



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 24 October, 2008

Volume 17 Number 32

From the Principal

Welcome to this week's newsletter, and for most of our families, the first of the electronic versions of the newsletter that has been emailed. We trialed the email process last week and we will now continue to email to all families who have registered their email addresses with us. Could I also remind you that we will continue a small hard copy print of the newsletter each week and these will be available on request from the front office.



The HSC Continues

Our Year 12 students have now completed a number of exams and so far all seems to be going well. Our boys are amongst 67,000 students who are currently sitting the examinations and the magnitude of organising and marking these examinations is enormous.

Whilst on the topic of the HSC, our school hosted a very interesting series of forums last week organised by the Board of Studies which sought to gain feedback on proposed changes to the HSC. A raft of changes are proposed which include setting a prescribed number of assessment tasks for each subject, placing limitations on the length of responses in extended writing and changing the format of the English exam from the current situation where students sit two exams of two hours each, down to one three hour examination. These changes are likely to be instituted for the 2010 HSC exam.

Recognising Student Achievement

It was wonderful to be able to congratulate and present trophies and certificates to a large number of students at this week's assembly. Students were recognised for achievement in public speaking, drama, mathematics, technology, and the Duke of Edinburgh awards scheme.

Building the Future

Our Executive attended a planning conference last weekend which had as its theme "Building the Future". We had some very productive workshops and discussion forums which explored a number of focus areas to be included in the 2009-2011 School Plan. This will become a key element in plotting the direction of the school in both the immediate and long term future. My

thanks to the executive for giving up part of their weekend for this very valuable activity.



Sam Farrell (Year 10) and Reece Roberts (Year 11) being presented with the Greek Drama Award

Kind regards
Jeff Bruce
Principal

P & C NEWS

Building Project

Building projects have been discussed and will be progressed over the next month with some options developed for comment. As these may be projects that span three years or more we need to ensure consensus is achieved. More to follow. The type of options we are looking at is a gym and/or a large covered area to protect the boys from the elements (sun and rain).

Interested in Participating in the P&C Committee?

After the presentation of reports at the November meeting the elections for committee members and appointments will be held. Anyone is most welcome to participate and seek involvement – 'more hands make lighter work'. If you have the time we have the tasks!

Next Working Bee

Saturday 8 November (9:00 am – 12:00 noon). Please mark you planners and make the commitment to get

along if you have not been able so far this year. All parents and boys are most welcome. More details next week.

Next Meeting – Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 11 Nov 8:00 pm in the library.

Pevlin Price
P&C President

MUSIC NEWS

It's been pretty hectic lately in the Music Department. In amongst the chaos, trauma and extreme creativity of the HSC Music performances, essays and composition recording we had the 50th Birthday Celebrations – thanks to all the parents and students who made it to this and to the students for playing so well. The concert band, stage band, string ensemble and Year 12 students all performed and we were very proud. Also, well done to the cast of *Grease*, for waiting backstage for hours, to perform at the end of the formal part of the evening.

The stage band then had to hurriedly prepare for the Year 12 Graduation Ceremony at the RSL and they did this very well. In fact they were on fire!! They were so good they were offered a gig! Well done also to the boys who managed to keep up a continuous flow of quiet, schmaltzy music on the piano in the background of the awards part of the evening.

We arrived back at school after the holidays to the news that there was a Prefect Induction on the Friday of the first week. This was a little scary as for some reason nearly all of our lead players are in the new Prefect body and we had to find something we could play without them – and learn in one rehearsal – but it was all fine and the boys played very well. Thank goodness all the other section leaders didn't make it into the prefects even though they should have and we voted for them all.

/The Stage Band has another gig this Saturday at Lisgar Gardens. They will be playing from 4.30 to 5.15 and if they sound as good as they did at the graduation they should set the gardens alight. In case your son misses out on the information note they will need to be at the gardens at 4.00pm.

MUSIC COUNT US IN

Music count us in is a nationwide initiative to encourage students to get involved in making music, promote education and advocate the importance of music education. At 11.30am yesterday about 300 000 students sang the same song in their schools, in Federal and State Parliament houses, and anywhere else they thought was prominent. The song had been written by four high school students under the guidance of John Foreman – (Musical Director of Idol). 'Music. Count Us In' is managed by 'Music. Play for Life', the Music Council of Australia's grassroots campaign to get more Australians making music: in schools, communities, everywhere. The campaign is run in partnership with the Australian Music Association and the Australian Society for Music Education. The website for Music Count Us In is www.musiccountusin.org.au .

Year 9 elective music class have been rehearsing the song since last Thursday and, as they had an exam at the crucial time, performed three different interpretations of the song in class at 9.30am instead. Mrs Deidhre

Wauchop, Manager Creative Arts Curriculum K-12 Directorate, came to hear them perform and was very impressed with their versions of the song – particularly the one in the style of Death Metal. A recording of the three performances will be made soon.



Year 9 elective Music students sing for 'Music Count Us In'

MUSIC CAMP

PLEASE remember to let us know whether or not your son is coming to camp in December. We need to give the camp our final numbers and there are still some boys who have either not paid or failed to let us know what they are doing. It should be great! As well as all the usual rehearsals and visits to the beach we now have a recording session, with our resident drum teacher/recording technician Derek Barg, and this means there will be a CD available on request, PLUS !!! for the last couple of years we've had an evening activity with visiting artists who arrive with a truck load of drums for us to hit. Last year it was the Samba and the year before that it was African Drumming. YAY!!!

PRESENTATION NIGHT

REALLY IMPORTANT!!!! Presentation night is now on Wednesday 17th December. All students in the Concert Band and the Stage Band are required to play in this ceremony. We have a rehearsal at the RSL for most of the day. More information regarding this is forthcoming.

Mrs. M. Johnson and Mrs. S Cousins
Music Staff

ART ACCOMPLISHMENTS!

Congratulations to four students who achieved 5th place for Normanhurst Boys High School out of 66 schools in the 2008 International Secondary Schools Digital Design Challenge –



- **Nuno Das Neves** and **James Lindsell**: 3rd place in Junior Animation.
- **Julian Lok** and **Lachlan Ford**: 3rd place in Junior Graphic Design.

Well done to Lachlan Ford, Gary Hsu and Matthew Tsang for their participation.

Congratulations also go to the Photographic and Digital Media students, **Chris Gentile**, **Matheesha Gunaratne**,

Adam Hendry, Alex MacDonald and Lasath Siriwardena, for success in having their video "The Elevator", chosen to be shown at the Arts North Film Festival.

Thanks to Mrs. McDonald and Mrs. Whalley, who supported and facilitated these excellent projects.

Mrs L Venczel
Head Teacher, Visual & Performing Arts

CLOTHING POOL NEWS

We are still waiting on the open neck shirts, I do not know when they will arrive, and be assured you'll hear it when they do!

Orientation Day for year 7 – 2009 is on Thursday, 4

December 2008 – please let us know if you can help with selling uniforms and book packs. Phone Chris or Anne in the Canteen or Kathryn in the Clothing Pool if you can spare a few hours during the morning, usually 8.30 until 12 midday.

Second hand Senior Blazers: Where do they go? There have been few offerings during the year, so if there are blazers clogging up cupboards at home, please send them in – you'll receive 75% of the sale price once the blazer is sold. Please pin name and address of the cheque recipient on the goods to be sold. You can drop them into either the Office or Canteen when the clothing pool is not open.

K Nordstrom
Clothing Pool Coordinator

SPORTS RESULTS

GRADE		DATE:22/10/2008	ROUND No 6
SPORT	OPPOSITION	WINNER	SCORE
1st CRICKET	Randwick	Draw-Wash Out	Rw 145 vs Nh
2nd CRICKET	Asquith	Draw-Wash Out	N'hurst 112 vs Asq
15A CRICKET	Randwick	Draw-Wash Out	N'hurst 7/101 vs Rw
14A CRICKET	Asquith	Draw-Wash Out	N'hurst 5(dec)130 vs Asq 2/24
14B CRICKET	Nth Syd	Draw-Wash Out	NS 5/166 vs N'hurst
1st BASKETBALL	Ashfield	Normanhurst	38-26
2nd BASKETBALL	Ashfield	Normanhurst	55-48
15S BASKETBALL	Randwick	Normanhurst	51-15
14S BASKETBALL	Randwick	Randwick	38-45
SNR BASEBALL	Homebush	Draw-Wash Out	
JNR BASEBALL	Homebush	Draw-Wash Out	
1st VOLLEYBALL	Ashfield	Normanhurst	2-0
2nd VOLLEYBALL	Ashfield	Ashfield withdrawn	
15S VOLLEYBALL	Ashfield	Normanhurst	2-0
14S VOLLEYBALL	Ashfield	Ashfield	0-2
1st TENNIS	Ashfield	Draw-Wash Out	
2nd TENNIS	Ashfield	Draw-Wash Out	
15S TENNIS	Ashfield	Draw-Wash Out	
14S TENNIS	Ashfield	Draw-Wash Out	
Open OZ TAG	Ashfield	Draw-Wash Out	
15s OZ TAG	Ashfield	Draw-Wash Out	
1st WATERPOLO	Homebush 2	Normanhurst	6-5
15s WATERPOLO	Ashfield	Ashfield	6-7
14s WATERPOLO	Ashfield	Ashfield	4-7
OPEN FUTSAL	Randwick	Randwick	4-13
15s FUTSAL	Randwick	Randwick	2-7

Normanhurst Boys' High School					Term 4, 2008
Wk	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3	27 Oct	28 Yr11 Teachers' Mtg	29 Streamwatch Testing Yr7/8/9 exams	30 Streamwatch Testing	31
		Yr11 Drama Exc	Yr10 'Know the Deal' award presentation	Yr11 Chem students (2) to USyd Yr10 Debating Regional Team selections	
4	3 Nov	4	5	6 Year Assembly	7 Yr8 WeSSSTA Geog Trivia Day
	Staff Meeting		Yr7/8/9 exams		P&C Working Bee 8 November
		NO YEAR 10	ASSESSMENTS		
5	10 Nov	11 Remembrance Day Ceremony Janene Best Debating competition School Certificate	12 exams	13	14 Yr7 Teachers' Mtg DofE Expedition 15-16 Nov
	DofE Training (pm)	P&C Meeting			

COMMUNITY NOTICES

1. Relationship Programs Term 4

Centacare Broken Bay: Waitara, Brookvale, Naremburn, Gosford and Wyong Family Centres

Parenting After Separation Programs for Mothers and Fathers

- Hey, Mum! Parenting After Separation
- Hey, Dad! For Separated Fathers
- Men's and Women's Pre-mediation, Family Law and Support Services Information workshops

Other Programs

- Managing Difficult Moments with Young Children
- Seasons for Growth – explore the effects of change, loss and grief
- Money Habitudes – couples and your financial partnership

For further information and bookings contact:

- **Fathers programs** Sean 9488 2523
 - **All other programs** Ros 9488 2531
- Centacare Broken Bay**



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