



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

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From the Principal

This, the last newsletter of 2008, brings to a close a year that has certainly been a significant one in the history of our school. I have enjoyed immensely the many and varied experiences that the year has provided and I have valued the support that I have received from all sections of our school community. The 50th Anniversary celebrations were an obvious highlight but there were many others and I look forward to sharing these with you at our **Presentation Night next Wednesday at Hornsby RSL commencing at 7.00pm.** I would like to take this opportunity to extend to you all my very best wishes for the festive season and for 2009. I look forward to a wonderful year ahead for us all.



Departing Members of Staff

We say farewell to several members of staff at the end of next week. Mr Jim Seabrook will be retiring after a wonderful career. Jim came to Normanhurst in 1982 and has been a pivotal member of our school's science department, particularly in the area of Physics. Mr Seabrook has also provided outstanding service to the boys as coordinator of the Duke of Edinburgh program, supervising many expeditions and activities. He will be missed by all of us and we wish him much happiness in his retirement.

Mr Craig Anderson, our Head Teacher TAS for the past 2 years will also be leaving us to take up a position as Head Teacher Computing Studies at the new Rouse Hill High School which opens next year. Craig has been a fine Head Teacher and I know he is going to enjoy the challenges that being a foundation Head Teacher in a new school will present to him.

We also say farewell to our General Assistant, Mr David Pike who leaves us to move to a school closer to his home on the Central Coast. Mr Pike has been a wonderful asset to our school over the past year, working hard to improve the school's grounds and buildings. He has certainly made a difference and he will be a loss to the school.

Celebrations

This has been a week of busy social activity for our Year 12 and Year 10 students. On Tuesday night, the Year 12 Formal was held at Oatlands House, a most enjoyable

evening for all. Many thanks to Mr Rumbelow for his organisation of the night. On Thursday our Year 10 students were farewelled as junior students at their graduation ceremony and this was followed by a night cruise on Sydney Harbour. Again, this was a most enjoyable night and I thank Mr Bennett for his hard work in ensuring everything ran smoothly. Having been to many school formals in the past years, I was particularly struck by the exemplary behaviour of all in attendance on both nights as were the venue managers who made a point of telling me how impressed they were with our students. They were certainly a proud reflection of our school.

Musically Speaking

On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of this week over 50 of our students attended the Music Camp organised by Mrs Johnson and Ms Cousins at Dee Why. This was an excellent opportunity for the boys to engage in a broad range of musical experiences, working together to consolidate the various music pieces they have been working on this year. A highlight of the camp was a recording session which created a CD we are hoping to be able to use on the school's phone system to entertain callers whilst they are waiting online.



Members of the brass section at Music Camp

Congratulations to.....

Sean Barnes of Year 12 who won two Bronze Medals at the Pacific School Games held in Canberra last week. Sean placed third in the Long Jump and Triple Jump, setting two new school records in the process. He was

also the top placed Australian athlete in both these events.

Pujith Vijayaratnam whose HSC major art work, *This is the way the world end, not with a bang but with a whimper*, has been chosen to be exhibited in the ARTEXPRESS exhibition.

Industrial Action for 2009

There is a proposed 2 day industrial stoppage that has been called for the first two school days of the new school year, January 28th and 29th. Parents are asked to listen to radio and television updates in the days before the planned stoppage. Information will also be posted on the school's website on January 27th.

Kind regards

Jeff Bruce
Principal

P & C NEWS

Class Lists

The 2008 versions are about and should have come home over the last week. I encourage more parents to consider joining these lists to assist in social contact and mutual support. The lists are in 'year group' but if you are seeking contact with families living in your area - contact the P&C and we will assist. If anyone is interested in being a 'point of contact' for a year group again let the P&C know. We are keen to help bridge the isolation and distance between us which is a fact of life for us in the 'selective' setting.

Student Representative Council

On Tuesday after school it was pleasing to see both the 'new' and 'retiring' student representatives meeting together to understand their organisation. I provided background on the importance of establishing their purpose correctly. We should applaud their efforts and support them in 'being the voice' of the students across all years. They are working on many ideas. Thanks to Ms Cooksey for her efforts in coordinating the SRC.

Student Opportunities

The P&C is aware that many parents are not fully aware of the extra curricular activities and programs available at school. Ideally the P&C will 'showcase' some of these activities in the New Year. Keep asking what you want to know about!

Next Important Dates:

Tuesday 16 December – 2 x short meetings

1. Library opens 7:15 - Payment of dues to enable voting at AGM

2. General Meeting – starts earlier than normal: at 7:30 pm

Standard Agenda including:

Report from School (Mr Fielding)
Funding requests and financial reconciliation
Term 1 important dates
General Business (brief)
Meeting Closed

3. Special Annual General Meeting

Election of President

4. 'End of year' refreshments As we will be farewelling our Year 12 parents, could everyone please try to bring

a plate of something to share for supper.

It is understood that Presentation Night is the following evening but the 'Special AGM' is very important. I ask all parents, particularly those with sons continuing at Normo, to come and express their choice through the democratic process.

Pevlin Price
Vice President

PREFECTS' PERIODICAL

We would like to thank everyone who has contributed to our can collection for the Exodus Foundation, so far it has been a large success with many families donating food and toiletries to help the homeless and disadvantaged families of Sydney. It is still not too late to make a contribution to the collection. We will be sending the collected items to the Exodus Foundation at the conclusion of next week so there is still time to make a difference this Christmas.

It has been an exciting first term for the prefects, we would like to thank everyone for their support and patience during this initial learning period. As school winds down with one week left for the year we would like to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday, we look forward to working with you next year.

Happy Holidays!

The Prefects

CHESS NEWS

Last Wednesday, December 3, an Open Chess tournament was held in the school hall. Approximately 42 teams competed from schools all over the metropolitan area, to win both team and school trophies.

Amongst a selection of selective schools such as Sydney girls, Baulkham Hills and Hornsby Girls, two teams from Normanhurst Boys took out second place.

Team winners Helmut, Lukas Labutis of Year 11 and a student from Asquith took out 2nd place in the overall point score but had to forgo the trophy.

Normanhurst Boys B – the Year 9 team of Shawn Price, Bregan Soh and Yu Sun Tang took out the school trophy with again, 2nd place in the competition.

Congratulations to these winning teams. Ms Nelson would also like to congratulate all Normo Boys for their participation and fine behaviour in the competition. A special thanks to the wonderful Year 9 boys who rendered me invaluable assistance on this day.

Ms Nelson
Chess Coordinator

CANTEEN NEWS

The Canteen would like to wish you all a happy and safe Christmas holiday break. The Canteen will close on Wednesday 17th December and re-open on the first day back in 2009.

Bookpacks will be available in the first 3 weeks of term.

Year 7:	\$49.00	Year 8:	\$16.00
Year 9:	\$12.00	Year 10:	\$8.00

The Canteen also has a large supply of stationery and

calculators which the boys can purchase anytime.

2009 We are looking for some more volunteers to help in the Canteen in 2009. If you are available we would value your help – monthly, once a term or just for a morning or afternoon – times are very flexible. Please call Anne or Chris on 9489 4122 if you can help.

VISUAL ARTS STATIONERY REQUIREMENTS

Class	Stationery Required
Year 7 & 8	1 60 page Visual Arts Process Diary, black cover These are in the book pack but are commonly available at newsagents, K Mart, Target and Office Works.
Year 9 & 10 VA	A4, 30 mm loose leaf folder with 10 plastic pockets

Year 9 VD	2 x 20 pocket display books
Year 9 & 10 Phot.	1 x 50 mm. loose leaf folder 100 A4 plastic sleeves

DON'T THROW IT OUT!

The Art department can use plastic ice-cream containers, old glass jars – with or without the lids, newspaper and magazines.

Donations of these items will be gratefully accepted.

Mrs L Venczel
Head Teacher Visual & Performing Arts

Normanhurst Boys' High School						Term 4, 2008
Wk	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
10	15 Dec Yr7 'Gatorade' Fluid Replacement Inc	16 Merit Assembly Yr11 Business Studies Market Day	17 HSC results available Streamwatch Testing Presentation Night	18 UAI BBO Streamwatch Testing	19 TERM 4 ENDS	
		Yr 12 Modern History- Oral				

Normanhurst Boys' High School						Term 1, 2009
Wk	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
1	26 Jan AUSTRALIA DAY	27 Term 1 begins SDD	28 Yrs 11 & 12 return Yr 7 at school New students Yrs8-11 enrol	29 Yrs 8, 9 & 10 return ← Yr 7 →	30 at Camp →	
2	2 Feb Swimming Carnival	3 Yr12 Business Studies	4	5	6 Yr12 Teachers' Meeting	
3	9 Feb	10 Yr7/11/New student ID photos P&C Meeting	11	12 Mufti Day	13	

“PARENT SURVIVAL STRATEGIES FOR TEACHING YOUNG DRIVERS”

FREE in-depth seminar for PARENTS
TOGETHER with their YOUNG DRIVERS

MONDAY – 16 FEBRUARY 2009

6.30 PM for 7.00 PM

AT

*KU-RING-GAI COUNCIL CHAMBERS, LEVEL 3,
818 PACIFIC HIGHWAY, GORDON - ACCESS VIA REAR ENTRANCE
LIGHT REFRESHMENTS*

STAY ALERT - HAVE AN ESCAPE!!!!



Presenter: Jeff McDougall - Trent Driving School
will discuss the **Vital Aspects of WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW**
when teaching a young driver:

- A Comprehensive and Organised Approach to the Driving Task
- The Five Crash Risks for Young Drivers : Preparation for the Driving Test
 - Keeping the Log Book Honest : Teaching Practical Skills Safely
 - The Components of Driving : Strategies for Safe Driving
 - Effective Partnerships

VITAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE NEW DRIVING TEST!

Presenter: Snr Cons Lynda Hart - Hornsby K'gai PCYC
Will Share her “Passion for Keeping People Safe”

BOOK EARLY - SEATS LIMITED: Phone Carroll on 9489 6283

Or mobile 0405 558 660, fax 9489 8022, or email carroll_howe@yahoo.com.au