



# Seven Hills High School

## NEWSLETTER

June 2015

A member of the Nirimba Collegiate group of schools

*PROGRESS THROUGH SERVICE*

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### Important Dates:

#### June

- 10<sup>th</sup> P&C Meeting – 7.30pm in the library  
Parent Literacy and Numeracy Workshop -  
5pm in the connected classroom
- 12<sup>th</sup> Year 7 'Aim Higher' Presentation
- 16<sup>th</sup> Post School Options Expo
- 18<sup>th</sup> Year 10 Subject Selection Interviews -  
Parent/Carer
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Celebration Assemblies  
Year 9&10 Session 1  
Years 7&8 Session 2
- 25<sup>th</sup> Semester 1 Reports distributed
- 26<sup>th</sup> Rewards excursion  
Year 10 on line subject selection for  
Wyndham College closes  
Last day of Term 2

#### July

- 13<sup>th</sup> School Development Day
- 14<sup>th</sup> all students return for Term 3

### Principal's Report

Since our last newsletter student groups have displayed their initiative by introducing a roll group sporting competition to conclude Term 2, led the school in recognising significant events, achieved qualifications in several training programs and participated in community mentoring programs. As a school we had the opportunity to once again recognise student success and to induct new members to the Student representative Council.

On Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> May Teea Beavan, Veronica Booth and Leeaf Owen delivered a wonderful presentation to the whole school to celebrate Reconciliation Week. In that assembly Axel Rivai and Kate Moseley introduced to the school a Student Representative Council initiative to increase spirit within each rollcall group, a Quidditch Challenge, which has now begun, with the final to be held in Week 9.

Last week, at a formal assembly, we recognised the students who gained the top three places in each age group at the Cross Country and Athletics Carnivals and those students who successfully completed training courses in food hygiene and barista operations. Also at the assembly, Mrs Thurlow led the induction of our newest members of the Student Representative Council, Year 7 students, Callum Pike, Rachael McDermott, Shyan Goodall and Helena McMeekin.

One of the school's goals for 2015 is to create partnerships with organisations that enhance our student's learning experiences. Over the last month a number of students have had the opportunity to work with team from I-manifest, gaining an insight into the employment possibilities available in the entertainment industry. Other mentoring programs have been initiated with community organisations and school-based programs have been developed and implemented to support the learning of our students.

As you can see by the school calendar the next few weeks contain some major events, especially for Year 10 at this stage in their transition to Wyndham College with interviews being conducted with their parents and carers and the first stage of the subject selection process finishing at the end of this term.

On the last Tuesday of this term we will be celebrating, for the first time, the achievements of students who, in each class, have gained first place or have been selected by their teacher as being the most improved over the first semester. The parents of those students receiving awards will be provided with an invitation to join us at these assemblies.

Finally, at this week's P&C Meeting Mr MacLaren, Head Teacher Welfare, will be discussing with those present the range of initiatives on offer to support each student's wellbeing.

Greg Johnstone  
Principal

## Deputy Principal's Report

### Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability

In May 2013, all Education Ministers from Commonwealth, state and territory governments endorsed the implementation of a nationally consistent collection of data on school students with disability in all Australian schools (government, independent and Catholic).

The nationally consistent approach to data collection will provide all Australian schools, education authorities and the community with a clear picture of the number of students with disability in schools and the adjustments they are provided to enable them to participate in education on the same basis as other students.

The Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (the national data collection) is being phased in over a three year period. The first limited data collection occurred in October 2013 and the second in August 2014. Selected schools in Australia were chosen to participate in the 2013 and 2014 data collections.

From 2015, all Australian schools will participate in the NCCD, with the first comprehensive collection occurring in August 2015.

The *Australian Education Regulation 2013* (the Regulation)

([www.comlaw.gov.au/Details/F2014L01723](http://www.comlaw.gov.au/Details/F2014L01723))

requires the operators of government and non-government schools (approved authorities) to provide information to the Australian Government Department of Education and Training (the department) for the purposes of the NCCD.

The information that approved authorities must give to the department is set out at subsection 58A(2) of the Regulation. This includes, in relation to each student with a disability at a school operated by the approved authority:

- the student's level of education (i.e. primary or secondary)
- the student's category of disability (i.e. physical, cognitive, sensory or social/emotional)
- the student's level of adjustment (i.e. support provided within quality differentiated teaching practice, supplementary, substantial or extensive adjustment).

The information **will not identify individual students** (subsection 58A(3) of the Regulation); no information that could reasonably enable the department to identify individual students will be provided by approved authorities to the department<sup>1</sup>.

Other details about the information to be collected and the format in which the information is to be provided to the department, will be contained in guidelines approved by the Education Council (the committee of the Council of Australian Governments comprising the Commonwealth and state and territory Ministers responsible for education). The NCCD guidelines for the 2015 data collection are expected to be finalised by May 2015 and will be available on the department's website.

The information collected by schools for the purposes of the 2015 national data collection will ultimately be provided to the department. In some cases this will involve the school passing the data directly to the department and in other cases the school will provide the data to its state and territory government agency or other relevant body, depending on the school's particular arrangements. The state and territory government agency or other body will further de-identify school level data, and may aggregate the data at the state and territory level, before providing the data to the department.

The department, on behalf of the Joint Working Group, will use the information collected for the purposes of preparing reports for and briefing the Australian Education, Early Childhood Development and Youth Senior Officials Committee and the Education Council in relation to the NCCD. For the purposes of preparing these reports or briefing material, the department will ensure that the information is aggregated sufficiently so that no student's identity could reasonably be ascertained.

The aggregated information held by the department may also be used as an input to policy development for future funding and other policy requirements as required by the Education Council.

The department will not otherwise disclose any personal information to third parties, including overseas recipients, without consent or unless authorised or required by law.

For further information about the collection, use or disclosure of information for the NCCD please contact: [SWDPolicyTeam@education.gov.au](mailto:SWDPolicyTeam@education.gov.au).

Ana Macan  
Deputy Principal

### **2015 Intermediate Hills Cup Update**

The 2015 Rugby League Hills Cup is underway and our senior boys have begun the season with flying colours. At the start of Term 2, 20 boys were selected to be a part of the squad and have been training the house down pushing for selection each week.

Our first game was against Pacific Hills High School at our home ground and the boys came ready to play. A strong performance from team forwards produced plenty of room for the backline to show off their skills and speed with Seven Hills defeating Pacific Hills 40-0. There were great performances from Connor Abnett, Brett Owen and Rhyse Hura-Page with utility player Ty Longford receiving man of the match.

On the 19<sup>th</sup> May, the team came up against cup 'heavy weights' Gilroy College at home again. The boys were nervous leading up to this game understanding the importance of a win. As soon as the whistle blew the boys came out firing with big runs and tackles from Gerry Sidari, Edward Tata and Aidan Schmidt. Great structure and leadership from our halves Alvin Ekes and Thomas Morgan, combined with a high competition rate meant that the pressure was building on Gilroy and they could no longer keep us from scoring. After Brodie Landels ran in two tries, Tai Tufuga and Alvin Ekes scoring a try each, the score totaled 18-0. Unfortunately Seven Hills became complacent in the second half and Gilroy ran in two quick tries, putting the pressure back on the boys, but a huge defensive effort saw Seven Hills victorious 18-12 over Gilroy College. Man of the Match went to Alvin Ekes with

special mention to Jackson 'Tough as Nails' Brown who is pushing through with his injury recovery.

Let's keep on this winning roll .....

Mr Jones, Mr Bobadilla and Mr Rumball  
Rugby League Coaches

### **Debating**

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> June the Seven Hills High School Debating Team hosted debates for rounds one and two of the Premiers Debating Challenge for 2015. The student of the SHHS debating team, Jai Angeloni, Candice Reeves, Kate Moseley, Brodie Vaiciurgis and Mia Martin were debating against the Blacktown Boys High School team.

The topics for the debates were decided on the day and before each debate began both teams were given an hour to prepare their arguments. The two teams worked on their own without the help of their teachers and developed strong, convincing cases.

The topic for the first debate was that "All teachers should have to teach for at least one year in the country." For this debate our team was the affirmative and had to support this idea. They successfully did this arguing that it would help expand teacher's knowledge and experience as well as create more jobs. The debate was close but our team claimed the victory for round one.

The second debate saw our team argue the negative case on the topic that "people should not be allowed to post anonymously on the internet." This was a challenging argument to put forward but they made clever points about human rights and safety on the internet that won them the debate. Both teams performed well on the day but the Seven Hills High School team were the clear winners.

With two debating victories in this competition so far the team are looking forward to round three against Girraween High School in the near future. We wish them continued success and congratulate them on their impressive wins to date.

Miss Farrugia  
Debating Coordinator

### **English/HSIE Report**

Term 2 has been a busy one for the English faculty. We have found that students are highly engaged in the new content being delivered. This is reflected in the very encouraging results students have been achieving in both the Stage 4 and Stage 5 English

Courses. The English Faculty have been working rigorously to create programs that both meet the requirements of the Stage 4 and Stage 5 English syllabus and engage students. We have taken a collegial approach in the development of the programs and this has enabled consistency across classes in different courses.

### **Student Voice**

The English Faculty are focusing on ways to authentically integrate student voice within the English Curriculum. This means each term students will be involved in completing a 'Learning Reflection Sheet' that will question students on:

- their likes and dislikes regarding English;
- their feelings about assessment tasks;
- how involved or engaged they are with the teaching and learning in their classroom;
- the delivery of instruction within their classroom;
- how effective they feel the feedback provided us in allowing them to improve on their whole grade, class assessment and examinations.

Using this data, the English Faculty will update and refine both teaching and learning programs and practice.

### **How to support your child in English**

- Monitor your child's reading. Make sure they are reading for at least 20 minutes a night. Encourage them to read from a wide variety of genres.
- Check the course outlines. These outline all the class-based and whole grade assessment tasks the content being delivered each unit of work, timelines and due dates for tasks.
- Create an assessment task timetable. Look through their workbooks as there is work in there that will help them with their assessment tasks. Speak to them about what they are doing in class. Try to read the novels they study.
- Regularly encourage your child to view the TV news or current affair programs.

### **English/ HSIE Matters**

The English faculty would like to invite students to participate in the **Mayoral Creative Writing Prize 2015**. It is run by Blacktown Council and open to all

students aged 8 to 17 years, who live in the Blacktown local government area. Submissions should be a poem or a short story. The theme for 2015 is: '**We are Reading.**'

Please see the English Staff to obtain an entry form, or check the noticeboard outside the English/HSIE staffroom. The **closing date is 4.30pm Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> June 2015**.

Congratulations to the School Captain Daide Chaker for making it through to the second round of the Public Speaking Premier's Challenge. However, Daide did not make it through to the third round qualifier. We commend her on her efforts and look forward to her presenting her speech in a future assembly.

Well done to our Junior Premier's Debating team under the guidance of Miss Farrugia and Mrs Melaisis on their win against Blacktown Boys! We wish them continued success.

The Theatre Sports team has been launched and they will meet on Wednesday afternoons with Mr Burgess in the Drama room.

The English/ HSIE Homework Club will also begin in Week 8. This will take place in the library. We look forward to having students come along and partake in this program. Students are encouraged to bring along their assessment tasks or any concerns that they have in their subject area. There will always be a representative from English/HSIE on hand to help.

The English/HSIE Faculty have organised an incursion on 'The Freedom Rides', which aims to bring attention to the poor state of Aboriginal health, education and housing, particularly in the country towns of New South Wales. Our Year 10 students and ATSI students will be participating in this presentation. Permission notes and moneys are to be paid to the front office. We look forward to this much anticipated event, later in Semester 2.

Mrs L Ristevski  
Relieving Head Teacher English

### **Careers News**

#### *The Helmsman Project*

On Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May all Year 9 students listened to a presentation on the Helmsman Project. We are looking at one group of boys and one group on girls participating in 2015/16. The project is FREE and looks like an amazing experience. Year 9 students

have to complete a 4 page application and return it to Mrs Slater. Please encourage your child to apply and make the most of this opportunity. If you have any questions please contact me on 9624 3329.

#### *Work Experience*

Several Year 10 students have been on work experience. 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 96243329. I will now be organising work experience in Term 3.

#### *Year 10 PATHE (Pasifika Achievement To Higher Education)*

Any student in Year 8 or 9 who is from a Pacific Island background is invited to a development day at the University of Western Sydney. The day is Free and students need to return their note to Mrs Slater by 11/06/15.

#### *Western Sydney Careers Expo*

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2015 at Homebush. If your Year 10 child would like to attend they need to collect a note from Mrs Slater. This is a great day to start plans for the future to attend University or TAFE. Over 100 different stalls are open at the EXPO. The only cost is the train fare to Homebush as we have 10 free tickets to the event. Students meet at Seven Hills Station at 9am.

#### *Aim Higher - Year 7*

A professional drama group will visit the school on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June to guide Year 7 students through the idea of a University pathway. The Drama they will perform is free and will take place in the Hall during session 4.

#### *Post School Options Expo*

All Year 10 students in the Support Unit will be attending a career expo in Blacktown from 12 noon – 2 pm. There is no cost and parents are welcome to attend too. Address: Blacktown Workers Club, 55 Campbell Street, Blacktown.

Mrs Slater  
Careers Adviser