



THE Normanhurst News

The weekly newsletter of Normanhurst Boys High School

Celebrating 50 years of quality boys' education

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Principal (Acting): Mr F Johnson Deputy Principals: Mr W S Randall (Acting) and Mr J.E. Fielding

Friday 14 March 2008

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From the Principal

I would like to extend a very warm welcome to Ms Amy Perkins, who has joined us in the English Faculty.

The Prefects' combined head shave, BBQ and mufti day held last Monday was a great success with a large amount of money raised for cancer research. It was very pleasing to see so many students and staff prepared to "go bald" for a very worthwhile cause. We hope that warm weather will continue at least in the short term for their sake.

Although we were placed 4th overall at the zone swimming carnival, reports indicate that our students conducted themselves very well. They tried hard and exhibited a very good team spirit – we can expect no more. Congratulations to all who participated at the carnival and special congratulations to Malcolm Ramsay, Justin Ka-Chi Lee, Gabriel Low, Jonathan Ramsay, Anthony Brett and Jason Corbett who will be competing at the Sydney North Swimming Championships.

The P&C, at the meeting last Tuesday, approved the allocation of nearly \$28,000 for a range of requests from the school. The wonderful support for the school exhibited by the P&C is greatly appreciated. Thank you also to Mr Rod Miller (Head Teacher Mathematics) who attended the meeting and gave a clear and succinct explanation of how the HSC results and UAI are worked out.

Reports received indicate that the Year 9 Northern Explorer excursion has again been a great success this year. The excursion, which ends today, has a combined Science, TAS, History, Geography and Mathematics focus which provides students with real-world experiences that supplement and reinforce the work undertaken at school. I would like to thank the staff who have given up their time to organise, and attend this excursion. Thanks go to Mr Rumbelow, Mrs James, Mr Ridley, Mrs Gan, Mr Steed, Mrs Kemp and Mr Pettit for going on the excursion. I should point out that these excursions would not be possible without the goodwill of the staff who attend them and that of the staff at school who cover their classes.

The Year 7 Maths Fun Day (not an oxymoron!) was held today. It was a bit of a struggle to have the hall ready after the Selective Schools Test which was conducted yesterday. How wonderful it is to see students enjoying

themselves so much whilst learning at the same time. Well done Mr Bennett for organising the day.

The Year 7 parent BBQ dinner will be held next Tuesday. Registration is essential for the evening. Bookings cannot be accepted after Monday. The interim reports will be distributed to students to take home on Tuesday. Thanks go to Ms Levy for all her efforts in organising the evening and these reports.

F Johnson
Acting Principal

P & C NEWS

11 March Meeting Thank you to all the parents who attended on Tuesday and my apologies for the late finish. I am sure all present gained valuable information from all aspects of the meeting:

- We had the pleasure of introducing our new Principal, Mr Jeff Bruce who will assume the appointment after Easter.
- We received a brilliant presentation from Mr Rod Miller on how the HSC works, the process of arriving at HSC marks and UAI, and also the critical importance of balancing the allocation of time and effort between HSC assessment tasks and exam preparation.
- We received the last 'Principal's Report' from Mr Johnson who has been acting as Principal since Mr Warren departed on leave.
- Our Grounds Coordinator, Jonathan Sanders outlined the plan to improve our school environment, initially by restoring the barrier of vegetation along Pennant Hills Rd (to reduce noise and pollution effects). He also received the support of the meeting to proceed with a program of Working Bees to mobilize parents to assist in this important endeavour.
- All items identified as 'Priority 1' by the school were approved for funding by the P&C (to a value of \$27,900).
- Parents raised two issues (class lists and SMS absence messages) which will be followed up and reported to the next meeting

***see the school website for a copy of the full meeting record (minutes) and presentations**

Working Bee – Saturday 5 April

The Term 1 Working Bee will be on Saturday 5 April between 9am and 12 noon. A form will be coming home soon with dates for the whole year. A program of four Working Bees has been created and each family is being asked to participate either by attending a working bee or making a donation to the Grounds Fund towards plants and materials. A mix of Saturdays and Sundays is provided to cater for those with weekend sport or other ongoing commitments.

Entertainment™ Books

The 2008 Entertainment™ Books are available (place an order). Forms will be made available via the school office and at P&C meetings. These are good value and assist the school. Get yours now!

Information (Presentations) of value to parents

The committee and school are very keen to ensure information of value to parents to support their sons is provided by experts. This includes short presentations at General Meetings and occasional seminars from educational experts.

A visiting educational expert Professor Andrew Martin will be engaged to deliver a seminar on teen learning issues (with a bias towards boys' needs) in Term 2. His details are available at www.lifelongachievement.com - go to 'workshops & presentations'. A nominal fee will be charged to provide notes. It is intended to invite our members of staff. The seminar will also be open to non-Normo parents. More details will follow.

Parents are invited to contact the committee with any specific requests so we can ensure all needs for expert information are addressed. Similarly our staff is invited to contact the committee if they have important information to pass on to the parents at a P&C meeting.

P&C (Voluntary Contributions)

The important work of the P&C cannot continue without these vital contributions. It is expected that nearly all families will be in a position to afford these and they are modest in comparison with other government schools. Please submit these payments for 2008 to the school office soon.

General Meeting next month

The next P&C General Meeting will be held in the School Library from 8:00pm on Tuesday 8 April. The outline agenda is:

1. Presentation: 'Survival Skills for Parents'
2. Principal's Report
(Recess)
3. Business Session. Main agenda items currently on notice are:
 - Adopt a reviewed Constitution
 - Results and feedback from the first Working Bee
 - Status of planning for the 50th Anniversary Celebrations
 - Executive Reports
 - Financials

- Other items (seeking parent input on issues of importance)

Best wishes,
Pevlin Price
P&C President

CALLING TALENTED MUMS & DADS

If you would be able to help sew costumes for Drama or for the school musical *Grease*, please contact the school office (9489 1077) to leave your details. Patterns will be provided and any help would be greatly appreciated.

Many thanks to Mrs Barnes and Mrs Colli who have already volunteered their services.

Ms R Ramsay
Drama Teacher

GUITAR TUITION

Individual – shared – group lessons

Guitar tuition is available during school hours to students at NBHS. Please ring to book your place. Most importantly, please speak to me before you buy an instrument. I also do setup and repair work for an instrument you already own.

Owen van der Klauw

9894 1604
0421 818 521

STUDENT EXCHANGE

Student Exchange Australia is seeking suitable families to host international exchange students.

In July 2008, a group of international exchange students, aged between 15 and 18 years will be arriving in Australia. They will be coming from over 15 countries to study at local schools for 5 or 10 months. Opportunities exist to act as a host family in a volunteer/unpaid capacity on a temporary, short or long-term basis.

Host families help provide the students with the chance to study and experience life in Australia. This is a great way to learn about another country and culture, establish a lifelong link to a family in another country and contribute to international goodwill.

If you can offer a friendly, supportive and caring home environment and would like further information, call Student Exchange Australia or visit their website: www.studentexchange.org.au.

LOST PROPERTY

Lost property at the school can only be kept for a limited period of time. Enquiries for lost property can be made through the front office.

Normanhurst Boys' High School			Term 1, 2008		
Wk	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8	17 Mar	18 Yr10 Geog Field Study Yr7 BBQ	19	20 Year Assembly Yr10 Geog Field Study	21 GOOD FRIDAY
	Yr11 Maths Yr11 Japanese Yr10 Elect History	← NO YEAR 12 Yr11 Economics	Yr11 English Adv	ASSESSMENTS →	
9	24 Mar EASTER MONDAY	25	26 Streamwatch Testing	27 Streamwatch Testing Yr8 Jindabyne	28
		← Yr11 Burrendong ← Yr12 half-yearly		exams →	
		Yr10 Commerce Yr10 Japanese Yr10 French	Yr9 Maths	Yr11 Drama (at camp)	Yr7 Maths Yr10 Visual Arts
10	31 Mar Yr10 Teachers' Mtg	1 Apr Yr9 Teachers' Mtg Yr11 Study Skills	2	3	4 Yr7/8/9 Brainstorm Inc
	←		Yr12 half-yearly	exams →	
	Yr10 English	Yr11 English Ext1		Yr11 Engineering Studies	Yr8 Maths Yr11 Visual Arts Yr11 Music 1
11	7 Apr Yr10 High Resolves Staff Meeting	8 Yr10 High Resolves Whole school ID photos (TBC) Rostrum 'Voice of Youth' Public Speaking P&C Meeting	9 Streamwatch Testing	10 Year Assembly Yr10 Vis Arts / PDM Exc Streamwatch Testing	11 END TERM 1
	Yr12 Visual Arts Yr11 Legal Studies		Yr11 Music Composn		Yr12 Drama Yr10 Visual Design Yr11 Music Prac

Normanhurst Boys High School

entertainment™ BOOK FUND RAISER

Imagine dining at Sydney's finest restaurants, having lunch at the trendiest cafes, spending a relaxing weekend at a luxury hotel or resort, attending the theatre or movies, **all at two for the price of one or 25% to 50% off!**

For \$65.00 the Book pays for itself in just two visits to a restaurant or one family day out.



FINE DINING RESTAURANTS

<i>The Bathers Pavillion</i>	<i>Berowra Waters Inn</i>	<i>Tables</i>
<i>Lavender Blue</i>	<i>Harbour Kitchen & Bar</i>	<i>Bilsons</i>
<i>Food & Plonk</i>	<i>Coonanbarra Cafe</i>	<i>Coast</i>

CAFÉ, BISTRO AND FAMILY DINING:

New Orleans Cafe	Brewhaha	Captain Cook Cruises
Newport Arms Bistro	Tablespoon	Pancakes on the Rocks
Hogs Breath Cafe	Wagamama	The Coogee Bay Hotel

INFORMAL DINING AND FAMILY DINING

Sydney Wildlife World	<u>ARTS, LEISURE & SPORTS:</u>	Roar and Snore
Sydney Tower Skywalk	Greater Union Cinema	Powerhouse Museum
Sydney Swans	Hoyts Cinemas	AND MANY MORE....
	Museum of Sydney	

...valid from NOW until June 1st 2009, with over \$15,000 worth of value in each book for just \$65.00 incl. GST... With every Book sold raising \$13 towards Normanhurst Boys High School.

Thank you for your support!

For further details please do not hesitate to contact: **Mai Brett** on 9213 7088.

Books sell out quickly, so be sure to get your copy ordered before they go!

Normanhurst Boys High School *entertainment*™ Book Order Form

To secure your copy of the 2008/2009 Entertainment™ book, please complete the order form & enclose with payment in an envelope and return to the school office **before 26th March 2008.**

Student's Name: (please print) _____ Class _____

Editions required:

_____ x Sydney and/or _____ x Sydney North @ \$65 (incl. GST) per Book = \$ _____
 _____ x Parramatta/Hills & Surrounds @ \$55 (incl. GST) per Book = \$ _____
 _____ x Newcastle, Central Coast and The Hunter @ \$60 (incl. GST) per Book = \$ _____

Total amount enclosed: = \$ _____

Method of Payment - I have enclosed: Cash Cheque * payable to Normanhurst Boys High School P & C

OR Please charge my: Visa MasterCard

Card Number _____ / _____ / _____ / _____ Exp Date ____ / ____

Card Holder's Name: _____ Signature: _____

Address: _____ Daytime Tel: _____

Note: If you don't want to purchase the Entertainment™ Book you might care to make a donation of \$13, which is the amount the P&C will make from the sale. If you wish to make a donation please include the amount in an envelope marked with your son's details & Entertainment Book Donation and ask your son to deliver it to the office.

**NORMANHUST BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL PARENTS & CITIZENS ASSOCIATION
GROUNDS WORKING BEES 2008**

(PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM AND RETURN IT TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE)

During 2008 there will be four working bees held to undertake important improvements to the grounds that will directly improve the learning and recreational environment for our sons and the staff. All families are expected to participate by attending a working bee or alternatively making a donation of \$35 (per family) to the Grounds Fund to assist with the purchase of plants and materials. Working bees will start at 9 am and continue until 12 noon on the days indicated. Refreshments will be provided.

Please provide contact details so you can be kept up to date. Email is preferred and contact by phone will only occur if email is not being 'opened'.

Parent's Name (Please print clearly)	
Son's name	
Your email address	
Your preferred contact phone number	

Please tick the appropriate boxes and return the form (and monies if making the donation) to the school office.

I wish to take part in the following working bees (only one required)

Saturday 5 April

Sunday 25 May

Sunday 24 August

Saturday 8 November

I prefer not to participate in a working bee and instead enclose \$35 for the Grounds Fund

(Tear off and retain)

I have nominated to attend NBHS Working Bee(s) on the following dates between 9 am and 12 noon:

Saturday 5 April

Sunday 25 May

Sunday 24 August

Saturday 8 November