



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 18 September, 2009

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From the Principal

Principal's Report

Naplan Results Released

This week saw the release of the NAPLAN results for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. These tests, (NAPLAN) were conducted in May for all students across Australia in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. All students in the same year level were assessed on the same test items in the assessment domains of Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation) and Numeracy.

As expected, the results of our school were significantly higher than state and national averages. A summary of our results follows:

Year 7 Overall Literacy 634.0 compared to the State mean of 542.2

Year 7 Numeracy 729.9 compared to the State mean of 550.7

Year 9 Overall Literacy 663.6 compared to the State mean of 578.9

Year 9 Numeracy 750.3 compared to the State mean of 597.1

The information that was provided to the school contains a wealth of data on the performance of each student in the tests and I will be working with our teachers in the coming weeks to analyse this information.

An award from the Minister

I had the pleasure of attending a special ceremony at the Wilkins Gallery in Bridge Street at which the Minister for Education, Verity Firth, presented the Minister's Awards for Excellence in Education. Thirty-nine students representing public high schools throughout the state were honoured at the ceremony and it was wonderful to see our school represented by Graeme McIntyre, our 2008/2009 School Captain. Graeme was recognised for the outstanding contribution that he has made to Normanhurst Boys in leadership, public speaking and debating, in academia and in a range of extra-curricular activities. He has indeed been a fine ambassador for our school and thoroughly deserved the award that was presented to him.

*Graeme McIntyre, Minister for Education Verity Firth
and Mr Bruce*



Work on science labs starts

The upgrade of our school's facilities continues. This week saw the arrival of the contractors who will be refurbishing 5 of our 6 science labs and one of the preparation rooms. There is going to be a considerable disruption to our science classes with multiple reallocations of classes to rooms that are available. Work is expected to be completed in 10 weeks.

Year 11 exams

Year 11 have been busy completing their final exams for the Preliminary HSC courses. These exams are important because they provide a strong indication of areas that will need to be addressed when the HSC courses commence next term.

Another Successful Working Bee

Our latest working bee last Sunday saw over 40 members of our school community arrive with wheelbarrows, gloves and an array of garden tools. Further planting was completed along the school's boundary on Pennant Hills Rd and also at the front gates of the school along the Fraser Road entrance. The team of workers also attacked the weeds on the areas already planted with a vengeance. Many thanks to the parents who attended and particularly to the large contingent of students led by our Prefects who also gave so generously of their time. As always our gratitude to Jonathan Sanders for his wonderful co-ordination of the project.

Year 10 Debaters Bow Out

Our Year 10 Teasdale Cup debating team have had a fine run in this year's competition, continuing on the generally strong results from all our teams in this year's state competitions. Although they lost the Regional Final to Manly Selective High School this week, they progressed to that stage of the competition by defeating some very strong teams, including North Sydney Boys.

Congratulations to....

Daniel Yeo (Year 12) who has been awarded a Commendation from the Order of Australia Association. Daniel has worked tirelessly for the Exodus Foundation, assisting the homeless and destitute. His award will be presented to him by the Governor of NSW, Marie Bashir, in November.

Another of our Year 12 students, Andrew Wallace, has won 1st place in the University of NSW Creative Writing Competition with his competition "Extra Terrestrial Time Theft". Andrew won a prize of \$500 and the opportunity to attend a workshop with Dr Paul Dawson, an internationally recognised scholar in the field of creative writing.

Anthony Zhao (Year 7) has been selected to represent NSW in the Australian Junior Table Tennis Championships that will be held in Hobart between September 22 – October 3. Good luck to Anthony in this competition.

Kind regards

Jeff Bruce

Principal

P & C NEWS

Next (Extraordinary) General Meeting – Tue 20 October - Supper at 7:00 pm to mark the service of our long Canteen Committee Treasurer Glenys Porter.

A new Treasurer has been identified and more information will be in next week's news

(We are very fortunate in the way our canteen provides nutritious options and is a parent-led operation. Volunteers are very important to sustain this, please consider a day or so a month to assist. **Contact the canteen on 9489 4122 and join in!**)

Meeting at 8:00 pm

Principal's Report

Head Teacher presentation (TBC)

P&C Business Session, including

Progress against a 3-year plan

Acceptance of financial review for 2008 (as distributed in July, it will also be emailed to all email addresses for P&C members next week).

A proposal to build a shade area for the main quad – collaboration with the school building fund.

A need for consensus on funding requests from school and how the P&C links with the school budget.

Update on changes to uniforms and the management of the clothing shop.

Uniform Snippets

Update on changes to uniforms and the management of the clothing shop.

An approach has been made for a **private company to manage** the clothing shop. This is under evaluation to assess the cost/benefit to families, and our current stock.

The small quantity of **blazers** purchased recently is noted. Feedback on why this is so is invited. A commercial operation might find sustaining the blazers uneconomic.

It is highly likely that a **black senior pullover** will be approved for sale in early 2010. Any parent of a boy in the current year 10 is advised to delay buying a new grey pullover.

It is noted that many boys do not have a **track suit jacket** but use the grey pullover instead. Comments and suggestions regarding a sports attire that all parents would be prepared to purchase or feedback on why track suit jackets are not worn are invited. It is ideal if the boys are seen wearing the same attire and are proud to wear it.

School will soon convene a uniform review committee to consider these matters, in the meantime kindly send suggestions and feedback to me via email pevlin@hotmail.com

Best wishes,

Pevlin Price
P&C President

CAREERS NEWS

Events

Bilfinger Berger Australia Autumn School of Engineering (BBAASE). Engineers Australia would like to invite Year 11 students to participate in this event 22-26 March 2010. Sydney Division coordinates the Honeywell Engineering Summer School (HESS) annually; however the demand for enrolment in the summer school has vastly outnumbered the available 100 positions. This is an additional program available to 50 students from Sydney metropolitan high schools. The fee per student for the week-long course has been set at \$195.00. Activities include attending lectures throughout the week at the Faculty of Engineering within four of Sydney's Universities and a visit to the campus of Newcastle University. The supporters of the Autumn School include Bilfinger Berger Australia, 5 universities and Rotary International. Please see Career Adviser for further information or email Aimee Nadjovski at anajdovski@engineersaustralia.org.au

Current Year 10,11 or 12 students with a passionate interest in the hotel industry may apply for the 2-day "live the life" program, inclusive of one night's luxury accommodation at the **InterContinental Sydney**. Cost \$300 includes morning tea and lunch Day 1 and Day 2 for students and Lunch on Day 2 includes parents. Overnight accommodation for parents and students on Day 1 only. Program issued on approval of application form which you can collect in Careers. **OPEN DAY Saturday 19 September 10-4pm**

Apprenticeship & Traineeship Expo: Ryde Eastwood Leagues Club, 117 Ryedale Road, West Ryde. 30 September, 4:30pm—8:30pm. www.northwestben.com.au

CSI: Sydney 2009/2010 School Holiday Workshop Dates up to Oct 2010. Forensic Crime Scene workshops and Cyber Crime investigation. www.nsg.unsw.edu.au/CSI.html

Basair's Holiday Flight Camps: Cost is \$2,520. Bankstown or Cessnock. 5-9 October 2009 or 4-8 January 2010. www.basair.com.au/index.php/news-a-events/flight-camps.html

2010 Qantas Engineering Apprentice Program: Applications opening soon. Register your interest. www.careers.qantas.com.au/apprentices.aspx

Academy of Dressmakers School Holiday Courses, Parramatta: Limited spaces left! Act now to secure your place! For further details T. 98853600 or email info@dressmakingacademy.com.au. www.dressmakingacademy.com.au

GapBreak Information Night: Antipodeans Abroad invites you to attend our GapBreak Information Night. This is an excellent night to attend to find out more about the exciting opportunities that await you during your gap year. **Tuesday 29th September 2009 6.30pm (Bookings Essential) Suite 303, 282 Victoria Ave, Chatswood Office, Sydney.**

HSC Study at TAFE: Meadowbank TAFE will run IPT, Senior Science, Geography and General Maths at night and ESL plus another 12 one year subjects during the day in 2010. All subjects are run according to demand. For more information please contact Mary O'Connor, HSC Co-ordinator on 99423782 or email, mary.oconnor@tafensw.edu.au

Save and Learn: Complete a Certificate IV in Business and the Diploma of Management in just one semester at prestigious Hornsby College of TAFE in 2010. Graduates will be ahead of university peers by up to 6 months and will save thousands of dollars in fees. Email your interest to Greg Croft at gregory.croft@det.nsw.edu.au Hint: Place your name and the words *FastTrack Hornsby TAFE* in the subject line.

Mrs E Kesby
Careers Adviser

STUDENT DEBATING NEWS

Graeme McIntyre and Martin McCarthy recently attended the state final of the United Nations Youth Association Mock Security Council Debating Competition, held at Parliament House. A total of fifteen teams had qualified from around the state for the final - including representatives from SCEGGS and the Catholic schools association. Three difficult resolutions were fiercely debated: relating to the conflict in Tuareg Sahara, the Space Arms Race and the question of UN Peacekeeper abuses. After an exhausting six hours of debating, and a solid performance, we were lucky enough to place second (being narrowly defeated by SCEGGS). This was a fantastic opportunity to discuss complex global issues and broaden our perspectives by learning about the foreign policy positions of other nations. It also illustrated the complexities of negotiation and the need for cooperation in achieving desirable outcomes. I would thoroughly recommend that students interested in debating or learning about global issues visit the UNYA of NSW website for further information about competitions or conferences. Thanks to the social science and English faculties for giving us this opportunity.

Graeme and Martin

YEAR 7 CONGRATULATIONS

Anthony Zhao of year 7 will be competing in the Australian Table Tennis Junior championships - he is in the NSW team. Competition is at Hobart, 28/09/09 - 2/10/09.

**Mrs K.Barbeler,
Year 7 Adviser**

NATIONAL TITRATION COMPETITION

A team consisting of Stephen Browne, Alex Chan and Daniel Yeo will be competing in the national titration competition this Saturday 19/09/09 at UNSW. This is a very demanding task as they will be required to work to 4 decimal place accuracy whilst determining the level of contamination in an unknown solution. These boys have been practising for many hours and deserve to do well! The team would like to acknowledge all the help we have received from our science assistant Mrs P.Sutherland who has kept us supplied with solutions and clean glassware for both the state and now national levels of competition.

**Best Wishes
Mrs K.Barbeler and Dr.M.Hooper**

PUBLIC TRANSPORT TIMETABLE CHANGES

Check your train and bus timetables before the end of Term 3. Make sure you check how the new timetables will affect you at www.131500.com.au. Changes are effective from Sunday 11 October 2009. CityRail timetables will change and some bus timetables will also change.

LOST PROPERTY

The office has a collection of lost uniforms, USBs, spectacles and keys. If you are missing any of these items, please make arrangements to collect them from either the Clinic or the Front Office before the end of Term 3. **Note:** Any items not collected will be given to the Clothing Pool or charity.

Front Office

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Kids Helpline has launched its new website at www.kidshelp.com.au. The new site offers a safe, fun and interactive place for kids and young people aged 5-25 to explore issues that are important to them.

Kids Helpline moderated discussion forum A feature of the 'Teens and Young Adults' (ages 13-25) section of the new website is a discussion forum which is open at specific hours each week, and is moderated by our trained counsellors. The aim of the forum is to provide a safe, supportive environment for young people to share ideas and opinions. A new topic will be featured each month, and this month's topic is 'Cyber Bullying'.

The forum is currently open:
Monday: 8.00pm - 11.00pm
Wednesday: 3.30pm - 6.30pm
Saturday: 10.00am - 1.00pm

Find out more about the [Kids Helpline moderated forum](http://www.kidshelp.com.au/online/forum.php) at <http://www.kidshelp.com.au/online/forum.php>.

<i>Normanhurst Boys' High School</i>					<i>Term 3, 2009</i>
<i>Wk</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>
9	21 Sept ← Yr7 Immunisation	22 Yr11 Youth Leaders' Day (2 students)	23 Yr10/11 Yearly Exams Yr9/10 Phoenix production team mtg	24 Yr7 Taronga Zoo Exc	25 →
				Yr11 Business Studies	
10	28 Sept ← Yr10/11 Exams → Streamwatch testing (P1/2)	29 Yr12 Graduation Streamwatch testing (P5/6) Yr12 Graduation Dinner	30 Yr9/10 Phoenix production team mtg	1 Oct Yr7 2011 Info Morning High Resolves Leaders' lunch	2 END TERM 3
		Yr11 PDHPE		Yr11 Music 1 Composn	

<i>Normanhurst Boys' High School</i>					<i>Term 4, 2009</i>
<i>Wk</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>
1	19 Oct Start Term 4 Yr7 2011 Info Morning	20 HSC begins	21 Yr9/10 Phoenix production team mtg	22	23 Yr11 reports to HT
			NO YEAR 7/8/9	ASSESSMENTS	
2	26 Oct Streamwatch testing (P1/2)	27 Streamwatch testing (P5/6)	28 Yr9/10 Phoenix production team mtg	29	30 Yr11 Teachers' Meeting
			Yr7/8/9 yearly exams		
				Yr10 Photo Dig Media	Yr10 Photo Dig Media

Free Graduated Licensing Scheme Workshops for Learner Driver Parents in the Hornsby Shire area

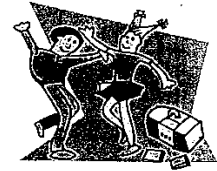
- Young drivers are three times more likely to be involved in casualty crashes. That's why the RTA has introduced a new licensing scheme, with more supervised driving practice for learner drivers.
- To help parents in supervising learner drivers, the RTA has set up a FREE 2 hour workshop for parents that offers practical advice on how to help learner drivers become safer drivers.
- A FREE RTA parents' workshop will be conducted by David Riches and hosted by Hornsby Shire Council on Thursday November 5th at Hornsby Shire Council Chambers from 6.30 pm – 8.30 pm.

Early bookings are essential, so phone Council on 9847 6856 now to reserve your place, or email: parentworkshop@optusnet.com.au

Communicating with Teens

Child & Adolescent Parenting

Northern Sydney Central Coast Area Health Service
Enquiries: Phone 9887 5830



Communicating with Teens Course

- influence your teenager's behaviour
- understand the stages of development of teenagers
- feel more comfortable with your teenager's highs and lows
- keep lines of communication open between you and your teenager
- cope with your own and your teenager's anger in a constructive way
- learn how to get your point across and also listen to your teenager's point of view
- learn how to resolve "issues" between your teenager and yourself and still keep the relationship intact
- plus more ideas on how to build relationships - what works and what doesn't work!

COURSE VENUE: CHATSWOOD 5wks/2.5hrs
When: Tuesday, 3rd November, 2009 (7.00pm-9.30pm)
COST: \$150 per person Concession: \$125 per person

Dealing With Teen's Back Chat Workshop

VENUE: CHATSWOOD
When: Tuesday, 27th October, 2009 - 7.00pm - 9.30pm - \$40 per person

Triple P (PPP) Teens Seminar Series

available on request - to organise these or for details of Workshops/Seminars scheduled for this term, phone 9887-5830



TO ENROL, PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM

(Teens - Term 4)

Family Name: First Name(s).....

Address: Suburb: Postcode:

Phone: (h)..... (w)..... M F (Please tick) Ages of children:

Email address:

COURSE

WORKSHOP

CONCESSION CARD NUMBER MUST BE QUOTED IN ORDER TO RECEIVE CONCESSION. Concession No.

NSCCH employees ONLY: (20% discount) Department & Hospital

Pay Money Order/Cheques to 'Northern Sydney Central Coast Area Health Service' and post to: Child & Adolescent Parenting, PO box 142, North Ryde 1670 OR fax 9887 2941.

Credit Card: Master Card Visa Card AMOUNT: \$
 Expiry Date

Cardholder's Name: (printed) Cardholder's Signature:

Enquiries: Child & Adolescent Parenting - 9887 5830