



# Seven Hills High School

## NEWSLETTER

March 2015

A member of the Nirimba Collegiate group of schools

**PROGRESS THROUGH SERVICE**

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### Important Dates:

#### March

- 11<sup>th</sup> P&C Meeting 7.30pm
- 12<sup>th</sup> School Leaders Investiture
- 18<sup>th</sup> Cayliss Cup Years 7-10
- 19<sup>th</sup> Multicultural Lunch
- 31<sup>st</sup> School Cross Country
- White Card Certification

#### April

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Last Day of Term 1
- 20<sup>th</sup> School Development Day
- 21<sup>st</sup> Students return for Term 2
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Elev8 Study Skills Workshops
- 24<sup>th</sup> Year 7 Vaccinations
- 29<sup>th</sup> School Photographs
- 30<sup>th</sup> Year 10 Health Seminar

#### May

- 1<sup>st</sup> School Athletics Carnival
- 6<sup>th</sup> Year 11 2016 Subject Selection Evening
- 8<sup>th</sup> Zone Cross Country
- 12<sup>th</sup> English incursion
- 13<sup>th</sup> P&C Meeting

### Principal's Report

This month has been a busy one for the school with a variety of activities being conducted for our students and community.

Amongst the many student activities, Year 7 have been away on camp, this year supported by their Year 10 Peer Support Leaders. From all reports it was one of the best camps ever and much of its success is

down to the way the leaders supported the Year 7 students and the supervising staff.

The school has conducted 2 literacy and numeracy workshops for parents designed to provide them with the confidence and strategies to support their child in developing their skills in these important areas. This program will recommence in Week 2 Term 2.

We held our Year 7 'Meet the Teacher' BBQ which is designed to enable parents and staff to put names to faces in an informal atmosphere. Thank you to the large numbers of parents, students and staff who attended; making this night an outstanding success.

At this Wednesday's P&C meeting, parents will be updated on the teaching of English at our school and consulted on funding of school initiatives through Resource Allocation Model (RAM).

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

This Thursday we will be holding our School Leaders Induction assembly. This assembly will be followed by an afternoon tea for all leaders and their parents.

Finally, next term's School Development Day will see staff from the Nirimba Learning Community (consisting of Blacktown Boys, Blacktown Girls, Evans, Mitchell, Quakers Hill, Riverstone, Seven Hills, The Hills Sports High School and Wyndham College) collaborating in a day of faculty based learning at a variety of sites across the learning network.

Greg Johnstone

### Fast Forward Program

The following Year 9 students: Connor Abnett, Jayden Cavanagh, Zachary Crayton, Aiden Cullen, Normalita Go-Smith, Keala Laundry, Damon North, Lachlan Pike, Alarna Power, Axel Rivai, Lidya Rivai, Stephan Sands, Daisy Scott, Kiralee Snudden, Stefan Stojanovic, Kiara Walsh, Willow Way, Te Rina Winitana and Eric Zaccazan, have been selected to take part in The Fast Forward Program run by the University of Western Sydney. The program

encourages students to strive for their personal best and to see tertiary study as a realistic and viable post school option. They participate in experiential learning which develops their skills and fosters familiarity with the university environment. The Fast Forward Program recognises the importance of engaging students with the concept of lifelong learning and the benefits of post school education as early as possible so that they can be more prepared and plan their pathways in the senior years of schooling.

Students and their parents will be attending an awards evening on the Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March at the University of Western Sydney. This evening is used to acknowledge the academic and leadership potential in our students.

Mr Rumball  
Year 9 Advisor

## Smooth Walking Program

During Term 1, Seven Hills High School welcomed numerous primary schools from our local area to participate in the Smooth Walking Program.

The program focused on providing students from Stage 3 with a 'real life' high school experience. They participated in and interacted with different subjects. Furthermore, students experienced high school timetabling and lesson structures. Stage 3 students were accompanied by our Year 10 Peer Support Leaders who assisted with answering questions and alleviating fears about starting high school.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the teachers of Seven Hills High School who generously donated their time and teaching expertise to help the program run. Mrs Riddell worked her magic in the kitchen, with Honey Joys on her Food Technology menu and Mr Zuliani and Mr Rumball saw the students running and jumping, skipping and hopping through their PDHPE lesson. All of this excitement was accompanied by the unique experience given in Science by 'blowing' up a few things with Mr Way and Mr Ward and then calming our nerves and learning some new moves in Mr MacLaren's 'Rock & Water' session. Furthermore, students were able to explore the ruins of Ancient Egypt through their History encounter with Mrs Melaisis and try their hand at clay making, in Visual Arts with Ms Moran and Mrs Clemson.

Once again, The Smooth Walking Program was a great success this semester with 290 Year 6 students experiencing a day at high school. We are looking forward to welcoming more students in Semester 2.

Ms Leigh Messer  
Transition Coordinator

## YEAR 7 CAMP...!!

On Monday of Week 4, a group of Year 7 students and the Year 10 Peer Support Leaders jumped on an air-conditioned bus, cracked open the lollies and began the journey north for the Year 7 Camp.

We arrived at Kincumber for the 'Great Aussie Bush Camp' and were quickly sorted into our cabins. We were split into two groups and after lunch we started our fun group activities. Our activities included giant swing, leap of faith, fencing, archery, raft building, high ropes mud pit and anti-bullying program. We had two night activities which were the disco night and commando, which unfortunately the teachers won yet again.

We would like to thank all the year 10 Peer Support Leaders who helped us put on our safety equipment and assisted throughout the camp. We would like to thank Ms Buckley, Mr Erwin and Ms Messer for organising the camp and coming along to join in the fun!

By Rachel McDermott, Helena McMeekin and Amneh Chaker- Year 7



## SRC Report

2015 is the year of the House Challenges. The aim of the SRC this year is to increase school spirit and student participation in extra curricular activities. There will be 4 House Challenges throughout the year. In term 1 the House Challenge will be based around Easter and involves two parts. Part 1 starts next week and includes a trivia competition in roll call. Points will be calculated and the winning two houses will move on to part 2 of the Challenge. This involves an Easter egg hunt and a scavenger hunt. To get into the spirit of things there will be an Easter mufti day as well.

The SRC are also running a guessing competition. There are two jars of chocolates and the person who guesses the closest to the correct number of chocolates in the jar wins the jar of chocolates. This competition will continue to run until the end of week 7. The small jar has over 400 chocolates and the large jar over 2500 chocolates. Not bad value for 50 cents!

Mrs Thurlow  
SRC Coordinator

## Wyndham College Science Enrichment Day

On Monday February 23<sup>rd</sup>, I was fortunate to accompany six Year 10 students to Wyndham College in order to participate in a Science Enrichment Day.

Bethany Bezzina, Lauren Stalker, Tylah Walsh, Cameron Pike, Jordan Valdezate and Aidan Schmid attended lessons in Senior Science, Chemistry, Physics, Biology, Agriculture and Earth and Environmental Science. The students learnt about the content taught in each subject as well as completing practical activities including chemical reactions, measuring electricity in circuits, propagating plants and making chocolate fossils.

It was an enjoyable day and helped the students in choosing which Science subject they would like to study in Year 11 next year.

Mrs Attias

## Vardy's Road Interest Groups

Year 10 students have been offered the opportunity to attend Vardy's Road Public School to work with a Year 3/4 class, on areas of interest to themselves and the primary school students.

This is a fantastic opportunity for Year 10 students to build on their leadership skills. As well as leading the students through the activities the Year 10 students also plan their own sessions, so their talents and passion for their chosen area will be on full display to the Year 3/4 students.

This program began last week and will run every Wednesday during lunch and Session 5. The Interest groups are Mathematics, Music, Creative Writing and Sport.

Corinne Buckley  
Year 10 Advisor

## Year 10 fundraising

**CARWASH** - Last Friday, Year 10 students nominated themselves to participate in a carwash fundraising activity to raise money for their formal. Staff of Seven Hills High School parked their cars on the oval so they could be washed by Year 10 students. Students spent the morning washing the outside of the teachers' cars. This was very successful and will be something we do again later in the year. Well done to those students involved in this fundraising activity.

**CHOCOLATE DRIVE** - Year 10 students have the opportunity to participate in a fundraising activity for their formal – Cadbury Chocolate Drive. By selling Cadbury's chocolates your child can directly reduce the cost of their formal. The more chocolates they sell the more they can reduce their formal ticket price. The fundraising process works in the following way –

1. Students sell a box of 50 Cadbury Freddos/chocolates for \$1.00 each.
2. They return \$50.00 to the front office by the due date – (3 weeks after collection)
3. For each box sold, Year 10 raise \$20.00
4. The profit for the first box that is sold by your child goes to the school (Year 10 formal) to pay for extras associated with the formal.
5. The profits from the second box that is sold (\$20.00) will be taken off your child's formal ticket price (the money still needs to be handed into the front office).
6. This will occur for each subsequent box that is sold.
7. The student must take **full responsibility** of the box and money. SHHS takes no responsibility for lost/stolen boxes.

Please get your child to pick up a permission note from Miss Buckley if you allow them to sell chocolates – this is not a compulsory activity.

Thanks  
Corinne Buckley  
Year 10 Advisor

## We Love Maths!



All students have been issued with Usernames and passwords.

Parents are encouraged to take a moment to work through an activity with your child and find out what 'Mathletics' is all about.

## Careers News

In the February Newsletter, two information evenings for parents and students were advertised. A Collegiate decision was made at a later date that the evenings would now be offered on a biannual basis. As such, **these evenings will now happen in 2016**. Therefore the "Apprenticeship and Traineeship Evening" and the "University Information Evening" will not run in 2015.

Sorry for any inconvenience with this change of organisation.

### Work Experience

Several Year 10 students have been on work experience, including 9 students from Support. I have been really impressed with the students' behaviour and attitude whilst at work experience. Many employers have commented on how responsible and serious our students are when at work. As an employer observes how serious an individual is at work, they are more likely to offer them work or remember them for work in the future. So please see Mrs Slater for information about accessing work experience. If a parent would like to contact me about work experience for their son or daughter then please call me on 9624 3329.

**Note:** Students who have taken work experience forms need to return them by 13<sup>th</sup> March 2015 if they wish to access work experience in early Term 2.

### White card Certificate

Students who have returned their note and paid their money will attend this one day course at school on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015.

Once a student has passed the course they will be issued with their certificate.

You **MUST** have a white card to enter a construction worksite.

### Barista course

We have 10 students who wish to complete the course, however we require 15 for the course to run. So if you are still interested please see Mrs Slater as soon as possible and place your name on the list.

### Year 10 subject selections

Term 2 will be a busy time for Year 10. Below is a time line for events in relation to enrolment at Wyndham College. I will be taking bookings for interviews with parents and students about subject selection for 2016. Please call me on 9624 3329 to book in a time.

### Year 10 2015 into Year 11 2016

Subject Selection Process

### Term 2

6<sup>th</sup> May - Subject Selection Night

18<sup>th</sup> May – Taster Lessons – Day 1

19<sup>th</sup> May – Taster Lessons – Day 2

1<sup>st</sup> June – Enrolment Packages Distributed & Online Subject Selection (Round 1) **opens**

25<sup>th</sup> June – Enrolment Packages Due to 7-10 Schools  
& Online Subject Selection (Round 1) **closes**

### Term 4

6<sup>th</sup> October – Online Subject Selection (Round 2) **opens**

18<sup>th</sup> November – Year 10 Orientation Day and Parent Orientation Evening at Wyndham

19<sup>th</sup> November – Year 10 Orientation Day for Students with Special Needs

30<sup>th</sup> November – Online Subject Selection (Round 2) **closes**

Tonnie Slater  
Careers Advisor

### PBL

The Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) framework introduced by the Department of Education in Western Sydney schools in the early 2000's has been a highly valued initiative at our school in making a positive difference to the learning environment. PBL is all about creating environments that increase the chances of student success both academically and socially at school. PBL involves teachers explicitly teaching the students to work within the school's core values of Respect, Organisation, Application and Determination (ROAD) in all settings.

2015 has seen a dynamic group of 11 staff meet fortnightly to ensure the continued success of ROAD initiatives at Seven Hills High School. The team have reviewed the school's expectation matrix to ensure it continues to meet the needs of our students. With the addition of explicit expectations for examinations, restrooms and technological settings, the team is confident that the updated matrix will provide students with clear expectations for the various settings they work within each day.

The ROAD team have identified uniform to be the focus of its efforts for Term 1. After much discussion it was decided to recognise students in correct uniform through a series of random prize draws, with the first occurring during Week 5 Year Meetings. Congratulations to the students who were awarded with \$5 canteen vouchers.

It is pleasing to see the majority of students in full school uniform, including black leather shoes. I thank all of the parents and carers who continue to ensure that their children are presented so admirably. We look forward to continued parental support in ensuring that the correct Seven Hills High School uniform is worn proudly by all of our students.

Dean Ward  
PBL Leader



## Seven Hills High School Expected Student Behaviours

	RESPECT	ORGANISATION	APPLICATION	DETERMINATION
<b>Assemblies</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Listen attentively</li> <li>Applaud when appropriate</li> <li>Keep your hands and feet to yourself</li> <li>Ensure all electronic devices are off and away</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Be punctual</li> <li>Line up in correct roll call order</li> <li>Sit in your roll call order</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enter and leave as instructed</li> <li>Remove hats and place bags at feet</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Be proud of school achievements</li> </ul>
<b>Canteen</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Line up in an orderly fashion</li> <li>Buy only for yourself, not others</li> <li>Move away quickly from the counter</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Have the correct change ready</li> <li>Read the menu while in the queue</li> <li>Purchase your food before the warning bell</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Line up in the designated areas only</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Follow instructions and requests of the supervising teacher</li> </ul>
<b>Classrooms</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Listen when someone else is speaking</li> <li>Use polite language when speaking to teachers and peers</li> <li>Keep your classroom clean</li> <li>Ensure all electronic devices are off and away</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Have the correct equipment with you</li> <li>Use your homework diary to record school work</li> <li>Remain seated unless asked to move</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enter and leave only on teacher instructions</li> <li>Follow instructions without argument</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work to the best of your ability</li> <li>Complete all homework and classroom tasks</li> <li>Set goals for your learning</li> </ul>
<b>Corridors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Walk, don't run</li> <li>Stay to the left</li> <li>Keep corridor clean</li> <li>Keep hands to yourself</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Line up outside your classroom</li> <li>Be punctual</li> <li>Know your timetable</li> <li>Eat all food before entering corridors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wait for directions to enter classroom</li> <li>Enter and exit quietly</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure your behaviour does not disturb other learners in nearby classrooms</li> </ul>
<b>Examinations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Turn off all electronic devices and leave them in your bag</li> <li>Line up and enter quietly and quickly</li> <li>Follow instructions politely and promptly</li> <li>Remain silent during the examination</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Know when and where the examination is on</li> <li>Bring the correct equipment</li> <li>Hands up when asking questions</li> <li>Remain in your allocated seat unless requested to move</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Read examination instructions carefully</li> <li>Attempt all required questions for the examination</li> <li>Stay focused and ignore distractions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use all the time available</li> <li>Edit and improve your responses</li> <li>When finished, review your work</li> </ul>
<b>Library</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Treat resources with care (computers, book and environment)</li> <li>Speak to students/staff in a respectful manner</li> <li>Respect the library as a learning environment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Return all equipment and books to their 'Drop Off Zone' after use</li> <li>Return all borrowed items on time and in original condition</li> <li>Follow all booking procedures</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stay focussed on your reason for being in the library</li> <li>Maintain equipment quality by reporting any concerns</li> <li>Keep all areas clean by not eating or drinking</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contribute to a peaceful and positive learning place</li> <li>Make the most of your time in the library</li> </ul>
<b>Playground</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Keep your area clean</li> <li>Place rubbish in the bins provided</li> <li>Stay in bounds</li> <li>Don't waste water, turn off all taps and bubblers</li> <li>Adhere to the "hands off" policy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use the playground areas for their designated purposes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Share the space with others</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Move to class punctually</li> <li>Be proud of your school environment</li> <li>Follow instructions and requests of the supervising teacher</li> </ul>
<b>Restrooms</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Respect the privacy of other students</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Keep restroom and surrounding areas clean by using the bins provided.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wash your hands thoroughly after using the restroom.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>After leaving the restroom, move quickly to an 'in bounds' area.</li> </ul>
<b>Roll Call</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Listen to all instructions and announcements</li> <li>Respond courteously when your name is called</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Be punctual</li> <li>Line up quietly outside roll room</li> <li>Bring notes for absences</li> <li>Follow school procedures for late, early leave and uniform</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stay in seats</li> <li>Stay in classroom until dismissed by the teacher</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Know what is going on in the school</li> <li>Get involved</li> </ul>