Parent Training Opportunity: The Department of Education has a rather specific and rigorous process that needs to be applied when panels are formed to assist in the selection of new staff members. While many of the classroom teacher level positions are filled via a centralised departmental appointment process, there are times when we will get to interview potential applicants for particular positions. Roughly every second executive level appointment will be merit based (undertaken via a CV and interview process). The composition of the panels is specified by the Department.

The school Parents and Citizens’ Association (P&C) is given the option to participate in these processes and is asked to nominate its representatives. As we have a significant number of students with a language background other than English, the selection panel must also include an additional panel member who represents the local ethnic community or communities. This person is also obtained via the P&C.

To be a member of a panel, community representatives need to receive basic training in panel procedures. For the last three years we have conducted an annual training session for interested parents and community members, to give them an insight into the process and enable them to be part of any selection process that may occur. The training session takes about one hour and will be conducted from 6.30 p.m. to 7.30 p.m. on Tuesday the 8th of March, just before the P&C meeting. Please put this date in your calendar if you would like to be part of this training. While we would love you to then come along to the P&C meeting afterwards, please don’t feel obliged to attend if you unable to do so.

Help: As a parent it is almost impossible to get your head around what your son is actually learning about in class. Despite efforts to extract information from the boys and checking out their notebooks or laptop files, it is impossible to glean much apart from smatterings of content. There is only so many times a mum or dad can ask, “What are you doing in <subject>?”, and being told “nothing much”, before you give up. While determined parents will go to the BOSTES site and trawl through the syllabuses for the courses, this does not tell you the “when” or “in how much detail?”. Those parents who have not had a look at the syllabus information on the BOSTES site I would encourage you to do so. While it is a little confusing as a result of being written primarily for teachers, there is information provided which will give you an idea of what will be taught.
To assist parents understand what their boys are studying, my hard working Head Teachers have started to produce documents which provide parents with a scope and sequence for the courses. So far Mr Lam has released a booklet to each and every student in Mathematics. These are published on the School website in the Curriculum page under Mathematics.

Ms Barbeler, our Head Teacher of Science has also provided each of the boys with a letter home which provides parents with information related to which topic is covered when and provides assessment information. In Stage 5 there is also information related to the class rotation of teachers. If your son is in Years 7, 8, 9 or 10 then your son should have shown you a letter. If you have not seen it yet, then it may be a good idea to check the bottom of his school bag. Next year, the Stage 4 Science letter will provide significantly more detail. Please also be reminded that there are Assessment Handbooks for every year and outcomes are provided for each of the courses in the handbooks. Thank you to Mr Lam and Ms Barbeler for their work in this area.

Software Links: Please be reminded that students have access to an extensive suite of free software. All students have been informed of the applications and software that is required for each of their courses. An easy-to-find link is currently on the homepage of the school website or via this link. When students come to high school they have a limited window of time to download the software before they have to pay to download. Please ensure that your son downloads everything he can. While they may not need the software this term, they may need it next term and they will have missed the free access period by then. The list of Recommended Software is available on our BYOD page or via this link.

Year 12 Parent information evening: Year 12 parents and students please be aware that we have changed the date of this event. The event has been moved from the 25 February to Tuesday 1 March. We have done this as there is a Year 12 Advanced English assessment task on the 26th and we believe that it is in the boys’ best interest to let them prepare themselves for the task. While many of the boys would have attended, I’m sure their minds would have been elsewhere. A note will be coming home regarding this change. Thanks for your understanding.

Clickview: As part of the suite of resources available to our students, the school purchases access to an education AV library called Clickview. The new online platform means that the boys can view almost all of the AV material shown in class from their computer at home. A one-page instruction sheet is currently being prepared by Mr Ruggiero to help the boys access this very extensive resource. Our librarian Ms Menzies will also be able to assist the boys should they need one-on-one help.

Lions Youth of the Year Success: The LYOTY Quest has started once again with our boys keeping up a strong tradition of high level success in this highly competitive quest. On Thursday night, Jethro Yuen started the annual Normanhurst quest to dominate this competition. With an outstanding impromptu speech on the dangers of the internet ruling the world, and a prepared speech lamenting the loss of the backyard as part of the Australian children’s journey to adulthood, Jethro cemented his place as a youth leader in the broader community. There are many other Normo boys attending local competitions in their suburbs over the coming weeks. I encourage the boys and their parents to let me know of their involvement. Thank you to Ms Ormiston and Lions member Mr Ridley for their support of Jethro. Thanks also to Jethro’s dad who joined us in making up the Normo support team.

GRIP Leadership Conference: On Thursday, a large group of student leaders including our Prefects, House Captains, SRC and Social Justice Team Representatives attended the Grip Leadership Conference as part of our ongoing efforts to bond the leadership teams into a cohesive and well-connected force within the school.

In addition to sessions on how to form an effective team, the boys had the opportunity to attend sessions which they believed addressed areas they wanted to work on. The range of opportunities was diverse, including option sessions on how to improve the effectiveness of meetings, making speeches dynamic, how to organise dynamic events and how to motivate others. All sessions were highly relevant to their current positions, and to developing life-long skills which will help them thrive in the world of life after school and in employment. Thank you to Ms Raj for driving the event and for the support and passion of our Leadership Team Coordinators, Ms James and Ms Gibson-Garside.

Library Review: Each year the school seeks input from parents related to specific areas or programs that operate in the school. We are currently undertaking a review of the library and the role it plays in the school community. The aim of this review is to establish how we can make the library and its resources the most effective it can be to support our boys.

An email was sent to all parents today asking parents to spend a few minutes completing a survey and offering their perspective on how they believe we can improve the library in the school. I would encourage all parents to offer their input and help us understand what our parent body thinks and wants. I appreciate that there have been quite a few surveys and requests for input from parents over the past year. As our families are geographically spread across a large part of Sydney, we use surveys so that we can enable busy parents to contribute without the need to travel to the school. While we do use forums, meetings, small group and individual interviews, we do try to keep our requests to a minimum. Thank you in advance for your time with this one.

► TRY OUTS FOR YEAR 7 AND 8 DEBATING

Mr Andrew Martinez, English Teacher/Debating Coach

Interested in representing Normanhurst Boys in The Premier’s Debating Challenge? We are now starting the audition process!

1. Write your full name on the notice board outside of the English faculty before the end of week 5 (26 of Feb)
2. Check this notice board Monday morning Week 6 (29 February)
3. All students who register their interest will be given a time to speak during lunch of week 6. During week 6, you will have to give an impromptu speech on a randomly assigned topic. That means you will have to show your general knowledge, your ability to think on your feet and of course your capacity to speak effectively.
4. To prepare- make sure you’re keeping abreast with news and current affairs. Good luck!
SRC UPDATE - YEAR 7 WELCOME BBQ
Ms Michelle Gibson-Garside, Year 7 Adviser/SRC Coordinator

The SRC will be hosting a Welcome Year 7 BBQ at lunchtime on Tuesday 23 February. All Year 7 are welcome to attend. The BBQ will give the students the opportunity to meet their SRC representatives and also the School Prefects. The lunch will be held behind the school hall and students are asked to bring a gold coin donation. Students will be provided with a sausage sizzle and a soft drink (vegetarians will be catered for).

CAREERS NEWS
Ms Kay Woodhams, Careers Adviser

Important Information – Calendar of Events
Check this calendar for upcoming University Open Days, Parent/Student university nights plus more
Go to: http://www.nbhs-careers.com

We also have additional information including a comprehensive calendar on the MhsCareers website www.mhscareers.net
User name: nbhs - Password: careers

SCHOOL CAREERS INFORMATION
Year 12 (2016) *Change of Date*
Year 12 ‘Team Normo’ Evening for Students/Parents
Tuesday 1 March 6.30 p.m. in the hall.

CALENDAR

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<tr>
<th>Wk</th>
<th>Monday</th>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>22 Feb</td>
<td>23 WEEK B</td>
<td>24 WEEK B Year 12 PDHPE Millennium Health Club Excursion</td>
<td>25 WEEK B Year 11 Visual Arts assessment Year 10 Drama Assessment Year 9 Music Assessment Year Meetings Year 12 History Extension Assessment</td>
<td>26 WEEK B Year 7 Maths Fun Day Year 12 English Advanced Assessment Year 10 Engineering Assessment Open Morning Year 7 Peer Support</td>
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<td>WEEK B Open Morning</td>
<td>SRC Year 7 Welcome BBQ</td>
<td>Year 7 Transition to High School Information Evening, 5.00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Year 7 Transition to High School Information Evening, 5.00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Year 12 Team Normo Parent Meeting, 6.30p.m.</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>29 Feb</td>
<td>1 Mar Year 11 Preliminary Biology Field Study Year 7 Science Assessment</td>
<td>2 WEEK A Year 10 English Assessment</td>
<td>3 WEEK A Zone Swimming Carnival Year 11 HSC Society and Culture Buddhism Excursion Clean Up Australia Day World’s Greatest Headshave Year 10 GATe Assessment Year 10 Commerce Assessment Task Year 9 Science Assessment Year 8 Science Assessment Year 7 English Assessment Year 7 History Assessment Prefects Mission Australia Winter Sleepout Fri 6pm-Sat 11am</td>
<td>4 WEEK A Year 11 HSC Society and Culture Buddhism Excursion Clean Up Australia Day World’s Greatest Headshave Year 10 GATe Assessment Year 10 Commerce Assessment Task Year 9 Science Assessment Year 8 Science Assessment Year 7 English Assessment Year 7 History Assessment Prefects Mission Australia Winter Sleepout Fri 6pm-Sat 11am</td>
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<td>WEEK A</td>
<td>Years 7, 9 &amp; 11 Study Skills Year 9 Science Assessment Year 9 English Assessment</td>
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<td>8 WEEK B Year 9 Northern Explorer Excursion Year 7 Visual Arts Assessment Year 8 Visual Arts Assessment Year 8 English Assessment</td>
<td>9 WEEK B Year 9 Northern Explorer Excursion Year 8 English Assessment</td>
<td>10 WEEK B Year 9 Northern Explorer Excursion Year 12 Non-Assessment/Excursion Period Selective High Schools Placement Test Years 7 and 8 Immunisation Year 11 Japanese</td>
<td>11 WEEK B Year 9 Northern Explorer Excursion Year 12 Non-Assessment/Excursion Period Year 7 Peer Support Year 10 Visual Design Assessment</td>
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### SUMMER SPORTS RESULTS, SEMI-FINALS

*Mr Peter Edwards, Sports Coordinator*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sport</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
<th>Winner</th>
<th>Result</th>
<th>Bonus</th>
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<tbody>
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<td><strong>Cricket – Week 1 (Grand Finals)</strong></td>
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<td>GF next week</td>
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<td><strong>14A’s</strong></td>
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<td><strong>14B’s</strong></td>
<td>EPP(1) v NH (2)</td>
<td>Epping 7/198</td>
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<td><strong>Basketball</strong></td>
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<td><strong>2nd</strong></td>
<td>N’Syd (1) v NH (4)</td>
<td>North Sydney</td>
<td>36-25</td>
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<td><strong>15A’s</strong></td>
<td>NH (2) v HB (3)</td>
<td>Homebush</td>
<td>48-46</td>
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<td><strong>14A’s</strong></td>
<td>N’Syd (1) v NH (4)</td>
<td>North Sydney</td>
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<td><strong>Volleyball</strong></td>
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<td><strong>1st</strong></td>
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<td>Normanburn</td>
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<td>HB (1) v NH (4)</td>
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<td><strong>14A’s</strong></td>
<td>Post Season</td>
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Regional FIRST Robotics Competition
Sat 18 Mar

Good Friday
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<tr>
<th>Sports</th>
<th>Team 1</th>
<th>Team 2</th>
<th>Score 1</th>
<th>Score 2</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tennis</strong></td>
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<td>N’Syd (1) v NH (4)</td>
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<td>EPP(2) v NH (3)</td>
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<td>15A’s</td>
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<td>14A’s</td>
<td>NH (2) v N’Syd (3)</td>
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<td><strong>Baseball</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Senior</strong></td>
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<td>HB (2) v NH (3)</td>
<td>Homebush</td>
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<td><strong>Junior</strong></td>
<td>EPP(1) v NH (4)</td>
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<td><strong>Oz Tag</strong></td>
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<td>15A’s</td>
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<td>14A’s</td>
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<td><strong>Futsal (indoor Soccer)</strong></td>
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<td>Post Season</td>
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<td>15A’s</td>
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<td><strong>Waterpolo</strong></td>
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<td>2nd Grade</td>
<td>NH (1) v Asq (4)</td>
<td>Normanhurst</td>
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<td>15A’s</td>
<td>Post Season</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Extra Teams</strong></td>
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<td>Volleyball (3’s)</td>
<td>NH (1) v EPP (2)</td>
<td>Normanhurst</td>
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<td>PREMIERS</td>
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**IMMUNISATION - CHANGE OF DATE**

Ms Rebecca Thomas, Head Teacher Welfare

Please note that visit 2 has been changed from Tuesday 31 May to the Thursday 2 June. Please see below for the amended details.

**YEAR 7 AND YEAR 8 CATCH-UP SCHOOL IMMUNISATION PROGRAM**

Dear Parents

Each year NSW Health works in partnership with schools to offer the vaccines recommended by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) for adolescents as part of the school vaccination program.

Year 7 students have been issued with a school note and Parent Information Kit.

Please read the information provided with the consent form to understand facts about the vaccines which will be offered and the diseases that these vaccines protect against, before you sign the form. Information in languages other than English is available at [http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/PublicHealth/Immunisation/school_prog/languages_forms.asp](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/PublicHealth/Immunisation/school_prog/languages_forms.asp)

Students in Year 8 who need a catch up HPV vaccination as they missed a dose in year 7 2015, will be given their catch up date(s) closer to the vaccination days.

**Vaccination dates are:**

**Thursday 10 March 2016**

- Year 7: HPV (1)
- Year 8: (catch-up)

**Thursday 2 June 2016**

- Year 7: HPV (2)
- Year 7: Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis
- Year 8: (catch-up)

**Friday 14 October 2016**

- Year 7: HPV (3)
- Year 7: Chicken Pox
- Year 8: (catch-up) HPV(3)

If you wish to have your child vaccinated, please complete the consent form, including signing next to the vaccine/s you would like your child to receive, in blue or black ink and return it to the box outside the Welfare Office by Thursday 18 February.

No vaccine will be given without the relevant, completed consent form.

If you do not wish to have your child vaccinated, please indicate on the envelope and return it with your child.
Friday 4 - Saturday 5 March
Start time 6:00 pm

Raising awareness for Youth Homelessness

Dinner | Movies | Discussion
Games | Breakfast

Permission notes in student emails

Dealing with Teen’s Back Chat!!

PARENTS OF TEENS OR ALMOST TEENS
"Learn how to restore a respectful and positive relationship between you and your teen"

Topics include:

- Similarities & differences between being a teenager today & their parent’s day
- What it is like being a teenager in this fast paced & competitive world
- Assertiveness skills to deal with teen's behaviour, set boundaries & consequences
- Listening skills to find out what is going on in our teenager's world & support them

VENUE: Chatswood Community Health Centre
57 Hercules St, Chatswood
DATES: Tuesday 23rd February 2016
TIME: 7.00pm - 9.30pm
COST: $50pp

PLEASE PHONE 8877 5152 TO BOOK YOUR PLACE IN THIS WORKSHOP

This workshop will be facilitated by a qualified Parent Educator from Child and Adolescent Parenting, Northern Sydney Local Health District

SLEEPOUT

A NBHS Prefect Initiative
Teaching someone to drive can be a happy experience.

You can learn all the simple steps on how to teach a learner driver at a **FREE** two hour workshop.

**The next workshop in your area will be held:**

**TIME & DATE:**
6.30pm - 8.00pm
Tuesday 15 March 2016

**VENUE:**
Eucalyptus Room,
Level 1A, 1 Pope Street,
Top Ryde City shopping centre
(above Ryde Library)

**BOOK NOW ON:**
Call Customer Service on 9952 8222

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**Helping learner drivers become safe drivers**

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**NSW GOVERNMENT**

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**City of Ryde**
Lifestyle and opportunity @ your doorstep

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**HORNSBY SHIRE COUNCIL**

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For more information visit hornsby.nsw.gov.au
TUNING IN TO TEENS
EMOTIONALLY INTELLIGENT PARENTING

5 SESSION PARENTING COURSE FOR PARENTS OF TEENS

Would you like to learn how to:

- Communicate effectively with your teenager?
- Understand your teenager?
- Help your teenager with emotional intelligence and managing emotions?
- Prevent some teenager behaviour problems?
- Teach your teenager to deal with conflict?

VENUE: Chatswood Community Health Centre
57 Hercules St, Chatswood
DATES: Tuesdays 1st March - 29th March (5 sessions)
TIME: 7.00pm - 9.30pm
COST: $175pp (Concession $150)

PLEASE PHONE 8877 5152 TO BOOK YOUR PLACE IN THIS COURSE

The 5 session course will be facilitated by a qualified Parent Educator from Child and Adolescent Parenting, Northern Sydney Local Health District