominent scientist. Dr Reynolds delivered an interesting and inspirational address, which included anecdotes about his career as a scientist and some recollections of his days as a student at ABHS.

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 Michelle Roscarel was elected president. I would like to thank outgoing president, Mrs Linda Stanford, for her outstanding service. The P&C report, and a 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 on-line homework link, SENTRAL, via our website. Instructions on how to do this are also in this Backchat. Teachers will be posting significant pieces of homework on this site on a regular basis, so that parents can monitor their sons’ progress. Senior students should be completing at least 3 hours of homework per night, while Years 7-10 should be completing 1-2 hours a night.

Terry Griffiths, Principal
Our 2015 annual Presentation Night was yet again an outstanding evening of celebration. It was very pleasing to see so many of our students receiving recognition for their efforts in a variety of fields of 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:

- Mr Matt Kean MP, State Member for Hornsby
- Mrs Janet Wasson, Hornsby Director of Schools
- Deputy Mayor Nathan Tilbury, representing Hornsby Shire Council & ABHS Old Boys
- Captain Melinda Barnes, representing Royal Australian Navy
- Ms Elizabeth Amvrazis-Katsoulis, Principal Asquith Girls High School
- Mrs Linda Stanford, President, P&C Association
- Mr George Moscos, representing Hornsby Legacy
- Mr Colin Hunter, representing Berowra Lions Club
- Mr Robert Caldwell, representing Hornsby Rotary Club
- Dr Bill and Mrs Christine Holland, 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
Deputy Principal’s Report

The 2016 school year is well underway, with students having settled into their classroom and other routines very well. Some particular highlights so far have been a highly successful Swimming Carnival and Year 7 Camp. Details of the Year 7 Camp are in this issue of the Backchat. The Swimming Carnival will have a report in the next Backchat issue with updates on the Zone Swimming achievements.

As this is the first Backchat for the year, I would like to remind all families of a few key processes in the school:

**Wednesday Sport:**
Students are expected to attend their Wednesday sport activity every week. For senior students, this may be Study Hall. The only time a student is excused from participation is in the case of genuine illness or injury. In these cases, the student will attend the non-sport room and carry on with private study. They will be dismissed at the end of normal sport time. **Students are not permitted to sign out and go home due to a pre-existing injury or illness.** An exception can be made where there is a medical appointment the student must attend that cannot be scheduled at another time. Ongoing appointments will require a medical certificate.

**Uniform:**
Whilst we are still in our summer version of the school uniform until the end of term, it is worthwhile noting at this early stage that Term 2 will bring about the usual change to compulsory ties for all students and blazers for seniors. As the weather will become cooler later this term, it is imperative that any jumper worn to school is a correct school jumper.

If you have any questions about the above or any other school policies, please contact me directly.

Andrew Skehan
Deputy Principal

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**2nd Hand Blazers**

Senior Blazners 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 the condition and if they have been dry cleaned.

**Maroon Senior Blazners**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Price</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jo Grant</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>0414 456 217</td>
<td>Good condition &amp; dry cleaned</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jillian Vanderlaan</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>0414 667 819 <a href="mailto:jillian.vanderlaan@gmail.com">jillian.vanderlaan@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Near perfect condition &amp; Dry cleaned</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jill Gleave</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>0402 420 004 <a href="mailto:jill@humanspaces.com.au">jill@humanspaces.com.au</a></td>
<td>Good condition</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Green Prefect Blazners**

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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Janine Dudfield</td>
<td>24 chest</td>
<td>$80</td>
<td>0412 565 509 <a href="mailto:dudfield_janine@optusnet.com.au">dudfield_janine@optusnet.com.au</a></td>
<td>Excellent Condition &amp; dry cleaned. Pocket removed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Celia Hayes</td>
<td>18 chest</td>
<td>$80</td>
<td>0414 811 867 <a href="mailto:robcildarwin@aapt.net.au">robcildarwin@aapt.net.au</a></td>
<td>Good condition.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Messages from Administration

Could parents **PLEASE label their sons’ uniforms and possessions?** We have lots of lost property that we would like to return to the correct person. At the end of term all lost property either goes to the 2nd hand uniform section for sale or is donated to charity.

CONTACT DETAILS UPDATE

If you have recently **changed address, phone number(s) or emergency contact person details** please let the school office know ASAP. Either a phone call, note sent with your son or an email letting us know of the changes would be appreciated. Also if your son has a medical condition or allergies that we have not been informed of previously, could you please provide us with those details and any relevant health care plans. Thank you.

ASCIA Action Plans were posted to parents in December and are URGENTLY required to be completed and returned to the school office. If your son has allergies, anaphylaxis, suffers from asthma or epilepsy then we need his forms back ASAP.

Update for all Schools using Parent Online Payment

We are pleased to advise that POP is now user friendly on mobile devices. Behind the scenes Westpac has been working on an upgrade to the Parent Online Payment webpage attached to the school’s website. In the past using the “$ Make a payment” page through a mobile device or tablet has not been as easy as on a computer. Now, automatically, when parents click on this page, via a mobile device, they will be able to complete the online form with ease.

FOOTBALL BOOTS FOR SALE – FOR CHARITY

Mr Blackwood is selling some good second hand and new football boots that belonged to his son George, to raise money for Beyond Blue, as he gets new ones regularly. The boots range from sizes 11-12: some are in better nick than others; some are brand new. The most expensive ones are about $60. Please contact Mr Blackwood for more information on michael.blackwood@det.nsw.edu.au

FRIENDS OF BEROWRA VALLEY NATIONAL PARK

Mr Yates, one of our science teachers is also secretary of the volunteer group, Friends of Berowra Valley National Park. Within their membership are two highly skilled cartographers who created a walking map of the Park last year. They are available from the school at $5 cost + donation of your choice.

Send Mr Yates an e mail christopher.yates@det.nsw.edu.au and he will arrange to get it to you via your son. All donations will be used for education projects within the Park.

A collection of poems by Year 12 Advanced English students based on visual imagery of the Robert Frost Poem ‘The Tuft of Flowers’.

The Brutal Slaughter.
Seven million cries muffled,
Nature becomes tamed.

Loud impending doom
pauses to appreciate.
A tainted duty.

A gentle caress
the leathered hand of duty
lets nature live on

Flowers still standing.
A tuft of hope; defiance.
All alone, but free.

by Joel Winch

Ignorance
Did you hear about the angel headed tufts
That never seemed to see
The enemies that faced it
Those who threatened suffering
Instead it went forth
Looking for all kindred
It found traces of its own
Hiding in the fields,
The water upon its petals, glistening
Who spared the tufts
No one will ever know
If our enemies can become our allies
We’re never truly alone

by Amar Gera

Beneath the trees where songbirds preen,
A million corpses lay around
In this flattened sea of green,
Scattered on the tortured ground.

But one small clump of us still live
Unbroken: here we can stand tall.
For all the hurt that they can give,
We stand together; we won’t fall.

Atop the necks of each of us
There sits a crown of pearl-like white.
Though so simple, they make a fuss
That’s born of beauty, not of spite.

by Nick Berryman

Anthem of Anthemums

A singular pocket of flowers,
united, strong with power.

Foreshadowed by the might of the tractor,
hiding, shuddering like an actor.

Together as one, they won’t be disbanded,
as they stand amongst flowers, dead and stranded.

Comrades and brothers, they’ll be remembered,
on the eve of oppression, to be dismembered.

All hope is gone, revert back to creation,
as they beg, calling for the tractors damnation.

by Lachlan Anderson
Freshly shaved grass gleaming in the heat  
Butt on tuft remains standing tall  
The lawn and the mower inevitably meet  
How long til it must... fall  

I spy one patch I've missed  
Returning home unfinished would only cause pain  
I stroll over giving the stems a twist  
Watching as nature waxes and wanes  

Rumbling churns closer... closer  
My fallen brethren heaped together in a pile  
Am I truly different or just a poser  
My blossom stretches wide open, as I begin to smile  

I have been spared by the world  

by Bryn Lom

The land bucks and throws  
Laying wste to that which grows  
Standing in a sea of blades  
Everything that does fade  

In the far far far away  
Where the shadow dares not lay  
Separated by time and what lies between  
None can stand before it, the big green machine  

Yet I dare to take a stand  
For all that once grew so tall  
Spread throughout the living land  
Leaving me to bear it all  

by Jonathan Ng

You be the Poet Task

A lone tuft of flowers,  
Stood tall adjacent to the tractors path.  

Although some may think the grass required trimming,  
I think that I just witnessed a bloodbath.  

Such a skillset is required to avoid the small heap,  
Thus I beg to differ that this was a mistake.  

The farmer must have seen the true beauty,  
Of the tower of flowers that sat by the lake.  

Although the mercy shown is appreciated,  
Most would not condone such treachery towards innocents.  

The tuft of flowers will remain vulnerable,  
As I soon fear that they may not have any ligaments.  

by Scott Williams
On Monday the 15th of February the Year 7 boys along with several of their teachers and the Year 10 Transition Leaders were up bright and early and ready for camp. They were packed and ready for their first big High School excursion after only three weeks of classes. After some rather quick and other more lingering goodbyes to mums and dads the boys boarded the buses with anticipation for our morning’s destination; the Great Aussie Bush Camp.

We arrived at our destination with excitement and eagerness to get stuck into the camp activities. The boys were sorted into their activity groups and cabins and set off for a lovely lunch before beginning their first fun-filled activities of the camp. Over the next three days we experienced many more exciting and challenging activities, some of which included the high ropes course, the GIANT swing, duel flying-fox, canoeing, team challenge, sailing and snorkelling and one of the highlights Lost Island – a giant water obstacle course that is dominated by mud. Students took great delight in dumping mud on their unsuspecting teachers. Mr Jones, Ms Salisbury, Mrs Hills and I had a great time retaliating too!

Each activity was met with enthusiasm and excitement with many of the boys having a go of each activity where everyone managed to step outside their comfort zones, including the teachers and Year 10 Transition Leaders who also participated with enthusiasm, encouragement and sometimes setting the pace for those who were more reluctant to participate in activities that tested courage and bravery.

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

Below are some of the comments made about camp by the Year 7 students:

Conor – “My favourite part of camp was making new friends”.

Kieren – “I really enjoyed the giant swing as we went so high. I also enjoyed the high ropes course because of all the different challenges”.

Thomas – “I enjoyed the giant swing because of the height, location and the adrenalin rush”.

Oliver - “I liked the survivor challenge because of how you had to think and carefully strategize to get to the middle”

Luke – “My favourite part of camp was being with my mates and making new friends”.

Conor – “I enjoyed the giant swing because everyone supported you when it was your turn”.

I would like to congratulate the Year 7 and Year 10 boys on their excellent behaviour during the camp as well as their enthusiasm for participating in each task to the best of their ability.

I would like to give a special mention to the Year 10 Transition Leaders. The Year 10 boys were exceptional on camp particularly in encouraging the Year 7 boys to participate, supporting the teachers and camp leaders and setting a good example by being responsible and respectful role models for the Year 7 boys.

Finally I would like to thank the wonderful and supportive group of teachers who attended the camp. This included Mr Shead, Mr Jones, Mrs Hills, Mrs Tapner and Ms Salisbury.

Mr Christopher Broome, Year 7 Adviser
Year 9 Food Technology
Year 9 Food Technology is off to a flying start, with classes having already prepared several dishes. They are studying ‘Food Selection and Health’ while revising safe and hygienic work practices in the kitchen. Some dishes they have already prepared are pizza muffins, apple crumble and bean burritos. It is impressive to see how much students have improved their skills in the kitchen in just a few weeks.

Year 11 Hospitality
With a full and eager class we have our work cut out for us this year. Basic preparation skills are well underway and with the first catering event Monday 29th February for Open Night being a huge success, these students have been thrown in the deep end. So far so good with much of the preparation for the night completed. Our lovely chef uniforms have now arrived at school so we will be looking very professional as we prepare and serve food for school functions throughout the year.

Year 12 Food Technology
These students are already well into the syllabus content and appear prepared for the hard work involved for the next few months. Their theoretical skills are reinforced through practical experience by either preparing and presenting dishes such as honey custard meringue tarts or conducting experiments with food. Our latest experiment involved the use of additives in food where we prepared ice cream with and without an emulsifier to demonstrate the benefits of additives to some foods. (Smaller ice crystals form in the presence of an emulsifier therefore making a smoother and creamier ice cream that holds its shape for longer).

Ms Karen Bird, TAS Teacher

Christmas Catering
At the end of 2015, to finish off the unit ‘Food Service and Catering’, Year 10 prepared and presented a Christmas feast for the class to share. They worked hard deciding on a menu and sourcing recipes. The day was a huge success! They enjoyed baked ham and turkey, various salads and a delicious potato bake finished off with eggnog.

Year 10 Food Technology (2015) with Ms Barlow, Ms Bird and Ms Booth
2017 Scholarships Program

Scholarships are offered to students demonstrating academic, performing and creative excellence.

**Junior Scholarships**

- Year 7 Instrumental Band (4 Year)
- Year 9 & 10 Performing or Visual Arts

**Senior Scholarships**

- Year 11 & 12 Instrumental Band
- Year 11 & 12 Performing Arts
- Year 11 & 12 Visual Arts
- Year 11 & 12 Mervyn Brown Academic

Apply Now!

Applications Close 3pm 20 May 2016

@ASQUITH BOYS HIGH SCHOOL

Fantastic opportunities in leadership & citizenship, technology, community participation, creative arts and sporting excellence for boys

Download the package: www.asquithboy-h.schools.nsw.edu.au
Enquiries to Scholarship Coordinator Catherine Holder: catherine_holder2@det.nsw.edu.au
Music News

On Monday 22nd February, the Year 12 music class attended Encore, a concert showcasing the best of the HSC music performances and compositions from 2015. Out of 6000 music candidates, only 22 are granted the honour of being selected for Encore. This concert was a valuable experience for the ABHS boys, as they were able to see the high standard of candidates from all over the state. I would like to commend the boys on their conduct at the concert; they were excellent representatives of the school.

The Band Program is off to an excellent start this year, with a large number of new members, many from Year 7. It is wonderful to see the commitment the boys have to this program, and we are looking forward to a musical year ahead. Later in the year the Stage and Concert Bands will travel to Port Macquarie to participate in the “Big Band Blast”, which is an enjoyable experience for all involved. The ABHS bands also enter many band competitions throughout the year. Any students interested in joining either the Concert or the Stage Band are welcome to come and see me for more information.

Ms K Salisbury, Music Teacher

Excursion to Grayson Perry @ MCA

What an amazing day it was! The majority of the boys met me promptly at Hornsby Station for our journey to the city. It was a good start. Our experience was like any other commuters; sitting quietly while listening to music on the iPhone while checking Facebook or alternatively playing the latest game.

Once we arrived at Wynyard, we walked down to the MCA at Circular Quay. We were running early, so took the opportunity to take our recess break and a group photo shoot. Let’s face it, we were art tourists.

We were fortunate to take an education tour of the Grayson Perry Exhibition. Our tour guide, Bronwyn, was fabulous with an extensive knowledge of the artist and his work. While his forms are traditional; ceramic pots and tapestries, the content focuses on contemporary society and the social classes. The boys were totally engaged and I was impressed by the conversations that emerged about the works. They were incredibly mature and it was a joy to accompany them. It was a wonderful experience.

The exhibition is on until May. Take the opportunity to take your son again if they are a senior VA student. You will be pleasantly surprised by their insights on the works and they may even enlighten the wise!

Ms C Cooke, Teacher Visual Arts

Forensic Science Incursion

A group of Year 9 and Year 10 Boys participated in a Forensic Science Incursion run by UTS School of Forensic Science.

The boys were set a scenario and were given evidence to help solve the crime by using genuine forensic science techniques. With the help of Grace, our Forensic Biologist from UTS, the boys moved around different stations that explained different forensic techniques such fingerprinting, DNA Profiling, ballistics analysis, microscopic fibre analysis, UV blood analysis and GPS Tracking.

After the accused was handcuffed and the body was placed in the body bag the boys wrapped up their investigation which is to be continued in class time.

Mr S Robertson, Head Teacher Science
“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


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 of part of the calendar is shown below.

The calendar shown here is the Year 7 Homework/Assessment Calendar. Look through the calendar for entries related to your son’s subjects. For example on Feb 23, there are four entries. Ms Zhou’s 7H Maths class has homework set on that day. The details of the homework will appear in a black box when you hover your mouse over the speech bubble.
ENGLISH

What do we do in English?
This year promises to be an 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.

Who are we?
Mrs Christie Hills, Mrs Helen Hamilton (Library), Mrs Katherine Howe, Mr Nicholas Kennedy, Ms Rebecca Kelly, Mrs Rachel Lee (ESL), Mr Tom Melrose, Ms Jessica Schadel and Mrs Kim Wingrave.

What can you do to help your son be successful in English?
Naturally reading and writing are part of the cultural imperative in English. Embrace the opportunity to talk about the wonder and beauty offered by good books with your son, encourage him to read every day and discuss what he reads with you. Support your son through positive reinforcement of the importance of completion of all set tasks and communicate the critical idea that hard work and academic resilience is the only path to ongoing achievement.

What can you do if you need more information?
Please contact your son’s teacher or me directly if you have any concerns regarding his progress. Our key job at ABHS is helping your son strive to achieve his potential, and a learning partnership between the home and school is vital.

Ms J Schadel
Head Teacher English

MATHS

Welcome back parents and students to another exciting year of Mathematics at Asquith Boys High School. 2016 has begun positively, with many new programs being rolled out to further enrich the learning of all students.

ABHS held a ‘Meat the Parents BBQ’ held in Palm Court at Asquith Boys where parents and staff had the opportunity to get to know each other. The BBQ proved a great success, with many staff and parents in attendance. It was great to see all the Maths Faculty in attendance and we look forward to working with all the parents to engage your boys in further learning. A big thankyou to Mrs Laffer for organising the excellent event.

In 2016 the Maths Department have introduced proficiency testing for Years 7-10. This testing utilises a computer software program to gauge an understanding of where each individual’s strengths and weaknesses lie for specific topics. This data will then be used to help improve the individual student’s understanding and to track overall cohort improvement.

Mr Johnston will once again be running the Smart Money Incursion for Years 9, 10 & 11; a note will soon be issued. This program has been run previously and has proven to be very successful. Smart Money runs interactive age specific workshops empowering students to make confident financial choices. Year 9 will be completing the Smart Spending Workshop. This workshop challenges students to ask ‘why’ before they buy. Year 10 will be completing the Smart Earnings Workshop. This workshop uses real life scenarios to highlight the vital information students need to make their first job count. They will be looking at topics such as earning money, rates of pay and taxation to name a few. Year 11 will be completing the Smart Investing Workshop. This workshop takes a practical approach to investing with a focus on superannuation as an investment vehicle.

Our resident mathematician Mr Shead has started the ABHS ‘Math Club’. ‘Math Club’ meets once a week at lunch time in Room 10 and explores many theories that underpin Mathematics. This is a great place for students to meet and discuss elements of Mathematics that interest them. Refreshments will be provided.

Parents of 7E, 8M1, 9M1, 10M1 and 11M1 please keep an eye out for your son’s Maths Competition note. The competition is a mandatory part of the enrichment course. All other students are welcome to attend.

After School Peer Tutoring will soon be up and running once a week. This is a great opportunity for junior students to seek free assistance with their homework or in their learning from advanced students. A member of the Maths Faculty will be present for supervision. Keep a look out for a note with the starting dates!

Mr Miles will be running the Lunar Literacy program. This Program will be integrated into your child’s existing Mathematics program, which aims to improve the literacy of our Mathematicians in Years 7 and 8. Students will be exploring literacy in Mathematics each full moon.
The **University of Sydney has made changes to entry requirements** due to take effect in 2019, which may affect your student’s subject selection for Years 11 and 12. Due to the significant difference in the academic achievement of those students who completed Advanced Mathematics when compared to those who did General Mathematics, the University of Sydney will now require students to obtain a minimum of a Band 4 in HSC Mathematics or higher to gain entry into certain courses. Please check [sydney.edu.au/study/maths.html](http://sydney.edu.au/study/maths.html) for the list of courses.

**Year 12 Half Yearly exams are coming up next week: “those who fail to prepare, prepare to fail”**  
Mr M Miles  
Teacher Maths

**HSIE**

The beginning of the school year is an exciting time for new and old students to dive headfirst into their studies. The staff would like to encourage the students to always be prepared for their studies by ensuring they have the appropriate equipment and attitude with them at all times, so they may make the most of every learning opportunity.

One of the most exciting developments in HSIE this year is the introduction of the **Laptop Trolley**. This trolley, containing 15 laptops, compliments the schools BYOD policy and is allowing teachers and students to engage in interactive ICT learning activities. Teachers and students have been navigating their way through the depths of the online world, working on individual and collaborative research tasks, developing interactive presentations through the use of PowerPoint and Prezi, and even engaging in a spot of Kahoot, an online quiz program, which has proven to be very popular with the students.

One class that has been making great use of the new Laptop Trolley and BYOD program is the Year 9/10 Elective History course, History Through a Lens. This class, taught by Ms Fullbrook and Ms Foster, have been researching the ways in which history is portrayed through film and art. In Ms Fullbrook’s class, the students have been analysing films as a source of historical information and with Ms Foster, the students have researched the development of art over time and analysing how art represents the social and cultural characteristics of its period. The students have also begun their own project in which they will be appropriating a famous piece of art to reflect the cultural and social characteristics of their time.

The HSIE staff look forward to an exciting year of discovery and learning and aim to assist the students in the development of their knowledge and understanding in the areas of HSIE, with particular focus on extended writing using the ALARM writing structure (which has been rolled out to Years 7 to 12), project-based learning and experiences outside of the classroom.

**Ms L Foster**  
Teacher HSIE

**SPORT**

The school cricket team has progressed to the second round of the Davidson Knockout Shield after a victory against Carlingford High School. Standout batting performances from Adam West and Nick Fowler who both scored centuries; devastating bowling effort all round, but special mention to Jack Liddelow who took 5 wickets.

Mr C Yates

**CAREERS**

**Coming Events**

**UNSW: Built Environment Parent and Student Information Session**  
16th March 2016, 6pm to 8:30pm, UNSW Built Environment Ground Floor Gallery  
The information evening is aimed at high school students and their families and those who have already completed the HSC, are studying at TAFE, in a gap year, bridging course or already commenced work. Information will be provided on admission options, career pathways and an opportunity to speak to current students.  
http://www.be.unsw.edu.au/events/information-night-prospective-students-and-their-families

**Recent Events**

**TAFE Enrolments**  
Over 39 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!
**Important Information**

**Year 10 Work Experience**

All students have now been issued with the required paperwork. Any students who wish 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. A White card course is scheduled to be held on Thursday 17th & Friday 18th March 2016. This course is full but another course will be held in early term 2. 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**.

**Work Experience in Surveying**

Secondary school students who are potentially interested in a career in surveying can submit their details to this online form. A Life Without Limits will then attempt to put them in touch with an appropriate company for work experience.


**Cadetships in Business and Technology in Sydney**

Applications for the Business Cadetships Program run by Professional Cadetships Australia open on 7 March and close on 11 May. Year 12 students apply online at [www.businesscadetships.com.au](http://www.businesscadetships.com.au)

Under the Program, UBS will continue to offer cadetship opportunities across the firm. Information on the Program is provided on the website.

Applications for the Engineering & Technology Cadetships (ETCAD) Program will open on 26 April. The 2016 Program provides Year 12 students with the opportunity to apply for a Technology Cadetship at Westpac. On completion of their cadetship, Technology Cadets are well-placed to pursue a career in IT and in business. This year Rolls-Royce will not be offering Engineering Cadetships.

Information on the ETCAD Program may be found at [www.etcad.com.au](http://www.etcad.com.au)

Applications close on 17 June.

**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:

- Complete the online form.
- Print the summary, which will include your application reference number, and take it to your Australia Post interview.
- 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.

*Mrs J Fry*  
*Careers Adviser*
Do you know any former students or former teachers of Asquith Boys High School? They may be interested in joining the ABHS Old Boys Club. Would you assist by passing on this membership invitation to them, please?

Membership to this organisation is free. Members receive the ABHS Old Boys Newsletter annually (published in August). In addition assistance is provided with communicating details of peer group reunions.

ABHS Old Boys Club has been supporting the School for 10 years. During that time members have volunteered as Guest Speakers on School Assemblies, run the Old Boys Stall on Community Fun Day, assisted with fund raising for the Mervyn Brown Scholarship, nominated Community Representatives for the School Council and assisted in other capacities.

For further details contact Chris Kent. (see below)


**ABHS Old Boys Club**

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**ASQUITH OLD BOYS CLUB MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Full Name: *(please print)*  

- Address: ____________________________ Post Code: ____
- E-mail: ____________________________ Phone ( ) _____________
- Calendar Year Graduated: ___________ Enrolment year: _______

What recollections do you have of your school days? Do you have any photos? ____

_____________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________

What benefit did you derive from your time at Asquith Boys? ____________________

_____________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________

Are you interested in receiving information about events being planned by members of your ABHS enrolment peer group? ________________

_____________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________

**Mail to:** Asquith Boys High School Old Boys Club: PO Box 242 Hornsby 1630 or **E-mail:** Chris Kent (former student & former Head Teacher): christopher.kent7@det.nsw.edu.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- 2.30p.m.
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.

Sushi
We have Sushi available most days of the week. We sell two varieties.
On Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday we have gluten free sushi with free sauce. The mayonnaise used in this sushi is gluten free, which is quite often not the case with normal, over the counter, sushi.

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 week’s 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.

Maryanne Miller
Canteen Manager
### 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

### FRUIT
Seasonal Fruit available daily......Price varies

### YOGHURT
$2.00

### CAKES & SNACKS
- Cheese & Bacon Rolls: $1.50
- Pikelets: $0.80
- Banana: $0.80
- Bread: $2.50
- Muffins (Low Fat-when available): $1.80
- Fun Buns ( “ ”): $1.80
- Chips: $1.20

### 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

### Meatball Roll:
- With Tom/Cheese/Tom Sauce: $4.00
- Meat Pie: $3.20
- Pizza Pie: $3.00
- Potato Pie: $3.20
- Potato Wedges: $1.50
- Pizza: $2.80
- Pizza Rounda: $2.50
- Noodles: $2.20
- Sausage Roll: $2.50
- Sweet Chilli Tenders(2): $2.80

### HOT FOOD
(available by order)
- Beef Spring Roll: $2.40
- Chicken Burger:
  - On Buttered Roll: $2.40
  - With Lett/Mayo: $3.50
  - With Salad: $4.00
- Corn Cobbettes: $0.70
- Dim Sims (3): $1.80

### 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:
  - 300ml: $2.50
  - 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

### HOT FOOD
(available by order)
- Beef Spring Roll: $2.40
- Chicken Burger:
  - On Buttered Roll: $2.40
  - With Lett/Mayo: $3.50
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Hello ABHS community,

ABHS P&C would like to welcome everyone to the new school year. It was great to see the many new faces attending the AGM at our first meeting for the year.

ABHS has an active P&C. We fund many school projects such as the Toolbox Team, the Quicksmart program and the prizes for the annual Year 7 Personal Interest Projects (PIP).

I would like to thank the outgoing P&C President Linda Stanford for all her hard work over the last 2 years. The new P&C office holders for this year are as follows:

- President: Michelle Roscarel
- Vice President: Linda Stanford
- Vice President: Tempe Beavan
- Treasurer: Jenny Williams
- Grounds development Officer: Susie Wiley
- Publicity: Di Stoddart
- School Council Representatives: Rizwan Ali, Melanie Claydon

Below are some of the events and activities that will be held by the ABHS P&C this year.

- Working Bee 20th March 8.30am – 12.00pm
- Trivia Night 21st May
- Mother and Son Afternoon Tea
- Father’s Day Breakfast
- Community Day

Our annual Trivia Night is always well attended so mark the date above in your calendar and start organising a table. The theme for the Trivia night will be announced shortly, it is always great to see how creative people can be.

Finally I would also like to thank all the school staff for their support during the past year especially Mr Griffiths, Mr Skehan and Ms Bird.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or suggestions at president.abhspnc@gmail.com.au.

Michelle Roscarel
P&C President
ABHS CALENDAR OF EVENTS TERM 1 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Term 2 – Tuesday 26th April till Friday 1st July</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7B</td>
<td>Term 3 – Monday 18th July till Friday 23rd September</td>
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<tr>
<td>8A</td>
<td>Term 4 – Monday 10th October till Tuesday 20th December</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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### TERM 2 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
<th>Sat/Sun</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1A</td>
<td>April 25</td>
<td>ANZAC Day</td>
<td>April 26</td>
<td>Staff Development Day</td>
<td>April 27</td>
<td>Students Return</td>
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<tr>
<td>2B</td>
<td>May 2</td>
<td>May 3</td>
<td>May 4</td>
<td>May 5</td>
<td>May 6 Vaccinations</td>
<td>May 7/8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3A</td>
<td>May 9</td>
<td>May 10 NAPLAN</td>
<td>May 11 NAPLAN</td>
<td>May 12 NAPLAN</td>
<td>May 13</td>
<td>May 14/15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2016 DATES

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
Tue 26th April, Mon 13th July, Mon 19th & Tue 20th Dec
Introduction

The role of schools is to work in partnership with parents to provide an environment that encourages students to connect with each other and their community, so they can succeed and thrive. Parents, teachers and the community all play a role in fostering this environment.

Schools have well established systems which support student wellbeing and address instances of anti-social behaviour such as bullying, threats of physical violence and other offensive behaviours.

Your role in supporting your child

- Be involved in your child’s life – dedicate time to really understand your child. Know where they are, who they are with and what they are doing.
- Be cyber-aware:
  - regularly monitor what they are looking at on the internet and on social media sites and do what you can to reduce their exposure to inappropriate content;
  - place the computer or device in a common area of the house, so your child is less likely to try and access inappropriate web sites or use social media sites inappropriately; and
  - consider using content filters to help control what your child can access.
- Encourage open and honest discussion at home – encouraging your child to learn about and understand other points of view is a valuable life skill. If you stop discussion about topics that you are uncomfortable with, for example religion, politics, racism, drugs, extremism or terrorism, your child may find it even more interesting and may try to find information without you knowing. This could lead them to inaccurate information.

- Encourage positive outlets for your child’s energies – sports, performing arts, hobbies and organised clubs, all provide a sense of belonging and somewhere to focus their interests, though it may take a few attempts to find the right interest for your child.
- Be a role model – modelling positive, respectful relationships, positive ways to show emotions and how to apply objective thinking skills are valuable life skills for your child.

How you can help your child

You know your child better than anyone else and are in a good position to notice any changes in their behaviour. If their behaviour changes significantly, try to find out what is happening in their lives. There are many reasons for a change in behaviour, so don’t jump to conclusions.

The best way to support your child is to maintain open, non-judgemental communication with them. By keeping a positive relationship you may be in a position to help them if they want to talk about their problems. Listen to their concerns and try to understand their perspective.

Even if you disagree with what they are saying, it is important to find some way to let them know they are accepted and that you are there to help them.

What to do if you are concerned for your child

If you do have concerns that your child is involved in or supporting extremist behaviour there are a number of options for seeking advice. You may like to talk to someone from your child’s school such as the Principal, your child’s Year Advisor, a teacher, or a trusted staff member.

You may wish to talk to your child yourself, or ask a close friend or family member to do so. Alternatively, there are government assistance and advice lines and websites. Some are listed below.
Remember

As your child grows, they will be exploring their own values and beliefs. They may search for and push the boundaries of acceptable, responsible behaviour during this process.

Cyber Safety

- ThinkUKnow – internet safety education site – http://www.thinkuknow.org.au

If you are concerned that a person in your community is showing possible signs of terrorism, you should call the National Security Hotline - 1800 123 400 or email hotline@nationalsecurity.gov.au

Resources

- **000** (triple zero) if you feel unsafe or in danger
- **1800 RESPECT** – http://www.1800respect.org.au
- Domestic violence line **(24h) 1800 65 64 63**
- Black Dog Institute – http://www.blackdoginstitute.org.au

If you are concerned that a person in your community is showing possible signs of terrorism, you should call the National Security Hotline – **1800 123 400** or email hotline@nationalsecurity.gov.au
Advertisements in this newsletter are included as a community service or a source of revenue to offset newsletter production costs. They should not in any way be seen as an endorsement or recommendation by the school.
Hornsby Child and Youth Mental Health Service (CYMHS)

Parenting Anxious Children
SEMINAR FOR PARENTS - TERM 1, 2016

A seminar for parents of children aged 4-10 yrs discussing:
- The nature of anxiety and the different ways it may present in children, risk factors and potential implications for parents and children, as well as identification of practical strategies & resources to assist.

- The seminar will be facilitated by CYMHS staff (which includes Psychologists, Social Workers & family therapists).
- The seminar will be run at Hillview Community Health Centre 1334 Pacific Highway Turramurra, Entry via Boyd Ave. Please allow enough time for parking and arrive 10 minutes before the registered start time.
- Unfortunately, we cannot provide childcare facilities and are unable to have infants/children attend with their parents.
- The seminar is available to families who live in the Hornsby Ku-Ring-Gai local government area.
- The cost of the seminar is $10 but there will be no charge for concession card holders.
- Registration is essential as groups fill quickly.
- To confirm your place please call CYMHS on 9485 6135.
- Participants will be asked to complete feedback forms.
- The service reserves the right to postpone or cancel seminars in the case of insufficient registrations.

For more information, email: bookings@tomorrowsyouth.com.au

THE KURING GAI POLICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH KU-RING-GAI COUNCIL

“PARENT SURVIVAL STRATEGIES FOR TEACHING YOUNG DRIVERS”
FREE In-Depth Seminar For PARENTS/SUPERVISING DRIVERS together with YOUNG DRIVERS
MONDAY – 21 MARCH 2016
6.00 PM for 6.30 PM – 8.30 PM

** NOTE VENUE ** KU-RING-GAI GORDON LIBRARY MEETING ROOM 2 ** 799 PACIFIC HIGHWAY, GORDON - OPPOSITE KU-RING-GAI COUNCIL CHAMBERS LIGHT REFRESHMENTS

STAY ALERT - HAVE AN ESCAPE!

Presenter: Jeff McDougall - Trent Driving School
Immediate Past President, Australian Driver Trainers Assn NSW Ltd
Member National Executive Committee of the Australasian College of Road Safety
Member of Kgi Police & Community Safety Committee, Former NSW Trent Driving School
will discuss the Vital Aspects of
WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW WHEN TEACHING A YOUNG DRIVER:
- A Comprehensive and Organised Approach to the Driving Task
- The Five Crash Risks for Young Drivers: Preparation for the Driving Test
- Keeping the Log Book Honest: Teaching Practical Skills Safely
- The Components of Driving: Strategies for Safe Driving
- Effective Partnership: Making it a Positive Experience
Vital information about the current driving test!

Presenter: SGT Cons Lynda Hart - School Liaison Officer, NSW Police, Kgi LAC
Will Share her “Passion for Keeping People Safe”

For more information contact
Jan or Bianca at:
hej@missionaustralia.com.au
edwardsb@missionaustralia.com.au
Phone: (02) 9480 2501

BOOK EARLY - SEATS LIMITED: Phone Carrol on mobile 0405 556 600 or email carrol.hore@gmail.com

When: Every Monday
(during school term)
Start Date: Late Feb 2016
Time: 10:30am - 12:30pm
Where: Mission Australia
Ground Floor - 1 Coronation St.
Hornsby (near Australia Post)
Cost: Free
Stage 4 students have been taking advantage of BYOD lap tops and school computers to create Contour Digital Drawings. They used Photoshop with a variety of tools and layers. Congratulations on a great job!