

Recte Et Fortiter - Upright and Strong
Safety | Learning | Respect

BULLETIN



HOME BUSH BOYS HIGH SCHOOL

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PRINCIPAL REPORT

Mr Kevin Elgood

Welcome to the second edition of our Bush Bulletin for 2023. Term 1 is almost over and another year seems to be going by very quickly. We have had many amazing events over the past few weeks, including:

- The **SRC Induction Ceremony** – one of the most significant events on our calendar, recognising the school leaders that have been elected by their peers to represent them and their views. A position of great responsibility.
- The **Interact Induction Ceremony** – recognising the school leaders that volunteer their skill, energy and time for the service of the school and our wider community. Working with and supported by, Strathfield Rotary, these boys are true leaders.
- The **House Captains Induction Ceremony** – recognising the school leaders that have been elected by their peers to lead their sporting houses in promoting sport and healthy competition both within and outside the school.
- Our celebration of **Harmony Day** with an excellent student led assembly with a number of amazing student speeches.
- **Welcome to New Parents Evening** – despite being +40°C, we welcomed our new Year 7 parents, giving parents an opportunity to meet their son's teachers and other parents from their son's class.
- We hosted a **delegation from the Seoul Metropolitan Council** from South Korea – visiting three schools in Sydney to look at how we deal with Behaviour, Bullying and Multiculturalism.
- James Knight, our new SRC President, represented Homebush Boys High School at the ZONTA **International Women's Day** Breakfast held at Bankstown Girls High School giving an amazing speech based on the theme 'Cracking the Code: Innovation for a gender equal future'.
- Year 12 completed their **half-yearly HSC assessment** block – the end of Term 1 marks half way through the HSC course for our Year 12 students.
- **Outstanding sporting achievements**, including the Opens Futsal Team winning the Eastern Suburbs Regional Futsal Competition 3-2 over Moriah College.
- Our support unit students and staff participating in **Walk for Autism** and encouraging others to join in and raise money for a great cause.

Many of these events plus many more are covered in more detail throughout this edition of the Bush Bulletin or you can find regular posts on our Facebook page.

Our building projects are progressing, much slower than we would like but still progressing. I have taken photos of progress to date:

1. The **Senior area** work has been completed and looks great. We now need to pursue funds for adding a large shade structure and more seating.



2. The New **Library** - progress is slow due to various construction delays, expected to be completed by the end of June 2023.



3. Renewal of the **Basketball court**. Progress was delayed but back on track to be finished for the beginning of Term 2.



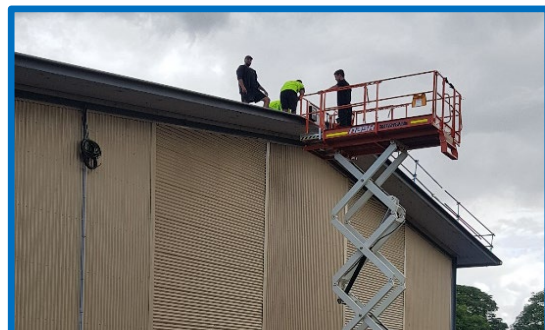
4. The **New Futsal Court** – progress again has been slow due to various delays. The Contractor estimates a further 4 weeks until completion.



5. The Roof replacement for A Block is almost completed. Finishing the sections above each entrance is the last task to be completed and should be finished through the holidays.



6. A **Solar power upgrade** – we are currently having Solar panels installed on the Gym roof to support a future (near future hopefully) program to install air conditioning in all classrooms.



7. Library floor replacement – The floor in our current library is being replaced. One quarter of the floor has already been completed with the remainder to be completed in these school holidays



8. Installation of a shade structure in the main Quad - the shade structure which will be installed between D Block and the Fig Tree is being constructed offsite and will be installed next Term. The Structure will run along D Block as shown below.



While all this construction is a challenge at present, students and staff will benefit significantly from all of these improvements.

School resumes for all students on Wednesday 26th April 2023. I wish you and your family a happy and safe holiday and look forward to seeing you back in Term 2.

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL REPORT

Ms Jennie Dalamagas



Years 9 & 12

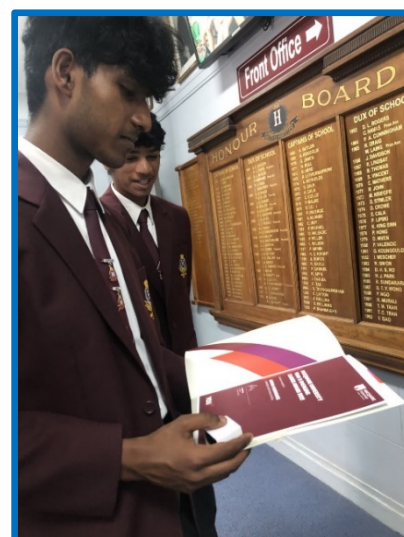
As Term 1 2023 draws to a close, it is really exciting to acknowledge the wonderful initiatives our students and staff have been involved in. There is not a day where our students and staff are not either representing our school or collectively involved in improving or moving forward with our school's strategic improvement plan.

As the Deputy Principal in charge of Year 9 and Year 12, I have been working closely with Mr Kisso and Ms Singh to program several initiatives that will assist all of our students in their educational journeys at Homebush Boys High School.

Year 12

This term Year 12 sat for their first formal HSC examinations in various courses. It was great to see our Year 12 students following correct examination procedures and policies, including handing in mobile phones to the office staff prior to the commencement of their examination. It must be noted that students can be awarded a 'zero' mark for having a mobile in the examination room.

Congratulations to Venkatvidipreddy Mallemala and Aryan Rodrigues for attaining the Macquarie University potential leadership certificate including a tie pin. Well done to two future leaders!



Year 12 Bake-Off

Year 12 leaders held a 'Bake-Off' this term to raise money for one of their fundraising initiatives. It was a great success with every single cake/biscuit being sold.



Year 12 Prefect Afternoon Tea

Year 12 Prefect Afternoon Tea this term was hosted by Aryan Rodrigues this term. It was great event with over 80 leaders present from various public and private high schools. Ms Papavramidis and Ms Budanovic need to be acknowledged and thanked for their organisation of this event. All students had a great time participating in various activities and networking with one another.





Year 9

Year 9 have settled this very well this term. Mr Kisso has continued to work with our students and planned a number of year assemblies with special guests. This term Ms Ahmed provided important information regarding NAPLAN and strategies our students could use to increase their learning outcomes.



International Women's Day

This year I was invited to attend Bankstown Girls High Schools International Women's Day Breakfast on Wednesday 8 March 2023. The 2023 theme is 'Embracing Equity'. As part of this initiative ZONTA Sydney West invited James Knight (Year 11 SRC leader) to do a speech on the UN Women Australia theme 'Cracking the Code: Innovation for a gender equal future'. James was highly commended for his speech. The entire audience, including ZONTA representatives, Principals, students, Mr Elaro and I were very empowered by James' speech. The event was also broadcasted to all NSW schools via IWD webinar. James Knight can be congratulated for representing Homebush Boys High School as a great leader in the making.



Seoul Metropolitan Council

It was an on honour on Friday 24 March 2023 to host 17 Korean delegates at Homebush Boys High School. They were very interested in discussing the multiculturalism of our school and how we dealt with the diversity of our community. They were very impressed with Multicultural Day, Harmony Day and other events we embraced as part of our school initiatives. The delegates also visited a number of classes and took many photos.





Anti-Racism Awareness Club

This term saw the launch of the Anti-Racism Awareness Club. An initiative introduced by Ms Deo (Year 7 Year Adviser) and some of her Year 7 cohort. This was well received at our Harmony Day assembly by all students and staff. Homebush Boys High School greatly endorses this club and fully supports its purpose and ethics.



Homework Help

On an important note, 'Homework Help' commenced Week 4 of Term 1 with our staff member Ms Jang ensuring our students are well catered for in all areas of their schooling. Homework Help is available to our students every Monday and Tuesday from 3:10pm to 4:10pm. Please ensure your sons take advantage of this valuable initiative. Please ensure your son utilises this great resource.

Final Note

I plan 2023 to be a very special and productive year for all our students. Please don't hesitate to call me in regards to any concern you may have in regards to your son's educational requirements.

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL REPORT

Mr Cheiban Elaro

Years 8 & 11



As we always say, it has been a very busy term at HBHS. The school continues to be a construction site on the outside, but on the inside, we have had awards ceremonies, international visitors have returned, teachers have been recognised for their tireless work, parents met their son's teachers, students received deserved accolades, many of Sydney's student leaders had afternoon tea, etc.

As they saying goes, a picture tells a thousand works. Below are some the term's highlights in pictures.







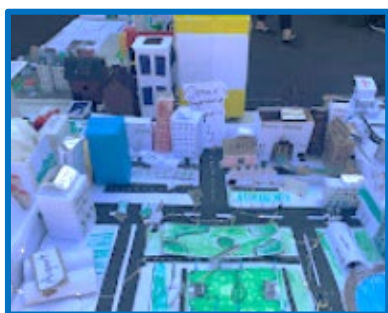
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL REPORT

Miss Catherine Player

Years 7 & 10



It has been a busy and exciting term at HBHS. I can't believe we are almost at the end of Term one. We welcomed Year 7 parents for the Meet and greet evening so they could receive their interim reports and meet their sons' teachers to find out about the learning taking place in classrooms and how their sons are getting along in their first term in high school.



The evening was a great success and parents and students went away happy and more informed about their progress this term. I would like to thank Ms Deo and Mr Bhai for all their hard work in organising this event. It was such a great night and so many parents commented on how welcome they felt and how much a part of the community they were made to feel. Many of our emerging leaders were very helpful on the evening, greeting parents and showing them around. All in all, a very successful and informative evening.

Year 7 have been working hard in all their subjects, getting used to the learning expectations and enjoying the range of different subjects they now participate in every day. In Geography they have been building models of sustainable cities. Moreover, our emerging leaders are also taking on roles in running our year assemblies and acting as school service students on occasions. Year 7 are truly making their mark on HBHS. Ms Deo, Mr Bhai and I will continue to work with your sons to ensure they continue to grow and flourish here at HBHS.



Year 10 are working hard towards their goals both in and beyond the classroom. We held our first NESA assembly to get students to check their entries and ensure all their details are correct. At the meeting students were reminded of the importance of meeting the course outcomes and handing in all assessment tasks. Students need to ensure they are meeting the following criteria for all their subjects:

- a. followed the course developed or endorsed by NESA; and
- b. applied themselves with diligence and sustained effort to the set tasks and experiences provided in the course by the school; and
- c. achieved some or all the course outcomes

It is important that your sons speak with their teachers about tasks and progress regularly, and seek support when they need it. They can attend the Homework Help that runs in the library after school to help them complete tasks by the due date.

It is wonderful to see year 10 being active members of the SRC, attending meetings and representing the school at functions. In the classroom, some of our Year 10 greeted a recent Korean Delegation from Seoul who were here to look at our educational policies and multiculturalism. It is good to see them assuming leadership roles and being productive learners in the classroom.



Attendance

Regular attendance at school is essential for our students to achieve quality life outcomes. HBHS, in partnership with parents, are responsible for promoting the regular attendance of students and it is everyone's responsibility regarding this. We all need to know our part and ensure we follow up.

The Importance of being at School is that it gives your son the opportunity to:

- ◆ Learn
- ◆ Build Friendships
- ◆ Develop life skills.

I have attached some information about the importance of attendance for you to consider.

NSW Department of Education

Why attendance matters

When your child misses school they miss important opportunities to:



Learn



Build friendships



Develop life skills



Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just...

they miss weeks per year

and years over their school life

1 day per **fortnight**



= **4** weeks

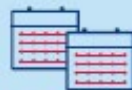


= Over **1** year missed

1 day per **week**



= **8** weeks



= Over **2.5** years missed

education.nsw.gov.au



CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS



This term, our students have been working tirelessly to develop their artistic talents, and we are proud of the progress they have made. We are excited to announce our upcoming annual Creative and Performing Arts (CAPA) Visual Arts and Music Showcase, which will take place on Thursday, June 22nd 2023. This event is a wonderful opportunity for our community to come together and support our talented students as they showcase their artistic and musical abilities.

Our CAPA Showcase will feature an array of captivating art displays and live musical performances by our students, highlighting the dedication and hard work they have put into their craft. We invite all members of our community to join us for this special occasion and witness the incredible talent of our students. This event is open to the public and admission is free of charge. It is a great opportunity to connect with our school community and show your support for the arts. We encourage parents, family members, and friends to come and celebrate our students' achievements with us, and please save the date!

Music Tuition

The Music department has been seeking expressions of interest for private music tuition in 2023. Private tutors are an investment in students' music education, and are able to identify and focus on areas of improvement, which can accelerate your child's musical progress. They also provide a supportive environment where students can receive constructive feedback and encouragement to help them achieve their musical goals.

Private music tuition is not only beneficial for those who aspire to pursue music professionally, but it can also help students develop essential life skills such as discipline, self-confidence, and perseverance. These skills are transferable to other aspects of life, such as academic studies and extracurricular activities.

At our school, we offer private music tuition with experienced and qualified tutors who have a passion for music education. We encourage parents to consider the benefits of private music tuition as an investment in their child's musical development. Our tutors are dedicated to helping students achieve their musical aspirations and grow as individuals, both in and outside of the classroom. If you are interested in your son undertaking private music tuition please contact Mr Norrish at emile.norrish3@det.nsw.edu for more information.

LOTE

Our experienced language teachers create a supportive and engaging learning environment where students can develop their language skills and cultural knowledge. Students in Chinese and Korean classes are exposed to the unique grammar, vocabulary, and pronunciation of Chinese and Korean, as well as the customs and traditions of these cultures.

Learning a new language can be a valuable asset for our students, as it opens up new opportunities for communication, understanding, and cultural exchange. Our language classes help students to develop their linguistic abilities and become more globally minded individuals. We are proud to offer these classes and are pleased to see the growing interest in Chinese and Korean language learning among our students.



HUMAN SOCIETY IN IT'S ENVIRONMENT

Term 1 has been an exciting time for the HSIE faculty. As we approach the end of Term 1 the students at Homebush Boys High School have been immersed in their history courses and have demonstrated their ability to conduct a range of historical inquiries into different time periods.

One of the highlights this term was welcoming prospective students and their families at Open Night. The HSIE faculty exhibited a large display for Open Night to illustrate the variety of subjects we offer and the impressive work students have created in our classes.



Recounts of Year 7L Geography students

This recount is written by Joshua Ho from 7L Geography

My name is Joshua Ho from 7L. This term, we have been focusing on the topic of Place and Liveability. We looked at different places such as Dubai. Furthermore, flow charts, climate, landforms and resources were also discussed.

Did I enjoy it?

To begin, yes, I have enjoyed the time I have spent in Geography class. The reasoning for this is that although many of the lessons have been a bit of a challenge, I still believe that those times have allowed me to share a special bond with my fellow peers and classmates. Overall, yes, I have enjoyed the time I have spent in Geography class because it has given me time to connect with my classmates and fellow students.

Something I would like to share about the course of Geography is that I believe that I have had a fun time figuring out and completing the difficult challenges that have been assigned to me. Reason

being, I believe that these challenges have given me a sense of accomplishment because it makes me feel like I have learnt something new within the subject and as if I can finally relax like a writer finally finishing a new book or an artist completing a new sculpture.

The work in class is challenging and so far, it has been fun learning about different aspects of liveability and social connectedness. Overall, I believe Geography to be a fun and challenging subject.

This term we have completed our first formal Assessment Task. I used many things to complete this assignment. I used knowledge learnt in class such as what is considered liveable. I found an A2 box from my parents' workplace, I cut off

the top and one side of my diorama. I began by sketching where everything would go such as the buildings, parks, and roads. Sketching is one of the most crucial parts to creating a diorama as it allows your mind to expand and think of what you can add, how you can make it liveable and suitable for people. I created little buildings using small boxes that I had previously bought. I painted each building individually by hand using acrylic paint.

It took me approximately 4 days to complete my diorama and speech. I had many thoughts about how I would incorporate environmental quality and social connectedness. I decided to add some parks, schools and solar panels. I was extremely stressed when making my diorama as it is very delicate. I hand dried many of the buildings with a hair dryer considering it would take a long time to dry by itself.

The name of my urban village is Greentree. Public transport is an important aspect of livability and social connectedness as it connects people to places. Greentree has good infrastructure, buses, an underground subway and bicycle paths. Public transport enhances social connectedness as it allows people to interact with each other while travelling, improving social connections and relationships. It promotes engagement of the community and cooperation.

Greentree has many important services such as a police and fire station, hospital, religious centres, retail shops and schools. It also has a waste management, water recycling centre, underground electricity, and solar panel farms. These create job opportunities for the community. Employment enhances social connectedness by providing individuals with a sense of belonging and allowing them a chance to express their skills and talents. Through work, individuals can interact, and share ideas. Hence, employment gives each individual a purpose, promotes social interaction and incomes to support their families.

Services and facilities such as technology, public transport, open spaces, and employment are extremely important when it comes to liveability, as they allow the community to function and connect. Social connectedness plays an integral role in our lives. It helps us build relationships and create a support network that can help us navigate the challenges that life throws at us. Social connectedness would not be possible without the above different aspects of services and facilities.

Our history students have explored many different topics this term. Year 8 has been focusing on the ancient past and how historians and archaeologists use a range of methods to uncover details about ancient civilisations. This has seen our students explore the use of DNA and carbon dating. Year 10 has been focusing on the movement of people with a particular focus on the Industrial Revolution. Students have discussed the significance of the Industrial Revolution as a period of major change and development. Year 10 have also explored convict transportation and the Transatlantic Slave Trade which had profound effects on both Africa and America which still endure to this day. Year 10 Military History have been expanding their historical knowledge and interests by exploring weapons and warfare in the Middle Ages.

Year 8 History

Year 8 have thoroughly enjoyed exploring the historical mystery of Otzi the Iceman. The focus for Year 8 has been on investigating the ancient past by using the methods and approaches used by historians and archaeologists. Students have been able to immerse themselves in the past and become historians as they unravel the mysteries of those who walked the earth before us. Otzi the Iceman became the focal point of this unit and saw students discuss the mystery surrounding his death as well as the clues that were found with his remains, which shed light on what the world was like over 5300 years ago. Year 8 also focused on their writing skills and used ALARM and TEEL to write structured responses that expressed their knowledge and ideas surrounding this historical mystery. Students demonstrated their writing ability in their assessment task which required them to write a well-structured and detailed extended response.

Year 8 student Janusan Kiritharan has reflected on the knowledge and skills gained this term.

During our time in class we have learnt about an ancient individual who was named Otzi the Iceman. During our lessons we found out where Otzi was found, which was in the Alps located in Italy, on the border of Austria and Switzerland. We found out how old Otzi was and the time period he lived in. He was 45 years old when he passed away and was alive more than 4000 years ago!

We made many inquiries into how Otzi died. We analysed the artefacts that were found around him to give us a hint as to who he was and how he died. One theory was that Otzi was attacked and assassinated.

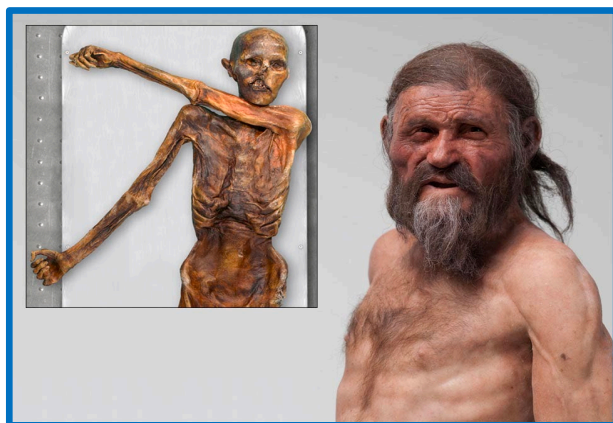
There were many artefacts that he carried with him including a flint dagger and an axe which gave us a hint as to how he survived in the Alps.

We looked at how DNA tests have been used to uncover the truth surrounding his life and death. We also hypothesised about how we think that he died. When learning about his body we found out that his last meal before he died was bread, vegetables and meat.

Overall the information we learnt about Otzi helped with our assessment task and learning about him was very fun and enjoyable.



8N learning about Otzi the Iceman



Remains and recreation of Otzi the Iceman



Otzi's flint dagger

Otzi's copper axe



Term 1 has been an exciting time for our history students and we are looking forward to what awaits in Term 2.

Our senior students have also deepened their historical knowledge and skills this term. Year 11 Modern History has been exploring the contestability of the past with a particular focus on the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. This has allowed students to understand the complexity of history and the issues that arise when trying to solve a historical controversy. Year 11 Ancient History has been exploring ancient sites and analysing the sources and methods used by historians and archaeologists when piecing together the remains of the past. Students have been discussing the issues that archaeologists encounter when trying to unearth the mysteries of past civilisations.

Our Year 12 students have just completed their assessment block, which is another significant step in their journey this year. Year 12 Modern History has been exploring their National Study on Japan 1904-1937. They have been discussing the rise of Japan as a world power as well as their struggle to be recognised by Western power and the rest of the world. Year 12 Ancient History has been focusing on the historical period of the Julio-Claudians AD 14-69. This has seen them discussing the nature of power and authority at the time and learning about the first emperors of Ancient Rome.

"Knowledge of languages is the doorway to wisdom."

Roger Bacon

Homebush Boys High School recognises the importance of the study of languages both as an academic pursuit and as a critical link to cultural heritage. Therefore, to supplement the range of language courses offered at Homebush Boys we provide students with the opportunity to study a wider range of languages with various external language schools. In 2023 we have 33 students from Years 7-12 studying a language

There are three main external language providers whose courses are offered to our students.



The Secondary College of Languages, previously Saturday School of Community Languages, offers an extensive range of community language courses on Saturday mornings to students in their mother language. For students in Years 11 and 12 courses studied at The Secondary College of Languages contribute towards their Preliminary HSC and HSC requirements.



NSW School Of Languages offers courses to students in Years 9 to 12 that are studied during school hours as part of their regular timetable here at Homebush Boys. The courses are a combination of online learning, phone or zoom lessons, and face to face lesson days at the Petersham campus. These courses contribute to ROSA, Preliminary HSC and HSC studies.



The Tamil Study Centre, Homebush, Blacktown and Wentworthville are a specialist Tamil schools offering courses to students for whom Tamil is their mother language. The courses are studied outside regular school hours and contribute to Preliminary HSC and HSC requirements. Students who study at The Tamil Study Centre are often accelerated so that they complete their HSC in Tamil a year

or two earlier than they sit their HSC in other subjects.

The number of students who embrace this opportunity and achieve excellent results each year is an indication of the success and popularity of the courses. John Nekipelov, who completed Preliminary Russian Continuers in 2022 at The NSW School of Languages and received an award for Outstanding Achievement. Of those sitting their HSC in 2022 their language result was either their highest band or consistent with that of their other subjects. Our accelerated Tamil and Hindi students who completed the HSC course last year while in Years 10 and 11 are to be congratulated on their successful completion of a challenging HSC course one or two years ahead of their cohort and doing so with outstanding results. Anargyros Kallos is to be congratulated on his outstanding success in both Modern Greek

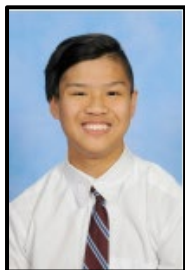
Continuers and Modern Greek Extension, studied via the Secondary College of Languages, in which he came First in Course in both Courses.

In addition to achieving wonderful results, our external language students develop valuable skills in independent learning which will serve them well in their future studies.

Access to such a wide range of language courses is a wonderful opportunity available to all students at Homebush Boys High.



Deon Tran commenced studying the Preliminary French Beginners course at NSW School of Languages this year and is finding the experience enjoyable and rewarding.



Deon describes his experiences so far at The NSW School of Languages:

French Beginners at NSW School of Languages is one of the courses that I decided to take this year, and I have to say the subject has been really enjoyable so far. The workload is manageable, and my teacher Madame Saran is highly qualified and friendly making the lessons easy to understand and engaging. We recently had a Lesson Day on site at The NSW School of Languages in Petersham in addition to our weekly zoom lessons. The day was attended by numerous students from across NSW who came to the NSW School of Languages campus for the day. I had the opportunity to meet other students studying the course and had a chance to get to know them and learn about their different school experiences. The Lesson Day itinerary featured lots of team building activities that helped us become more familiar with each other while developing our language skills. The whole day was a fun and educational experience which gave me the opportunity to meet students from many different areas across the state and provided experiences outside my regular ones at Homebush Boys. I would absolutely recommend studying a course at the NSW School of Languages for any student who would be interested in learning a language that is not available here at Homebush Boys.

Prefects

On 22nd March, the prefects hosted the annual Prefect Afternoon Tea. We invited 13 different schools within the Inner West region to socialise, discuss our experiences of being student leaders, dine on delicious foods, and most memorably, partake in some collaborative activities orchestrated by our team. Our first ice-breaker activity was “Agree or Disagree,” a game in which students responded to various questions such as: “Should English courses be mandatory for the HSC?” This activity allowed students to share their opinions and personal insights into thought-provoking questions, sparking intuitive debates. Not to mention, between each activity, a ‘lucky draw’ was conducted where multiple students won mystery prizes. Our next activity was trivia, where 26 questions were asked on various pop culture topics such as movies, songs, and famous figures. Participants were split into 10 groups consisting of various different schools, to which they collaborated and used their knowledge to solve the questions. Despite everyone’s competitiveness and diligence, group 5 emerged victorious by scoring an impressive 21/correct questions. We ended the action-packed evening with a “Newspaper Challenge,” where students competed to design and create the best costume made from newspapers. With the creative ideas of each different group, we saw various unique (and questionable) costumes, such as bridal dresses and a wizard. Congratulations to group 5 for winning the competition, who created a fabulous bridesmaid outfit. Overall, the PAT was highly successful and received overwhelmingly positive feedback. On behalf of the Prefect Body, we would also extend our gratitude to our Prefect Coordinators, Miss Papas and Miss Budanovic for their incredible dedication in preparing for this big event. We are sure this evening will be remembered as a highlight of the year for all attendees and we hope next year’s perfect body will continue the tradition of hosting fun, Bushy Boys PATs!

Written by Kelvin Chen | Sanila Vithanage



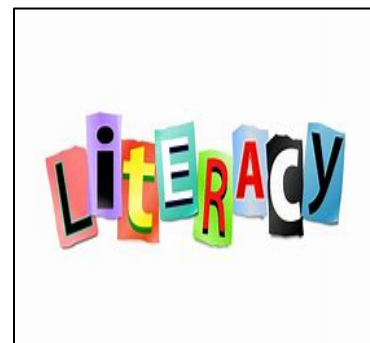


LITERACY

Parents – Here are some of the important current issues in literacy and numeracy. They are all important in your son's schooling!

Year 7 students:

Please continue to encourage your son to read at home, whenever possible, and in addition to his subject-based homework. At least 20 minutes per evening is recommended. Readers can be borrowed from the school library, or are available online.



Year 8 students:



To support the development of students' writing, the school has adopted a **Year 8 Writing Strategy**. In each Semester, one assessment task in each subject (except Maths) *will involve extended writing*. Students will be given written notification of these tasks before they are scheduled, and will be prepared through modelling exercises beforehand, so they are clear about what to do.

Then, all writing will be graded (A to E) using the same standards. *These writing grades will be shown on all Semester reports.* Students' writing grades will help

to identify those students needing further support to improve their writing, and will assist in tracking improvement over time.

Year 7 & 9 students:

Year 7 & 9 students have now completed all NAPLAN tests. Results (including reports to parents) are anticipated to be released earlier this year, owing to their on-line nature, and their being scheduled earlier in the year.

Year 10, 11 and 12 students:



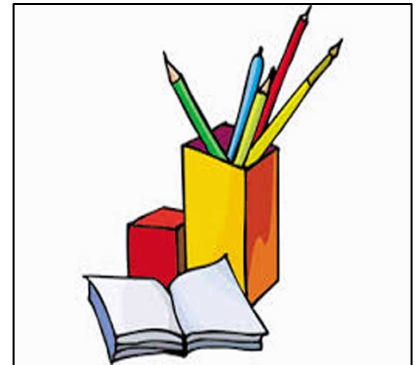
The Year 10 cohort has completed their first round of HSC Minimum Standards tests, in reading, numeracy and writing, and results have been released for these tests. Further test opportunities and support, each Term, will be available to Year 10, 11 and 12 students who so far have been unsuccessful in achieving one or more of these Minimum Standards.

If uncertain about the status of your son with respect to Minimum Standards, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Bawden (Tuesdays and Thursdays), at the school. Contact details are listed below.

All students:

Homework Help takes place on Mondays and Tuesdays, after school for one hour in the library. Assistance, especially in literacy, is available at these times. Make use of this valuable time!

If there are further enquiries, please ring Mr Bawden (Literacy/numeracy Support Person) at the school (Tuesdays/Thursdays), Ph: 9764 3611. Thank you for your support of your son's literacy and numeracy progress!



SCIENCE

Year 8 Science Excursion to the Australian Museum and the Botanical Gardens

On the 24th of March year 8 went on a field trip to the Australian Museum and Botanical gardens. We learnt many things from these two places. We also had a booklet which provided us with relevant questions about what was there. For example, in the Australian Museum we learnt many topics like, giraffes, Tasmanian tiger, elephant skeleton, about the first nation people, climate change, surviving in Australia and the birds of Australia. In the botanical garden we discovered the herb garden, succulent plant and rose garden. The field trip was very educational and our class really benefited out of it and we also enjoyed it the whole time. I really would recommend people to go.

By: Virushen Vimalarajan

8 SCI P





MATHEMATICS

Junior Mathematics

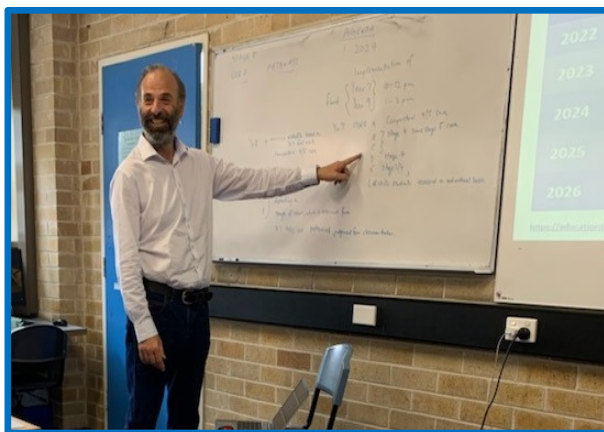
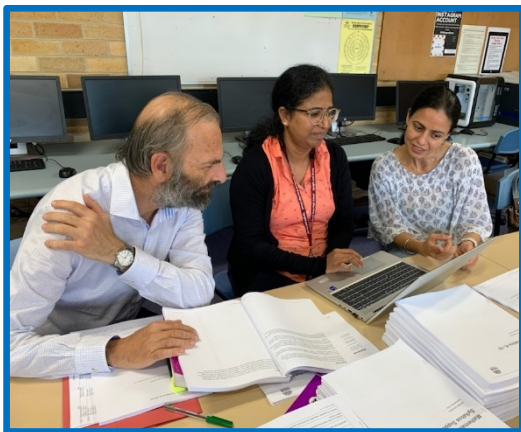
Junior mathematics students have been settling into their mathematics classes. Parents and carers should be aware of the following to help their son with their mathematics:

- Students are to bring a scientific calculator to all lessons.
- Students are expected to bring a laptop (or tablet) to class when asked by their teacher to do so. Online resources, such as Mathletics or the assigned text, will be regularly accessed in class.
- Students have either chosen to borrow a textbook or to access the text online via Moodle.
- All students are to work in an exercise book (not on a computer). The student's full name and class should appear on the front cover. Each page is to be ruled down the centre.
- Usually 1 to 2 exercise sets will be assigned each lesson. These exercises are to be completed before the next lesson.
- All work is to be corrected by the student using the available answers.
- Worksheets are to be completed and glued-in to their workbook.
- Mathletics exercises will be continuously set and must be regularly completed at home.
- Bookwork and Mathletics will form 10% of the assessment (5% each).

Preparations for the New Syllabuses

The new junior mathematics syllabus is due to start next year, and new senior syllabuses are due to start in 2025. On Tuesday the 21st of March the Mathematics Faculty spent the day planning for the upcoming changes.

The junior syllabus contains a core component that is to be completed by all students, and standard, advanced, and extension streams that will be completed by students who are aiming to enter standard, advanced, or extension mathematics in senior school.



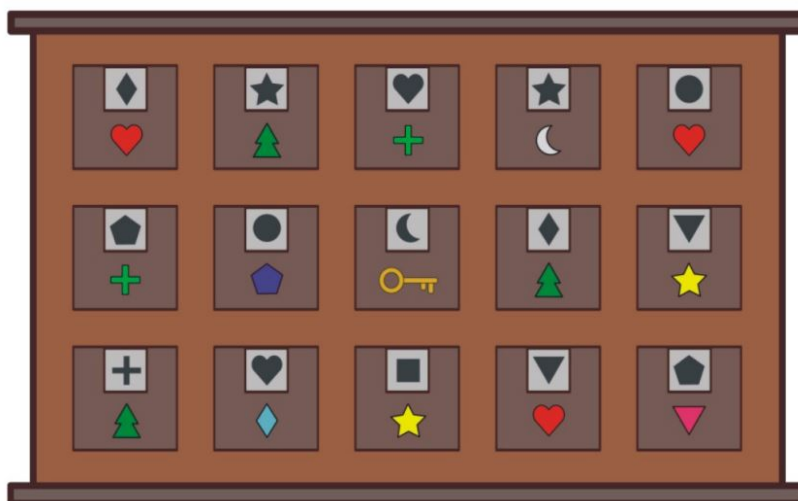
Mathematics Puzzle

Mathematics is important because it strengthens our ability to think rationally. Numeracy equips us with the senses of quantity, calculation, estimation, space, statistics, and probability. We all use these senses every day to interact with the world around us.

One way to build numeracy is to attempt difficult problems. Allowing time to think deeply about a solution develops our numerical senses. Deep thought creates and strengthens connections within the brain, which improves cognitive function and mental health—so maths is good for you!

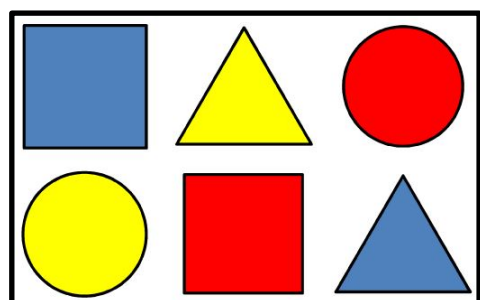
Try to strengthen your brain by attempting the following question! (The solution will be in the next edition of the Bush Bulletin.)

Bella's mum bought a present and locked it in the safe. She gave Bella a blue ball and said, "You can have the gift if you can solve the puzzle and get the key that is in the middlemost drawer." To open a drawer, Bella must put an object of the correct shape in the key hole on the drawer. The drawer then pops open and she can get the object which is shown on the front of the drawer.



Which of the following sequences will help Bella get the key?

- A) → → → → →
- B) → → → → →
- C) → → → → →
- D) → → → → →



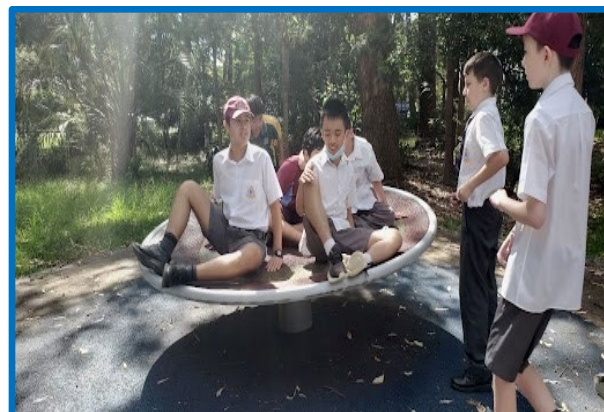
(The answer to the question in the last Bush Bulletin is below.)

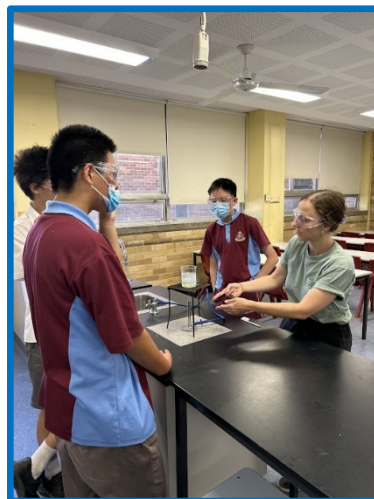
SPECIAL EDUCATION

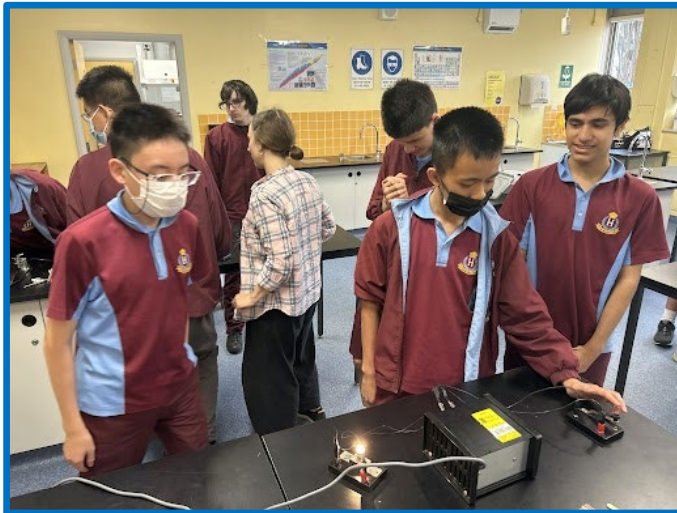
The boys in the Support Unit have had a huge first term of 2023. They've come back into a settled and supportive environment but have had to deal with some significant change. Most boys have moved into a new classroom with a new set of peers as we've made changes to best support a variety of different learning needs. We now have a Year 9 class, a Year 8 class and a mixed class and it has been really successful. In Science the boys have been loving learning in the classroom and the lab, exploring states of matter, heat energy and made a start on understanding electrical energy. In Maths, it's all been about the money. The boys have been learning about decimal currency, our coins and notes as well as how wages and salaries work. Our Pocket Money board game has been a really engaging tool to help the boys in what can be a very challenging shift in using their strong numeracy skills in a sometimes new and confusing context. In English we've been developing the skills for strong visual literacy and teaching the boys how they decode images for meaning. During Geography lessons we've been all about Biomes, something our avid Minecrafters already have a pretty good grasp of. They've added to this knowledge by learning about weather and climate relate to biomes and how animals and plants adapt to environments specific to each biome.

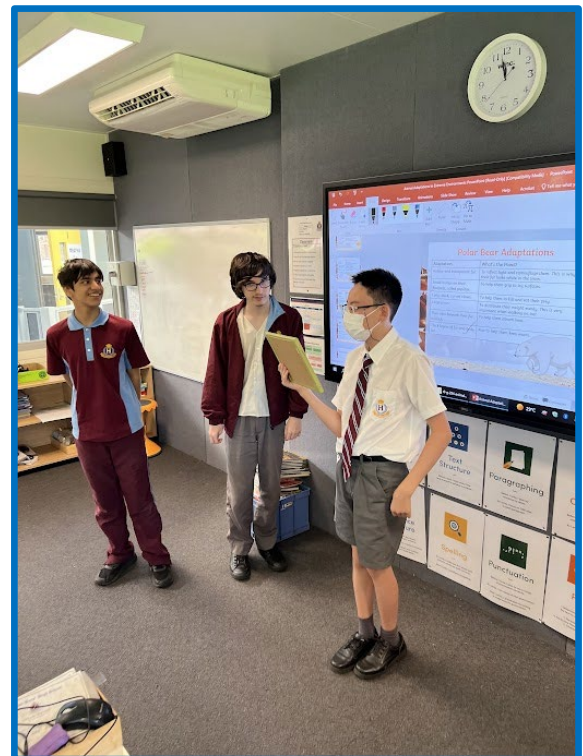
On the playground and as a peer group it's also been a great success for the boys. Friendships have strengthened and expanded and overall the peer group at large has been so supportive and harmonious. This term soccer has been one of the main games, replacing handball as the high energy past-time. Tennis has still been a great hit (no apologies for that pun!) although the late summer heat has made travel to Strathfield challenging. Luckily, the travel training the boys have done this term has been so successful and they have become seasoned train travellers able to deal with busy trains, platforms and turnstiles. On a Friday we've introduced a lunch time Lego club for those boys who are interested and it's been another success. One of the boys' PE teachers volunteers to hang out with them and help them to build and create. Our support unit SRC members have done a stellar job or representing their peers in a range of activities such as the school open night, Year 7 transition afternoon and Harmony Day.

Our Year 7 and 8s had an amazing day last week on the Science excursion to the Australian Museum and the Sydney Botanical Gardens. The dinosaurs and all the animal exhibits were the big hits! To finish off such a big, positive term, we're all looking forward to the whole unit's trip to ten pin bowling over at South Strathfield. We can't wait for Term 2!









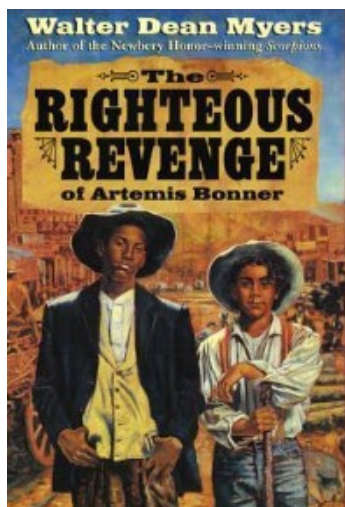
TEACHING & LEARNING

Students in Years 7 and 9 completed their NAPLAN tests in the areas of Writing, Reading, Conventions of Language and Numeracy throughout Weeks 8 and 9. Throughout the process, we had up to 150 students sit their online tests at a given time and I thank the teachers who ran each of the tests and ensured that the process ran smoothly and efficiently. All students deserve to be commended for their application and admirable Bushy Boy Behaviour throughout all of the tests.

Scholastic Literacy Pro

This year, we have updated our Reading Program using Scholastic Literacy Pro to assess student reading complexity and measure reading growth throughout the year. This test is adaptive and provides students with a Lexile measure which will then be used to recommend books that are just right for them. Students are advised to read up to 50 Lexile above their reading measure and 100 Lexile below. Students are encouraged to read books they enjoy, and should read a range of books to expand their knowledge and interests. All students in Years 7 and 8 have completed their first reading test. Parents are encouraged to ask their son what their Lexile range is and the Lexile measure of the book they are currently reading. Parent letters went out to Year 7 parents at the Year 7 Meet & Greet in Week 8. All outstanding parent letters will be sent home with students in Weeks 10 and 11. Year 9 students will complete their reading assessment after the final NAPLAN tests and parent letters will be issued early in Term 2.

	Below Basic	Basic	Proficient	Advanced
Year 1	BR51L and below	BR50L-99L	100L-400L	401L +
Year 2	99L and below	100L-299L	300L-600L	601L +
Year 3	249L and below	250L-499L	500L-800L	801L +
Year 4	349L and below	350L-599L	600L-900L	901L +
Year 5	449L and below	450L-699L	700L-1000L	1001L +
Year 6	499L and below	500L-799L	800L-1050L	1051L +
Year 7	549L and below	550L-849L	850L-1100L	1101L +
Year 8	599L and below	600L-899L	900L-1150L	1151L +
Year 9	649L and below	650L-999L	1000L-1200L	1201L +
Year 10	699L and below	700L-1024L	1025L-1250L	1251L +
Year 11	799L and below	800L-1049L	1050L-1300L	1301L +
Year 12	799L and below	800L-1049L	1050L-1300L	1301L +



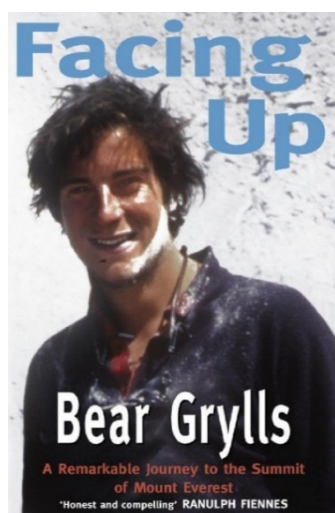
The Righteous Revenge of Artemis Bonner by Walter Dean Myers.

Lexile: 980L

Fifteen-year-old Artemis journeys from New York to Tombstone, Arizona, in 1882, to avenge the murder of his uncle.

Word count: 28, 483

Genre/s: Action and adventure, world cultures and geography, friends, family and growing up, humour.



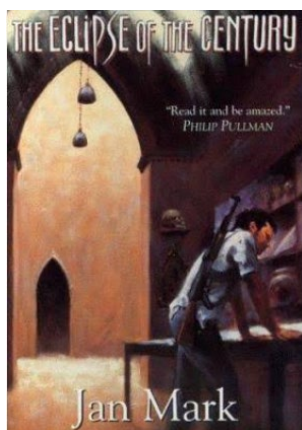
Facing Up by Bear Grylls.

Lexile: 920L

Only 2 years after breaking his back in a freefall parachuting accident, 23-year-old Bear Grylls overcame severe weather conditions, fatigue, dehydration and a last minute illness to stand on top of the world's highest mountain. Facing Up is the story of his adventure, his courage and humour, his friendship and faith.

Word count: 93,001

Genre/s: Action and adventure, biographies, sports and hobbies, friends, family and growing up.



The Eclipse of the Century by Jan Mark.

Lexile: 810L

Keith has a near death experience where he is greeted by strangers at the end of a tunnel, telling him he is in Qantoum. Keith discovers that Qantoum is a town that nobody has heard of, deep in the emptiest heart of Asia. He travels there and finds more than most people would ever dream of . . .

Word count: 105, 458

Genre/s: Mystery, science fiction and fantasy, history.

Mr Abderrahim Abbou
Head Teacher [Relieving]

TECHNOLOGICAL AND APPLIED SCIENCE

My experience with IST

When I first entered the computer room, I didn't know what to expect, however I soon realised the passion I have for IST. This elective has made me learn simple, yet appetising codes that tested my brain in logical thinking. This allowed me to also pursue many own learning and projects in my recreational time. We also had a chance to customise the Edison robot, which resulted in many students, including myself, to create many great robot creations.

Information and Software technology was a subject that taught me the importance of robots and how to play around with them. We first learned simple coding using Edblock, which was designed to make students learn and understand the sequence of robots. EdScratch was the next software we used and it enabled the understanding of specific commands through text and numbers. The final software was EdPi which used a coding language, Python, to send commands. Although it was very confusing at first, I got the hang of it and started to code many projects. One of the tasks I coded was creating squares which required the use of the while loop and variables to function. It was very fun learning Edison and going through the different types of control structure such sequence learning.

During IST last period, I have put in a lot of creativity with elusive robots given to me by the teacher. You could design and make the robot do whatever you like, and though I didn't have enough time to give all my colours and shine, I still managed to build scaffolds for a conveyor robot using an online video I found. I have also observed many other students create their own Edison creatively. I found someone creating an excavator while I saw others create very sophisticated builds.

IST has also resulted in me understanding and uncovering a new skill, python coding, which I have started to progress in and create my own personal challenges. Coding was very interesting to me even before I joined this elective, however robotics and coding has made it so that I understand simple codes, while also making it able to learn new functions and python skills. This sudden interest and hobby of coding has also made me pursue many simple projects such as rock/paper/scissors and timers which further increased my knowledge and desire for more intense coding.

IST was a great experience and I hope to see many more great things in the future with this elective. I have learned how to code robots to do what they want with the newly introduced coding language, python, which made me realise my passion for coding. IST has also awakened my creativity by giving me the opportunity to create and experiment with building robots. Furthermore, IST has also made me pursue python programming in my recreational time which caused me to develop personal challenges such as countdown timers. My choice for choosing IST was not regrettable in the slightest because of all the wonderful things I experienced and will in the far future.

By Ismail Murtaza Year 9 IST

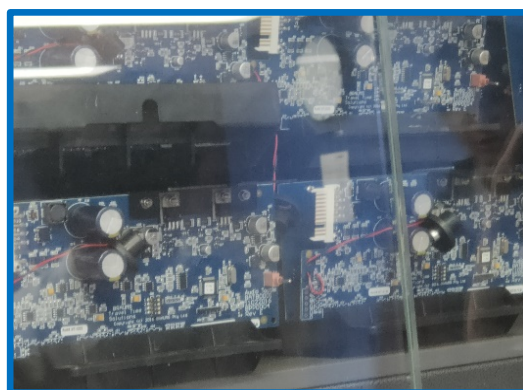
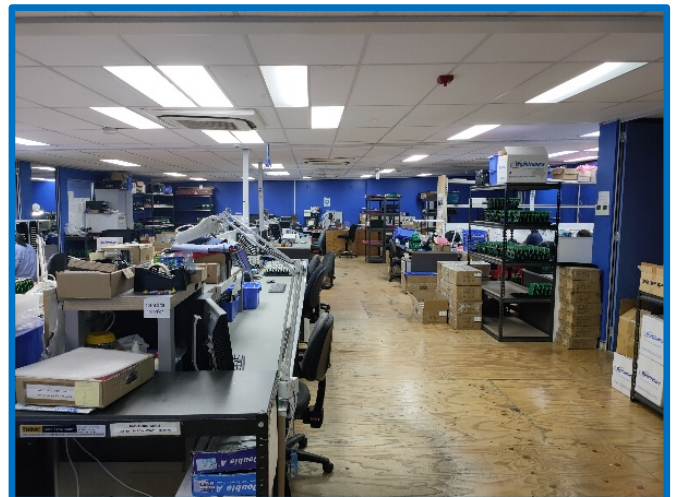
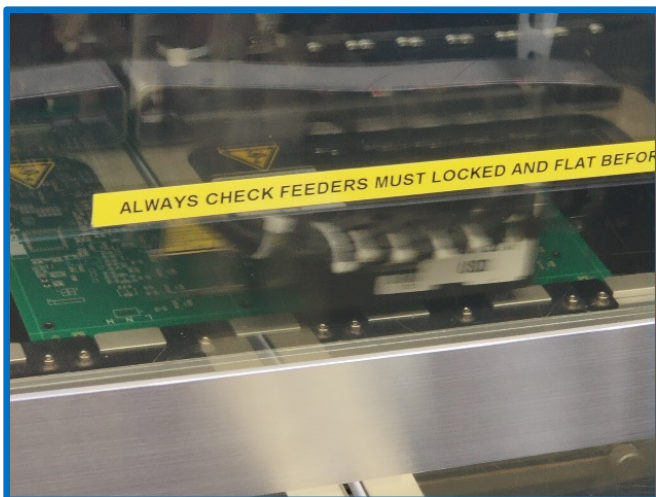
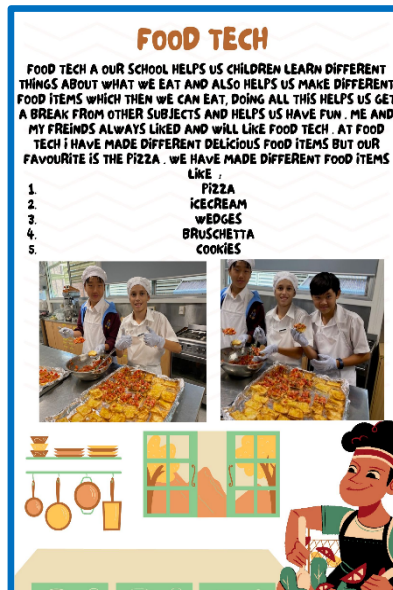
Timber specialisation

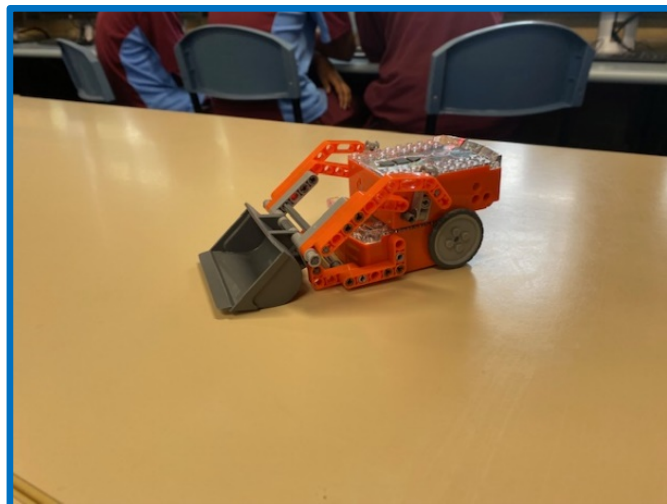
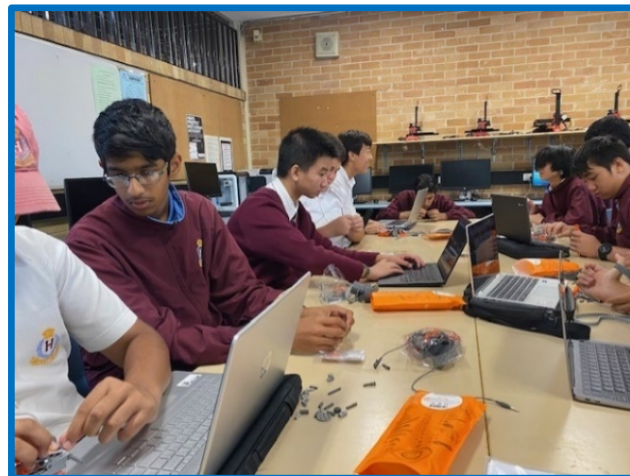
In year 8 timber we have been learning to make a spice rack with our teacher. We are making these so that we can put our spice containers on it. We used many tools in woodwork like a saw, hammer, square, ruler and nail punch. We are still in the process of making our spice racks but we have used these tools so far. There are still some tools that we can't use as we are not old enough so our teacher cuts them for us. That is what we have done so far in timber for Term 1.

By Nilukshan Kularaj Year 8



Photos





WELFARE & LEARNING SUPPORT

Library

The library staff are excited to update you on the latest developments in our school library. Our library continues to be a valuable resource for both our students and staff, and we are always looking for ways to enhance its functionality and user experience.

We are pleased to announce that we have recently completed renovations to the library flooring. The new flooring provides a more modern look and feel, while also being more durable. We are confident that this upgrade will make the library an even more inviting space for our students to study and learn.

In addition to the flooring upgrade, we have also been working to update our library collection. Over the past few months, we have been reviewing and removing old and outdated texts, making room for new and relevant materials. We are committed to providing our students with the most current and informative resources available.

We are also excited to announce that many of our students have been participating in the Premier's Reading Challenge. This challenge is designed to encourage and motivate students to read a wide variety of books, and we are proud to see so many of our students taking part. We believe that reading is a fundamental skill that all students should have, and we are thrilled to see our students embrace this challenge with enthusiasm.

As always, our dedicated library staff is available to assist students with their research needs and to help them find materials that support their learning goals. We encourage you to remind your child to make use of this valuable resource throughout the school year.

Thank you for your continued support of our school library.

Careers

GIFT VOUCHER FROM WOOLWORTHS BURWOOD WESTFIELD

On behalf of the school we would like to thank Mr Ghanem the Store Manager of Woolworths at Burwood Westfields for his generous donation towards the Breakfast Club.



Bora Taner Nomination For An SBAT Award



Bora has been engaged in a variety of educational opportunities and settings and has made a success of each. Additional to completing his school subjects Bora has been engaged in an SBAT program (Certificate 2 in Supply Chain Operations). This has required dedication, maturity, and excellent organisational skills as he has had to meet the demands of full-time study, part-time work, and industry-based learning. He has undertaken a number of work placements as part of his studies and each time has received outstanding reports.

His outstanding work ethic, mature approach, personable nature, and professionalism have rightfully earned him his stripes and the management and staff at REECE Guilford have nominated him for an SBAT Award in the region.

The photos attached are a snapshot of the sort of work that he does, in addition to that the customers have spoken highly of him and constantly seek his excellent customer service. Bora has also had to put in a lengthy application to support his worthy nomination which is very impressive. It goes without saying that we'd like to thank the staff and trainers from Reece, Mrs Degney who graciously supported Bora with his application, and most importantly would like to wish Bora all the very best with his nomination as he is such a worthy recipient.

Well done Bora, you are a great ambassador to the school and Reece.

Jerry Lin and Christopher Khim West Connex Work Experience

Both of these students were successful to gain Work Experience through West Connex Work Experience. This is a very competitive and well-regarded work experience program that gives students very good exposure to Civil Engineering and Civil Construction. They look at the logistics in the planning and operations of such significant infrastructure and once again our Bushy Boys Jerry and Christopher were amazing as they adapted and learned so much in this field.

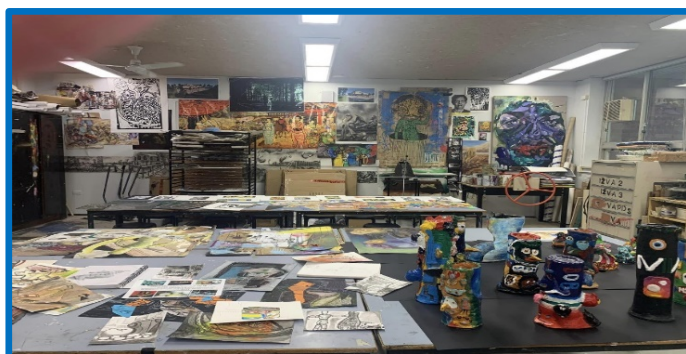
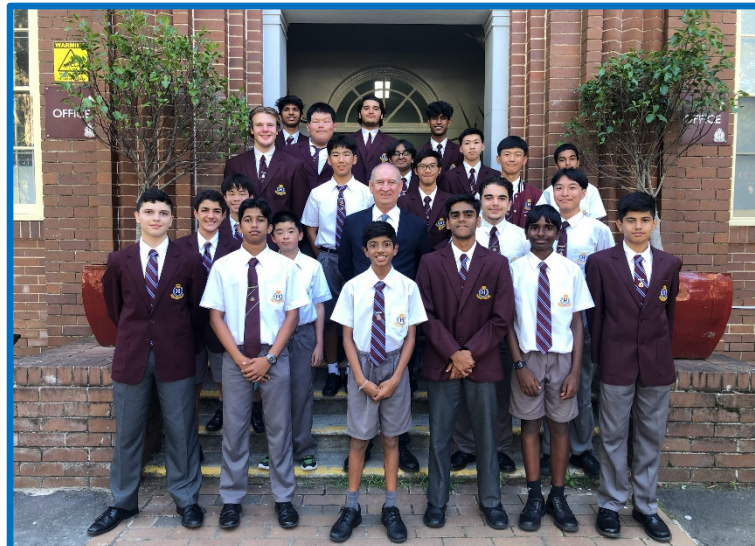
The representatives from Engineers Australia, organisers of this initiative were impressed by the maturity, enthusiasm, intelligence, and work ethic of our students. Well done boys.

Boys High School Open Night

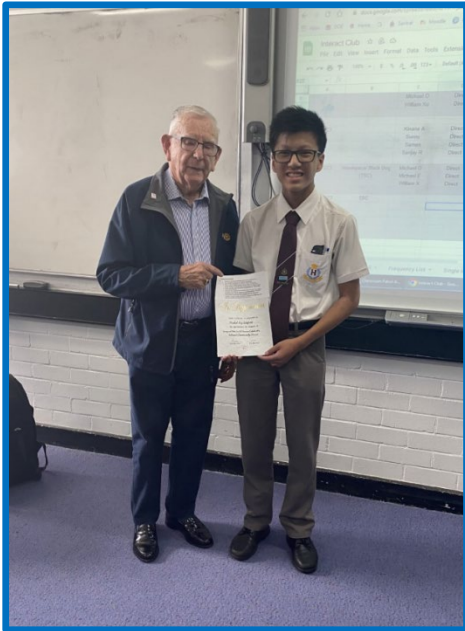
On March 2nd, Homebush Boys High School opened its gates and welcomed families from our local community. The evening began with a formal presentation in the hall, opened by the talented Drum Corp. Visitors had a chance to meet and hear from our School Executive Mr Kevin Elgood and Mrs Jennie Dalamagas, 2024 Year 7 Adviser Mr Adrian Michael, HT Teaching and Learning Ms Achmad, School Captain Aryan Rodrigues and Year 8 Enrichment Class Representatives Timothy Chan and Jacob Youssef.

Our SRC and Prefects generously donated their time to welcome our guests and run small tours around our school. The tour included showcases by all faculties and a chance to see some of the facilities we offer including the new site for our library, gymnasium and digital spaces.

I would like to extend my thanks to all executive and staff for assisting with Open Night. The school community appreciated all your efforts to help make the evening a success.



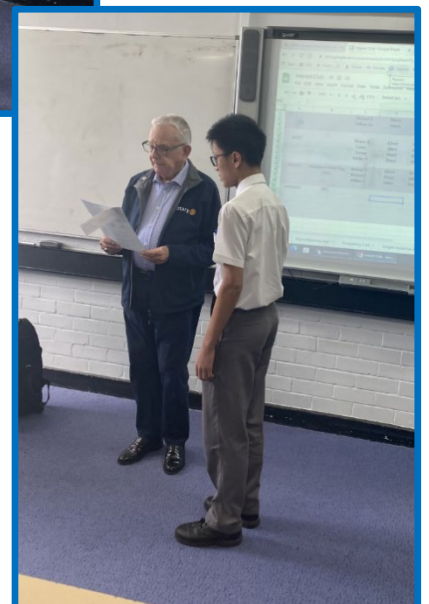
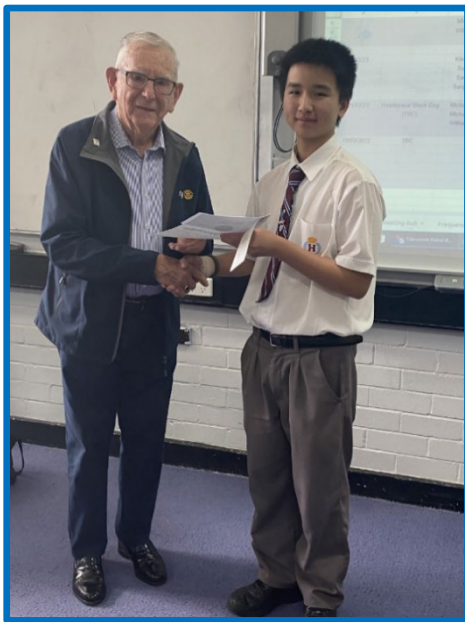
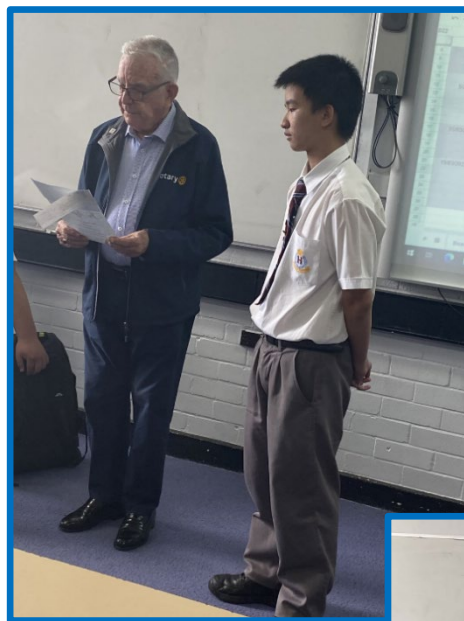
Outstanding Contribution to Volunteering



Concord Rotary President Allan Peterson acknowledged the outstanding contributions of Michael Ong-Schofield and Arvind Lo.

Both of these boys readily put their hand up to assist wherever required. Concord Rotarians rely on our boys to assist with the set up or pack up of the markets. This means that the boys are there at the break of dawn and leave just after lunch on a Sunday. They are reliable and ready to go with a smile on their face to make it happen. In doing so, they have managed to raise funds for well-known charities such as the RSPCA, Cancer Council and even our school Gym.

These boys should be congratulated on their outstanding contribution and selfless nature!



USYD Year 10 Most Outstanding Student



Christopher Khim was the recipient of the USYD Year 10 Most Outstanding Student nominee from Homebush Boys High School. Although Christopher is currently in Year 11 the nominations were done last year and awarded his prize on Tuesday the 14 March hence the discrepancy. Anyone who has had any dealings with Christopher, whether it be a school subject, or extracurricular involvement will be quick to say that he is one of our best. As he readily applies himself to all aspects of school life and enthusiastically sacrifices his own time for the betterment of the school or the broader community.

Not only does Christopher excel in his academia but his humble, pleasant proactive, diligent, organised, and reliable approach enables him to thrive and be a highly regarded member of the school. He constantly aims to be the best version of himself and a very worthy recipient of this prestigious prize which will put him in good stead with his future pursuits.

Christopher should be congratulated on his achievement and in turn, his parents should also be commended on raising him with such integrity and high standards.

I know that this is a very proud moment for all and a very well-deserved award to a young man who upholds the school ethos of "Upright and Strong" so well

YEAR ADVISOR REPORT

Ms Usha Deo



Year 7 Year Adviser & International Students Coordinator

It has been a pleasure to welcome year 7's students into the Homebush Boys community. We are extremely proud of all students who are trying their best in all areas whether that is academic, social or sporting. I have walked alongside my assistant Year Adviser Mr Bhai and my Year 7 Deputy Principal Ms Player to nurture year 7's transitioning into the high school atmosphere.

We have proactively met on numerous occasions and collaborated on how to support the wellbeing of each individual student in the year group. Students were engaged in the transition program, camp, meet the teachers, NAPLAN assessment and have been part of community cultural programmes. I am sure all students are doing their best in handling a whole range of subjects with a different teacher for each class which was at first daunting but the feedback I have received from all our teachers is that the cohort is enthusiastic and enjoying their time in high school.



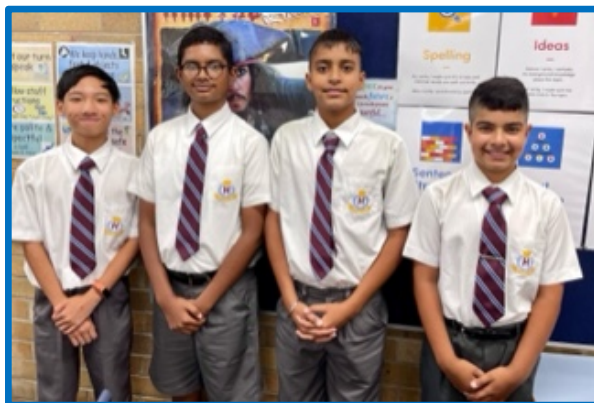
Year 7 Meet the Teachers

Firstly, I would like to thank everybody who made this night possible as without the help of our staff, student assistants, parents and our lovely year 7 cohort and family this would not be possible. The Year 7 meet the teacher's night was a huge success that allowed our parents to socialise and meet the Year 7 teachers. The event was extremely busy even with the drastic change in weather we experienced on the day. Students helped their parents identify their teachers and engaged in fantastic conversations. The beautiful element on this night was that our school and community had an opportunity to engage with each other. The chance for events such as this only help strengthen our relationship with those involved in the school to ensure we provide the best experience possible for all our students. It was a privilege to meet such lovely parents and hope to build a strong relationship and rapport over the many years. From all the staff involved with Year 7 we hope to continue to build on these relationships in Term 2.

Room 57 has been allocated as a safe place during recess and lunch and are supervised by the year advisors. Students get an opportunity to connect and catch up with their studies and receive additional assistance.

Year 7 Assembly

Year 7 student leadership group did a sterling job running their year 7 assembly with a key focus on 'Respect'. Karambir, Raymon and Zarrar did an amazing job highlighting on running their year assembly.



Celebrations



Holi

A group of year 7 students got an opportunity to participate in the Holi Celebration at Airey Park last hosted by our local council. Students got an opportunity to meet members of the parliament and other local primary schools. They enjoyed playing with colours resuscitating the message "May the Holi bring us closer and we all find happiness and peace in the company of our loved ones"



Internationals “Meet and Greet”

I, as the school International student’s coordinator, had the privilege to invite all parents/carers, guests from USA consulate and DE International for a gathering to connect so that we all parties could work towards a collective goal for the holistic learning for our International students. All parties present were presented with the general overview of our students, their welfare and their learning at Homebush Boys High School.

The “Meet and Greet” session gave an opportunity to for the parents/carers to connect with the rest of the parents/carers and share ideas on the general wellbeing of our students.

Below are some snap shots of the evening



Anti-Racism Awareness Club

Being the school Anti-Racism Coordinator of Homebush Boys High School and the Strathfield network Coordinator, I The ARCO plays an important role in assisting and working collaboratively with the principal to implement three major aspects of the Anti-Racism Policy. I work with other ARCO's from Strathfield network to of implement strategies to combat Racism.

Year 7's leadership group has launched an Anti-Racism Awareness club. The launch was done in the school assembly. Karambir Singh and Raymon Kumar enlightened the school on why it is important to raise awareness on Racism and the strategy the club has implemented to eliminate Racism. Furthermore, the students were informed about the club activities and involvement in the outside community to bring in an awareness to our school community.



YEAR ADVISOR REPORT

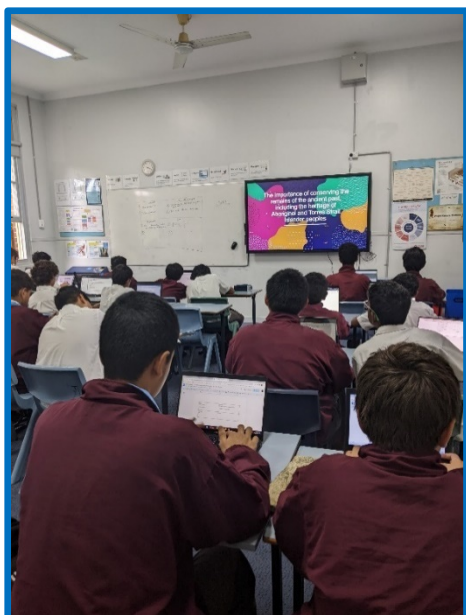
Mr Sharon Jesu

Year 8



Time certainly seems to fly! To me, it feels like the previous Bush Bulletin was written just yesterday but here I am writing the next one! Term 1 was a busy term and the Year 8 students got stuck into their daily routines in the first few weeks after the school year started. Students participated in lessons, sport, and extra-curricular activities with zest and enthusiasm. The Homebush Boys High School 78th Annual Swimming Carnival was held at the Auburn Ruth Everuss Aquatic Centre on Week 6, Friday 3rd March of this time. Many Year 8 students participated in several swimming competitions in the Under-13s and Under-14s categories, gave it their all, and won several medals in the process.

In Week 9, Friday 24th March, Year 8 students were taken on an excursion to the Australian Museum and Botanic Gardens by the Science Faculty. It is Week 10 already, and almost all of the Year 8 students have completed their first assessment tasks. Reports will be provided to parents in Term 2 after students complete their second round of assessment tasks in Term 2. I have been getting a lot of positive feedback about the Year 8 cohort in terms of their effort and performance in assessment tasks and in classrooms, and on the sporting field. As we move closer to the end of Term 1, I sincerely hope the students continue to give their best through the rest of the term and the rest of the school year.



YEAR ADVISOR REPORT

Mr Elie Kisso

Year 9



Year Assembly

This term we had the fantastic opportunity to present Year 9 with their first-year assembly. The cohort should be proud of their behaviour as they upheld the high standards we expect from them as a year group. All students settled quickly and quietly.

Our first assembly focused around relaying out school expectations for Year 9 such as:

- Giving your best commitment to learning
- Uniform
- Enjoying the elective courses selected
- The no mobile phone policy
- Engaging in extracurricular activities



We were also fortunate enough to hand out some blue and maroon awards to a large group of students. At our next assembly we will be able to hand out some more which is a testament to the hard work our students are putting in day in and day out.

Keep working hard students and I am sure that you will see the benefits.

NRL Training Program

In Term 2 – 15 Year 9 students have been selected to participate in a free training program provided by the NRL and some of their experienced trainers. Students have the opportunity to build upon some of their pre-existing skills or develop new skills. The training session is for any student and experience does not matter.

It is a fantastic opportunity for our students to participate in programs or opportunities as it creates a strong sense of self-awareness and demonstrates a great sense of connection to our community.



We will also be providing opportunities to our support unit students through the Rugby League for All program

“Rugby League for All is an adapted version of the Rugby League (NRL) program, catering for students with intellectual disabilities and autism. It has been designed by NRL in partnership with Special Olympics Australia for delivery in special education environments. Coaches are purposefully trained and provided with additional resources to deliver inclusive programs and to adapt activities to suit the needs of participating students.”

More information could be found here: https://www.sportaus.gov.au/schools/schools/sports/rugby_league

UTS Experiences Program

We have had a larger number of student's express interest in the UTS experiences program. This program will allow us to send 20-30 students on a day excursion to UTS where they will be able to experience opportunities in science, forensics, biology, entrepreneurship and many other more ideas.

This is still in the early days of organisation and the students who have expressed interest will be notified with more information once it is provided by UTS

For more information please visit:

<https://www.uts.edu.au/about/faculty-science/outreach/outreach-and-community>



Western Sydney Wanderers School Programs

School Football Clinics are back, engaging students through football and providing them with a positive football experience. The delivery of the clinics across Western Sydney continues our commitment to making sure that football programs are accessible to all schools and students in our region.

The program includes up to three, 90-minute session that has a maximum capacity of 45 participants over three separate days. It is an enjoyable way to introduce football to a younger demographic as well as challenging current football participants. The students will learn skills such as ball control, running with the ball, dribbling, and passing.

Are you interested? Please give your name to Mr Kisso.



Holiday Opportunities

Thinking of what to do these holidays? Check out your local council websites to see some great opportunities

1. https://www.cumberland.nsw.gov.au/whats-on?keyword=&date-type=&category%5B56%5D=56&items_per_page=36
2. <https://www.cbccity.nsw.gov.au/community/community-services/children-families/school-holidays-programs>
3. <https://www.strathfield.nsw.gov.au/play/events/>



YEAR ADVISOR REPORT

Miss Misbah Khan

Year 10



It has been a busy couple of weeks as we wrap up the first term with Year 10. They have been busy working hard and getting involved in various school initiatives. It has been wonderful to hear great things from teachers around the school regarding Year 10, with how focused they've been in class and all the positive contributions they're making around the school. Keep reading for just a couple of highlights this term.

Peer Support

Our Year 10 peer support leaders have been selected and I could not be prouder of this group of boys. They have shown great leadership skills in the last few weeks as they take year 7 through the valuable mentoring program. I have been lucky enough to witness some of these boys in action, and it has been wonderful to see their engagement with the content and the positive relationships they've built with their little buddies in Year 7.



Minimum Standards

Year 10 sat their minimum standards tests during Week 7 of this term, and they could not be more relieved that it's all over! Let's hope that we'll hear back soon with some positive news on their results.



NRL Gala-Day

On Tuesday the 14th of March, myself, Ms Di Biasi and 16 Year 10 boys went to Belmore Sports ground to participate in the NRL 'Multicultural Round' Gala Day. There was much excitement leading up to the day as we heard that many big names in the rugby world (both previous and current!) would be there. The boys were extremely excited to be a part of the celebration and to play league tag against the other schools present, however, the weather was not on our side. The opening ceremony still went ahead, but the day was cut short due to the wet weather. We did still manage to get in a few photos with some players! Let's hope we have better luck for the next one.



YEAR ADVISOR REPORT

Ms Michelle Coutinho

Year 11



That is Term 1 of 2023 done and dusted! These past 10 weeks have just flown by. I am so proud of Year 11 as they have had a big transition from their junior to senior years but the cohort have just made it all look so smooth and easy. The boys have been enjoying their chosen electives and preparing for some exciting activities ahead. One thing keeping us all excited at the moment is starting the process of designing the Year 12 jackets. A group of boys have been working on various designs and sending them out to the year group for voting over google Classroom. The design stage is almost done and now we can order some samples and see what we think. Below is a snapshot of some of the exciting initiatives Year 11 have been involved with so far.

Clean up Australia Day

Thank you to all the students who volunteered for Clean up Australia Day. Clean Up Australia Day is a good chance to remind students of the importance of cleaning up our environment and to live more sustainably. More than 20 million Australians have participated in Clean Up Australia activities and events over the past three decades - which is pretty impressive!



Year 11 Volunteering

The Year 11 students have always been keen volunteers both inside and outside of the school. It was great to see even more Year 11 boys volunteering recently for our very important day celebrating Harmony Day. These students really showed off their BBQ skills and we were sold out in no time! A big thank you to Ms DiBiasi for organising this very important initiative.



YEAR ADVISOR REPORT

Ms Rashmi Singh

Year 12



The Year 12s have just finished their half-yearly assessments. They are excited about their result and are seeing it as a reflection of their study program/regimen and exam techniques.

It was joyful to watch a student securing almost 100% marks in Mathematics Standard 2 course and boasting proudly that he studied those topics during the summer holidays and that Edrolo videos really helped him to do the self-study. I am sure there are many proud stories like this are floating among the cohort.

The students who did not perform as well they expected need to revise their study plan or discuss their time-management strategies during an assessment, with their respective subject teachers.

As a rule of thumb, a Year 12 student must be clocking in **3-4 hours each week day** and aim to study **5-6 hours on weekends**. This gives you a minimum of **25 – 32** extra hours of study each week.

On the swimming carnival day, year 12s wore their house colours proudly and helped the teachers with the organization. There were proud moments when Ms Kaur and I, heard many praises showered upon on our cohort. They were well behaved and enjoyed their last Swimming Carnival at Homebush Boys High School thoroughly.



We also have had our first assembly of the year. Speeches by Mr Elgood and Mr Elaro were insightful and inspiring. There was a strong emphasis on maintain good attendance and a steady work ethic. They shared their own experiences and motivated the cohort to stay positive and keep plodding on“.

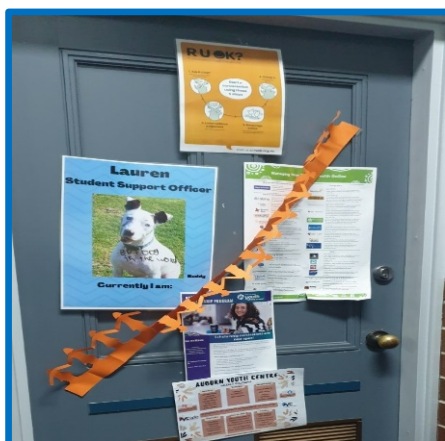
Mr Abbou discussed the NESA requirements with the cohort and conducted NESA registration paper work. The students who were away, should contact Mr Abbou as soon as possible. The NESA form should be checked and submitted very soon.

The new senior lawn area has been upgraded and is ready for use by the Year 12 students. I am sure the students are going to utilise it in best possible manner by being mindful and respectful of the new construction and shall aim to stay safe.



On the sad note, the cohort has to bid adieu to Ms Lauren DiBiasi, who has been a very generous, kind and proactive student support officer since 2019. Her positive demeanour, words of encouragement and an arsenal of thousands of strategies to handle a gazillion issues will be surely missed by our students.

Ms DiBiasi is joining a new position with NSW Health. On behalf of the Year 12 cohort, we thank Ms DiBiasi for running many programs for us specially the Mindfulness and Stress Free HSC study. Thanks Ms DiBiasi and all the best for your future endeavours.



♡ All our best wishes Ms DiBiasi ♡

STUDENT SUPPORT OFFICER REPORT

Ms Lauren Di Biasi

It is with great sadness yet excitement I write my last Bush Bulletin article as the Student Support Officer here at Homebush Boys High School.

What an incredible two and a half years I have had whilst being here. I cannot thank the students, staff and parent community enough for welcoming the role in 2020 when I commenced.

I have had the joy of seeing students achieve things they never thought possible, and reach great success. I go into my new role having such a strong held belief in the power of kindness, all because of what the students have been part of. This term included the Harmony Day BBQ which students took the lead on, as well as Coffee Club and Breakfast Club having some new life via new volunteers working with the established members.



There is an incredible amount of appreciation for the students I have worked alongside. The future looks so bright with these young people at the forefront. They embrace who they are and it has been an honour to watch.

The NRL In League In Harmony Gala Day this term was a slight bit wet, but an incredible morning none the less to be a part of.

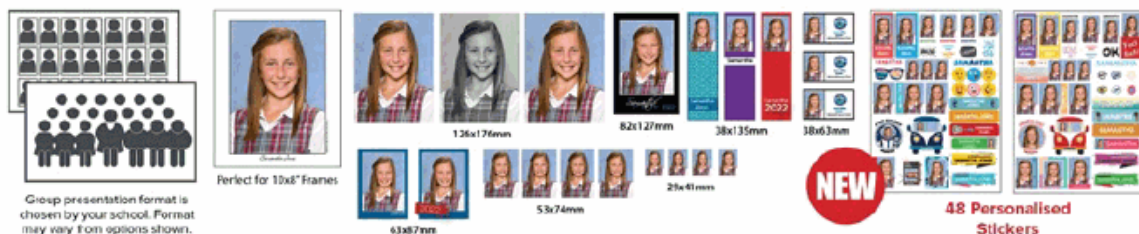
Thank you again and my best wishes for your futures.



Ms Lauren DiBiasi

Student Support Officer

school photographs are coming up soon



Please note: Traditional, Composite or High-Resolution Virtual Group format is chosen by your school. Sibling photos, if available, can also be ordered online and must be ordered prior to your photo day. A late fee will apply for photos purchased after ordering has closed.

how to order

order online

Online payment options include Visa, Mastercard and PayPal. Alternatively, you can choose to pay over 10 weeks using LatitudePay.

STEP 1

Go to www.advancedlife.com.au on your computer, phone or tablet.

STEP 2

Enter your school code:

CG2 4HJ QQC

in the 'order and download' box.

This will take you to your school's secure online ordering site.



STEP 3

Click on 'Order Photos' and complete your details and procedures. During this process you can place orders for additional children at your school and sibling photos, if available



cash/envelope ordering

Your school prefers orders to be placed online. However, if you are unable to order online, please complete your order using the order envelope provided.

STEP 1

Complete a separate order envelope for each individual child's package/s ordered. If ordering for more than one child, payment should be enclosed in the envelope of the eldest child and this should be indicated on the envelope of the other child/children (the envelope that does not have cash enclosed).

STEP 2

Enclose exact cash payment in one envelope for the package/s you are ordering. Payment for more than one child should be in the eldest child's envelope and marked at the bottom of the envelope in the space provided.

STEP 3

Return your completed envelope/s, with correct cash payment, to our photographers on the day.

Please note: You must enclose exact correct payment, as change is not available. Credit card payments can only be made online and we no longer accept cheques. There is a separate envelope for sibling photo orders, should your school choose to offer sibling photos.

School photographs will be returned approximately 6 weeks after the day of photography.
Please note this delivery timeframe is dependant on proofing and additional photography days at your school.

IMPORTANT - "not for publication" students

If you have instructed your school that your child's image is "not for publication" (sometimes called "do not publish" or "not for media release" instructions), the school will ensure that your child is not presented to our photographers on photo day and school photographs will not be available for purchase. If you wish to change your instruction, then you must notify your school, so they change their records and identify your child as able to be photographed for school photography purposes. All students presented to our photographers by your school on photo day will be photographed, their images will appear in school photography packages with their fellow students and these packages will be available to purchase by all families.

Contact us: www.advancedlife.com.au/contact

advancedlife
school photography & print specialists