

CONTACT



VOLUME 21—ISSUE 19

13 DECEMBER 2013

NSW Department of Education & Training

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

SCHOOL CELEBRATES OUTSTANDING STUDENT SUCCESS

This past week marked our annual celebrations of student achievement.

Year 10 Formal and Graduation

The annual Year 10 Formal and Graduation Ceremonies held last week were wonderful demonstrations of our school community's commitment to excellence. Our Year 10 students looked fabulous at the Formal and spent most of the night dancing. They even remained on the dance floor for some of the 1980s hits the teacher's requested and there were many cries for "one more song" when it was time to end the occasion. Similarly the Year 10 Graduation was a very emotional event with all the students enjoying the celebration of their last four years of school. At this event Anita Omoruyi-Uwaila's outstanding academic achievement was rewarded with her receiving the Gary Kenworthy Dux of Quakers Hill HS for 2013. Other award winners were:

Student Leadership—Megan Warner & Daniel Marsh

Service to the School & Community—Anita Omoruyi-Uwaila & Christopher McRae

Exceptional Commitment—Rachelle Perceval

Kormendy Shield—Dillon Lehmann

P&C Award for Citizenship—Rhyannah Torrance

Reuben F. Scarf Award—Daniel Scott

Caltex All-Rounder Medallion—Anita Omoruyi-Uwaila

Long Tan Award—Anita Omoruyi-Uwaila

100% Attendance—Sean Bernal, Daniel Hooke, Anita Omoruyi-Uwaila, Paul Scrimshaw

Exceptional PASS Student Award—Michael Brinnand

13 December

Year 9 Accelerated class
beach excursion
Support Unit excursion

17 December

Reports issued

18 December

Last day for students

19 & 20 December

Uniform Shop open 9-10am

20 December

Last day for staff

2014

28 January

Staff return

29 January

Year 7's first day

30 January

Year 8, 9 & 10 return

Upcoming Events

Rotary Performing Arts Shield for Excellence in Production — Michael Emerson

Performing Arts Award—Yvonne Robertson

Outstanding Sporting Achievement (male) - Christopher McRae

Outstanding Sporting Achievement (female) - Rachelle Perceval

Outstanding Sporting Achievement (CHS) - Caleb Hansford

Sportsman of the Year—Christopher McRae

Faculty Achievement Awards:

English—Emily Huang

Mathematics—Taylan Haydardedeoglu

Science—Chemistry—Anita Omoruyi-Uwaila

Science—Physics—Anita Omoruyi-Uwaila

History—Anita omoruyi-Uwaila

Elective History—Danielle Douglas

Ancient History—Rhyannah Torrance

Social Science—Geography—Anita Omoruyi-Uwaila

Social Science—Commerce—Rose Lewis

Social Science—Work Education—Maryam Mandehgari

Social Science—LOTE (Japanese) - Maria Sow

Computing Studies—Software Development—Jack Steel

Computing Studies—Robotics—Mohaimen Anwary

TAS—Industrial Arts—Guy Watson

TAS—Home Economics—Rhyannah Torrance

Music—Jack Steel

PDHPE—Dev Nanavati

Visual Arts—Anita Omoruyi-Uwaila

Photography—Nicola Fildes

Presentation Day Ceremony

On Monday we had our annual Presentation Day. This is our opportunity to celebrate the outstanding performance of many of our students. Students who came first in a subject in the year received a medal and students who worked consistently in a subject throughout the year were also awarded commendations for excellent academic achievement. Any student who came first in a class in either Semester 1 or 2 will receive certificates in with their Semester 2 report ,which will be issued to all Year 7, 8 & 9 students period 6 ,Tuesday 17th December. These awards winners were:

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📠 (02) 9837 1747

✉ quakershil-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Principal

Lauretta Claus

Deputy Principals

Rebecca Mahon (Yrs 7 & 9)

Beatrice Maricic (Yrs 8 & 10)

P&C President

Joanne Warner

School Captains

Kaitlyn Hockey & Justin Acuesta

The paid advertisements in this newsletter are not necessarily endorsed by this school although we thank our sponsors for their support.

First in Course:

Year 7 English—Zoe McDacy

Year 9 English—Elisa Keyte

Year 8 Literacy—Liam Turner

Year 8 Mathematics—Caitlyn Franks

Year 9 Accelerated Mathematics—Rebeka Wojcicka

Year 8—Chemistry/Geology—Tamara Savage

Year 9 Biology—Elizabeth Micallef

Year 7 Geography—Muskan Soni

Year 9 Geography—Sargunn Sahota

Year 7 LOTE—Ella Bower

Year 7 History—Lauren Webster

Year 9 History—Kavya Mathur

Elective History—Kaitlyn Hockey

Year 9 Special Education—Bradley Lannoy

Year 8 TAS—Stephen Mercado

Year 8 Food Technology—Shaina Barraga

Elective Engineering—Corey Dickson

Year 8 Visual Arts—Megha Kapoor

Year 9 Photography—Erin Warner

Year 8 Music—Madeline Iacono

Year 8 English—Jaimie Bonsall

Year 7 Literacy—Zoe McDacy

Year 7 Mathematics—Benjamin McDonell

Year 9 Mathematics—Kevin Liu

Year 7 Science—Alister Tupper

Year 8 Biology/Physics—Megha Kapoor

Year 9 Geology—Anne He

Year 8 Geography—Tamara Savage

Year 9 Accelerated Geography—Maddison Smith

Year 8 LOTE—Tamara Savage

Year 8 History—Stephen Mercado

Accelerated Year 9 History—Jessica Bobbin

Year 8 Special Education—Phoebe Foulke

Year 7 TAS—Erin McCulloch

Elective D&T—Harley Dowton

Elective Wood Technology—Michelle Marcelliano

Year 7 Visual Arts—Sohnjah Lewis

Year 9 Visual Arts—Kavya Mathur

Year 7 Music—Genesis Asuncion

Year 9 Music—Rebeka Wojcicka

Digital Media—Rebeka Wojcicka

Networks—Aarya Raghubanshi

Year 7 PDHPE—Benjamin McDonell

Year 8 PDHPE—Tamara Savage

Year 9 PDHPE—Chloe Silva

Elective Dance—Ashleigh Bernecic

Year 8 PASS Elective—Nikolas Savage

SMART Outstanding Student—Jacob Chin

Community Spirit Award—Kaitlyn Hockey

Outstanding Attendance Awards:

Year 7—Jamie Davis, Elizabeth Harrigan, Katelyn Murdoch, Rafi Noori, Nana Odoom

Year 8—William Deng, Jesse Owen, Christopher Wadey

Year 9—Bradley Coleiro, Michelle Marcelliano, Erin Warner

Gift of Time Awards:

Joanne Warner, Jillian Ford, Linda Robertson, Leanne Thompson, Korrinne Bargiel, Steve Bargiel, Belinda Clancy, Paul Clancy, Natalie Coleiro, Sarah Commins, Rebecca Iacono, Rebecca Kennedy, Claudine O’Keefe, Jodie Maker, Lyn McRae

Sports Awards:

Outstanding Achievement in Sport:

Year 7—Katelyn Stephenson & Iqbal Khurassani

Year 8—Tamara Savage & Nikolas Savage

Year 9—Toni McLean & Waheed Shinwari

Outstanding Sports Achievement—Brock Styles

Premier’s Sporting Medal—Katelyn Stephenson

House Competition Trophy—Oberon (Mr L Roma House Adviser)

Team of the Year—Under 14 Boys Rugby League Buckley Shield

Sportswoman of the Year—Tamara Savage

Lion’s Club Award for Service to the School—Mrs Joanne Warner

SRC School Counsellor of the Year—Jacob Chin

Piret White Aboriginal Student Achievement Award—Emily Alberts

Service to the School Assembly

This year we staged our second *Service to the School Assembly*. The assembly is our effort to publicly acknowledge those students who throughout the school year have taken on tasks and responsibilities that have assisted and supported school programs and the learning achievements of other students. The award winners were:

NSW Premier's Reading Challenge Awards:

Oliver Arreza, Sarah Branson, Adam Coleiro, Bradley Coleiro, Michael Cook, Andrea Deller, William Deng, Corey Dickson, Renee Harradine, Kaitlyn Hockey, Tamasha Jayawardena, Arashdeep Kaur, Sachnoor Kaur, Ashleigh Kennedy, Chloe Silva, Muskan Soni, Jack Steel, Rebeka Wojcicka, David Woodward.

Library Monitor Awards:

Oliver Arreza, Sarah Branson, Adam Coleiro, Bradley Coleiro, Andrea Deller, Christopher Ford, Renee Harradine, Kaitlyn Hockey, Arashdeep Kaur, Daniel Scott, Chloe Silva, Muskan Soni, Jack Steel, Bradley Viney, Rebeka Wojcicka

Hall Crew Awards:

Bailey Allen, Ives Boncato, Bradley Coleiro, Shonal Deo, Harley Downton, Joennar Galindez, Harvinder Gill, Bradley Harrison, Daniel Marsh, Sedale Purcell, Mark Te-Whare, Jarrod Vaitusi, Ben Woolgar

Sound Crew Awards:

Bradley Elliott, Bradley Lannoy, Mark Robertson

Peer Reading Tutors:

Year 9—Matthew Fleming, Sameesh Gupta, Jarrod Mathew, Krysten Rock, Matthew Walker

Year 10—Susan Abdel Fattah, Declan Amos, Sean Bernal, Courtney Blazevic, Ives Boncato, Jacqueline Bryan, Emily Clark, Andronicos Demetriou, Shonal Deo, Joennar Galindez, Luke Gordon, Racheal Hannaford, Paityn Harris-Long, Kereru Henare, Daniel Hooke, Alicia Howell, Niamh Jackson, Alannah Johansen, Thomas Johnson, Mele Kaufusi, Shenae Kirk, Ashley Laughton, Dannielle Maker, Kiesha Mealey, Mirna Moucharrafi, Rosina Musumeci, Shaylah Powles, Jasmine Roan, Yvonne Robertson, Cameron Ryan, Tarandeep Sahota, Ethan Shepherd, Harkirat Singh, Ariana Skinner-Tamanitoakula, Samantha Stenning, Emily Sunderland, Dylan Varisli, Sonia Vella, Sara Vukasinovic, Kirsten Webster, Phoebe Whelan, Joshua Williams.

Peer Tutors at Barnier Public School:

Jacqueline Bryan, Shonal Deo, Tiffany Eichhorn, Emily Firth, Joennar Galindez, Racheal Hannaford, Alicia Howell, Ashley Laughton, Mikaela O'Keefe, Yvonne Robertson, Ethan Shepherd, Emily Sunderland, Sara Vukasinovic, Kirsten Webster

Reader/Writers for Formal Exams:

Year 8—Arin Buyaku, Jenon Castro, Raman Grewal, Megha Kapoor, Robyn Voukelatos

Year 9—Jaime Cumbo, Kethini Krishnar, Sanjana Madhyasta, Chloe Silva, Emma Smith

SRC Representatives:

Year 7—Micah Bonello, Adam Coleiro, Emily Elder, Caitlyn Hearne, Neridah McRae

Year 8—Jacob Chin, Timothy Devanathan, Tamara Savage, Katie Towell, Boaz Villarosa, Tapi Zinatsa

Year 9—Justin Acuesta, Kaitlyn Hockey, Bradley Lannoy, Alyssa Manalo, Sean Mulvany, Chloe Silva

Year 10—Daniela Kupresanin, Daniel Marsh, Christopher McRae, Anita Omoruyi-Uwaila, Emmanuel Prasad, Maddison Smith, Keyshawn Sunga, Ben Talintyre, Rhyannah Torrance, Megan Warner, Trisha Wood

House Captains:

Ravensworth—Jessica Bobbin, Tamarah Bradley, Bradley Coleiro, Bradley Cookson

Oberon—Andrea Deller, Chelsea Dixon, Harley Dowton, Michael Emerson

Yallah—Caleb Hansford, Kaitlyn Hockey, Danielle Iacono, Hannah Kemp

Gundagai—Shayal Kiran, Daniela Kupresanin, Dylan Mottram, Sarah Mottram

Bathurst—Aarya Raghubanshi, Joi Rairi, Brendan Reid, Chloe Silva

Perisher—Jack Steel, Chatphet Thimjaeng, Sarah Wakeling, Nicole Yallop

Peer Support:

Gabrielle Agujo, Fazilat Ahmed, Natalie Aslanidis, Layton Bellamy, Jaime Cumbo, Sarah Curran, Emily Dive, Rhana El-Akkad, Jade Elliott, Brendan Grounsell, Jourdan Heintz, Teigan Hi, Emily Huang, Caitlin Ives, Georgia Lee, Alexandria Lloyd, Keira Mackie, Jessica Mason, Toni McLean, Maddison McVicar, Clare Miller, Chloe Phillips, Cody Price, Nethangie Ranhotty, Maria Sow

These special assemblies would not be possible without the hard work and commitment of the teaching and ancillary staff that coordinate and organise these significant events. Whether it be; preparing the student performers for the three assemblies, producing the copious numbers of student certificates, or organising the rehearsals for the events. I would like to personally thank the wonderful Presentation Graduation Committee: Erika Cooper, Piret White, Kamani Naicker, Daniel Nash, Bree Mutch, Amy Nicholls, Georgia Valatiadis, Bill Cameron, Launce Roma, Lenae Razbusek, Ben Dezman, Sue Pratap, Amanda Tong, Jason Kantek, Sheree Johnson, Sue Daly, Janine Burke, Savi Ravikumar, Michael Brooks, Michelle Brakell and Karen White.

Any of the photos that were taken of students receiving awards at all of these three assemblies will be available on disc for parents to purchase at a cost of \$2.00 each from Monday 16 December. Please place your order at the front office.

Can I take this opportunity to wish you all a safe and happy festive season. Remember school resumes for Year 7 on Wednesday 29th January and Year 8, 9 & 10 returns on Thursday 30th January 2014.

Merry Christmas

Lauretta Claus, Principal

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

BIG DAY OUT TO JAMBEROO

On 3 December 135 very excited students and 10 equally excited teachers made the journey down to Jamberoo for a day full of sunshine, ice cream, hot chips, hamburgers and fantastic water slides. All students had a wonderful day and thoroughly enjoyed spending time with their friends and engaging with all that Jamberoo has to offer. The Funnel Web was the overall winning ride of the day with the Taipan coming in a close second. Another highlight of the day was seeing some previously nervous students take to some of the scarier slides with increased confidence as the day went on. For myself, it was a great opportunity to get to know some wonderful young people who thoroughly deserved to be recognised and rewarded for their outstanding adherence to the SMART code for this year.

Where we go for next year's reward excursion is yet to be decided but it will be another big, fun day out that will be subsidised by the school. It will also be by invitation only. I know that some parents and students have been disappointed by this; however, it is important to know that at QHHS every year is a new year. School begins with every student being invited and it is the choices you make that decide whether come November you end up being invited or not. So for 2014:

1. Make SMART choices
2. Hand in all Merit and house point cards

Finally, I would like to thank Ms Breen for her organisation, Mr Blench and Mr Barry for their swim assessments of so many students and Mrs Claus for her enormous generosity in paying for the buses and subsidising the entrance fee.

Perhaps next year we can convince her to come along ...

Mrs Mahon (Deputy Principal, Year 7 and 9)



DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

YEAR 10 GRADUATING GIFT TO THE SCHOOL

The end of the journey for Year 10 saw a wonderful Formal and Graduation ceremony. Like a proud mother I watched them embrace the celebrations with awe. Congratulations to all the Year 10 Graduates of 2013, I know I speak on behalf of Mrs Tong and I when I say that we have enjoyed working with you this year. Thank you for the lovely clocks, they will look fabulous in the school hall.



PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

As you are aware, the school year does not quite end for Staff next Wednesday. While the students are enjoying the break, the staff will be engaging in Professional Learning activities. Some of the sessions and workshops that will be run on the Staff Development Days include:

- Critical Incident Management / New Evacuation & Lockdown Procedures
- Gifted & Talented Strategies
- PBL Update
- Faculty programming - planning for the National Curriculum and 2014
- National Partnerships - Literacy
- Learning Support - Strategies to teach students with learning difficulties
- PBL - SMART expectations for our teaching staff
- Professional Learning Plan and preparation for Day 1 and arrival of students

It is important that as professionals we keep abreast of changes in education and work together in achieving our goals. Quakers Hill High School is very committed to Teaching and Learning as we strive to improve educational outcomes for all.

YEAR 7 CAMP 2014

Here are the details for Year 7 Camp next year. The timing of the camp is designed to reduce the financial impact on families, given that the start of a school year is an expensive imposition on the family budget. With this in mind, please note that the deposit is \$90 with two further instalments at fortnightly intervals. The Camp will focus on High School orientation, team building, building self-esteem and developing positive relationships with fellow Year 7 students, staff and peer support leaders.

Where: Great Aussie Bush Camp – Tea Gardens – www.bushcamp.com.au
When: Monday 17th – Wednesday 19th March (Week 8, Term 1)

Cost: \$265

So that we can determine numbers for our booking, we need the slip below returned to the office with a deposit of \$90 by Monday 10 February. (If you wish to pay more, please do so.)

Payment Schedule:

Deposit \$90.00 by Monday 10th February

24 February - 2nd Instalment – additional \$87.50

3 March – Final Instalment – additional \$87.50

If these payments are a problem, feel free to pay in weekly amounts. We are flexible as long as a deposit is received by 10 February and payment is finalised by 3 March. There will be a **Camp Information Evening** for the parents of those attending at a later date so that we can provide further information and clarify any issues of concern. Medical and permission forms, packing lists, camp rules and activity descriptions will be provided during March. If you have any questions, contact Ms Bree Mutch or Mrs Lenae Razbusek at school on 9837.1533.

Merry Christmas to you all and we hope you have a safe and prosperous New Year.



Best wishes from the Deputies

Rebecca Mahon & Beatrice Maricic



COLLEGIATE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Orientation Days at Wyndham College

It was my privilege to witness two wonderful days of Orientation at Wyndham College on 18 & 19 November this year. With well over 400 students, Collegiate and non-Collegiate strong student body attending. This large contingency of students for the Year 11 2014 were cordially welcomed to the Wyndham site. A few inviting senior executive staff speeches, including the Principal Karen Smith, next year's Year 11 Deputy Principal David McCleod-Jones, the College Deputy and their year advisors, were made. Central to these presentations included the essential commitment to Learning in an adult senior environment.

The students were grouped into connect groups for 2014. Motivating workshops were organised for all these young adults. The program also managed to have everyone present to be photographed in readiness for identification while on site for 2014.

All students were advised to attend in current school uniform on the first day and sports uniform the second day. This physical gesture of 'school of origin', clearly indicated to the cohort of the multiplicity of schools enrolling at Wyndham College. The rain challenged proceedings but the program successfully achieved its intended outcomes. Congratulations to all staff who supervised and to those who presented sessions and led various groups in the program. Well done one and all for this great program.

Seven Hills High School Showcase 2013

What a night! On Wednesday 27 November 2013, Seven Hills High School put on a spectacular showcase evening of talent at its school. From dancers, to singers, drama, instrumentalists and much more the students of the school revealed its heart and soul. Let's not forget the back stage crew which kept the flow of acts smooth and professional. Further the lighting and sound were incredible.

May I also congratulate the staff. Their energy, resilience and dedication in making this Showcase a success was remarkable. It was quite obvious, when the Acting Principal David Erwin was acknowledging particular staff for their individual contribution to the show that students with their wild cheers, that they too appreciated the work of these teachers. One must always remember that without the hard work and dedication of these teachers, which is beyond the call of duty, these productions would not take place. Well done!! May I thank the many parents who attended the evening. Their presence gave all the students that they support the energy and contributions their children are making to the culture of the School. Well done!!







Presentation Days and Nights

At your respective Nirimba Collegiate of schools will be hosting, at this special time of the year to celebrate, acknowledge and appreciate the successful work of the achieved positive outcomes of the many of our students in this precinct. Through academic, creative and performing arts and sport many students have performed admirably to achieve the accolades they deserve. Our job is to recognise these wonderful achievements by attending these days/evenings to enjoy these wonderful educational moments in our kids' lives. Once again to all stakeholders in the education of our students in all respective schools in our college including: Wyndham College, Riverstone High School, Quakers Hill High School and Seven Hills High School. And to those who may be receiving higher accolades and special awards, including leadership and community services, congratulations!! May I wish you all a safe, reenergising and Holy Christmas. See you all in 2014 for another hectic but productive educational year. Please don't hesitate to give me a call at Wyndham College if you have an educational issue/s you'd like to resolve or investigate.

Yours in Education

Joe Camilleri, Collegiate Deputy Principal

SUPPORT UNIT MEET AND GREET 2013

The Support Unit hosted their annual Meet and Greet afternoon tea last Wednesday. The afternoon tea was aimed at thanking the fabulous staff who teach and assist our students, as well as allowing our families to mix and mingle within our community. Our students were able to display some of their amazing work they created throughout the year and we also recapped on great moments captured on camera with our fun filled slideshows. Thank you to our families and staff who attended the afternoon tea. It was lovely you could join us and share special moments; we really appreciate the continued support within our school community. We wish you all a safe and enjoyable Christmas break and look forward to another prosperous new year with the addition of our new class in 2014.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year.

Mrs Jennifer Payne, Support Unit Head Teacher







WINMALEE HIGH SCHOOL

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20 November 2013

Ms Laurretta Claus
Quakers Hill High School
70 Lalor Road
Quakers Hill NSW 2164

Dear Laurretta

We are writing to your SRC, staff and P&C to express our heartfelt thanks for your kind donation to help rebuild the lives of our students who have had their homes destroyed and their property lost and damaged.

Your donation has given hope and encouragement to all of our families and reflects that we, as Australians, stand together in times of adversity.

Our school remains a strong and united community despite the recent bushfires and the related devastation. In fact, the bushfires have been more unifying. We appreciate the difference your support will make to our community in terms of relieving financial pressures on our families over the next twelve months to two years.

Any funds or gifts in kind are being used directly to support the cost of the education for our students to ensure that they can participate fully in their learning and broader school experiences and opportunities. In some cases, funds will be used to create programs to support the specific needs of these students.

On behalf of our school community thank you once again for kindness, your expression of giving and your desire to ensure the needs of our students are met.

Yours sincerely


Ms Katrina Middlebrook
Principal


SRC/Captain


SRC/Captain

“True giving is giving with gratitude while asking for nothing in return” - Jing Si Aphorisms

MATHS NEWS

We had a great time in maths this year. Our first accelerated class has been a great success and we are eagerly looking forward to welcoming next year's class. We would like to congratulate Taylan Haydardedeoglu for receiving the Mathematics Faculty Award for Year 10 and Kevin Liu from Year 9, Rebeka Wojcicka from the accelerated course, Caitlyn Franks from Year 8 and Benjamin McDonnell from Year 7 for achieving the top grades in their courses. Congratulations also to all the students who received commendations on Presentation Day. There were many more students who also deserved to be recognized for the effort and enthusiasm that they have put into their work this year. We are proud of the students who participated in the Mathematics competition and expect an even greater number of participants next year.

Make sure you take as many opportunities as you can to use maths during the holidays! You can do your Christmas budgeting and use your maths skills to work out what all the best deals are at the shops. You can calculate how fast you can go down the slides at Wet'n'Wild ($\text{speed} = \frac{\text{distance}}{\text{time}}$) and time how long you spend talking to family and friends on your phone (so you don't go over your plan!). Don't forget those nasty interest formulas when you look at your credit card bills... and don't eat too much Christmas π (pi).

Have a great holiday, from the Maths Department.

LITERACY NATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

With the school having been provided with National Partnerships funding at the start of Term 2 2013, it has been an exciting and busy year for the Literacy National Partnerships Team. We would like to take this opportunity to extend our thanks to the following:

- *Mrs Claus, Mrs Mahon and Mrs Maricic* – for their ongoing encouragement, support and acknowledgement of our Literacy National Partnerships endeavours
- *Mrs Earl (HT English)* – for facilitating the revision of the existing Year 8 Literacy program
- *Ms Ho, Ms Tweeddale, Mrs Roy, Ms Gray, Ms Ossington, Mr Cole, Mr Law, Mr Dezman, Mr Berg* – Year 8 Literacy teachers
- *Mr Macintyre, Ms Ho, Ms Claus, Ms Ravikumar, Ms Earl, Ms Dyer, Ms Pratap, Ms Franco, Ms Romerosa, Ms Tweeddale, Ms Soliman* – Year 7 Literacy teachers
- *All teaching staff* at Quakers Hill High School - for accommodating our passion for literacy and endeavouring to embed literacy into lessons for all students Years 7 -10
- *Mrs Johnson, Mrs Daly, Mrs Jones, Mrs Naylor* – for supporting our ongoing photocopying and resource purchase needs
- *Year 8 students* – who have willingly and cooperatively embraced written and oral assessments and surveys, thereby assisting us with our mandatory Improving Literacy National Partnerships reporting requirements
- *Parents and community members* who have shown an interest in furthering their understanding of the importance of literacy.

Mrs Amy Nicholls will be leaving our team at the end of this term, as she resumes her full time role in the CAPA faculty. Mrs Nicholls' contribution to the Literacy National Partnerships Team has been outstanding this term and we hope to be able to continue to draw upon her expertise and enthusiasm in the New Year. Ms Maria Romerosa will re-join us at the start of 2014 and, with Ms Emily Gray, will continue to inspire and energise our team's literacy initiatives across the school. A sincere thank you to Ms Gray, Ms Romerosa and Mrs Nicholls for the outstanding professionalism, dedication and commitment that has made the Literacy National Partnerships Team such a dynamic and exciting team this year. We look forward to working together to continue to make literacy a vital part of your child's education in 2014.

Wishing you all a wonderful Christmas and a safe, happy New Year.

Gail Attwood

On behalf of the Literacy National Partnerships Team

VISUAL ARTS NEWS

The pilot phase of the collaborative Art project with one of our community pre-schools has been finalised. Mr Hutton's Year 10 Work-Education students and a small selection of our creatively gifted Visual Arts students have been working tirelessly to produce two visually engaging and educational partitions for the pre-school classrooms. These colourful, painted boards will act as room dividers inside the classrooms. The boards illustrate the Alphabet using Aboriginal imagery. Our goal is to attract other local primary schools to participate in this project in 2014, and also that this venture will be ongoing.

Thank you to Mr Hutton and Ms Josselyn who have overseen, and actively participated in, the completion of the initial stage of this project. Mr Wright and Mr Meredith will contribute their time and effort to construct further resources for this project next year. Ms Spring and Mr Wong have also assisted in this project.



FOODIE NEWS FROM HOME ECONOMICS

BUSH FOODS WALKING & CULINARY TOUR AT THE ROYAL BOTANICAL GARDENS

On Wednesday 13 November 45 Year 9 & 10 Food Technology students made the long way into the city on the train to visit the Royal Botanical Gardens. The Royal Botanical Gardens is the place where some of the earliest prolonged European encounters with the local Aboriginal people, the Cadigal, occurred. It is also the home to some of Sydney's bush food plants, which can be seen in the Cadi Jam Ora: First Encounters garden.

Our day out was divided into two sessions. Our first session was all about Aboriginal People and Plants. During this session the students were introduced to plants that Aboriginal people have used for food, tools and weapons. They were enriched with an Indigenous perspective on living. The students were able to participate in practical classes where they made a macadamia toffee, wattle seed damper and succulent kangaroo. The bush tomato seasoned popcorn was a hit amongst all the students and staff.

The second session within this excursion involved the students being led on a journey of discovery by an Elder through the aboriginal gardens within the botanical garden complex. Students were exposed to a rich Aboriginal heritage, by exploring plant use and flowers and had an in depth discussion on all the multiple uses for the plants and flowers either for shelter, medicinal purposes and most of all for eating. Here are some examples of the bush tuckers the students learnt about.



Grass-tree (*Xanthorrhoea resinifera*)

Gul-gad-ya

The Cadigal made use of every part of the grass tree. The stem of the flower spike was used for spear shafts and for making fire,

Blue Flax Lily (*Dianella caerulea*)

Local Aboriginal name unknown.

The blue fruits of the *Dianella* were eaten raw by the Cadigal. They have a sweet flavour, which becomes nutty once the seeds are chewed. Its leaves were used to make a strong fibre.

On our travels back to Quakers Hill High school we took a detour past the Sydney Opera House. It was pleasing to see the students' excitement as some were seeing it for the first time. I hope the students enjoyed their time and I would recommend that anyone who is yet to visit the Royal Botanical Gardens do so in the near future. All the teachers involved would like to thank the students for their exceptional behaviour and great representation of our school.

Ms Del Pinto & Mr Roma





COFFEE SCHOOL PRODUCES FUTURE BARISTAS!

What an exciting day for 42 eager Year 8, 9 & 10 students from Quakers Hill High School making their way to the Australian Barista School at Town Hall on the train on Monday 2 December. The buzz was certainly in the air and that was before the cappuccinos and lattes were even made!

The students had a great day full of learning taught by industry experts and makers of coffee. We knew that we were in good hands as the students attempted and succeeded to obtain their Barista Certificates. They learnt about the history of coffee and its origins, followed by work safety and hygiene. What followed next was a whirlwind of espressos and milk frothing as the students were shown and then demonstrated the various techniques of making the wide range of coffee beverages.

In the end the students attained the following competencies in *Certificate III in Hospitality (SIT30707)* – *Prepare and serve espresso coffee (SITHFAB012B)* and *Follow workplace hygiene procedures (SITXOHS002A)*.

In the Barista Basics course, the students were taught and developed an understanding of the following components of coffee making:

1. How to differentiate between blends and degrees of roast
2. How to load the groups in the espresso machine and how to pour an espresso
3. How to texture milk effectively
4. How to prepare all the different coffees that are ordered at a café or restaurant
5. How to adjust the coffee grind to achieve an A-grade espresso
6. How to fully clean the espresso machine and grinder

It was a fun day in the city with all students successfully achieving their Barista Certificates.

The TAS faculty is happy to announce that in Term 1 2014 we are holding another Barista Course excursion due to popular demand. Please stay tuned early 2014 for more details. We are also planning to open a Barista Club for those students who have completed their Barista Courses so they can join the Barista Club and practise their skills. Please ask Mr Roma in TAS for more information.

Mr Roma



BARNIER PUBLIC SCHOOL MENTORING PROGRAM



Last week on Thursday, some students and I from the Prosperitas program went over to Barnier Public School. We were told to set up a small display and we would give a short speech about what our work was, what went into it and how we came up with the idea. Our goal was to get the kids who had been chosen to see our presentations excited to take part in the Mentoring Program next year for Year 5 going into Year 6 and the kids coming to our school next year to join in on the real thing. Some of the Presentations given were from this year's Prosperitas program.

We had two girls dancing and after they performed they gave a short speech about what went into choreographing their dance by themselves and what the dance was about. The second presentation was by two artists who had created clock-and-butterfly themed paintings which looked awesome and they gave a speech about why they choose that particular theme, why they incorporated certain things and how long it took for them to make their projects. The finished work was amazing.

Next we had a math program that Rebeka created herself. The program was really cool and it calculated the surface area of shapes and it looked like it was really hard to make but when Rebeka described making it, she made it sound easy. Next up, it was my turn to present my project. I was really nervous, because I'm not all that good at public speaking, but describing my novella was actually pretty fun.

After my small speech, it was Bryce's turn. He had re-created a model of the Britannic, not to be confused with the Titanic, with his friend and he was really into it and made it fun and interactive with all the kids. Out of all of the speeches, I think his was the best. After Bryce it was Kaitlyn's go and she described her QHHS: Twenty Years On project and showed some of her Poetry. Kaitlyn's was really in-depth and you could see she enjoyed making it.

The final speech was by Aiden, who made his own awesome card game called War of Pantheons. It was really cool and I didn't realise so much work went into creating his project. After we'd given our own little speeches, the children were free to roam about and explore the projects themselves. It was really fun describing it to some of the kids who were as into writing as I was and talking about how long it took and how I made the characters was really interesting for me because honestly, I didn't think that so many kids would think it was cool. I had a load of fun telling the kids about Rhyannah's project. She couldn't come but I'm sure she'd be glad to know that a lot of the girls thought that her work was awesome and even though I only knew a little bit about it, they thought it was so cool it was all made of recycled objects.

After the kids left we had to pack up all of our stuff and head on back. I had loads of fun working on my project and sharing it with others was pretty cool. I can't wait to do it again next year and maybe some kids I met will be making a project next year as well.

Ashleigh Kennedy 71

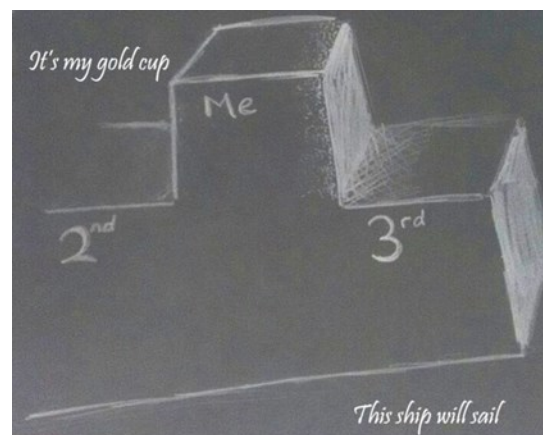
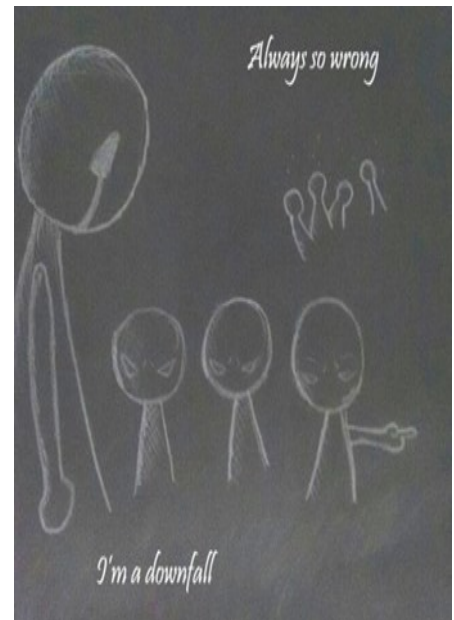
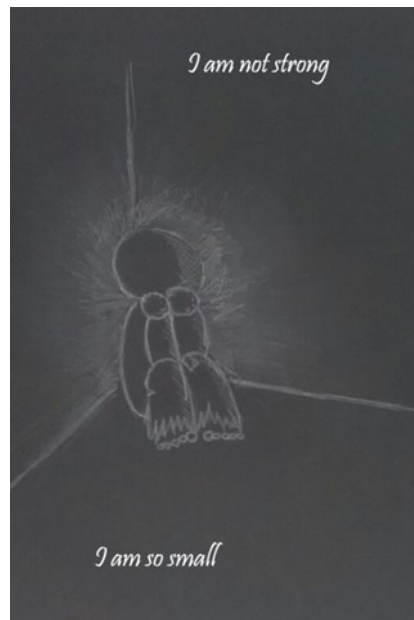
ENGLISH NEWS

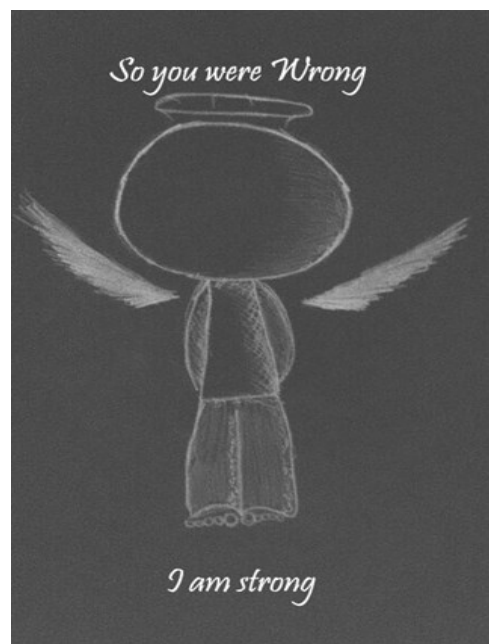
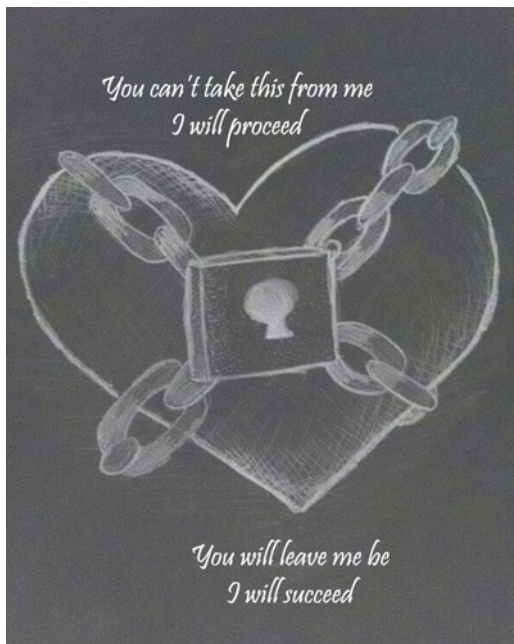
It has been a very busy twelve months organising for the implementation of the new curriculum next year. As a faculty, we have appreciated your support and recognise the hard work you do to ensure that Quakers Hill High is a great place for your children to learn and develop into fine, young adults. We would like to congratulate our students who worked hard and gained outstanding results, notably, Emily Huang, Elisa Keyte, Jaimie Bonsall and Zoe McDacy.

It is with sadness that we farewell Ms Franco who will leave our faculty to work at Wyndham as an English teacher next year. An outstanding Drama practitioner, she created amazing productions in her time at the school and promoted her subject with passion and energy. Ms Franco's amazing ability to create a spectacular show will be a real loss to our school. The faculty would also like to thank Mr Law, Ms Healy, Mr Cole and Ms Ho for their efforts in the English Faculty this year. In the New Year we welcome Ms Notley-Smith who will join the staff as the new English/ Drama teacher.

As this is the final Contact for the year, the English staff would like to wish you a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year and to thank you for your support throughout the year.

Below is a picture book by Kiesha Mealey on the theme of empowerment and transformation. It ties in very closely with the anti-bullying awareness lessons completed by the whole school this term and is a lovely reflection on the inner strength in all of us.





7S students creating Christmas decorations as a problem solving exercise and for fun.

SCIENCE MATTERS

SCIENCE THINGS YULE NEVER KNOW ABOUT XMAS

- * US scientists calculated that Santa would have to visit 822 homes a second to deliver all the world's presents on Christmas Eve, travelling at 650 miles a second.
- * Nearly 60 million Christmas trees are grown each year in Europe.
- * Many parts of the Christmas tree can actually be eaten, with the needles being a good source of Vitamin C.
- * Astronomers believe the Star of Bethlehem, which guided the Wisemen to Jesus, may have been a comet or the planet Uranus.
- * Electric tree lights were invented by Edward Johnson in the US in 1882.
- * The abbreviation Xmas isn't irreligious. The letter X is a Greek abbreviation for Christ.

STUCK FOR A GIFT FOR MUM, GRANDMA OR AUNT?

How about a bunch of flowers that changes colour over a few days? This will certainly bring a smile to their faces!!!

You will need:

A bunch of white carnations or roses
Blue food colouring
Vase
Water
Scissors



Method:

1. Fill the vase with water.
2. Add enough food colouring to the water to create an intense colour change.
3. Freshly cut stems of flowers - this will help the carnations or roses to absorb the food colouring.
4. Colorful results will appear within 24 hours and will continue for several days.
5. Your gift will be the best!!!

Happy holidays!

Ms K Naicker, Head Teacher Science

COMBINED PROSPERITAS PROGRAM WITH BARNIER PUBLIC SCHOOL—2014

In 2014 Quakers Hill High School is undertaking a joint project with Barnier Public School as an extension of the Prosperitas Program that has been running for several years at QHHS under the initiative and direction of Mrs Karen Critchley. In 2014 approximately 15 Barnier students will be invited to complete Prosperitas projects with QHHS students as their mentors. Quakers Hill students will oversee the planning and completion of the primary school projects, offering guidance and support to the primary students throughout the completion of their projects. The Quakers Hill students will receive ongoing mentor training and support from QHHS teachers throughout the duration of the projects. The projects will be completed in Term 3 2014 and will be on display for a week in the Performance Space. This is an exciting opportunity for links between the two schools. Students and teachers from both schools are already displaying high levels of energy and enthusiasm.

As an introduction to this project, some of our current Prosperitas students visited Barnier Public School last week to display and present their projects to the students. The excursion was a great success and the primary students asked our students LOTS of questions! We are expecting some very interesting and high quality projects from the Barnier students next year. This is also an exciting opportunity for our students to learn valuable mentoring skills and to have the experience of overseeing the high quality projects

from the Barnier students next year. This is also an exciting opportunity for our students to learn valuable mentoring skills and to have the experience of overseeing the high quality projects we are expecting from Barnier students next year. Mentoring sessions and meetings have been planned to minimise the amount of time spent out of class for our students – there will only be four lessons out of class throughout the entire project for our students.

Interested students need to see Ms Tweeddale ASAP for information and application forms to participate in the mentoring program. Past participation in the Prosperitas Program is not a prerequisite. Any interested student capable of supervising students at a high level of achievement is encouraged to apply.

Ms B Tweeddale

HISTORY EXCURSION

On the 21st and 28th of November Year 7 & 8 went a Viking. The students were noted for their great behaviour and interesting questions. The staff were proud of the students and the way they portrayed the school SMART expectations. Students were encouraged to photograph the artefacts. Any student who submits an image or hands in the completed work sheet will receive a merit award for their great efforts.



What do I need for History next year?

All students are encouraged to have a USB with them at all times as there is a lot of History to learn. All students need a work book that is over 96 pages long—Years 9 & 10 are encouraged to have an A4 size book that is not shared with any other subject. You will need pens and pencils. You are encouraged to have a small dictionary/thesaurus. Students who have difficulty accessing the internet are encouraged to visit the local library and learn how to access and use the great facilities as well as ensuring they know their school log on and passwords in order to use the extensive school facilities.

All assessments will be both handed out on paper, by email and will be placed on the board outside the History staffroom in the first week of school. All due dates will be explained at the start of the year and all assessments have sufficient time allowed for them to be successfully completed with drafts submitted to staff and problems sorted out. For each assessment the class is given research time and lessons in skill development. Every assessment task has a variety of submission options to cater for all students.

Teaching and Learning

Do you have a child or friend whose child may attend Quakers Hill High in 2015? Applications for the Gifted and Talented class 2015 will be available on the school website in February. Parents of children in area are strongly encouraged to do so even if your child is testing for other schools or you are applying for other schools. There are courses being run by UNSW for the parents of Gifted and Talented students—<https://education.arts.unsw.edu.au/about-us/gerric/for-parents/>

Karen Critchley, Head Teacher, Teaching & Learning/History

PDHPE NEWS

During Weeks 7 and 8 of Term 4, many students from both Year 7 and 8 actively participated in the QHHS Swim School at Blacktown Pool. The weather during both weeks often fluctuated from very warm and sunny to pouring rain. Despite these obstacles all students had an enjoyable time, with most being able to achieve some level of competency from the RSLSA of Australia. It is vitally important with so many drownings in Australia each year that students are taught not only how to swim but also CPR, water survival and rescue techniques. Our thanks also go out to the many Year 9 and 10 students who assisted each of the groups during Swim School.

I would also like to personally thank Mr McCall for all his effort and contribution to the school in 2013. For those of you who aren't aware, Mr McCall has been on a Teacher Exchange Program from Scotland for 12 months replacing Mr Longstaff. It has been a pleasure having him in the PDHPE faculty and we wish him all the best back in Scotland with his newly acquired "aussie accent" and welcome Mr Longstaff back to the school in 2014.

FIRST AID CERTIFICATE TRAINING

Congratulations to the 44 Year 9 & 10 students who completed First Aid Certificate Training on Monday 11 November. This course was delivered by the Royal Life Saving Society of Australia. This First Aid Qualification is valid for three years with the resuscitation component valid for 12 months. This qualification is a valuable addition to the resumes of these students. The majority of students involved went on to participate as assistants in the Year 7/8 Swimming and Lifesaving Program. Well done!!

Joshua Ahmad, Mazehar Ahmadian, Layton Bellamy, Ashleigh Bernecic, Jessica Bobbin, Tamarah Bradley, Gemma Deering, Andrea Deller, Shonal Deo, Chelsea Dixon, Chester Estrella, Tristian Fauvette, Adem Gundes, Paityn Harris-Long, Freyja Hewitson, Kaitlyn Hockey, Alicia Howell, Danielle Iacono, Caitlyn Ives, Daniel Kenna, Dejan Kupresanin, Emily Laughlin, Alyssa Manalo, Aiden Mantourolou, Daniel Marsh, Jessica Mason, Jarrod Mathew, Toni McLean, Elizabeth Micallef, Luke Micallef, Ghouse Mohiuddin, Dylan Mottram, Sarah Mottram, Aaron Myers, Benjamin Myers, Emmanuel Prasad, Joi Rairi, Nethangie Ranhotty, Daniel Scott, Chloe Silva, Maddison Smith, Kasey Vincent, Matthew Walker, Erin Warner, Megan Warner.

A WORD OF GRATITUDE TO OUR LIBRARY HEROES



A big thank you to our tremendous library monitors who have distinguished themselves in 2013 by their hard work and tireless service to their school community. These individuals have continuously sacrificed their lunches and recesses in order to ensure that our school library runs smoothly and that our student body can undertake their many varied pursuits during their school breaks.

A special thanks goes to our departing Year 10 students, Christopher Ford and Daniel Scott, with a special mention going to Jack Steel for 4 years of outstanding school service and leadership.

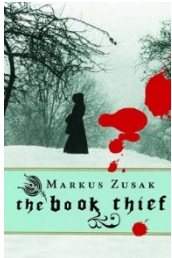
Our distinguished leaders: Chloe Silva, Andrea Deller, Kaitlyn Hockey, Jack Steel, Christopher Ford, Daniel Scott, Bradley Coleiro, Adam Coleiro, Muskan Soni, Oliver Arreza, Arashdeep Kaur, Sarah Branson, Renee Harradine, Bradley Viney, Rebeka Wojcicka.

SOME SUMMER READING RECOMMENDATIONS

Sourced from: <http://mashable.com/2013/06/11/young-adults-summer-reading-books/>

The Book Thief

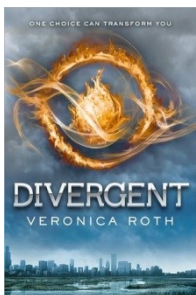
Author: Markus Zusak



A New York Times bestseller for seven years running that's soon to be a major motion picture, this Printz Honor book by the author of *I Am the Messenger* is an unforgettable tale about the ability of books to feed the soul. Set during World War II in Germany, Markus Zusak's ground breaking novel is the story of Liesel Meminger, a foster girl living outside of Munich. Liesel scratches out a meagre existence for herself by stealing, when she encounters something she can't resist – books. With the help of her accordion-playing foster father, she learns to read and shares her stolen books with her neighbours during bombing raids, as well as with the Jewish man hidden in her basement before he is marched to Dachau. The country is holding its breath. Death has never been busier, and will become busier still.

Divergent

Author: Veronica Roth



In Beatrice Prior's dystopian Chicago, society is divided into five factions, each dedicated to the cultivation of a particular virtue—Candor (the honest), Abnegation (the selfless), Dauntless (the brave), Amity (the peaceful), and Erudite (the intelligent). On an appointed day of every year, all sixteen-year-olds must select the faction to which they will devote the rest of their lives. For Beatrice, the decision is between staying with her family and being who she really is—she can't have both. So she makes a choice that surprises everyone, including herself. During the highly competitive initiation that follows, Beatrice renames herself Tris and struggles to determine who her friends really are—and where, exactly, a romance with a sometimes fascinating, sometimes infuriating boy fits into the life she's chosen. But Tris also has a secret, one she's kept hidden from everyone because she's been warned it can mean death. And as she discovers a growing conflict that threatens to unravel her seemingly perfect society, she also learns that her secret might help her save those she loves . . . or it might destroy her.



299 HOURS 54 MINUTES

Suddenly it's a world without adults and normal has crashed and burned. When life as you know it ends at 15, everything changes. There are no adults, no answers. What would you do? Those left must do all they can to survive. But everyone's idea of survival is different. Some look after themselves, some look after others, and some will do anything for power . . . Even kill. For Sam and Astrid, it is a race against time as they try to solve the questions that now dominate their lives . . . What is the mysterious wall that has encircled the town of Perdido Beach and trapped everyone within? Why have some kids developed strange powers? And can they defeat Caine and his gang of bullies before they turn 15 and disappear too? It isn't until the world collapses around you that you find out what kind of person you really are.

QUAKERS HILL HIGH PHILIPPINO CYCLONE FUNDRAISER

On Friday 6 December Quakers Hill High School held a fundraiser for the people of the Philippines who have been affected by the recent Cyclone there. Quakers Hill High has a large Philippino population and thus a lot of students had approached me and wanted to do something about it. This disaster was so strong the World Health Organization disaster classification had it as a Category 3, the highest — on par with the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami and the Haiti earthquake in 2010. It had affected 12.9 million people — 13% of the country's population, its death toll (reported thus far): 4,460 and 1.9 million left homeless. There were 2.5 million in need of food and 80% of homes in its path were destroyed or damaged.

Having a large proportion of Philippino students that play basketball made it very easy to run a 3 on 3 basketball tournament, where the entry fee would be donated to the cause and those who did not want to play could make a difference by making a contribution to the donation plates that were circulating around the school on the day. The SRC also made a valuable contribution by selling ice blocks on the day and generally promoting the tournament. Over \$350 was raised with World Vision being the charity organisation we used. With 14 teams participating in the tournament I would like to thank all the staff and students who were involved in the project, the SRC and everyone who donated to the cause.

Tim Macintyre



Speech, movement, mime, scripts,
drama games, improvisation, play building and performance techniques.

Weekly classes:

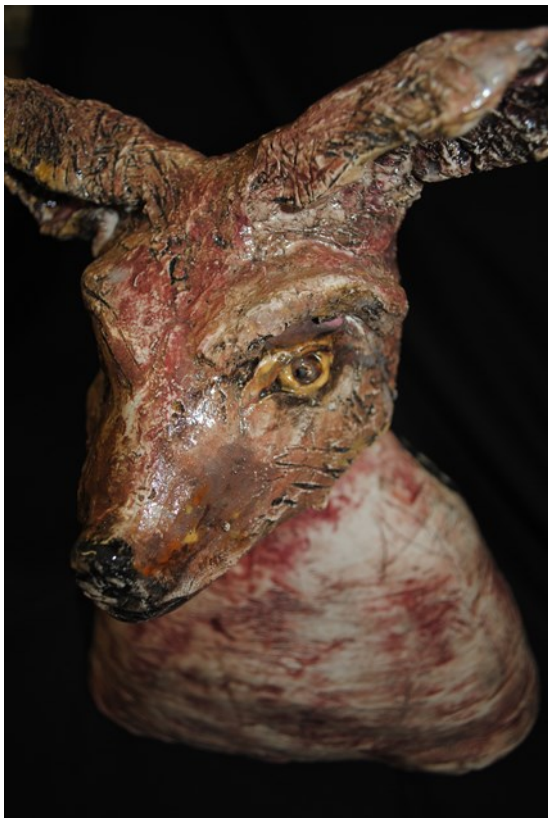
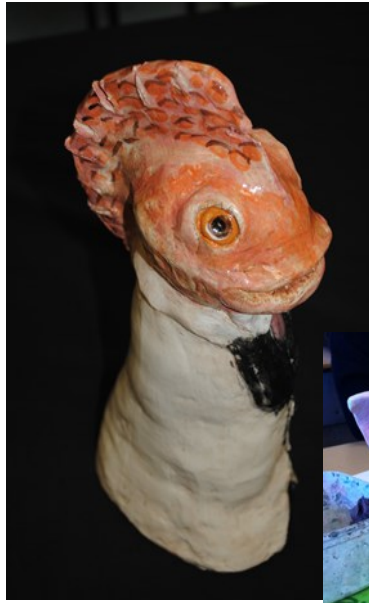
Castle Hill, Baulkham Hills, Dural, Kellyville, Quakers Hill,
Rouse Hill, Bella Vista and Oakhill Drive.



YEARS 9 & 10 – CA101 + 102

SURREAL SCULPTURES

The photos below show the surreal sculptures created by Years 9 & 10 in their elective Art classes this year. The sculptures are ceramic coiled forms, pinched and mouldled with the designs based on collaged figures. The designs are of the heads and shoulders of morphed creatures with some human features, however, they are largely animalistic. These creatures are the stuff of nightmares, mythological, camouflaged, portraying uncomfortable balance and subtly coloured in clay underglazes. Hues are layered like watercolours, dry brushed and smudged. The figures are decorated, fired to 1060C and will out-survive mere mortals. The figures contain false eyelashes of copper wire, imitation of flesh, scales and fur. A very impressive display of creativity and imagination by the students.





NORWEST BULLS JUNIOR RUGBY UNION

Home Ground: Alwyn Lindfield Reserve, Glenwood

Registration Day – Sunday 2 February 2014

Training starts Wednesday 26 February 2014 6pm

Registration: \$50 (U7 and below), \$120 (U8 and up)

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www.norwest.rugbynet.com.au

www.facebook.com/norwestbullsjuniorrugby

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Add on a trim for \$10. Additional Foils \$5 each.

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