



THE Normanhurst News

The weekly newsletter of Normanhurst Boys High School

Celebrating 50 years of quality education for boys

Pennant Hills Road, Normanhurst. 2076 Ph.: 9489 1077 Fax: 9489 5722

www.normanhurst-h.schools.nsw.edu.au

email: normanhurst-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Principal: Mr J R Bruce

Deputy Principals: Mr F Johnson and Mr J.E. Fielding

Friday 19 September, 2008

Volume 17 Number 29

From the Principal

As we move into the final week of a very busy term, could I please remind parents that normal lessons will continue until Friday at 3.00pm and that all students are expected to attend classes until that time.



NAPLAN Results Released

This week saw the release of the NAPLAN results for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. These tests, which were completed in Term 2 assessed the literacy and numeracy learning of students in all Australian schools and indicated that NSW schools compared more than favourably with our counterparts in other states. 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 646.8 compared to the State mean of 541.2
- Year 7 Numeracy 720.0 compared to the State mean of 552.9
- Year 9 Overall Literacy 680.7 compared to the State mean of 579.5
- Year 9 Numeracy 749.5 compared to the State mean of 593.7

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.

Large Number of Applicants for 8-12

The school received a large number of applications for enrolment in Years 8 – 12 in 2009 and we have had two panels busily sorting through the applications. Interviews for the successful applicants will be held over the next few days and places will be offered as they become available. At this stage, we have very few positions vacant for the new year. I would like to thank our 2 parent representatives, Sally Kliffen and Margaret Walsh for the many hours that they have put into this task. From next year, we will be changing the process by introducing our own entrance examinations that will provide additional data on which to make our selections.

Whilst on the subject of new student enrolments, we will be welcoming prospective students for the Year 7 class of 2010 at an Open Day to be held next Thursday.

Year 12 Final Days

In last week's newsletter, I mentioned the guidelines that were given to Year 12 concerning our expectations of their behaviour next week. Could I ask all parents of our Year 12 boys to reinforce that message with them. I am very much looking forward to celebrating with our departing Year 12 students and their families at the Graduation Ceremony next Tuesday night.

Our New Student Executive

Last week's newsletter announced the boys who have been elected to the prefect body and will take up their positions at the commencement of next term. On Monday afternoon, we will have an assembly where the outgoing prefects will do a badge hand-over to the incoming prefects. This will be followed by an election by the new prefects to decide the Captain, Vice Captain and Senior Prefect positions.

Congratulations to....

Isaac Freeland who won the National Championship in the Speakers Bank Public Speaking Competition.

Congratulations also, to Sam Farrell who was successful in reaching the State Final of the Legacy Junior Public Speaking Competition.

Finally, congratulations to our Year 10 Debating team who were narrowly defeated in the Quarter-Finals of the Teasdale Cup Debating Competition by Tamworth High School.

Kind regards

Jeff Bruce

Principal

P & C NEWS

Events of importance to parents: Dr Martin's Seminar – Next Monday 22 September (7:00 for 7:30 start, finish by 9:30). If you are planning to attend and cannot find a booking form, have your son obtain one from the office! The advertised venue is the hall. If this changes the alternate venue will be the library. Signs will be posted!

Meeting this week – Building Project

Building projects will be discussed at School this week to enable a briefing at our October meeting. In the meantime consider what you feel should be developed as our first building project for a while and come along to the Oct meeting to discuss it.

Financials. We seek a parent to review (not audit) our books. This is a normal annual requirement for any association and it would take up to half a day later this month. Please contact the Treasurer C/- school if you could assist.

Class Lists

Due to a thesis (!) these will be typed and issued next week – before end of Term.

Meetings

Next Meeting is in Week 1 of term 4 – Tue 14 October
(in the library, starts at 8 pm)

Best Wishes to Yr 12

The P&C committee and members extend best wishes to our Yr 12 students in final lead-up for the main HSC sessions early next term. May your preparations pay dividends!

Pevlin Price
P&C President

PUBLIC SPEAKING

On Friday 12th September, Sam Farrell of Year 10 represented Normanhurst BHS at the State Semi-final of the Legacy Junior Public Speaking Award. He competed with students from all over NSW and the standard of the speeches was exceptionally high.

Sam was able to gain one of eight places in the State Final, to be held on 24th October 2008 at the Art Gallery of NSW. He will represent Normanhurst Boys High School with speakers from Merewether High School, Sydney Grammar, Smiths Hill High School, Kirrawee High School, Trinity Grammar, SCEGGS Darlinghurst and Bulli High School.

Congratulations to Sam for his fine achievement and hard work. We wish him well for the State Final.

On Tuesday 16th September, Isaac Frelander of Year 10 competed in the Final of the Youth Speaker of the Year in the Speakers Bank Public Speaking competition. Isaac spoke on the topic of *“Political Correctness”* and was successful in achieving first place, ahead of Roseville College and Hornsby Girls High. Congratulations on this fine result!

Mrs Fowell
Public Speaking Coordinator

DEBATING NEWS

On Tuesday 16th September the Year 10 debating team of Isaac Frelander, Sam Farrell, Dennis McCarthy and Gary Tam represented Normanhurst in the State Quarter Final of the Premier’s Challenge Debating Competition for the Teasedale Cup. The debate was against Inverell High School and the topic was *“That the West should deep out of the Middle East”*. Unfortunately we lost the debate with a split decision among the three adjudicators. The boys should be very proud of their achievement and should be congratulated on reaching

such a high level in the competition.

Mrs Fowell
Debating Coordinator

SOCIAL SCIENCES NEWS

Congratulations to Adam Smith and Ricky Leong for achieving a High Distinction in the PwC Australian Economics Competition. Both students continue the tradition of Normanhurst Boys High School in achieving outstanding results in this competition. This is the second occasion both students have received a High Distinction and a major prize. Congratulations also to Michael Baker who received a Distinction and to Vimal Sekhar on receiving a Credit.

Congratulations to Danny Strange, Tomek Kukielka, Raymond Lie and Anish Dhruv for achieving a High Distinction for Business Studies.

Year 10 Commerce students have completed their videos for the “Know the Deal” competition. We are eagerly awaiting the results and congratulate all the boys for their enthusiasm and creativity.

Social Sciences Faculty

GREAT MOMENTS IN CHEMISTRY

The performances of Normanhurst Boys in the Australian National Chemistry Quiz 2008 have again been outstanding. Out of the 80 participants this year, 18 gained Credits, 25 Distinctions and 21 High Distinctions. Plaques and Certificates of Excellence were awarded to two of our students: Jim Gray (Yr 8) and Malcolm Ramsay (Yr 11). These students achieved a perfect score of 100% in this year’s quiz.

Well done to all the boys who participated, and also to Mrs Barbeler for her coordination of the quiz.

Also in the Chemistry world, three teams of our boys will be competing this Saturday at the University of NSW in the National Finals of the Titration Competition. Best of luck to them and thanks once again to the P&C for their support.

D Steed
HT-Science

CAREERS NEWS

1. **UAC on-time applications** close on Tuesday 30 September 2008. Any applications submitted after this date will be subject to a processing charge and a late fee of at least \$101.
2. **Scholarships** Many applications will be closing on September 25 or soon after. Check individual University websites or see Mrs Packham for more information.
3. **Australian Veteran’s Children’s Assistance Trust Scholarships** — There are many different scholarship schemes. All are means tested, open to descendants of the Australian Defence Force and are available to students under 25 who are planning to enrol in a fulltime tertiary education course. Applications open 18 August 2008 and close 31 October each year. Visit www.accsoft.com.au/~vvt or Phone 1800 620 361.
4. Students interested in taking advantage of **bonus**

point schemes offered by universities need to check university websites immediately for eligibility requirements, or speak to Mrs Packham.

Mrs Packham
Careers Adviser

USE OF SCHOOL PLANNERS

Prioritising and Study/Homework Timetable

Most students find it very difficult to just sit down to complete a Study Session unless it is planned ahead of time.

The "spontaneous" approach of just letting it happen doesn't work, even though our students may disagree.

The best way to approach Study and Homework is to design a structured timetable that includes all the things that occupy the student's time, such as:

- Sport training
- Part-time jobs
- Study and homework
- Favourite television shows
- Family commitments
- Leisure activities

Ask them to brainstorm and write down all the after school activities they are involved in, on each day of the week, when they are on and how long they last on the "Musts and Options" pages (Junior p175, Middle p175, Senior p161). Now the hard part begins; that is, prioritizing them in order of importance – the **MUSTS** and the **OPTIONS**. If there is a shortage of time then something will have to go: probably one of the Options.

They should look at the Sample Study Timetables for ideas on how to design their own. (**Junior** p176, **Middle** p176, **Senior** p162).

Then on a duplicate of the blank Study Timetables they are to create their own. (**Junior** p177, **Middle** p177, **Senior** p163).

Arranging their time commitments and the required number of Study Sessions is an exercise that encourages students to take greater ownership of their lives and reflect on their progress; their Study Timetable is a **contract with themselves**.

To help students stick to their timetables and maintain harmony in the home, a good idea is to place a copy on the fridge to encourage a team approach.

Several focuses have been included to assist the students in this area:

Junior	Getting things in order	p48
	Study Timetable	p50
Middle	Prioritising	p42
	Developing a Study Timetable	p44
Senior	Prioritising	p30
	Study Timetable	p32
	Holiday Study Timetables	pp152-157
	Exam Study timetable	pp158-159

Should you have any queries or concerns regarding your son's progress please do not hesitate to contact his Year Adviser.

"A journey of a thousand miles begins with one step"
Chinese Proverb

AVAILABLE THROUGH NBHS P&C 2009 FAMILY ORGANISER & WALL CALENDAR

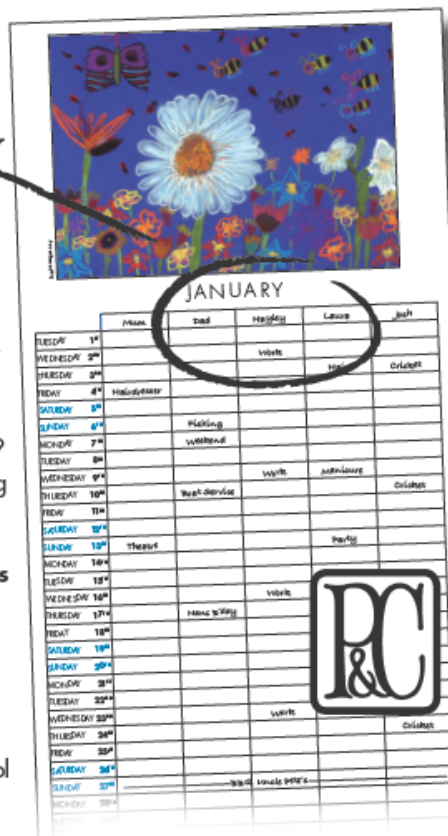
**one column
for each
family member**

The NSW P&C organiser is a calendar with a difference, with one column for every family member. Keeping track of the kids has never been easier!

This year your P&C has selected the "2009 Family Organiser" as part of their Fundraising program.

Every calendar the P&C sells raises money towards our school.

To order your copy of the 2009 Family Organiser please complete the order form, enclose with payment and return to your school **no later than 19th September 2008.**



Actual Size is larger (60cm x 30cm)

ORDER FORM

No. of Calendars purchased _____ x \$15.00 (inc GST) = \$ _____

Payment Method: Cash Cheque (payable to NBHS P&C Association)

Student's Name: _____ Class: _____

Parent's email contact: _____ Home Phone: _____



SPORTS RESULTS

GRADE		DATE:17/9/2008	ROUND No 3
SPORT	OPPOSITION	WINNER	SCORE
1st CRICKET	Epping	Day 1	Nh 7/160 vs Epp
2nd CRICKET	Epping	Day 1	Nh 39 vs Epp 3/43
15A CRICKET	Epping	Day 1	Nh 8/104 vs Epp
14A CRICKET	Epping	Day 1	Epp 82 vs Nh
14B CRICKET	Epping	Day 1	Epp 6/60 vs Nh
1st BASKETBALL	Ashfield	Normanhurst	64-40
2nd BASKETBALL	Ashfield	Normanhurst	58-15
15S BASKETBALL	Bye	Bye	-
14S BASKETBALL	Bye	Bye	-
SNR BASEBALL	Bye	Bye	-
JNR BASEBALL	Ashfield	Normanhurst	2-1
1st VOLLEYBALL	Ashfield	Normanhurst	2-0
2nd VOLLEYBALL	Ashfield	Normanhurst	2-1
15S VOLLEYBALL	Ashfield	Normanhurst	2-1
14S VOLLEYBALL	Ashfield	Ashfield	0-2
1st TENNIS	Ashfield	Normanhurst	6-0
2nd TENNIS	Ashfield	Normanhurst	5-1
15S TENNIS	Ashfield	Normanhurst	6-0
14S TENNIS	Ashfield	Normanhurst	6-0
Open OZ TAG	Ashfield	Ashfield	5-9
15s OZ TAG	Ashfield	Normanhurst	7-5
1st WATERPOLO	Homebush 2	Normanhurst	6-4
15s WATERPOLO	Ashfield	Ashfield	2-9
14s WATERPOLO	Ashfield	Ashfield	0-5
OPEN FUTSAL	Bye	Bye	-
15s FUTSAL	Bye	Bye	-

<i>Normanhurst Boys' High School</i>						<i>Term 3, 2008</i>
Wk	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
10	22 Sept ← Yr11 exams → P&C guest speaker, Andrew Martin	23 Yr7 Taronga Zoo Yr12 Graduation Dinner & Presentation	24 Peer Support Staff Training Streamwatch Testing Jenolan Caves Showcase	25 Yr7 2010 Open Morning Streamwatch Testing Yr11 Business Studies	26 END TERM 3 Yr11 Business Studies	

1 Oct - 15 Oct Yr10/11 Japan Trip

<i>Normanhurst Boys' High School</i>						<i>Term 4, 2008</i>
Wk	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
1	13 Oct Yr11 Visual Arts	14 Yr7 2010 Open Morning Yr10 Photo Dig Media	15	16 Year Assembly Yr10 Teachers' Mtg HSC exams begin ← NO YR 7/8/9	17 Prefect Induction ASSESSMENTS → Yr10 Visual Design	
2	20 Oct LST Meeting ← NO YR 7/8/9	21 ASSESSMENTS → Yr10 Commerce	22	23 ← Yr7/8/9	24 Yr7/10 UNSW English Comp (P1&2) exams →	