



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 13 June, 2008

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From the Principal

I have been fortunate to be able to attend two very important conferences during the past few days which I would like to comment upon briefly in this week's Newsletter. On the Saturday of the long weekend, I attended a Symposium at Sydney University which explored a number of issues connected to the implementation of a National Curriculum in English. As some of you will no doubt be aware, as part of the new Federal Government's education policy, it is intended that there be common curricula in all states in the key subject areas. In short, this would mean that student achievement in one state could be correlated with achievement in any other state, a situation that does not exist at present. It was fascinating to hear the issues that were raised by members of key bodies within the DET, the independent school system and by students. It is intended that these new curricula be implemented by 2010.



On Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of this week, I attended the State Principals' Conference at Tweed Heads. This was an excellent opportunity to meet with my colleagues from all over the state to discuss issues that are of concern to all of us, particularly in relation to staffing, technology and the challenges that face us as educators in the present global environment. It was also interesting to hear the viewpoints of our Minister for Education, Mr John Della Bosca and the Director General of Education, Mr Michael Coutts-Trotter.

Reports for Year 10 and Years 11 are almost complete and will be distributed in the near future. We have implemented new guidelines for the writing of these reports and I look forward to a positive response from the school community.

Could I also issue a couple of reminders, firstly to all parents to ensure that you have returned the information requesting your email and mobile phone details. The other reminder is in relation to overdue school contribution and subject fees. Your early attention to these would be very much appreciated.

Kind regards,
Jeff Bruce
Principal

P & C NEWS

Information and Presentations of value to parents:

10 June - Study Survival Skills

Mr Johnson stood in for Mrs Straw this Tuesday and was able to cover the notes she provided. We were briefed on the importance of developing good personal study habits and self-organisation during Years 7-10 in order to prevent the rise of stress in Years 11 and 12. Many questions were answered but it was clear that we all need to look into those school diaries to check that homework and such is being recorded and time is being planned... There is also a wealth of advice contained in the diary so have a look into it.

Postponement of Dr Martin's Seminar

Unfortunately there was a low response from within the school and the parents at the Meeting this week agreed to postpone it to Term 3 (23 Sep). This will permit more publicity to make the numbers viable. Parents who 'booked' for the event will be contacted individually.

Communication

Communication to, from, and between parents is seen as a critical vulnerability to the P&C's work to support our sons. We will be reaching out soon to address this issue. If you are 'on-line' I strongly recommend families make use of the email option for this and other news/notices and also the SMS alert option.

We have a mail box at the school office so 'snail mail' is always an option for letters!

If you want to email the P&C – just email the school and ask it to be forwarded to the P&C.

If you have a question that affects the families or a number of boys, or have a suggestion for the P&C please contact the committee so we can hear your concern or idea and address it collectively. We are all ears!

Emerging Issues

Works. The recent loss of funding for air-conditioning to the library/science block and general lack of capital works by the Dept in recent years is mounting as a concern for the P&C.

Building Projects. As a result of the 50th the P&C is working with the school to develop options for a meaningful improvement project. Input to the Committee is welcome.

Community Chest

Please return all monies, ticket butts and unsold tickets to the canteen.

50th Celebrations Weekend

The plans are shaping well and publicity is starting to roll out across the community. In outline:

Friday 29 Aug: (for Current Students) sports, rides, '50's' theme dance with Hornsby GHS

Saturday 30 Aug:

(afternoon): Open day, tours & displays (for all)

(evening): Old Boys' function, fireworks, supper

Sunday 31 Aug: (families) sports, multi-cultural food

If any parent is aware of organisations or persons that would be prepared to subsidise part of our function costs in return for advertising please contact the 50th Organising Committee C/- the school office.

Next Meeting – 1 July

The next P&C Meeting will be an extraordinary meeting to focus on the 50th Celebrations plans and coordination by parents. It will be held in the School Library from 8:00pm on Tuesday 1 July. The outline agenda is:

1. Principal's report
(Recess)
2. Brief business session
3. 50th Celebrations Business Session

Best wishes

Pevlin Price

P&C President

MUSIC NEWS

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

A big correction to one of the announcements of two weeks ago in which we stated that Robin Fletcher of Year 12 had gained a High Distinction in the A. Mus. A for piano. He actually gained his A. Mus. A last year and it was the L. Mus. A for which he recently gained a High Distinction. Sorry Robin and congratulations!

Matthew Hyde, Year 11, went to the City of Mount Gambier National Stage Band Awards 2008 with the Performing Arts Unit Stage Band. This festival was actually initiated by James Morrison as a way of encouraging young Jazz musicians. Well done Matthew and we hope you are feeling even more inspired than you already were.

Eugene Kwok, Year 7, recently participated in the Northern Beaches Eisteddfod on piano, gaining the following places: 2nd place (88) - Classical Section, 12 years only; 2nd place (88) - Baroque Section, 12 years only; and Highly Commended (89) - 20th & 21st Centuries Section, 12 years only. Congratulations Eugene!

MUSICAL EVENING

Well done to all the students who performed so well last Thursday evening! It was fabulous to have so many students and their parents attending on such a nasty night. A big thank you to all the parents for bringing them along.

REHEARSALS THIS TERM

Due to the timetable for the musical *Grease* we have decided to **cancel Concert Band for the 19th and 26th**

June. Not only are the staff involved in late night bump ins and performances but so are many of the older students in the band and it would not be fair to expect them to attend rehearsals so early in the morning. Rehearsals will continue as normal for all other ensembles.

MUSICAL ENSEMBLE CONTRIBUTIONS

Please try to pay your contribution of \$50 to the front office as soon as you can – this money is a one off payment for any student in any ensemble and is used for purchasing music, folders, instruments, maintenance, guest conductors and subsidising the music camp at the end of the year.

Mrs. M. Johnson and Mrs. S. Cousins

HELP NEEDED FOR *GREASE*

We are in need of the following items for the production of the musical *Grease*:

- ♫ 4 hubcaps (don't have to match)
- ♫ 1 pair fluffy dice (dash ornaments)
- ♫ 1 old turntable (not a precious one as it may not be able to be returned in the same condition)

If you are able to help out by providing any of the above items, please contact the school or Ms Ramsay.

Thank you

Ms R Ramsay

Drama Teacher

PAYMENTS FOR EXCURSIONS, ETC

A reminder that the student's **full name, Year & roll class and details of the payment** must be clearly written on the envelope. Payment must be for the **exact amount** as no change can be given. All payments must be placed in the brown wooden payment box at the front office **before school or by the end of recess.**

Mr F Johnson

SIEMENS SCIENCE EXPERIENCE

The Siemens Science Experience, a three-day hands-on science, engineering and technology program, will be conducted again in Australian universities in 2008/2009 for students who will be entering Year 10 in 2009. Each program includes a wide variety of practical activities, together with interesting presentations by leading scientists and engineers.



It is a Rotary Youth Services Project and fully supported by the Australian Science Teachers Association. The cost of the three-day program is \$105 (includes GST). Local Rotary clubs are often willing to pay this fee (see below).

Further information and application forms are available from the school's Science Department, Rotary clubs and from www.scienceexperience.com.au. Early application is advised.

Any Year 9 student is welcome to attend.

"Thornleigh Rotary wants to support the programme in Normanhurst Boys High School and they have planned to sponsor 3 boys for the \$105 fee if the money is an issue.

Would any interested boys who want sponsorship please email me at: rhobson1@bigpond.net.au

Regards,
Richard Hobson
 Youth Director, Rotary Club of Thornleigh Inc"

CAREERS NEWS

Macquarie University is holding an **Undergraduate Information Evening** to provide career information about careers in **Engineering and ICT** on Wed 18 June 2008, from 6.30pm to 8.30pm. This will provide an opportunity to talk to industry representatives, students and academic staff about careers in the field and relevant courses offered by Macquarie University.

RSVP: To secure your place at the event, please register at www.engineering.mq.edu.au by Monday 16 June, 2008.

Mrs Packham
 Careers Adviser

GUITAR LESSONS

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



Daniel Park of Year 12 scores a try!

SPORTS RESULTS

GRADE			DATE:11/6/2008	ROUND No 7
SPORT		OPPOSITION	WINNER	SCORE
Rugby	1st	Ashfield	Normanhurst	27-0 (Hooray!!!!)
Rugby	2nd	Bye	-	-
Rugby	15A	Normanhurst have withdrawn		
Rugby	14A	Ashfield	Ashfield	12-39
Rugby	13B	H'bush	Draw	Wash Out
Soccer	1st	Ashfield	Draw	Wash Out
Soccer	2nd	Ashfield	Draw	Wash Out
Soccer	3rd	Ashfield	Draw	Wash Out
Soccer	15A	Ashfield	Normanhurst	3-1
Soccer	15B	Ashfield	Ashfield	1-4
Soccer	14A	Ashfield	Ashfield	0-4
Soccer	14B	Ashfield	Ashfield	1-2
Soccer	13A	Ashfield	Normanhurst	3-0
Soccer	13B	Ashfield	Normanhurst	4-0
Soccer	13C	Epping 14c	Epping 14c	1-4
Hockey	1st	Asquith	Asquith	Forfeit
Hockey	15	Ashfield	Normanhurst	5-0
Tennis	1st	Ashfield	Normanhurst	6-0
Tennis	2nd	Ashfield	Normanhurst	6-0
Tennis	15	Ashfield	Normanhurst	5-0
Tennis	14	Ashfield	Normanhurst	4-1
Table Tennis	1st	Ashfield	Normanhurst	4-0
Table Tennis	2nd	Ashfield	Normanhurst	4-1
Table Tennis	15	Ashfield	Normanhurst	4-0
Table Tennis	14	Ashfield	Normanhurst	4-0
Lawn Bowls	1st	Ashfield	Normanhurst	11-2
Lawn Bowls	15	Ashfield	Ashfield	5-7

<i>Normanhurst Boys' High School</i>				<i>Term 2, 2008</i>	
<i>Wk</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>
8	16 Jun 15Yrs AFL KO Yr12 History Ext Seminar DofE Training (pm)	17 Yr12 'King Lear' Exc	18	19 Yr9/10 French Exc Yr11/12 Visual Arts to Biennale	20 Yr10/11/12 <i>Grease</i> rehearsal all day
	Yr12 Physics Yr12 Economics ← Yr11 English Ext1	Yr11 Ancient History Yr11 Modern History Yr10 Photo Dig Media	Yr12 Modern History Yr11 English Adv		Yr12 Japanese Yr10 Geography →
	Yr 8 Vis Arts (in double period)				
9	23 Jun Yr10 Teachers' Mtg DofE Training (pm)	24 Yr10/11 reports issued ← <i>Grease</i>	25 Yr7/Yr11 Leaders Jenolan Caves Mtg Streamwatch Testing (Musical) →	26 Year Assembly Yr12 Drama Exc Streamwatch Testing	27 Yr7 Vaccinations (Hall) DofE Expedition 28-29 June → → → → <i>Grease</i> (Musical) →
	←	Yr12 Chemistry Yr12 English Ext1	Yr11 English Adv		Yr12 Visual Arts Yr12 Japanese →
	Yr10 Elect History	Yr11 Engineering Studies		Yr11 Physics	Yr11 Economics
10	30 Jun School Photos	1 Jul School Photos Yr10/11 P/T Night	2 Whole School Photo (50 th Anniversary)	3 Yr9 High Resolves Yr12 PDHPE Enrichment Day	4 Jul Yr9 High Resolves END TERM 2
	← NO	ASSESSMENT	TASKS →		Yr12 Music 1 Yr10 Visual Design

Community Chest Raffle



Thank you again to the many families who have returned their raffle tickets.



Please keep them flowing in. The end is fast approaching.

LAST DAY FOR RETURNING TICKETS

***** THURSDAY 26th JUNE *****

Remember - return your ticket stubs and money to the Canteen.

Sold or not, all tickets must be returned to the Canteen.



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Senior Student Seminar Program

July, 2008

Essay Skills, Study Skills & Referencing Seminar
Joe Awkar, experienced secondary teacher and individual tutor, will present a 3 hour seminar on essay writing, study skills and referencing. This seminar is aimed at students in Years 9-12. *Notes will be provided.*

Cost: \$18.00

At HORNSBY	At EPPING
Wednesday 9 th July, 2008 10.15am - 1.15pm	Wednesday 16 th July, 2008 1.30pm - 4.30pm

HSC English Lecture

Gillian Halstead is an experienced English Tutor. In this workshop she will give an overview of the skills needed to successfully study English at HSC level, from text types to techniques and devices, as well as tips for assessments and exams. *Notes will be provided.*

Cost: \$18.00

At EPPING	At HORNSBY
Friday 11 th July, 2008 10.00am - 1.00pm	Tuesday 15 th July, 2008 10.15am - 1.15pm

Managing Study Stress Workshop

Hornsby Council Youth Services Team show students how to identify the warning signs of stress and anxiety and how to utilise stress and anxiety management techniques.

FREE

At HORNSBY	At HORNSBY
Thursday 17 th July, 2008 2.00pm - 3.30pm	

VENUES:

Hornsby seminars will be held in the Hornsby Library Meeting Room
28-44 George St
HORNSBY NSW 2077

Epping seminars will be held at the Epping Learning & Leisure Centre which is below Epping Library at Chambers Court (Off Pembroke Road) Epping.

HOW TO BOOK:

In person at Hornsby or Epping Library or by phoning 9847 6614. Where payment is necessary it must be made within 1 week of booking. Bookings are essential and tickets are non-refundable.

Hornsby Shire Library & Information Service

