



Seven Hills High School Newsletter

A member of the Nirimba Collegiate group of schools

September 2016

Student / Parent Portal

Seven Hills High School has undertaken a new initiative, the Student and Parent Portal, to provide both parents and students discreet information about each student's progress. Access to the portal will be through the following internet address: -

<http://web1.sevenhills-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/portal/login>

Information accessible from the portal will include student timetable details, daily notices applicable to students, attendance details, important school documents relative to each year group and the whole school, school newsletters, details of N Awards for Years 9 and 10 students, current and past academic reports including semester and RTA reports, and past NAPLAN results. In addition, parents/carers will be able to inform the school of updated contact and medical details through the portal. For parents/carers with more than one student at the school, the one portal account will have access to all.

For the parent portal, the registration process along with details of how to access the portal has been provided to each family through a mailed letter containing access details including an access key. A valid email address is required as a username, however. Upon receiving this letter, please register your account to begin access to the parent portal.

Seven Hills High School Presents
SHOWCASE
2016

Wednesday 21st September
Seven Hills High School Hall
Show starts at 7pm
\$10 per ticket-Family of four \$35
Visual Arts and other subject displays open from 6:00pm
Designed by Jasmine Bryant

Johnson Avenue, SEVEN HILLS 2147. Phone 9624 3329

Email: sevenhills-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Website: <http://www.sevenhills-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/>

P&C Meeting this Wednesday

This Wednesday, 14th of September, Mrs Thurlow will be presenting an overview of the 2016 'Self-Select' program. All parents, carers and community members are welcome!

Should you experience difficulties please do not hesitate to contact me for assistance. I also look forward to hearing from you about your experience with our Parent Portal, and any feedback will be gratefully received with a view to adding further functionality and improvement.

Students can access the student portal using their current DoE logon details (username and password) and are not required to register.

I am confident that you will see the benefits of your registration immediately and welcome you to be part of our journey in providing this facility. As we progress this initiative, I am confident that the Parent Portal will become more and more significant in your day to day management of your child's enrolment at our school.

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David Erwin

Year 8 Camp

On Tuesday, 23rd August, Year 8 took the bus to the Urban Jungle Park at the Sydney Olympic Park. We did 4 courses which got harder as we progressed. In the courses we fell down (multiple times), lost our voices screaming and got scared. There were flying foxes, tightropes, spinning wood planks and a spider web. As soon as we finished the last course, we all had lunch and took off to the Drummoyne Wharf to catch the ferry to Cockatoo Island! We checked in and set up our tents. We then unpacked and explored around the island.



When we got back to our campsite, we played some games in which the students defeated Mr Erwin and Miss Messer. After the games we cleaned ourselves up and went to dinner. Then we picked up our snacks and went to the cinema room and watched The Karate Kid. We were so exhausted that **SOME** of us crashed as soon as we hit the pillow.

The next day we woke up, cleaned our tents, packed our bags and went to breakfast. We then had a tour of the island but, unfortunately we didn't get to see everything as the rain was pouring down.

We then headed to lunch where we had some good sandwiches and just enjoyed each other's company. We unfortunately had to leave so we headed to the ferry, got on the bus and returned to school.

Thank you to Mr Erwin and Mr Burgess for taking the time and coming to camp with us. Also a **MASSIVE** thanks to our amazing Year Adviser, Miss Messer, for organising this spectacular camp for us.

By: Amneh Chaker, Shantay Meisake, Rachael McDermott and Paige Corsiatto.



Upcoming Events

September

14th P&C Meeting 7.30pm in the Library

15th Year 10 Wyndham Transition
Meeting Session 2

Full Steam Ahead excursion

21st 'Showcase' – Matinee and Evening

22nd Sport Day and Walkathon

23rd Grade Day
Last Day Term 3

October

10th Term 4 begins

12th P&C Meeting 7.30pm in the Library

For Parents and Carers of Students in Years 7 & 9

The end of Term 3 is fast approaching us and another highly productive and successful phase draws to a close.

By this stage all parents and caregivers should have received their child's NAPLAN results in the mail. It was pleasing to note the positive growth in student achievement across all the areas assessed. Those students who would benefit from additional support have been invited to participate in a literacy program that will build on their current skills and enable them to access the curriculum more effectively. If for some reason you did not receive your child's NAPLAN results, please contact the school and we will send another copy home.

Term 3 has seen the implementation of social skills lessons for Year 7. The aim of this initiative is to build self-responsibility and confidence as well as develop positive decision making strategies within all our students. Our goal is to always work towards supporting our students to grow into individuals that participate actively and constructively in society as well as having a desire to become lifelong learners.

Year 9 has been working hard to fulfil their obligations in meeting requirements to gain a Record of School Achievement. Many have met the prerequisites for their courses, however, there are some students who need to finalise assessment task submissions.

Parents and caregivers have been notified if their child has not completed a task by their classroom teacher with a phone call and through the mail. At Seven Hills High School we would like every one of our students to be successful and to achieve their personal best. Therefore, we ask parents and caregivers to support their child through the process and if extra help is required to contact the Head Teacher of the specified faculty so that provisions can be made to assist your child with meeting the desired outcomes.

As the school holiday break approaches, I would like to wish everyone a safe and relaxing vacation and look forward to a new, albeit hectic, Term 4.

Regards

Ana Macan

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander News

As part of our Pathways to Dreaming Program with Western Sydney University, our Year 9 and 10 aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students spent the day at Muru Mittigar near Penrith. Students deepened their knowledge on the uses of traditional tools, bush tucker and the dreaming. Students sharpened their boomerang throwing skills and told a story through an art class with a local artist, John Boney.

Pathways to Dreaming sessions has changed days to Wednesday, Session 5 in Lab 4 and is open to all year 8, 9 and 10 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Students.



Pathways to Dreaming Cultural Experience

On the 9th of August, the Western Sydney University held a day of cultural experiences for Year 8 students at the Werrington campus. Many students from numerous schools attended, including Logan Fox from our school, for a day of fun workshops that allowed everyone involved to engage with Indigenous culture.

Our first workshop was with an Indigenous elder who told us some dream-time stories. He was 94 years old and his stories were very interesting.



The dancing workshop was interesting with Mr Burgess showing proficiency in dancing as a Kangaroo and an Emu and Logan handled the dancing with real panache. We then moved to a woodcarving workshop and finally, beading, where we learned the importance of weaving and beading to the Indigenous people.

Overall the day was a huge success and we all learned a lot about the oldest living culture on earth.

School Adidas Walkathon

We're two weeks out from our Adidas Walkathon event, which will be held on Thursday, 22nd September. We hope that students are working hard towards their fundraising goals!

The event will start after recess at 11.30 am, at the School Quadrangle.

We look forward to seeing students get involved. All students will be getting a fruit juice and an icy pole at the event to help cool off.

Students are reminded to return their money along with their sponsorship form and chosen prize. We already have notice of the money you raised online, however, please also put that on the form!

If students are having any trouble setting up their student profile or online fundraising, feel free to get in touch with the *Adidas School Fun-Run* team on 1300 733 788.

Thanks for supporting us with your fundraising efforts. We're looking forward to using the money for gym equipment.

Grade Day – Friday 23rd September

The whole school, staff and students, will be participating in Grade Day – a day designed for students to develop their team skills. Students are asked to get involved where possible and to try to gain as many points as possible for their grade. Prizes (such as Movie and iTunes gift vouchers, NRL merchandise and more) will be handed out for the winners of the finals.

To support them in identifying as a team member, we are asking that all students dress in the following themes for the day –

Year 7 – Army

Year 8 – Super Hero's

Year 9 – Black & White

Year 10 – 80's

Students have already taken home notes outlining the requirements for the day.

Any enquiries should be addressed to your child's Year Adviser.

SHOWCASE WEEK

19th – 23rd September

Monday

Showcase Rehearsals

Tuesday

Showcase Rehearsals

Wednesday

SHOWCASE

Primary School Performance at
11:00am

Open displays between 6pm
and 7pm

Showcase at 7:00pm
\$10/ticket – On sale in the front
office



Thursday



Sports Dress-up in your best sporting
outfit (jerseys, famous sports person,
fitness fanatics, PE uniform etc)

Session 1 and 2
Sport Rotations

Session 3 and 4
Walkathon

Session 5
Teachers Vs Year 10 Students Touch

Friday



Grade Dress-up theme

Session 1 and 2 – with your grade
Best Dresses
Letters and Numbers
Lip Sync Battles
Minute to win it Games
'Look what I can do' Competition

Session 3 and 4 – Whole school
Grand Finals

Session 5
Disco

Girls Rugby League

Our Junior Girls Rugby League team, competed in Legends Shield NSW State Finals which were held on Thursday 25th August, at Macquarie University Playing Fields. The girls had 4 round games. We won Game One against Melville High School (Kempsey), 16-6. We also won Game 2, against Ruthford High School, 14-12 – thanks to Emily Dean who kicked the conversion on the buzzer. We weren't so successful in Game 3 which we played against Narabeen Sports High School. We lost 20-10 and our final game we also lost to Airds High School 18-10. The girls played wonderfully, working well together as a team.



The team consisted of: Ati Dean, Emily Dean, Carly-Jo Te Whare, Holly Brookland, Maddison Black, Tamara Kabuyawa, Rebecca Godbee, Jessica Warwick, Lukia Waitere, Shantay Mesaïke, Liz Lemalu and Deshae Dunn
 Congratulations to the girls on such a wonderful achievement and thank you to Year 9 students Jye Bond, Taueva Takau and Roxanne Brown for assisting the team on the day.

Corinne Dutt

PSSA Refereeing

Congratulations to all our students who helped referee the League Tag and Soccer matches at the Primary School Sport Association Competition over the course of last 12 weeks.

They were proud representatives of our school and were great role model to the primary school children. Our students did amazing jobs officiating their particular sport. This was a valuable experience for all the students involved as they had the opportunity to step into a leadership role in the area of primary school sport.

Soccer	League Tag
Jacob Irwin	Bradley Beers
Stefan Stojanovic	Matthew Grasso
Aiden Cullen	Kiara Walsh
Brooke Lindsay	Willow Way
Shauna Gardiner	Jade Thomas
Lleyton Coleman	Te-Rina Winitana
Cameron Gibson Foad	Connor Abnett
Lauren Brookland	Stephen Sands
Dalvin Armstrong	Alarna Power
Angela Borg	Josh Ison

Tournament of Minds

On Sunday 28th August, six students travelled to Western Sydney University Kingwood Campus to compete against other secondary schools from Western Sydney in the regional finals of Tournament of Minds.

The competition consisted of two sections: a long term challenge, which consisted of not only solving a Social Science themed problem, but acting out the solution and a spontaneous challenge, where the group was given an abstract problem and only a few minutes to come up with a solution.

Whilst the team did not get a place, they did exceptionally well for their first entry in Tournament of Minds and received extremely positive feedback from the judges! Now the team knows what to expect in the competition, they are already starting to plan for next year and hope more students will join them.



WAKO World Junior Championships

I'd like to start off by thanking the school and Mrs Dutt for all the fundraising and support you gave me for this trip.

My first fight was in point fighting and took place on the second day of competition against the USA. The girl from the USA was the former world champion. I really put it to her, only losing in the last 30 seconds with the final score being 16-12. I then found out I was the highest scoring female Australian in point fighting.

The next day I had my first light contact fight against Croatia. I came out winning that fight 3-0. The next day I had my quarter final against Israel and I also won that fight 3-0. I found out later that day I would have to fight again in the semi-final. Hours later I stepped onto the mat against Slovenia. Unfortunately I lost the fight but it meant that I had won a bronze medal. I couldn't be happier with my results and the results of our whole team. Australia came back with a total of 10 medals: 9 bronze and 1 silver, which was amazing considering we went over as a small team of 19.

Thankyou everyone once again it really meant a lot to have your support.

Tahlia O'Connell



Year 7 Self-Select Class - Project Based Learning Initiative

On 22 August, a team of students representing the Year 7 Self-Select Class presented their Project Design outline to the school's executive and leaders.

The students were commissioned to successfully design a pleasant and fun outdoor learning classroom space for students and teachers, to be located outside the entry to the Science and Library block.

The team – Annie Kereopa, James Strachan, Kyle Cavanagh, Brianna Seaman, Richard Lee and Holly Holmes – reasoned that many people would be able to use this area in the future for learning activities. Teachers, students and the community could engage in learning in this flexible space.

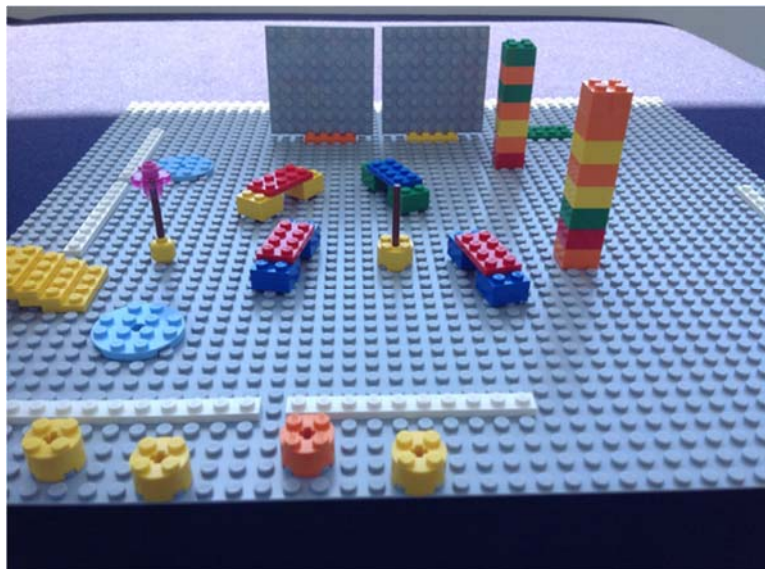
The students considered the current area and thought it was dark and uninviting as a learning area. "There is little in this area of interest and it doesn't stimulate thinking, reflecting, creating or learning."

Richard Lee suggested: "If a bright, vivid and flexible purpose area was created in this space, teachers, students and community groups would be more encouraged to be involved and engaged in learning."



The students used a flexible design for their suggested floor plan. They explored the costings of implementing their design and worked to utilise a set budget and meet deadlines to be ready to present their initiative.

Designing our Outdoor Learning Space with Flexible Design Ideas.



"We want to make our outdoor learning area a productive place to study for students and a good place for teachers to teach. It needs to be natural and relaxing."

"We want to include technology in our outdoor classroom to embrace future learning in a 21st Century environment."

The student presentation was confidently delivered to the Principal, Mr Johnstone, and Executive team. A budget for this project will soon be finalised and work is expected to commence early in Term 4.



Nirimba Collegiate Ski Trip

On the 29th of August, a handful of Seven Hills High School students, accompanied by a number of Quakers Hill and Wyndham College students, departed Blacktown and headed towards Jindabyne. After a day-long drive, including, coincidentally, ski related movies, we finally arrived at our accommodation, hired snow gear and were assigned rooms which soon became our home away from home for four days.

Our first snow day started with wake up between 5:30 and 6:00am. Many used the bus trip to Thredbo as an extra hour of sleep, whilst others used it as an opportunity to view some incredible scenery.

When we arrived at Thredbo we met our instructors and began by skiing or boarding on the beginner areas - Magic Carpet or Friday Flat. After a few hilarious stacks and two lessons, everybody was exhausted and ready to stock up on sugar filled food from the Woolworths stop on the way back to the Lodge.



Our second skiing/ boarding day was similar to the previous one; it began early with a lesson and then proceeded into free skiing in the afternoon, something to which everybody was looking forward to. This session gave some newbies the chance to experience more of the mountain and go even higher than before. It also gave the more experienced skiers/ boarders the chance to practice their turns, etc. Whether it was some people's inability to stop or Connor, Stephan and Alarna's three person stack on a busy run, everybody gained some form of entertainment during the afternoon.

The last day was fun and enjoyable but also upsetting as the end of the camp dawned on the students. An early morning lesson and a free skiing session in the afternoon was what was in store. After this skiing and boarding day, everybody returned to the bus for another 7-hour bus trip and headed towards home.

On behalf of the group, I would like to thank Mrs Dutt for organising the trip as well as Miss Messer for supervising; also Mr Barry (Quakers Hill Supervising/Organising Teacher). The trip was enjoyed by all, despite the occasional wet weather.

Kate Moseley (Year 9)

Celebrating Science Week 2016

Science and Maths Exposed

On Friday the 12th of August, students attended Science and Maths Exposed at Western Sydney University. Students were treated to a number of engaging presentations throughout the day. The multimedia presentation, in particular, highlighted the significance of Mathematics and Science in the current world. Our student's had a great day and were able to gain a sneak peek into what a career in Science or Maths could look like.




Lunchtime Activities

A number of lunchtime activities took place over the week. Students were delighted to see the water rocket in action and mesmerised by the classic Mentos and Diet Coke experiment. In the laboratory, students had access to numerous activities including tea bag rockets, currents of colour in milk and looking at life under the microscope.



Collegiate Science Competition


Students from across the collegiate participated in the first annual Science Competition held at Riverstone High School. Students worked in teams to solve a number of engineering style challenges. Whether it was designing a catapult to deliver smarties to a bowl or transporting a punnet of tomatoes across a fictitious mountain range, all students had a productive day. Although we congratulate Quakers Hill High on their win, we have commenced training to take out the trophy for 2017.



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