



THE Normanhurst News

The weekly newsletter of Normanhurst Boys High School

Celebrating 50 years of quality education for boys

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Principal: Mr J R Bruce Deputy Principals: Mr F Johnson and Mr J.E. Fielding

Friday 15 May, 2009

Volume 18 Number 13

From the Principal

The smell of fresh paint wafted around every part of the school this week as the team of workmen repainting our school made great progress. It's amazing how the new colour scheme is transforming the buildings. I'm happy to be able to report that the air conditioning installation in the library is also progressing well. It's been a busy time getting quotes for our other refurbishing and building projects and I hope to give you more details of progress on those in the weeks ahead.



Out with the old ... in with the new!

At assembly this week, I spoke to the boys about the need to maintain our school's excellent reputation in the community, a sentiment I am sure, with which our parents would agree. Please encourage the boys to be considerate of the public as they travel to and from school on the buses and trains and also to ensure that they treat our neighbours' property with respect.

It has been a difficult period for those students who travel to school on the Hills Bus service with new timetables coming into operation this week. I have been contacted by several parents expressing concern at how these changes are impacting upon their sons' travel to and from school and I have taken these up with the bus company. Hopefully, with the considerable angst that has been generated in the north-western suburbs, some sort of acceptable resolution will be forthcoming.

Exciting English Initiative

Thank you to the many parents who attended this week's P&C meeting on Tuesday night and the support you gave to the proposal put forward by our English

Head Teacher, Mr Roland Briefrel. The funding that was approved will allow the faculty to purchase resources that will refocus the way English is being taught in our school. The English faculty has done a great deal this year to review current programs and assessment practices and I feel confident that this will translate into improved learning outcomes for the boys.

New Appointments

Whilst on matters to do with English, I am very happy to report that the successful candidate at last week's interviews for the vacant English position is Mr Trace Treleaven, who is currently on the staff of Smiths Hill Selective High School in Wollongong. Could I also take this opportunity to thank Mrs Sandy Attard, who represented the parents on the panel.

I would also like to welcome to the school Ms Elissa Kesby who will be our Careers Adviser until Mrs Packham returns from Long Service Leave in Term 4, and Mrs Joanne Wearne who will fill that role on Wednesdays.

Year 7 Parent/Teacher Night

A reminder to all our Year 7 parents that the Parent/Teacher interviews will be conducted next Tuesday night, May 18 in the school hall. Evenings such as these provide an excellent opportunity to meet our teachers and discuss your sons' progress during the first semester. We consider these meetings as being an essential part of creating a working relationship between the school and the home that encourages your child's learning and development. It would be wonderful to see as many parents as possible attending.

Congratulations to.....

Graeme McIntyre, our School Captain, who won the local final of the Sydney Morning Herald Plain English Speaking Competition. Graeme will now go on to the next stage of the competition (Regional Final) to be held later this month.

Well done to all the boys who have been selected to compete in today's Zone Cross Country Carnival. Our school has a formidable record, winning for the past 9 years in a row and 29 titles overall, well ahead of our nearest rivals at Epping Boys who have 20 titles.

Kind regards
Jeff Bruce
Principal

PREFECTS' PERIODICAL

Term 2 began with our school's annual Anzac service. The ceremony was conducted in a dignified manner with highlights including the cenotaph, piper and student speeches. School representatives then provided a much appreciated service at the Bowden Brae retirement home and a wreath was laid at Hornsby cenotaph. This continued the school's strong tradition of serving the community in commemoration of this important historical event.

Last week Prefect representatives attended a Stewart House function at Manly, and received an award on behalf of the school for our ongoing commitment to this worthy charity which provides medical and emotional support to students in NSW.

Students can look forward to the next Prefect Mufti Day to be conducted on Thursday in week 5 (28th). The theme of this day will be *Characters from your favourite book* and any funds raised will be used to support the *Starlight Foundation*. The prefects will be dressing up as well – so bring along your finest costume. There will be a competition for the best dressed! Prices are as usual (\$2.50 for a sausage, \$1.50 for a can & \$3.50 for a combo) & there may be some new exciting items on the menu.

The Prefects

P & C NEWS

Progress, but we must all continue supporting the School

Improvements to the school facilities and grounds continue. Federal and State funding appears to be secure despite the present economic climate so 2009 may shape up to be one of unusually high capital improvement. We should be realistic and assume it is unlikely funding and grants will continue at this level. Provision for improvements in the longer-term will be more assured based on maintaining our own level of contributions and support.

I ask all families to ensure their voluntary P&C contributions are made and to continue sharing in the voluntary work that benefits all our sons. If you haven't taken part as a volunteer or previously made a voluntary contribution we encourage you to make 2009 the year you do. It is very important.

At this month's P&C meeting the parents approved a total of \$55K urgently needed support to the school. Further support this year will depend in part on the contributions that are received from parents and the results of fundraising, particularly during this term. The school has provided information on additional improvements

Thank you to those parents who have recently sent in forms indicating they are available for canteen and function support.

The General Meeting – Tuesday 12 May

Theme of importance: English

Mr Bruce provided the meeting with a statistical analysis of recent HSC results, the changing structure of the English examination in the HSC, and the way school is adapting to the 'HSC style' of setting questions and marking them. This was followed by our Head Teacher of English, Mr Roland Briefrel informing us on the

current challenges in English within the school. Some of the indicators provided were sobering. It was made clear that we all need to address the need to make our 'young men' accountable for changing their approaches to studying English if they need to. They must read their prescribed texts and address the increasing need to read more than these, indeed the new HSC approach will demand this.

It was made very clear that the days of being able to memorise study guides or someone else's successful essay will not overcome the requirement for original analysis and effectively expressing a personal viewpoint. Change is upon us: these young men of ours must adapt and we must support them.

The meeting was particularly impressed that the school has set the goal of raising the result from last year's 8% in 'Band 6' to 20% in this year's HSC, and to sustain improved results in subsequent years with an aim to achieve close to 40%. Restoring reading requires a sizable investment not achievable from current government funding and so the parents present voted to resource the English faculty with \$20.5K to immediately bring in new texts to support the restoration of reading.

I ask all the boys not to 'knock' a fellow student for reading a book whether at school, on the bus or wherever – it is indeed 'cool' to succeed, and reading is (and has always been) the road to success! Yes - this will mean less PS3/RuneScape etc - the reality is you have a higher need to invest some of your spare time in yourself and your success.

The importance of making use of spare time in the junior years to prepare for extension courses in Year 11 and 12 by reading during Years 7–10 was a key message for us.

Mr Briefrel opened his presentation with a vote of thanks for the priceless work performed quietly by the team of parents who cover text books so they can remain in service for as long as possible. Given the number of new books that will be arriving I am sure they would welcome any parent who has a little time to spare in helping to cover them so they can be issued. More details to follow.

P&C Funding the School 2009 Budget

After a two month pause to consider the school's requests and its budget process, and with an assurance that a process of examining forward estimates will feature in subsequent budgets the parents approved support to the school of \$35K to ensure all current year programs can continue in 2009.

School 3 Year Plan: 2009-2011

The school's 3 year plan was provided at the meeting. The aspects relating to 'Community' are considered appropriate. If anyone has any comments please forward these direct to the Principal

P&C School Raffle – to generate funding for Interactive Whiteboards

Announcements on the details of the school 2009 raffle will be provided soon. The funds raised from the raffle are to be used for this important project that will benefit all the boys. We ask all families to purchase some tickets and seek out friends and family who can be found. This year we can guarantee that unlike in previous years ALL the winners will be from the tickets we sell within the school community!

Prizes include an LCD TV, a weekend retreat, IPOD, and many others. It will be drawn towards the end of this term. Thank you Tracey!

H2O to Go – additional fundraising

Vouchers may still be ordered to obtain a modest commission that comes back to the P&C. A second round of information will be available soon. Well done Cecilia!

Entertainment Books – looking for value

An order form will be re-circulated. The potential savings (welcome in these times) will recover the outlay for the book in a short time. Please consider purchasing one though the school for your area of Sydney, or that of a friend if considering one as a gift. Great work Mai!

Working Bee 31 May... 9am – 12:00 noon – get ready!

Not long till this term's Working Bee – it is on a Sunday to allow those with Saturday commitments to participate. More details to follow next week from Jonathan.

Uniform Review

A joint committee is forming to develop a plan for a progressive review of our boys' uniforms. Thank you to Jane and Jasmine for seeking to be involved.

Governance Update

The financial records for the P&C Year ending 31 Aug 08 are due to be returned shortly from an independent review and results will be formally presented to the June P&C meeting for acceptance. A mid-year report that will clarify the present state of affairs together with conservative projections will also be presented to provide a complete picture of the financial position of your P&C.

Hills Busses

On a matter that isn't very popular. The school and P&C are well aware of the friction caused by this week's changes to the Hills Bus timetables as they are critical for boys coming from the Castle Hill area. I have spoken with parents for the last two mornings at Castle Towers. I ask for a bit of patience to see how it settles down before launching any protests. It is important to realise that changes are borne out of a review of bus routes by the State Government not HillsBus.

Remember also that drivers are responsible for issuing tickets at the point where a 'paid' journey begins which might mean boys need to get off a bus so they can re-enter and pay for a journey which is not covered by their bus pass. Be aware also that the bus drivers are monitored by computer controlled time and location ticketing so we need to appreciate they are not being difficult if this occurs.

Stay tuned for updates in the Normo News

Next P&C Meeting: Tuesday 9th June

The June meeting starts at 8:00 pm in the library (subject to change of venue if works are in progress for the air-conditioning). Details will be confirmed closer to the date.

Consider joining the Committee

I am continually impressed by your P&C committee members and parents who regularly attend P&C Meetings. There is room on the committee for more parents, particularly those with sons in Years 7 and 8 to take a more active role and then consider standing for an executive position. I encourage any parent with a bit of time to spare to join in to help coordinate P&C

activities and really make a difference for our sons.

Pevlin Price P&C President

ppua.fob@bigpond.net.au

SAFETY IN SCIENCE

On behalf of all science staff and students, all students are required to place their school bag into the white storage cabinets installed in the corridor of D block. Each compartment easily accommodates two bags. **This request is to maximise our safety. No bags are to be left on the floor of D block at any time.**

D James

CAREERS NEWS

- The University of Sydney will hold Yr 10 subject selection & university information evenings on June 1, 3, 9 & 11 to assist Yr 10 students & parents with decisions about their future. ONLINE Registrations required. **Phone:** 1300 362 006 **Email:** futurestudents@usyd.edu.au **Website:** <http://www.usyd.edu.au>
- The 2009 ATSE Clunies Ross Extreme Science Experience will be held at the Australian Technology Park in Sydney on Thursday 21 May 2009, 10am until 3.30pm. This **FREE EVENT** will be one of the most exciting science events for Year 10 students in Sydney in 2009. It gives keen Yr 10 students a unique opportunity to interact with Australia's top commercially successful scientists & engineers. Online Registrations required. <http://www.extremescience.com.au/> **Phone:** (03) 9340 1200 **Email** Joanne.Wood@atse.org.au. * Bernie Hobbs, star of the ABC programs 'the experiMENTALS' and 'The New Inventors', will MC the event and winners of the 2009 ATSE Clunies Ross Awards (Australia's top awards to recognise the simultaneous mastery of new technology and business expertise) will conduct workshops with the students during the day.
- Qantm College offers specialist courses in animation, games design, games programming, interactive digital media, graphic design & digital video production at Diploma/degree level. Campuses: Sydney/Brisbane/Melbourne. Open Day Saturday 23 May 10am-2pm. Phone: 1300 136 933 Email: enquiries@qantm.com.au Website: www.qantm.com.au/courses
- Up to 100,000 visitors flock to this award-winning festival each year. So don't miss out, plan your trip to the Australian Science Festival in Canberra now and be blown out of this world! 26 – 31 May 2009.
- ACTT prepares students for careers as actors, music theatre performers, stage managers & lighting & sound operators. 'Drop In' classes combine a single acting class with a course/college info session. Sydney/Gosford/Newcastle Workshop: 30 May.
- SAE offers programs in audio engineering, digital film making, multimedia & animation from Cert to degree level. FEE Help available, Campuses in Brisbane, Byron Bay, Sydney & Melbourne. Open Days: SYDNEY, 23 May 2009 from 10am to 3.00

pm

Location: 55-57 Wentworth Ave

For more information about these or other Careers matters, see the Careers Adviser.

**Mrs E Kesby
Careers Adviser**

YEAR 11 STUDENTS – CAREERS NEWS

1. HESS provides Yr 11 students with an overview of the Engineering profession & its many applications in everyday life. Includes practical engineering activities, site visits, social events, FUN! December 6-11. APPLY NOW. First in, best dressed!!
2. The National Youth Science Forum is a 2 week residential program in January 2010 in Canberra for students moving into Year 12 who are thinking about

a career in science, engineering and technology.
 Applications close 29 May. NYSF: 02 6125 2777
 Email: nysf@nysf.edu.au Website:
<http://www.nysf.edu.au>

3. UNSW Science Info Evening. The Faculty of Science at the University of NSW invites students in Yrs 11/12 & parents/carers to an Information Evening on 28 May to explore course options in Science & Maths, career opportunities, scholarships... Registrations required. Donna Bailey: 02 9385 7307 Email: d.bailey@unsw.edu.au Website: <http://www.science.unsw.edu.au>

**Mrs E Kesby
Careers Adviser**

SPORTS RESULTS

GRADE	DATE:13/5/2009	ROUND No: 4	
SPORT	OPPOSITION	VENUE	COACH
2nd Rugby	Nth Sydney	North Sydney	0-43
14 Rugby	Randwick	Randwick	20-34
13 Rugby	Randwick	Randwick	0-53
1st Soccer	Nth Sydney	North Sydney	0-2
2nd Soccer	Nth Sydney	Draw	2-2
4th Soccer	Nth Sydney	Normanhurst	0-6
15a Soccer	Nth Sydney	Normanhurst	5-0
15b Soccer	Nth Sydney	Normanhurst	1-0
14a Soccer	Nth Sydney	Game Deferred	Double Pts Rd 2
14b Soccer	Nth Sydney	Game Deferred	Double Pts Rd 2
13a Soccer	Nth Sydney	North Sydney	1-2
13b Soccer	Nth Sydney	North Sydney	1-2
13c Soccer	Nth Sydney	Draw	0-0
1st Tennis	Nth Sydney	Normanhurst	5-2
2nd Tennis	Nth Sydney	North Sydney	1-5
15 Tennis	Nth Sydney	North Sydney	3-5
14 Tennis	Nth Sydney	Normanhurst	6-0
1st Table Tennis	Nth Sydney	North Sydney	1-4
2nd Table Tennis	Nth Sydney	North Sydney	1-4
15 TableTennis	Nth Sydney	North Sydney	2-4
14 Table Tennis	Nth Sydney	Normanhurst	4-1
1st Lawn Bowls	Nth Sydney	North Sydney	3-8
15 Lawn Bowls	Nth Sydney	North Sydney	6-9
1st Hockey	Nth Sydney	Normanhurst	3-0
15 Hockey	Nth Sydney	Normanhurst	2-0

<i>Normanhurst Boys' High School</i>				<i>Term 2, 2009</i>	
Wk	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
4	18 May Yr12 reports posted	19 Yr11 RYDA Yr7 P/T Night	20	21 Formal Assembly Yrs 7/8/12 Mufti Day Yr8/10 High Resolves Yr7 State Rail Inc (P3/4)	22 Yr8/10 High Resolves Yr7 Maths H/Y P1/2
				Yr12 Physics Yr9 Maths	Yr10 Photo Dig Media Yr9 Maths
5	25 May Yr7 English Inc (Per1-3) Yr8 reports posted	26 School Athletics Carnival	27 ICAS Computer Skills Yr12 History Ext seminar	28 Formal Assembly Yrs 9/10/11 Yr11 Teachers' Meeting	29 Yr8 Medieval History Show P&C Working Bee Sun 31 May
					Yr12 Engineering Studies Yr11 Visual Arts
6	1 Jun Yr11 Geography Field Study Yr12 Modern History Seminar Yr8/9 Japanese Exc Streamwatch testing (P1/2) Yr11 reports posted	2 Da Vinci Decathlon Yrs9/10 Streamwatch testing (P5/6)	3	4 Formal Assembly Yrs 7/8/10 Yr12 Modern Hist Exc Da Vinci Decathlon Yrs7/8	5 Yr10 reports to Principal Yr9 reports to HT
		Yr12 Maths Ext1	Yr12 Chemistry	Yr12 English Advanced	Yr12 Mathematics Yr12 Maths General Yr11 Visual Arts

Les Misérables



May 2009

Saturday 16th	8pm	Adults	\$25
Sunday 17th	2pm	Concession	\$20
Friday 22nd	8pm	Family	\$80
Saturday 23rd	2pm 8pm		

Family: 2 adults and 2 children
Extra children at \$15 each
Please Note: Credit Card facilities are not available

Berowra Community Centre Gully Road Berowra

BOOK ONLINE

www.bmsi.org.au

Enquiries: 9476 0051
Email: info@bmsi.org.au

Les Misérables



Berowra Musical Society Inc

by arrangement with

CAMERON MACKINTOSH LIMITED

presents

"LES MISERABLES"

A musical by ALAIN BOUBLIL & CLAUDE-MICHEL SCHÖNBERG

Based on the novel by VICTOR HUGO

Music by CLAUDE-MICHEL SCHÖNBERG

Lyrics by HERBERT KRETZMER

Original French Text by ALAIN BOUBLIL & JEAN MARC NATEL

Additional Material by JAMES FENTON

Original Orchestrations by JOHN CAMERON

Original London Production Directed and Adapted by TREVOR NUNN and JOHN CAIRD

Original London Production by CAMERON MACKINTOSH & THE ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY

by arrangement with Hal Leonard Australia Pty Ltd Exclusive agent for Music Theatre International (NY)



UNSW

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES

UNSW Network Schools Year 10 Subject Selection Evening Program

Thursday May 21 6:30-8.30pm

Program

Talks – Abbotsleigh Auditorium, Abbotsleigh School, Wahroonga – from 6.30pm

6.30pm	Introduction	Mr Jonathon Strauss Manager, UNSW Network Schools Program
6.35pm	Welcome	Ms Sophie Arnold, Student Ambassador/MC
6.40pm	Board of Studies	Ms. Kim Owens Studies Liaison Officer
7.10pm	Admission, Assumed and Recommended Knowledge, HSC Plus	Ms Sonia Nitchell Head - UAC Admissions and Equity Programs
7.40pm	How I Chose my Subjects	Ms. Sophie Arnold
7.50pm	Close	Ms. Sophie Arnold

Faculty Advice - Auditorium Foyer from 7.50pm

Year 10 students and their guests will have the opportunity for one-to-one discussions with faculty representatives about programs, as well as assumed and recommended knowledge.

Representatives from the following areas will participate in the Evening:

- Arts and Social Sciences
- Built Environment
- Business
- College of Fine Arts
- Engineering
- Law
- Medicine
- Science
- UNSW Scholarships and Co-op Program

Refreshments will be provided.

Normanhurst Boys High School entertainment™ BOOK FUND RAISER

THE NEW 2009/2010 *entertainment*™ BOOKS ARE WORTH THEIR WEIGHT IN GOLD!



Purchase your brand new 2009/2010 Entertainment™ Book **now** to receive over \$15,000 in valuable offers, valid through 1 June, 2010. At the same time, you'll be helping community fund-raising!

The Entertainment™ Book is your guide to the best restaurants, hotel accommodation, attractions, sports and leisure activities... all with 25% to 50% off or 2-for-1 offers. Plus, **My Bookings™**... Compare rates, check availability and book your accommodation online.

Here is a sample of the many well known businesses providing valuable offers in the new Sydney and Sydney North Entertainment™ Books...

STILL ONLY
\$65

Fine and Contemporary Dining

Sydney edition
(the best of the city, east, south and inner west)

- Cafe Sydney
 - Bilsons
 - Restaurant Balzac
 - Forty One Restaurant
 - Astral
 - Ottoman Cuisine
 - Foveaux Restaurant + Bar
 - Restaurant Assiette
 - Sugarcane
- and many more...*

Sydney North edition
(the best of the upper and lower north shores and northern beaches)

- Watermark Restaurant
 - The Burlington
 - Pulu at Freshwater
 - Milson's
 - The Bathers' Pavilion
 - La Grillade
 - Terrace on Pittwater
 - Orso Bayside Restaurant
 - Jasper's
- and many more...*

Restaurant and Café Dining

Sydney edition
(the best of the city, east, south and inner west)

- Tony Roma's
 - Wagamama
 - Din Tai Fung
 - Blackbird Café
 - Sauce Eatery - Concord
 - Moncur Terrace
 - Cine Restaurant and Bar
 - Löwenbräu Bier Hall
 - Haberfield Post
- and many more...*

Sydney North edition
(the best of the upper and lower north shores and northern beaches)

- PJ Gallagher's
 - The Narrabeen Sands Hotel
 - Wood and Stone
 - Stir Crazy Thai
 - The Newport Arms
 - 4 Pines Brewery Company
 - Flying Fox Café
 - Café Brisa
 - Bar Asia
- and many more...*

The following appear in both the Sydney and Sydney North editions.

Informal Dining and Takeaway Restaurants

- McDonald's
 - Gloria Jean's Coffees
 - Hungry Jack's
 - Domino's Pizza
 - Oporto
 - Krispy Kreme
 - Subway
 - Crust Gourmet Pizza
 - Pizza Hut
 - McCafe
 - Pie Face
- and many more...*

Arts, Sports and Attractions

- Hoyts
 - Taronga Zoo
 - Sydney Aquarium
 - IMAX
 - Sydney Symphony
 - Luna Park
 - Sydney Wildlife World
 - Sydney Theatre Company
 - Sydney Swans
 - The Australian Ballet
 - NSW Waratahs
- and many more...*

Retail, Travel, Leisure and Accommodation

- Avis/Budget/Europcar/Hertz/Thrifty
 - Hamilton Island
 - QBE Travel Insurance
 - Dreamworld/Whitewater World*
 - Mantra/BreakFree Hotels Resorts & Apartments
 - Warner Village Theme Parks
- and many more...*



For a complete listing of participating businesses or more information about Entertainment™ Books for other cities, please visit www.entertainmentbook.com.au.

Normanhurst Boys High School

entertainment™ Book Order Form

To secure your copy of the 2009/2010 Entertainment™ book, please complete the order form & enclose with payment in an envelope and return to the school office **before 29 May 2009.**

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

Address (optional): _____ State: _____ P/Code: _____

I would like to order: _____ x Sydney @ \$65 each (GST incl.) = \$ _____
 _____ x Sydney North @ \$65 each (GST incl.) = \$ _____
 _____ x Parramatta/Hills/Blue Mtns/Macarthur @ \$55 each (GST incl.) = \$ _____
Total amount enclosed: = \$ _____

The book(s) will be delivered to your son at school

I would like to pay by: Cash Cheque - Please make cheques payable to: Normanhurst Boys High School P & C
 Or please charge my: Visa Mastercard

Credit Card Number: _____ / _____ / _____ / _____ Expiry Date: _____ / _____

Cardholder's Name: _____ Signature: _____

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 Entertainment Book Donation and ask your son to deliver it to the office.
 For further details, please contact Mai Brett on 9213 7088.