

Northlakes High School Newsletter

“Opportunities for future success”



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Principal's Report:

Samcheok Schools, Korea

We are currently hosting students and staff from schools in the Samcheok School District. Thank you to all staff and students who have hosted them. The Samcheok superintendent has praised the school for the wide range of cultural and educational experiences organised for their students.

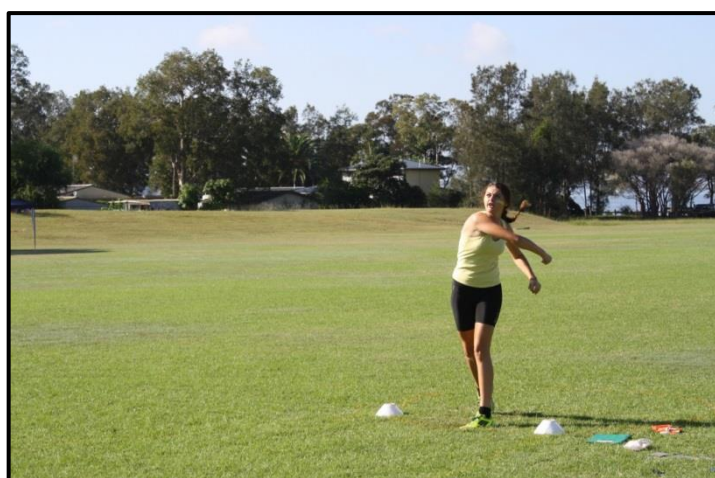


Year 10 interviews

Thank you to all parents and guardians who were able to come last week and help their student make informed educational decisions about their Year 11 subjects. It is important to all of us that students know what to expect from different courses, and how they fit into the student's career plan.

Piper Nowland has been selected to compete at state level in Discus. We congratulate her achievement. She is an exceptional

representative of this school and our community.



Yours in Public Education
Ms M Rowley
Principal

Careers Report

We had 50 Year 8 girls go to Robo Girls at the Newcastle University at the end of last Term. They all had a wonderful day and were even on NBN News.

Year 10 subject selections went very well, and we had a great turn-out. Thank you to all of the parents for their support.

We took some students to 'Try a Skill' at the Ourimbah University, which was well attended.

The careers expo was excellent, and an eye opener for Year 10 students who came back with some new ideas on their future direction.

This Term we are running two courses in conjunction with Central Coast Community



Education &
Communities

College. Massage Therapy is running with 14 Year 10 students every Friday, and pedicure and manicure is running two classes on a Wednesday and Friday. Hairdressing and beauty are going well and into their third term.

The Salvation Army has been giving free driving lessons to selected students, and this is a wonderful opportunity to help these students get their hours up.

The SRC and AECG students will have a badge induction on 18th August, and parents will receive invitations shortly.

An invitation will also come home to parents for the Inaugural Aboriginal Parent Yarn Up Forum on 20th August at Doyalson at 10:15am. Morning Tea will be provided.

Year 12 have started their Trial HSC and Year 11 start their exams in Week 6. The UAC guide books have arrived and will be handed out to all interested students ASAP.

Lois Hewett
Careers Advisor

English Report

Welcome to a busy Term 3 in the English Department! We have had various activities, excursions, examinations, competitions and assessment tasks underway already. We would like to welcome back Mrs Martin who has returned from her maternity leave and wish her the all the best for settling back into the English Faculty. Our Head Teacher, Mrs Dunne, has enjoyed her first term at Northlakes and is looking forward to a positive future working in the school. Year 12 have completed the English papers for their HSC Trial examinations. We wish them the best of luck with their results and for the remainder of their examinations.

We would like to say a huge thank you to all the parents/guardians who made the effort to attend the Year 8 subject selection evening. If you have any further questions or queries, don't hesitate to contact the school and discuss the Stage 5 English course with one of our

faculty members. We would also like to say thank you to the members of the community for your ongoing support for our students with recent competitions and activities that have occurred with our students.



Suzy Taylor- Monzer in Year 11 was awarded first prize in the Wyong Shire Council 'Poetry Slam' competition. Suzy composed and performed her own poem on the evening and competed against other students from schools in the local area. Congratulations to Suzy for all of your hard work and efforts; your talent is an asset to Northlakes High School!

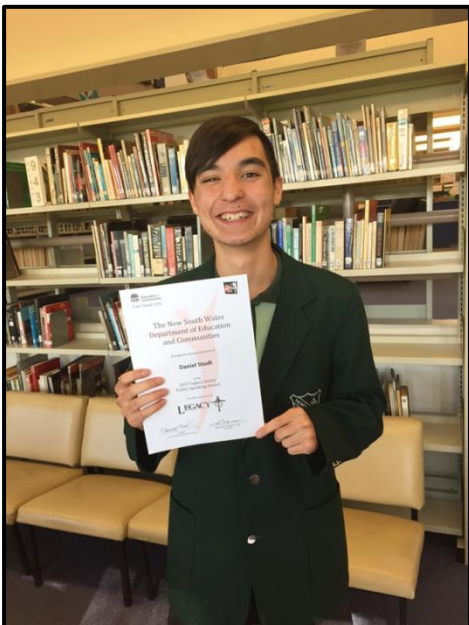
On Wednesday last week Miss Smith and Mrs Reay accompanied Year 11 Drama and English students to the Sydney Theatre Company. They viewed a performance of "Love and Information", a production that will assist them in writing about dramatic styles and techniques for their HSC, and is also able to be used as a related text for some of their upcoming modules. Following the show, we attended a question and answer segment with the director and cast of the performance. We were able to ask questions regarding the styles, directions, script and overall performance. We were then treated to a private backstage tour of the company where we were given a history of the company and its performances, a tour of the costume, set, prop and rehearsal rooms, and information regarding upcoming shows and tours. This

experience was invaluable to the students and we would like to commend them for their behaviour, manners and theatre etiquette throughout the day.

Mr Freebody and Mrs Reay had the pleasure of taking our Year 8 Debating Team to Morisset High School on Monday. The team, consisting of Felicity Drew, Emily Clink, Amanda Raslan, Tamara Puxty and Grace Ryan performed brilliantly. They argued the topics "Language Studies Should Be Compulsory in High School" as the negative team, and "We Should Ban Junk Food Advertising" as the affirmative team. Excitingly, they were announced the winners for both debates! Congratulations to the team and we look forward to our next debate against Narara High School.

On Wednesday, Mr Freebody and Mrs Reay accompanied Year 9 student, Daniel Studt, to Gosford High School to watch him compete in the Legacy Junior Public Speaking Awards. For the prepared speech section, Daniel spoke about the influence that the media has on issues in society, such as child abductions and marriage equality. He also participated in an impromptu speech, where he spoke about the topic, "Past, Present and Future". While he did not win the award, he was highly commended by the adjudicator for his manner and speaking technique, as well as the balance of humour and sincerity that he displayed.

We wish to thank Suzy Taylor-Monzer for her assistance in preparing Daniel and for being an excellent audience member.



We also wish to acknowledge Daniel for his amazing work and look forward to him competing again next year. Congratulations Daniel.

Next Thursday the 6th August, we will be holding our annual Book Week Day for Year 7 and Year 8. All students should come dressed as their favourite book character and pay at the student window with their permission note before Thursday. Classes will run as normal for Period 1 and Period 2, Period 3 involves a performance by renowned Indigenous author and performer Monty (Boori) Pryor and during Period 4 we will hold an awards ceremony for the most creative costumes, followed by games and activities. A sausage sizzle lunch is also included in the cost of \$6. If your child did not receive one, they can collect one from their English teacher or from the English staffroom. This has been a great success in past years and highly enjoyed by all students.



English Faculty

Creative Arts Report

On Wednesday 22nd of July, eight selected students participated in an Aboriginal art workshop at Headspace Lake Haven. Ms Leffley, Mrs Lee and the staff at Headspace were incredibly impressed with the calibre of work produced by the students, as well as their positive attitude and commendable behaviour. The three artworks will be hung in the main foyer of Headspace to be enjoyed by staff and visitors alike. Again, Ms Leffley would like to thank the students for demonstrating the

qualities of a successful and respectful Northlakes High School student.



CAPA Faculty

HSIE Report

Years 7 – 9 are now doing History in Semester two (Terms 3 & 4). Students have been issued all their assessment tasks. The first task for Years 7 - 9 will be a research task due on Friday August 21st. All assessment tasks including all the starter sheets, task schedules and extra homework tasks are all available on the Northlakes High Website under faculties – HSIE – History and then the particular year. Excursion notes will also be available in these sites when they are issued.

Society and Culture PIPS were due on Monday 27th July. I must acknowledge the effort and care Mrs Lawson and Ms Ewer put into helping their students. The PIP is an extensive research task and some students had not put in a continuous effort and were unprepared when the deadline approached. It was unfortunate that some students wrote disparaging remarks on social media as this reflected poorly on their

own effort rather than the quality of the subject or their teachers. We are looking forward to seeing the results achieved by those students who did put in a fine effort. The HSIE staff are always going the extra mile to help our students achieve their personal best.

Anna Howard
Head Teacher HSIE

Languages Report

Year 12 Japanese students in both Beginners and Continuers courses will be taking their Oral exam this month. Continuers are first on Saturday 1st August and Beginners on Saturday 30th August. Exams are held at Merewether High School. I know they will give it their very best and wish them luck. Gambatte kudasai! Trial exams for these two groups will be in Week 4. It is important to revise all topics covered in Year 11 and 12 for this major assessment.

Stage 5 Japanese have started to learn the katakana script, which is used for words borrowed into the Japanese language from other languages such as (but not exclusively) English. The spelling rules for katakana are mostly the same as for hiragana (learnt in Semester 1) and is used often in Japanese advertising, so it will be easy to find examples in everyday life situations in Japan.

Year 7 classes are progressing through topics such as school and will move onto sports soon. I would like to remind parents and students that it is important for classwork to be complete and written neatly in exercise books as this is the work that students must revise regularly to achieve good results in topic tests. Some may have used up a whole exercise book already this year and so a new book is required. Please do not throw out the old book as it will contain vocabulary and grammar notes that are necessary for future work.

Mrs Davis
Languages

Mathematics Report

Year 12 students have their Trial Exams. After the exams it is very important that students go through their papers thoroughly and learn from any mistakes or fill gaps in their knowledge. Each student will be provided with solutions to help with this process and teachers are available to assist with any concerns or uncertainties. Late last term we advertised books of past HSC papers which have been ordered and students can pay \$24 to the office to receive their copy. These are very worthwhile in helping to familiarise students with the style of questions they can expect. The next few weeks until the HSC exams are vital preparation time and we often find that students make huge leaps in their knowledge of their courses during this time.

Year 11 students have exams in Week 7 of Term 3. It is the culmination of the assessment program for General Maths, Mathematics and Extension 1. It is not quite the end of the course since there will be more content to cover early in Term 4. Students should be aware that all preliminary content is also examinable in the HSC, so there is nothing that can be left behind as irrelevant.

Stage 5 Grading. Schools are responsible for awarding each student a grade (A, B, C, D, or E) to summarise the students achievement in any 100 hour or 200 hour course completed in Stage 5. In Mathematics, grades have been further differentiated to nine levels (A10, A9, B8, B7, C6, C5, D4, D3 and E2). The grade awarded is reported on the student's Record of School Achievement.

Teachers should use these Stage 5 course performance descriptors to determine Stage 5 grades. The descriptors have been developed from the Boards general performance descriptors, and provide a more complete description of typical performance in this

course at each grade level. The CPD's can be accessed on the schools website.

Problem of the month

If an analogue clock reads 12:05, what is the approximate angle formed by its hands? What if it reads 1:36?, 4:57?

Dean Lappas

Head Teacher Mathematics

Teaching and Learning Report

Term 3 is a busy term for students and staff. We would like to thank all of our Disability Provision volunteers for assisting HSC students during the Trial Higher School Certificate. Acting as a reader/writer can be a challenging task and our students have been punctual and very supportive. Being a Disability Provisions volunteer also gives Year 10 students a chance to become familiar with the HSC - valuable experience as they progress to Stage 6.

Our Year 7 and 8 Supported Learning classes continue to be an ever active hive of activity and learning. We are working hard on the Corrective Reading program and selected students from Years 7-9 are attending intensive reading programs with the LAST (Learning and Support Team) staff. Our Year 10 reading mentors are enjoying tutoring Year 7 students in the Peer Tutor Reading program and are working towards attaining a Reading Tutoring Certificate through our TAFE partnership. We currently have 48 students undertaking the Quicksmart program. These students are making excellent progress in improving their accuracy and fluency in basic numeracy skills. Students are also working on improving their skills in numeracy problem solving.

Mrs Dowe's class (8WL) is well underway with their planning and documentation of their journey in the 2015 Art4Argiculture – Archibull

Prize. The Archibull Prize is a creative and innovative way to bring together the world of Australian agriculture and education. 8WL is learning all about working as part of a strong team to reach a common goal. Students have been allotted jobs and are encouraged to take responsibility for their part in the project.



The theme for this year is “The journey from fibre to fashion” and our allocated fibre is wool. There are 4 areas of Assessment for the Archibull Prize including; artwork (which our canvas is a life size fibre-glass cow); blog (detailing our learning and journey through the 2015 Archibull Prize); a Movie and finally, an info-graphic presentation (detailing our findings on bio-security in the Australian Wool Industry). As a class we are all working together to complete the artwork on our Archibull, because it is such a massive task and makes up half of our total mark at judging.

Week 2 ended with our Young Farming Champion Bessie Thomas visiting us and teaching us about life as an Australian wool grower and living a more sustainable life to preserve our environment for future generations. 8WL really enjoyed meeting Bessie; going to the Ag farm and learning lots and lots about wool.



If you would like to learn more about the Archibull Prize; you can follow our Northlakes High School Blog at;

<https://northlakeshighschoolarchibullexperience.wordpress.com/>

Please leave us a comment or let me know if you can offer assistance. We are currently searching for 100% Merino wool, direct from the grower if possible.

In other news please remember that your child can always access their Mathsonline account to revise for homework. There are lessons on every topic which are explained and modelled. 7WL students can also access their online EdSphere account to improve their literacy skills.

It is that time of year when books are becoming full and pens are running out. Please ensure that your child is prepared and ready to learn for each subject with the correct equipment.

Teaching & Learning Staff

Science Report

Students have settled well in Term 3, and there is a lot of exciting things happening in the Science Faculty this term.

Year 12 are currently undertaking their trial exams and it is a great opportunity for the students to see what they need to do for their final examination. We all wish them the best of luck!!

In August will be celebrating Science week, with a number of activities planned. We will be introducing our Scientist, Rachael, as a part of

the program 'Scientists and Mathematicians in Schools'. Rachael is a researcher working on plant ecology, having a particular interest in Australian flora and how it may adapt to a changing climate. Rachael has a Phd in her field and is currently at Macquarie University in a funded Fellowship. She wanted to be involved in the program as she benefited a lot from programs like this growing up and feels education is crucial in changing people's lives. We look forward to meeting her and involving her in our Wetland project at Charmhaven.

Northlakes Science Club will be going to Newcastle to watch an electric bike race, with the view to make our own electric bike, racing it in next year's event. We are currently looking for sponsorship and if anyone can assist, please contact Mrs Fulwood or Mr Pankhurst.

Later in the term there will be an excursion for Year 8 students to Darling Harbour. We will be visiting the Aquarium and if time permits, the Power House Museum. This is to supplement the student's learning in the units that they are currently studying, Ecology, and later in the term, Energy and Technology. More information will be given closer to the event.

All junior years (7 to 10) will be given their 3rd assessment task, which is a research task. If students have any questions in relation to this task, please see your science teacher.

We would like to acknowledge how great the farm is looking at the moment, thanks to the hard work of Mr Pankhurst and his team. Well done for all the hard work, which has obviously payed off!

Sport Report

Northlakes High entered both a boys and girls team in the Year 7/8 NSW Touch Football Gala Day at Adcock Park on Tuesday 28th July, accompanied by Mr Edwards and our Intern teacher, Miss Rush.

The girls team battled bravely despite having limited subs. After taking an early lead they faded as they tired and ended their first game with a 3-3 draw. The girls continued to play

hard all day however, despite their best efforts they were unable to win any of their remaining games. Special mention goes to Brooklyn O'Mara who impressed with a number of long range tries.

In their first game, the boy's team were soundly beaten by a well-drilled Narara Valley team who went on to win the day. Despite this, they recovered well to win their next game 2-1 and were unlucky to narrowly lose their remaining two games. The boys teamwork improved over the course of their four games and their effort and commitment was excellent throughout the day.

Despite some unfortunate results, both teams acquitted themselves well in all their games and maintained an excellent standard of effort and behaviour throughout the day.

Looking forward in the calendar, we have the Sydney North Netball Gala days coming up. The Year 7/8 day is Friday 21st August, and the Year 9/10 day is Wednesday 9th September. Both will be at Adcock Park in Gosford. Miss Levido will be taking those teams and will be calling for names at upcoming assemblies.

Our annual 'Leading with action' stage of the Premier's Sporting Challenge is coming up at Blue Haven Primary School, with the date to be confirmed. Our Year 9, 10 and 11 students who attended the 'Learning to Lead' day in November last year will be the coaches for this day. I will come and see you and be making announcements on assembly when more information comes to hand.

Finally, a big congratulations to Marcus Guendoul in Year 11 for being selected to compete in the NSW CHS Boys Softball State Carnival at Curl Curl this week, and Piper Nowland in Year 9 who has qualified for the NSW CHS Athletics Carnival in the Discus event. Piper will be competing on Saturday 5th September and we wish her the best of luck!

M Mansfield
Sport Co-ordinator

Support Unit Report

Migration and Diversity

All classes in the support unit have been studying migration and diversity this term. We have been impressed by the participation of our students and the high level of interest displayed in class. We encourage all of our students to accept each other as individuals and hope that our students feel safe and secure at all times. Students have been learning about the migration of groups of people throughout the world and the reasons why Australia represents such a wonderful place to live and grow. The students have shown that they understand and appreciate that our school, local community and country are comprised of a wide range of people with different cultural, personal and family backgrounds. As part of this unit, the IOJ class created a fabulous piece of art with Ms Parkes where each student cut their face into quarters and reassembled them using parts from each other. The new faces created represented the differences, but similarities all of us share.

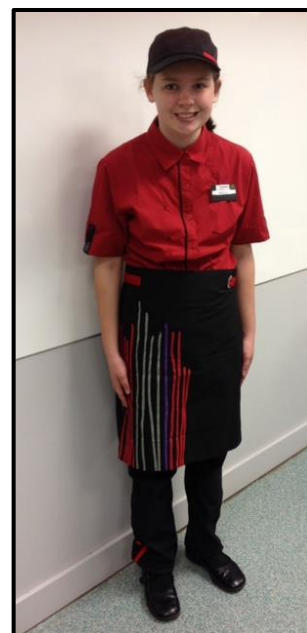


IOJ Class Pictures – “Changing Faces”

Work Experience

A number of students in the support unit have successfully completed work experience activities as part of their Personal Learning Plan. Congratulations to Rachel from the MC

Class who has been working at McDonalds Lakehaven as “Front of House”. Rachel has been responsible for cleaning, looking after tables and ensuring the restaurant is ready for customers. Reports from her supervisors have been really positive and we are very proud of her achievements. Congratulations to Matthew in the Middle Class who has completed work experience as a Tiler with a local tradesperson. Although this has not led to work for Matthew, it has helped him identify areas of interest and set future life goals. Congratulations to Alana in the ED Class who has been doing work experience as a Hairdresser as well as completing a Hairdressing course at Gosford TAFE. Alana thoroughly enjoys Hairdressing and would like to pursue this as a career when she finishes school. We are extremely happy that our students are willing to attempt new experiences and have displayed a lot of growth during the year. Well done to all of our students for being involved in a range of positive activities in and out of school.



Volcano Competition

I am pleased to report that the volcano competition was a huge success. The ED Class was the ultimate winner. Their volcano looked absolutely amazing and had a prehistoric theme. I was impressed to see the effort and dedication applied by the students to design and paint their volcano. The ED Class worked well as a team to create their masterpiece (well done).

All classes did a great job and should be congratulated for their enthusiasm while making the volcanoes, their general interest in

the topic and excellent behaviour on the day. Ms Parkes did a wonderful job organising the volcano competition, artwork and experiments that made the event possible. Her creativity allows the students to experience a wide range of multisensory and hands-on activities that reinforce what is taught in in class. Finally, I would just like to say, a very big thank you to Ms Rowley and Mr Boake for coming up to the support unit as guest judges for the competition. All of the students were excited to see them and were talking about it afterwards.



Our Kitchen Rules!

The Senior Class has been creating wonderful soups and pastas that have been sold to staff. Their gourmet creations have become a Tuesday favourite with teachers, particularly in these colder months. Ms Milne has certainly developed a group of excellent chefs capable of working together as a team in the kitchen to make “Tasty Treats” a huge success.

I would also like to acknowledge the ongoing effort made by the Middle Class and MC Class to create, prepare and cook staff morning tea. The two classes alternate Friday mornings and make a wide range of sweet & savoury treats for all school staff to enjoy. Aaron and Chloe from the Middle Class are fantastic cooks and I know Mr Quodling is very proud of their efforts. Both students are well organised, lead others in the preparation of food and always practice hygienic behaviour in the kitchen. Well done everyone.

Welfare Report

Welcome back to a busy and productive Term 3!

All of our great programs are running this term; these are RAGE, Reality Check, GLOW, Seasons for Growth, I Track mentoring, Social Skills program, Green Room, Travel Training program and Peer Mediation. We are positive that students participating in these programs this term will gain valuable skills and support!

The Welfare team would like to thank all the staff for their efforts in meeting the deadline of the NCCD reports which were due on the 24th July 2015. The NCCD stands for National Consistent Collection Data which supports our students with disabilities in the classroom.

The Year 9 Welfare Day is this term; students will participate in a program about GP’s and Health in schools. This day will be informative for our students. The San Remo Neighbourhood Centre work closely with the welfare team to support the health and mental health of our students. We are very lucky to have such a valuable resource accessible to our school.

Students must be in full school uniform, black jumpers/jackets are to be worn in the cooler months, with no printing on them besides the Northlakes High jackets. Please talk to your child’s Year Advisor if you are having difficulty with purchasing a black jacket/jumper for your child. Black pants can also be worn in the cooler months but not black tights, they are not

school uniform. We will be continually checking uniform at morning assemblies. Letters will be sent home for students who are not in correct uniform.

Attendance is an important priority for us at Northlakes High School. Attendance at school is compulsory until your child turns 17. Please contact your child's Year Advisor if you are having any concerns with your child attending school. We have a supportive welfare team who are able to help students and parents in coming to school and feeling ok about being here. Please read the article on Northlakes High School Policy and Procedures in this newsletter for more information.

Immunisation of our students, particularly Year 7, are on track. A big thank you to Mrs Kerry Bissaker who successfully co-ordinates all Immunisation programs in the school, which is a large job, and Mrs Sharmaine Anderson who always helps out on the day.

ATSI Report

The Northlakes High Dance groups are progressing very well with our new dance teacher Diane Chaloner. The girls performed beautifully for our Education Week celebrations along with our Didge group.

NAIDOC celebrations will go ahead with a DoE guest to facilitate along with our face painting and stall.

Parent/community and school Aboriginal team meetings are booked for week 6, with a new Aboriginal Mental Health worker who will attend to provide advice to the community dealing with complex scenarios.

Kids versus Cops Touch Football day is on Thursday the 6th August 215...best of luck to all participating and have fun!

An Aboriginal program was developed to enhance the Korean Exchange visit to our school this week with performances by the Dance and Didge groups, a lesson on culture and preparation of bush tucker. It was a great success with many of the students showing an interest in the culture.

A group of Aboriginal students visited the Gosford Regional Gallery for a Mental Health Cultural workshop where some impressive artworks were created. Such a valuable experience for our students.

Please do not hesitate to contact your child's Year Advisor if you have any welfare concerns about your child.

*Mrs Jodene Garside and Ms Simone Byrnes
Head Teachers Welfare*

Dates to Remember

3/8/15	Trial HSC continues until 7/8/15
6/8/15	Book Week all Year 7 & 8 with performance and lunch \$6
6/8/15	Korean students leave
6/8/15	Kids vs Cops
12/8/15	Discovery Day Yr 6 Blue Haven
13/8/15	Discovery Day Yr 6 Northlakes Primary
13/8/15	Concert Pd 2 & 3
14/8/15	Discovery Day Yr 6 Budgewoi
15/8/15	Central Coast University Open Day Ourimbah 10-3pm
18/8/15	SRC & AECG Induction
18/8/15	P&C Meeting 3:30pm
18/8/15	Central Coast Showcase till 21/8/15
19/8/15	Discovery Day Yr 5 Blue Haven
20/8/15	Discovery Day r 5 Northlakes Primary
21/8/15	Discovery Day Yr 5 Budgewoi
21/8/15	Yr 7 & 8 Sydney North Netball Gala Day Gosford
21/8/15	Yr 12 Hamlet excursion
22/8/15	Newcastle University Open Day 10-4pm



28th July 2015

EDUCATION WEEK

We are celebrating Education Week.

Our students' art work is on display at Lakehaven, and Year 9 musicians performed brilliantly there on Tuesday. We also opened our school to visitors in the afternoon, and held the Year 8 subject selection night... A big week for all staff and students.

Northlakes High is a proud comprehensive school, which has a positive and productive relationship with our school community.

Our school has a high values focus. We have implemented Positive Behaviour for Learning with the core values of Respect, Responsibility and Personal Best. Regular lessons reinforce and expand on these concepts. Students are involved in this at a whole-school level, and as a member of one of our eight Houses. We have enhanced the role of Student Voice and Student Council Structures, with a student leadership structure which amalgamates current programs. We have a core aim of engaging all students positively in achieving academic success. All students are involved in the Elevate program and in 2015 we introduced Elevate Plus. All programs focus on improved literacy and numeracy, at all academic levels.

We have excellent facilities including upgraded science laboratories, kitchens, metals and construction workshops, as well as a sprung floor dance studio and our Hospitality Trade Training Centre. Our Library is now a technological learning centre with a laptop laboratory as well as desktop computers. We have introduced a Learning Centre Co-ordinator to support students, especially those in Year 11 and 12 in 2015. Our school farm has been expanded and now accommodates a range of animals, fish and poultry, as well as horticulture. Students benefit from extensive creative and performing arts' courses, public speaking and debating, as well as a wide range of extra-curricular special events. Senior students are offered a wide range of vocational educational courses, including Business Services, Retail, Sports Coaching, ICT, Hospitality and Construction, as well as Metals and Engineering. We have introduced 'Advancement via Individual Determination' (A.V.I.D.) to Year 9 and 10, and we have seen great outcomes from this exceptional program.

Students are supported by a highly competent and well-organised welfare team. We have a Student Support Officer, three counsellors and a school chaplain. There are a number of smaller supported classes for students with identified needs, both in the mainstream and in the support unit. All Aboriginal students have a personalised learning plan, and the school conducts a wide range of programs to support our Aboriginal students.

Parents, guardians and students may access our website, smartphone application or Facebook page, which are updated regularly and are reliable sources of information. Payments for fees, excursions or other events may be made easily through our Parent Portal on the web page.

Our students have experienced very significant successes this year.... These are in our newsletter.

I am a proud Principal!

NORTHLAKES HIGH SCHOOL ATTENDANCE PROCEDURES 2015

Regular attendance at school for every student is essential if students are to achieve their potential and increase their career and life options. Schools in partnership with parents and carers are responsible for promoting the regular attendance of students. In order to maintain an accurate record of student attendance we must rely upon all students and their parents/carers to follow correct procedure.

LATE STUDENTS:

Students have been informed that they must scan in with their card or see the office staff for a new one if lost. Students who arrive late without a note need to bring in a note the next day with a valid reason for their not arriving on time. If a student sleeps in or is late for some other reason relating to lack of organisation or negligence on their part and the absence can therefore not be explained with a valid reason, it will remain an unexplained absence and appear on their report at the end of the semester.

Senior students who arrive at school late without scanning their ID card are essentially trespassing and will be asked to go to the office straight away. An excessive number of late arrivals without valid reason will result in the school's disciplinary code being enforced.

SCHOOL SICK BAY:

There have been a number of instances of students calling their parents/carers when sick and not notifying the office. The procedure is that a sick student will present themselves to the office either in person at recess or lunch or via a teacher pink note from class. The office will then organise a parent/carer pickup whilst the student waits in sick bay.

SCHOOL ABSENCES:

The Department of Education and Communities (DEC) has now changed the procedures for student absences. Parents and carers must provide an explanation of their student's absences within 7 days from the first day of any period of absence through means such as a telephone call, written note, text message or email.

If the school does not receive an explanation of the absence from the parents within 7 days, the school will contact the parents within 2 school days after the 7 day timeframe has elapsed (if contact has not already been made). Northlakes High School uses the SMS text message system to alert parents of an absence which a parent can then explain the absence.

When frequent absences are explained as due to illness a medical certificate can be used to support the absences.

SCHOOL EXEMPTIONS/HOLIDAYS:

The Department of Education and Communities (DEC) has now changed the procedures for registering Exemption from school requests. From The beginning of 2015, family holidays and travel are no longer considered under the Exemption from School-Procedures. Travel outside of school holiday periods needs a Certificate of Extended Leave – Travel available from the school. A principal should accept a reason for travel during school term if it is in the best interests of the student, such as educational, social and participation reasons, this also includes family business, bereavement or other reasons which should be specified on the application.

On accepting a parent's Application a Certificate of Extended Leave – Travel must be issued. The certificate is provided to the parent. A principal may decline to accept a parents Application of a Certificate of Extended Leave – Travel, the parent will be advised in writing.

Travel outside of the vacation period is now counted as an absence for statistical purposes by DEC and will be recorded as L – Leave and will count as an absence on your child's school report.

Any attendance related enquiries can be directed to Mrs Rowley and Mrs Garside on 43 900 555.



AUSTRALIAN VETERANS'
CHILDREN ASSISTANCE TRUST

The AVCAT COMMEMORATIVE BURSARY

Commemorating 30 years of service to the veteran community.

Valued at \$15,000, this special bursary aims to financially assist an Australian veteran's child as they pursue their university studies.

Bursary Criteria and Conditions

The successful applicant will

- * be a child of an Australian veteran with operational service outside of Australia;
- * be commencing their tertiary studies in 2016;
- * be studying an undergraduate degree of at least three years' duration, full-time and in face-to-face mode;
- * be aged between 17 and 25 years at the time of application;
- * eligible on assets and income grounds for continuous, means-tested Commonwealth benefits for tertiary education and
- * be the most deserving candidate of merit.

The successful applicant will be able to demonstrate a high level of leadership ability, community service and willingness to be an ambassador for the Trust.

Short listed applicants will be interviewed.

The Bursary will be valued at \$15000 (\$5000 per year for three years).

Known as the *AVCAT Commemorative Bursary*, the name of the bursary reflects its purpose, namely to commemorate the organisation's 30 year history. The recipient will be presented at an appropriate Awards Presentation ceremony in 2016.

APPLICATIONS OPEN 18TH AUGUST 2015

Application form can be downloaded from our website.

For more information please contact AVCAT:

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