



Seven Hills High School

A member of the Nirimba Collegiate group of schools

Newsletter
June 2017

Thirlmere Lakes Streamwatch Bug Testing Training Day

Our Streamwatch team attended a training day at the Heritage listed Thirlmere Lakes near Picton.

This system of five lakes is popular for bird watching and leisure activities. The lakes are fed from aquifers; however, recently water levels have dropped to 10% and two have dried up since the mid-1980s. It is believed that nearby mining has had an influence on this water level. The local community is investigating plans to revive the lakes in consultation with the Government and the mining company.

Our students met several researchers who are investigating the lakes, its water levels and the history of the area.

The Streamwatch team was taught techniques to collect water bugs from along the edge of the lake and then studied their features, using keys to identify the invertebrates. The types of animals found in the lake are a good indicator of the water's health. Animals that were identified included a freshwater yabbies, may fly larvae, caddis fly larvae, the feral Eastern Gumbusia.

Joanna Jordan

Streamwatch Coordinator



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P&C Meeting this Wednesday, 14th June

All parents, carers and community members are welcome!

P&C Meeting Topics:

- Our latest 'Positive Behaviour for Learning' initiatives
- Our Anti-Bullying Plan

Important Dates

June

- 14th P&C Meeting 7.30pm Library
Sydney West Cross Country
Mural Project
- 15th Collegiate SRC Planning Day
Mural Project
- 16th Mural Project
- 20th Boys Rugby League 9s
Helmsman Project Coaching Session
- 21st Pathways to Dreaming
- 23rd Opera House excursion
- 27th Pathways to Dreaming
- 28th Rewards Day
- 29th Celebration Assemblies
Semester One Reports Distributed
- 30th Last day of Term 2

July

- 17th School Development Day
- 18th Students begin Term 3
- 19th Digital Thumbprint talk Year 9
- 28th School Tree Day

August

- 9th P&C Meeting 7.30pm Library

Archibull Prize Update

We have had a number of dedicated students and staff who have been working extremely hard each Wednesday afternoon on the 2017 Archibull Prize entry.

Students have been working on three categories of the competition, the cow design, animation and blog. There have been art workshops, photos taken and students researching and writing about different aspects of the Cotton Industry. Lots of fun and learning has been occurring during this time.

The blog is updated every week, with a new post updating our readers of the Seven Hills High School Archibull journey. We have had a total of 150 views so far and our blog will feature in the next Art for Agriculture newsletter that is distributed state wide.

We hope you enjoy the read: <http://shhsarchibull.weebly.com/>

Lowanna Moran

Visual Arts faculty



Robotics Club

A number of students have been meeting on a Tuesday lunchtime and Monday after school to learn about Robotics. They have been building and programming Lego EV3 Mindstorms robots over the past two terms with goal of competing in a number of robotics competitions.

The regional RoboCup Junior Competition will be held early next term. We have two teams entering the competition. One team will be participating in the Soccer challenge, where they will need to program two robots to compete against other team of robots. Our other team will be competing in the Dance challenge, in which they will program two robots to dance together.

Our dance team will be participating in a workshop next week to give them a deeper insight into the challenge and judging criteria.

The robotics club has allowed students to further refine their problem solving skills and develop resilience, as they have to keep adjusting their robot and / or program code as they are faced with different challenges.

Full Steam Ahead – Coding, Careers & Creativity Day

20 students from 8D participated in the initial stage of the Full Steam Ahead program, a Coding, Careers and Creativity Day at the Powerhouse Museum, Ultimo.

The students were involved in a number of workshops throughout the day, which exposed them to the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STEAM). The students were shown possible career choices involving STEAM and the future directions of technology.

The students not only had the chance to learn how to code and understand game design but were also given the opportunity to use their creative side to design clip art and logos that they printed onto vinyl and took with them.

The students spoke with the presenters regarding their careers and tested new games and technology still under development.

The initiative which is sponsored by Microsoft Australia, Australian Business and Community Network (ABCN) and the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences (MAAS) aims to improve outcomes for youth and foster a culture of innovation in this country. The students are all looking forward to next stage of the program.



Full Steam Ahead – Virtual Excursion

On Tuesday 16th May, students from 7D and 8D participated in a Virtual Excursion as part of the Full Steam Ahead program. The session was an opportunity for students to interact with people who have careers that involve STEAM and be exposed to the future directions of technology and the possibilities that are available.

The students were able to interact with students from two other schools, an Astrophysicist, web designer/ computer programmer and an educator from the Museum of Art and Applied Sciences.



Carissa Howell

Mathematics Faculty

Theatresports

On Tuesday 9th May the senior Theatresports team travelled to St Andrews Cathedral School to compete in the School Theatresports Competition. This was the first time the team had performed outside of the school and the students were excited and carried a positive attitude into the competition.

We were up against some tough competition but the students did not let this daunt them, entering the fray with zeal. The evening began with a workshop which allowed the students to fine-tune their skills and practice any games that they intended to perform later in the competition. It was a good chance to break the ice and shake out the nerves.

At the conclusion of the workshop we had a break to talk strategy. They then prepared to meet the challenge, and meet it they did. The team scored some outstanding results and exceeded their own expectations. The entire experience was an excellent boost to their confidence and they left full of pride and ready to meet the next challenge that Theatresports has to offer.

Aidan Burgess

English faculty

Blacktown Council Youth Forum

Five of our Year 10 school leaders, Jai Angeloni, Max Harris, Gabriel Loos, Mia Martin and Kate Moseley participated in the 2017 'Ignite: A Better Future for Blacktown' Youth Forum.

Our leaders contributed to group discussions pertaining to the future of Blacktown Council in many key areas, with the purpose of developing a strategic plan for Blacktown's future directions.

Daniel Way

Student Representative Council
Coordinator

Sports Report

Blacktown Zone Cross Country

On Friday 5th May, twenty five students travelled to Wyndham College to compete in the Blacktown Zone Cross Country carnival.

All students showed amazing spirit completing the 4-6km courses, with the following students qualifying to represent Blacktown Zone at the Sydney West carnival on Wednesday 14th June.

Jack Black, Jarrod Beasley, Lleyton Coleman , Jye Bond , Maddison Black, Tahlia O'Connell and Sharmayne Melide

Blacktown Zone Athletics

During Week 6 students from Seven Hills High School were selected to compete in the Blacktown Zone Athletics Carnival.

The students competed in both track and field events over two days. There were some amazing individual efforts from all our students with the highlight of the carnival being to watch the Under 14 Boys and Under 15 Girls fly around the track and take 1st place in their respective 4 X 100m relays.

A special mention must also go to Lleyton Coleman and Tahlia O'Connell. Lleyton was named the Under 15 Boys Age Champion and Tahlia broke 3 records for the Under 16 Girls age group.

Congratulations to the following students who qualified to represent Blacktown Zone at the Sydney West Athletics carnival 27th-28th July at Blacktown International Sports Park.

Tahlia O'Connell , Sharmayne Melide, Rebecca Godbee, Holly Brookland, Tiger Lee Harrison, Chloe Tuazon, Maddison Black, Teneal McDermott, Mariah Finau, Lleyton Coleman, Alex Owen, Jack Bradley, Blama Fofana, Jarrod Beasley , Alexzander Whyte and Jack Black

Sam Rumball

Sports Organiser

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander News

Our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander roll call continues every Tuesday morning. Fortnightly after roll call we continue our sessions with the Young Mob program.

Our partnership with the Western Sydney University mentoring program, Pathways to Dreaming has begun this term. Students in Years 8, 9 and 10 have monthly mentoring sessions as well as workshops at different University campuses. Last month year 9 and 10 were invited to attend workshops at the Kingswood campus on Robotics, Media Arts and PDHPE.



We recognised Sorry Day with an assembly and then Reconciliation week with activities and a whole school barbeque where students were able to sample kangaroo and crocodile sausages.

Joanna Jordan

Program Coordinator



Mathletics

Mathletics is a structured and interactive online learning space. It is aligned to the mathematics curriculum and it caters to individual student learning needs.

Our school generously supports all students with a Mathletics subscription and provides them with opportunities to access technology in lessons, or at lunch time in the library and also at homework club on a Wednesday afternoon. Students receive instant response to mathematical questions which assists with their confidence and the development of both the correct procedure and increased understanding of concepts as they progress.

There is an online tutorial option and students select either the ? or i depending on which mathletics platform they are using. This tutorial takes students through step by step methods to solve each question. In addition to tasks for every mathematics topic, there are times tables, concept searches, videos, booklets and mental maths activities available. Mathletics can either be accessed on a PC or tablet.

All students can utilise Mathletics to consolidate learning and most mathematics teachers assign Mathletics as homework each week. Some teachers assign other worksheets or booklets as homework but **all students have mathematics homework**. We encourage all students to strive for 1000 points between Monday and Sunday. Parents can easily see both daily points or the weekly total on the home page. Students should revise tasks that relate to current classwork, then they have an opportunity to revise any topic or concept that requires revision.

Ms J Andrew

Head Teacher Mathematics

Visual Arts, Photography & Digital Media

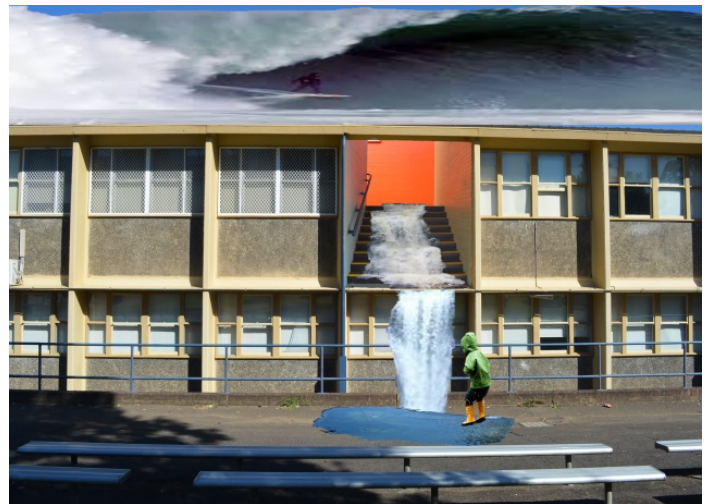
"Students empowering themselves through creativity"

Seven Hills High School's Artist and Photographers are empowering themselves through their creativity, taking their Learning to a new level in elective classes.



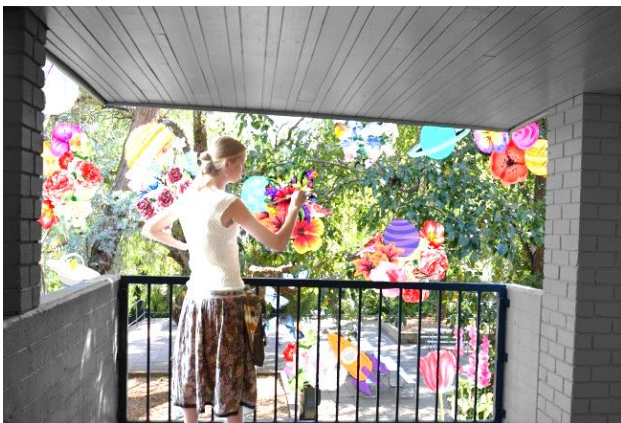
Year Nine Photography and Digital Media

This term our great digital media artists have been learning about the different techniques involved in creating animations. So far the students have worked collaboratively to create a story, a storyboard and now are making sets and props.



Year Ten Photography and Digital Media

This term our fabulous students have studied the art movement 'Surrealism'. The students were then asked to create surreal images of the school. They have also been learning how to create digital animations.



Year Nine Visual Arts Elective

A word from the students:

Year nine Visual Arts elective students have enjoyed creating Art this Semester; here is what they have to say about their learning experiences so Far:

Deshae Dunn - "I have enjoyed learning new skills and techniques that I have used to improve my Art making. The Tasks that I have enjoyed the most was the mixed media painting that I created in term one"

Blama Fofana – "Art is the best, because I have learnt a lot of new things. My favourite task this semester was creating a ceramic sculpture in Term two"

Jack Laing - "I have found that we have more choices with what materials we can use to create artworks. This Semester I have made Art under the categories of, mixed media, painting, drawing, ceramics and Photoshop"

Callum Pike – "Art has been fun and I'm looking forward to the rest of my 200 hour course"

Lowanna Moran and Kim Clemson

Visual Arts faculty

Positive Behaviour for Learning

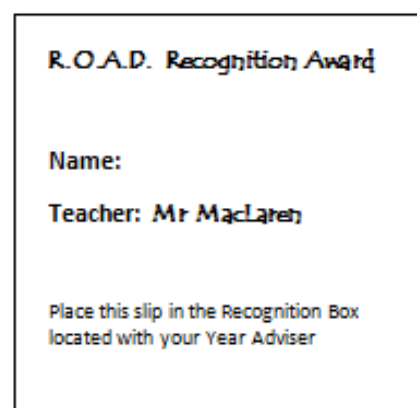
The Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) Team has just recently introduced the Recognition Certificate, and parents should expect to see these start coming home this week.

Students have the opportunity to be awarded these certificates for demonstrating positive behaviour and active citizenship in the playground areas of the school. The certificate has two parts and students hand the right hand side in to their Year Advisers where it is placed in a special box, ready for the Monday Morning Assembly draws. The left hand side of the certificate is awarded to the student and sent home.

Each year group will have certificates drawn from the box every Monday, with prizes awarded to the lucky, selected students. The more certificates' students are awarded, the more chances they have to win. The students in each year group with the most Recognition Certificates at the end of the term will also be congratulated at the Celebration Assembly in Week 10.

Matthew Maclaren

Head Teacher Wellbeing



LOTE Report

We have had a very busy Term 2 in Chinese. Students have competed in their first Education Perfect Languages World Championships, with some very impressive results. They were given the opportunity to compete in this competition and were given access at school and also at home.

The data demonstrates the students' commitment with over 100 hours spent online and over 74,000 questions answered in ten days. A fantastic effort!

Mark Harper

LOTE faculty

Below are some of our results:



1st for Chinese in NSW for the 51-100 students category out of 21 schools
3rd for Chinese in Australia for the 51-100 students category out of 71 schools

| | |
|--------|--|
| Gold | Blayke Berrier and Rachael Pilbeam |
| Silver | Daniel Douglas |
| Credit | Zinken Zoleta, Caitlin Sinclair, Nicholas Nisbet Jayden Gunawan-rianto, Blaze Johnston-Ockers Elias Medina and Jessica Sands |

Careers News

YEAR 10

1. Enrolment package for Wyndham College

The large yellow envelop with enrolment papers is due to Mrs Slater by the end of the term; Friday, 30th June 2017. Please return to the careers office once completed. If you need any assistance completing the forms please contact Mrs Slater at the school on (02) 9624 3329.

2. Subject Selection at Wyndham College

Subject Selection interview have now commenced at school. Students will be given the opportunity to complete their subject selections at school on-line through Edval. Alternatively students can complete their selections at home on-line. A link has been send to each student's DEC student portal. Once completed at home students can bring in a printed copy of their selections to Mrs Slater. Subject selections also close on 26th July 2017. If you wish to contact Mrs Slater to discuss Year 11 subjects please call (02) 9624 3329.

3. TAFE Vocational Education and Training (TVET courses for 2018)

All application forms are due to Mrs Slater by 12th July 2017 if you wish to be considered for a course in 2018. These are generally offered on a Monday or Wednesday afternoon from 2pm – 6pm. Students will be notified in 2018 if they have been successful in their application.

4. Safe First Aid Course for Youth

20 students completed an EOI for the course and have now been selected to complete the modules. This year students will be asked to complete the modules in the library at lunch before sitting the practical assessment on Wednesday, 28th June. Students will be assessed in their CPR, bandaging techniques and managing other emergency situations on the day. If successful, students will receive their certificates at the end of the year.

Each student will need to bring Mrs Slater their USI number or a copy/photograph of their birth certificate so a USI can be created.

5. Post school Options: Employment Leisure and Life Skills Expo for Students with a disability

There will be 2 expos held in Sydney:-

- A. Blacktown Workers Club on Thursday 22nd June from 12 noon – 6pm.
Address: 55 Campbell Street, Blacktown
- B. Penrith RSL on Wednesday 26th July from 12 noon – 6pm.
Address: 8 Tindale Street, Penrith

Parents and students in Year 10 Support have been sent an invitation to attend. Please contact Mrs Slater for further information.



Information for parents and carers

WHAT IS THE NATIONAL DATA COLLECTION?

The Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability (the national data collection) is an annual collection that counts the number of school students receiving an adjustment due to disability and the level of reasonable adjustment they are receiving.

The national data collection counts students who have been identified by a school team as receiving an adjustment to address a disability as defined under the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* (the DDA). The DDA can be accessed from the ComLaw website at www.comlaw.gov.au.

what is the benefit for my child?

The aim of the national data collection is to collect quality information about school students receiving an adjustment due to disability in Australia.

This information will help teachers, principals, education authorities and families to better support students with disability to take part in school on the same basis as other students.

The national data collection provides an opportunity for schools to review their learning and support systems and processes to continually improve education outcomes for their students with disability.

WHY IS THIS DATA BEING COLLECTED?

All schools across Australia collect information about students with disability. But the type of information currently collected varies between each state and territory and across government, Catholic and independent school sectors.

When undertaking the national data collection, every school in Australia uses the same method to collect information. Therefore, a government school in suburban Sydney collects and submits data in the same way as a Catholic school in country Victoria and an independent school in the Northern Territory.

The annual collection aims to, over time, lead to nationally consistent, high quality data that will enable schools, education authorities and governments to gain a more complete understanding of students who are receiving adjustments because of disability in schools in Australia, and how to best support them.

WHAT ARE SCHOOLS REQUIRED TO DO FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITY?

All students are entitled to a quality learning experience at school.

Schools are required to make reasonable adjustments, where needed, to assist students with disability to access and participate in education free from discrimination and on the same basis as other students.

These responsibilities are outlined in the DDA and the Disability Standards for Education 2005 (the Standards). The Standards require educators, students, parents and others (e.g. allied health professionals) to work together so that students with disability can participate in education. The Standards can be accessed via the ComLaw website at www.comlaw.gov.au.

WHAT IS A REASONABLE ADJUSTMENT?

A reasonable adjustment is a measure or action taken to help a student with disability access and participate in education on the same basis as other students. Reasonable adjustments reflect the assessed individual needs of the student, and are provided in consultation with the student and/or their parents and carers. Reasonable adjustments can be made across the whole school setting (e.g. ramps into school buildings), in the classroom (such as adapting teaching methods) and at an individual student level (e.g. extra tuition for a student with learning difficulties).

What information will be collected?

Every year your child's school will collect the following information for each student receiving an adjustment due to disability:

- the student's level of education (i.e. primary or secondary)
- the student's level of adjustment
- the student's broad type of disability.

The information collected by schools will be available to all governments to inform policy and program improvement for students with disability.

WHO IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL DATA COLLECTION?

The definition of disability for the national data collection is based on the broad definition under the DDA.

For the purposes of the national data collection, students with learning difficulties, such as dyslexia or auditory processing disorder, as well as chronic health conditions like epilepsy or diabetes, that require monitoring and the provision of adjustments by the school, may be included.

Who collectS information FOR THE NATIONAL DATA COLLECTION?

Teachers and school staff count the number of students receiving an adjustment due to disability in their school, and the level of reasonable adjustment they are provided, based on:

- consultation with parents and carers in the course of determining and providing reasonable adjustments
- the school team's observations and professional judgements
- any medical or other professional diagnosis
- other relevant information.

School principals are responsible for ensuring the information identified about each student is accurate.

How IS my child's privacy protected?

Protecting the privacy and confidentiality of all students and their families is essential and is an explicit focus of the national data collection. Personal details, such as student names or other identifying information, are not provided to local or federal education authorities.

Further information about privacy is available from www.education.gov.au/notices.

IS THE NATIONAL DATA COLLECTION COMPULSORY?

Yes. All education ministers agreed to full implementation of the national data collection from 2015. This means that all schools must now collect and submit information annually on the number of students receiving adjustments due to disability in their care, and the level of adjustment they receive.

Information about the arrangements that may apply to your school in relation to this data collection is available from your child's school principal and the relevant education authority.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Contact your child's school if you have further questions about the Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability.

You can also visit www.education.gov.au/nationally-consistent-collection-data-school-students-disability.

An e-learning resource about the Disability Standards for Education 2005 is freely available for the use of individuals, families and communities at <http://resource.dse.theeducationinstitute.edu.au/>.

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Every Body Welcome.



KILDARE ROAD MEDICAL CENTRE

RE-TUNE 4 JUNE!

presented by Dr. Nicole Sleeman



A series of 4 FREE talks aimed at improving the health & wellbeing of kids & teens:

- healthy eating – *Thursday 8th June @ 6.30pm*
- exercise - *Thursday 15th June @ 6.30pm*
- mental health - *Thursday 22nd June @ 6.30pm*
- hygiene - *Thursday 29th June @ 6.30pm*

Parents are encouraged to attend with their teenage children & must attend with children under 15 years. Bicycles to be won in 2 age groups: up to 10 years & 11 – 18 years.

Prizes for parents too!

Limited places: call 8822 3000 to register

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