



Seven Hills High School

NEWSLETTER

March 2014

A member of the Nirimba Collegiate group of schools

PROGRESS THROUGH SERVICE

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Important Dates

March

- 12th P&C Meeting, 7.30pm in the Library
- 13th Year 7 Meet the Teacher BBQ
- 17th - 21st Harmony Week
- 19th Koori pathways 9-12 at UWSC
- 20th Multicultural Lunch
- 21st Muru Mittigar excursion
- Debating Workshop: Years 7 and 8
- Harmony Week Mufti Day – Gold Coin donation
- 28th Year 10 VA Biennale Excursion
- World Earth Hour
- Geography Competition: session 1

April

- 3rd Year Advisers' breakfast
- 4th Teachers v Students Volley ball
- 7th School Cross Country Carnival Sessions 3-4
- 8th Year 7, 1st dose HPV
Year 7, dTpa
Year 9, 1st dose HPV boys
- 9th P&C Meeting

Principal's Report

School Leaders Induction



On Thursday the 20th of February, I had the pleasure of presenting the Badges of Office to our newly inducted Student Representative Council and officials' shirts to our Sports Council for 2014 in

front of our student body and many proud parents.

Our School Captains are Jarod Rockall and Brooke Joyner. Our Vice Captains are Kimberley Passe and Courtney Stalker and our Prefects are Camilla Passe, Nina Junio and Siope Akauola.

Our Student Representative Council consists of; Patrick Petersons, Alicia Kidd, Cameron Pike, Skye Singh, Joanna Agostino, Jayden Cavanagh, Melyssa Passe, Lisa McDermott, Axel Rivai, William Sengstock, Tara Sheen and Kiralee Snudden.

Our Sports Leaders are;

Bradman House: Joshua Nafarette, Shivon Nolland and Keren Sheppard;

Ellis House: Luke Gardiner, Raven Galistan and Camilla Passe;

Freeman House: Dean Lindsay, Kimberley Passe and Veronique Siniska; and

Thorpe House: Rebekah Houkamau, Jarod Rockall and Dominique Siniska

P&C Meeting, Wednesday 12th March.

At this month's meeting parents will be updated on the new resources available to our students whilst studying Science.

At last month's meeting the P&C were advised of important changes to school funding for 2014 under the Resource Allocation Model (RAM). Parents voted in support of funding allocations to increase the variety of learning experiences in Visual Arts, Music, Chinese and PD/H/PE; Literacy initiatives in Science and HSIE: Numeracy initiatives in Mathematics: Leadership and engagement activities in student leadership and welfare and the purchase of curriculum based resources for the library.

I encourage all parents to attend tonight's meeting and have a voice in your child's education.

Updating Emergency Contact Details

It is important that if there have been any changes in emergency contact details that they be given to the school as soon as possible so that in the event of a medical emergency we are able to contact the right people.

Could you please complete the form found later in the newsletter and give it to your child to return to the front office, if there have been any changes to contact details.

Year 7 2015 Information Evening

Thank you to Mr Erwin for his organisation of this event. The Student Representative Council, who acted as guides for the evening, and all staff who attended, are to be congratulated on their efforts during the night. This evening was an important part of the school's transition program as well as an opportunity to promote the quality of the students and staff of Seven Hills High School.

Year 7 Meet the Teacher BBQ

This Thursday, 13th of March we are holding our annual Meet the Teacher BBQ for our Year 7 students and their families outside the canteen starting at 6:30 pm.

It is a great opportunity for parents to come, enjoy a sausage sandwich, and meet your child's teacher in a relaxed, casual environment.

During the evening there will be a slideshow presentation featuring photographs and videos of the Year 7 Camp for families to enjoy.

Greg Johnstone
Principal

English/HSIE Faculty News



The English/HSIE faculty has worked hard to ensure that the 2014 academic year began smoothly. As the semester continues, we would like to remind each of you of some of the various systems operating out of the English/HSIE

faculty.

Each student in the English/HSIE faculty has received a copy of their subject course outlines and assessment schedule for the year (pasted in the front of their workbooks). This will enable you to work with your child in preparation for the unit and any upcoming assessment tasks.

We have also provided your child with a handout of our ROAD Expectations in the classroom, which sets out the guidelines for the expected behaviour of each student and bringing the correct equipment to lessons.

If you have any questions or seek further assistance during the school year, please feel free to contact myself or your child's English/ HSIE teacher. We want to "Reach, Inspire, Connect" with all our students and families and as a team we are dedicated to resolving any concerns or issues that may arise throughout the year.

Finally, Ms Rose will be coordinating both the Junior and Senior Debating teams. Ms Adams will be coordinating the Geography competitions.

Mrs Ristevski
Relieving Head Teacher
English/HSIE

Support Unit News

The Support Unit has three streams of classes this year.

Year 7, which has 18 students, has Mr Pinto as the classroom teacher and Mrs Taverniti and Mrs Sergeant as the School Learning and Support Officers (SLSOs).

Year 8, which has 10 students, has Mr Khan as the classroom teacher and Mrs Williams as the SLSO.

Year 9, which has 14 students is taught by Mr Hussain and Mrs Hynd and Mrs Nash are the SLSOs.

A wide range of subjects are offered to students in the unit. Apart from the four KLAS (English, Mathematics, Science and HSIE) students are studying Visual Arts, Wood Technology, Food Technology and Sports. This year the students have sports combined with the main stream classes.

Year 9 students this year are studying a wide range of electives like Visual Arts, Digital Media, IT, Cooking and Music. They also have Travel Training with Mr Hussain. The aim of Travel Training is to expose the students to the community at large. Students will be assessed on the following: organisational skills, pedestrian skills, road safety, personal identification and safety procedures, social skills, money handling and shopping skills

Year 9 students next year will be undertaking Work Experience as a core requirement to the Life Skills Program. The Travel Training program will hopefully make these students independent travellers.

M Hussain
Relieving Head Teacher

Science Report

It has been very pleasing to see the majority of students fully equipped for learning this term, including a big improvement in the number of students wearing leather footwear. Arriving to class with the appropriate equipment, including footwear, will help to ensure your child participates in all learning experiences.

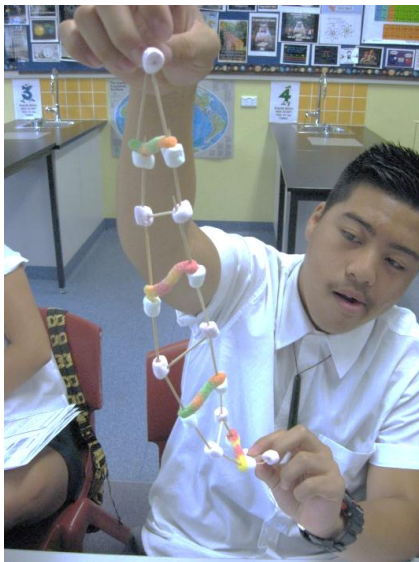
This year has seen schools in **New South Wales begin** to teach the all-new **NSW Syllabuses** for the **Australian Curriculum** in Years 7 and 9. The Science Faculty has created new teaching programs that incorporate an inquiry based approach to learning. Students are provided with opportunities that not only introduce new content, but also develop a practical, useful approach to solving problems and answering questions.

Ms Jordan will again be running the Streamwatch program at Seven Hills High School. The program will see a group of Year 8 students monitor the water quality of Lalor Creek. The program involves students taking water samples from the creek and conducting various tests both on site as well as back at school.

Whilst your child may not receive formal homework for Science each lesson, it is essential they spend time reading through their books and ensuring all classwork has been completed to help consolidate new concepts that are being taught in class. Please do not hesitate to contact your child's Science teacher if you have any questions regarding this.



Jamerson McDonald & Ty Longford from 9SC conducting a brain dissection.



Joshua Nafarrete from 10SA with his lolly DNA model.

Mr Ward
Head Teacher Science

Sports News



On March the 3rd our Girls Opens Knockout Basketball team travelled to Colyton High School for our first round clash in the Sydney West knockout tournament.

The girls had been training really hard each week since last year and had come a really long way from the inexperienced group of players we had started with. It took us a while to get into the game, but our enthusiasm and hard work paid off as we put in a great showing against a Colyton team full of seniors and experienced players. Almost all our girls managed to score and a great game was played by all.

Congratulations to the following students on their hard-work in training as well as their efforts and conduct on the day:

Camilla Passe, Kimberly Passe, Pruthvi Mehta, Courtney Stalker, Nina Junio, Ledia Jabrou, Keren Sheppard, Dominique Siniska, Melyssa Passe, Alarna Power, Te-Rina Winitana

Also a special thanks to Mr. Bobadilla who gave his expertise this year as coach.

Mr Way
Sports Organiser

Literacy Report



The Literacy Team have been 'super' busy this term with our continued focus on embedding the 'Super 6' comprehension strategies into all curriculum areas. These strategies consist of predicting, making connections, visualising, monitoring, questioning and summarising.

All staff participated in their third 'Super 6' working bee, where resources were created for Years 9 and 10 students. The Literacy Team is currently providing individual feedback for every resource created so that only the highest quality is taken into the classroom.

Mr Davis is also running the Premier's Reading Challenge for 2014. All Self-Select students in Years 7 and 8 are participating, as well as any other student interested. Please encourage your child to participate, and see Mr Davis for more information.

If you have any questions about the 'Super 6', feel free to contact me at the school.

ROAD Report

It has been a busy start to the year for the Seven Hills High School ROAD Crew. We continued with our focus on reinforcing positive behaviours in the playground by bringing back the almighty E-tag!

Staff on playground supervision took the small tokens out to the playground and searched for as many positive behaviours relating to our school's four core values: respect, organisation, application and determination. Students receiving E-tags then placed them into a box, and one lucky winner each day received a \$5 canteen voucher. Each E-tag received also equated to a merit point.

Congratulations to the following students who received more than ten E-tags during the two week focus.

1. Reece Dynan Smith (Year 7)
2. Brooke Lindsay (Year 8)
3. Axel Rlvai (Year 8)

4. Willow Way (Year 8)

5. Raven-Lee Galistan (Year 10)

The ROAD Crew would like to thank all staff and students for embracing our recent focus in the playground, and we look forward to continued positive behaviour in the playground.

Every 5 weeks, each teacher logs into an online database and gives each student they teach a numerical value up to 10 that reflects the student's application in their subject. Each subject's number is reported in the document, as well as an average. This average is converted into merit points and contributes towards reward days and other aspects of our merit scheme.

Included in each report are the descriptors for each mark. For example, if your child receives an 8 out of 10, they can use the descriptors to plan for further improvement.

The descriptors are purely based on application and behaviour, not intelligence or academic performance. Therefore any student who works hard and applies themselves will receive high RTA points.

RTA Reports were distributed this week.

Mr Fulwood

Student Representative Council (SRC) Report

The SRC have had a busy start to the term. The SRC sold Valentine's Day roses for the students; we ended up selling 134 roses, which was better than last year's total. We also played love song dedications at lunchtime.

The first charity we have decided to fundraise for is the Leukaemia Foundation. The money we raise will go towards research and support for families when they need it most. It will also mean that patients can be transported to and from appointments and be provided with as much practical assistance and emotional support as they need, free of charge.

On Monday 10th March, students and teachers joined in the fun by getting their hair coloured by the SRC before school and at

recess. At lunch they even helped shave Mr. Maclaren's and Mr. Bobadilla's beards and cut Cameron Pike's (Year 9), and Mr. Davis' hair.

On Tuesday 25th of February, the Captains Brooke Joyner and Jarod Rockall, the Vice Captains Kimberly Passé and the Prefects Siopé Akaoula, Nina Junio and Camilla Passé attended a leadership conference at Homebush. It was a great experience and we came away with many ideas that we want to try this year.

Upcoming events to look forward to this term include Easter activities such as a raffle, guessing competition, Easter cupcakes and a roll call challenge with the prize being an Easter egg hunt.

Brooke Joyner/SRC

New books in the Library



The following books have recently been added to the library for you to read and borrow.

There is an Asian curriculum focus in these books. Why not come to the library and check them out?

- **Mao's Last Dancer**; the movie is based on it. An inspiring story about a dancer in China. A remarkable **book** about an extraordinary life. It is a runaway best-selling autobiography.
- **The story of Billy Young**; he was a boy of 15 when he joined the AIF in 1941. He was an orphan – hungry, broke, with nowhere to sleep – and the army offered him a feed...
- **Trash**; Raphael is a dump-site boy. This **book** is just wonderful.
- **China** : everything you ever wanted to know.
- **Wicked Warriors and Evil Emperors**: the true story of the fight for Ancient China.

- **Chalkline**; Childhood can be very short for some children, in **Chalkline**, it ends abruptly.
- **Paper boats**; for Years 7 and 8, written by students from immigrant, refugee or asylum seeker backgrounds.
- **The Garden of Empress Cassia**; deals with ethnicity, identity, community and schoolyard society.
- **WeirDo** an excellent book from the famous comedian, Anh Do.
- **Kaitangata** twitch (from the hit TV series in New Zealand).
- **U.S.A.** A guide about what to expect in the USA.
- **Great Britain** : everything you ever wanted to know.
- **Dragon Dawn**; a **dragon** should sleep through winter at the bottom of a pool; It was a ghostly **dawn**...
- **The short and bloody history of pirates**; so come aboard for an account of the day-to-day life pirates.

Other books.....

- **Lion Boy**
- **Bye, beautiful**
- **Walk in my shoes**
- **Halo**
- **Break of day**
- **Boys without names**
- **Little Paradise**
- **The way of the warrior**
- **My girragundji**
- **The Binna Burra man**
- **Eric Vale : epic fail**
- **The cat on the mat is flat**
- **The 13-storey treehouse**
- **Diary of a wimpy kid : Greg Heffley's journal**
- **Diary of a wimpy kid : hard luck.**
- **The black-bearded Bai and other plays from Asian folklore**
- **Krakatoa Lighthouse**

• **The Little Refugee**

Any student who has an assignment to finish can speak with Mr Davis about it to see if there are resources in the library that could help.

Also the Library is open by 8 a.m. in the morning and you can use the research computers and books at this time.

Mr Davis
Teacher Librarian

Anti-Racism And Giving Consideration And Respect To Others

Respect is a key element in ROAD at Seven Hills High School. Respect is an important part of everyday work and play.

At times some people make others feel uncomfortable by referring to the "racial" or ethnic origins of others in an unacceptable way. This type of negative behaviour is racism. All students, staff and community members have a right to be treated with dignity and respect no matter which groups they belong to.

At Seven Hills High School and all NSW public schools there is a legal requirement that an Anti-Racism Contact Officer (ARCO) be trained and available to deal with issues that arise. Mr Davis is currently the ARCO at our school.

If you think you have been treated badly because of your cultural background speak to a teacher, a head teacher, a deputy principal or the principal.

All allegations referred to the ARCO are treated in a confidential manner and are initially treated as a welfare issue and education is the focus.

