

Bulletin

Issue 2 Term1, 2012



Singing For The President

GRANVILLE BOYS HIGH SCHOOL

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“A GREAT PLACE TO
LEARN”



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PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Ms O'Brien

Thank you to all our families of students in year 7 to 10 for their participation in the Priority Schools Survey. The information we collected assists the school to access equity funds to support your sons learning. At GBHS we spend these funds on extra staff in the Learning Services Faculty and we also employ an additional Deputy Principal to help supervise our learning environment and support the staff with professional learning. Our Community Liaison Officers, Kehe Luitai and Ahmed Dennaoui are also employed through these programs and we are able to run withdrawal and support for students in classes as a result.

We have celebrated our success this year at our assembly and we are also pleased to have had positive news coverage in the Daily Telegraph. The focus of the article in this newspaper was the Pulse Café, established and managed by Ali Amood and Adam Alahmad. We are extremely proud of these boys and would invite you to join us for a morning coffee if you have time. The Café operates from 8.00am to 8.45am each morning. We are currently sourcing additional furniture for the café.

The NSW Department of Education and Communities Selective Schools Test was held at school in March and a pleasing number of students sat for the Granville Boys High School and Auburn Girls High School entry test for the Enrichment Class of 2013.



Congratulations are due to Sobhie Maaliki who received a NSW Department of Housing scholarship worth \$2000.00. Sobhie was presented with his award at a ceremony at Parramatta Town Hall by The Minister for Housing Ms Pru Goward.

Congratulations also to Mohamad Kamereddine who has successfully auditioned for a performance for the President of Lebanon, Mr Michel Sulaiman. Mohamad will sing the Lebanese national Anthem at a state dinner hosted by the Premier of NSW Mr Barry O'Farrell

The students in this year's enrichment class have been issued with iPads. These iPads are linked to our system and students are able to work collaboratively on various projects. The staff and students have had a wonderful term as scientists, historians and film makers.

It has been a fantastic term and I hope you all enjoy the holidays.



DEPUTY PRINCIPAL REPORT

Mr. Abas

In term one, the school cross-faculty Literacy and Numeracy data teams continued to analyse school data and consider whole school planning for teaching and learning. The teaching and learning strategies will be aligned to school priorities in Literacy and Numeracy, and Engagement. The data teams have been briefed to consider how reading and writing, and language conventions can be effectively integrated into faculty assessment and learning. Spelling activities have been developed for stage 5 and will be refined and implemented across the junior school in the form of word activities and spelling competitions. This will be coordinated in the coming terms through the Literacy Team. The Participation team continued to develop the term two Integrated Learning task for the 8C class. In week 11, task developers from the Participation team and the selected teachers of 8C worked together to finalise the teaching program and learning material.

The two year 8 classes' trialing the first integrated learning unit completed a learning questionnaire and were interviewed as part of the school 'student voice' initiatives. Initial feedback indicated that integrated learning was a more effective method of engaging students and developing a deeper understanding of the relationship between different subjects and the real world. We are expecting that the survey data will be analysed over the coming weeks and a report will be presented early in term two. This process will form an integral part of the evaluation of integrated learning in stage 4 and for future development of whole school learning and professional development.

As part of the continual improvement and innovation cycle intrinsic to The Platform for Collaborative Education, one teacher from each faculty attended a corporate marking training coordinated by Mr Hardcastle (HT English) and Ms Gandouin (Literacy Team Leader). The training prepared staff for a whole school corporate marking activity in persuasive writing and student sample marking. The whole staff corporate marking was held the following week and was organised in faculty groups, with trained members of staff and the English faculty assisting throughout the process. This is the second opportunity staff has participated in this form of professional learning. During term two, faculties will be using the knowledge from the corporate marking to review current Stage 4 assessment practices and will develop new assessment activities that is aligned to the assessment and learning advice from the data teams.

A reminder that students in Years 7 and 9 will be

completing the National Assessment Program for Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) test in 2012. There are four tests covering numeracy, reading, writing and language conventions (spelling, punctuation and grammar).

The test schedule is:

Tuesday 15th May 2012 – Language Conventions and Writing

Wednesday 16th May 2012 – Reading

Thursday 17th May 2012 – Numeracy

Throughout the term Year 7 and 9 students completed a number of booklets that targeted specific areas of learning to develop basic skills and understanding in literacy and numeracy. Students also completed a practice NAPLAN test to familiarise themselves with test procedures, provide a snapshot for their achievement and give teachers an opportunity to evaluate current faculty programs. Early in term two, Students will be rehearsing the routines of the NAPLAN test during the second practice test and they will be participating in writing workshops to reinforce persuasive writing techniques. The results from this second practice test will be included in student achievement in the semester one report. In week 11, Year 9 parents were invited to the school to discuss student performance throughout the term. Parents were presented with revision material and sample tests for students to complete over the Easter holidays. Parents are encouraged to support this process, as students will benefit greatly by completing all the revision booklets and the sample tests.

We would like to thank all Year 7 to 10 parents who participated in the 2012 Priority Schools Program Survey. We are hoping that the information provided in the survey will translate into additional resources for the school. Parents are reminded that the survey is confidential and information on occupations and educational qualifications is collected only to determine the level of funding. The anticipated release of the Priority Schools list for the period 2013 to 2016 will occur around July 2012.



HEAD TEACHER WELFARE

Ms.Libdy

This is a very exciting time for our students at GBHS. They have the chance to participate in student leadership programs as well as programs run by outside organisations.

Here are some of the programs that began this term.

On Tuesday the 13th of March we had the *Aspirations* launch.

The development of the Year 11 *Aspirations* program was in direct response to principals, who had experienced the benefits and positive impact of facilitated mentoring on students in programs such as GOALS. The principals identified that for some schools there was a need for a program focusing on career paths for older students as Year 11 is a critical time for students in determining their pathways beyond high school. At this stage of senior school, students are planning what type of further education they will pursue, potential apprenticeships and whether they will continue with all of their subjects or with school at all. Students living in areas of high need often lack access to a range of social networks, work opportunities and positive role models and their choices beyond school are influenced by factors such as:

- lack of understanding about their own strengths and skills and how to further develop them due to low self-esteem and confidence
- lack of knowledge about different pathways
- no sense of entitlement to further education or career pathways outside the local community.

The *Aspirations* program runs for approximately two terms.

The students went to PricewaterhouseCoopers (PWC) for their first session on Tuesday the 27th March. They were very impressive. They were happy to participate in all the activities. They were motivated and enthusiastic. The mentors and facilitators were very impressed with the students behaviour and confidence.

We also started Links to Learning. This program is designed for Year 10 students. It is a targeted program implemented by the NSW Department of Education and Communities to improve outcomes for young people and focuses on effective transitions for at risk young people. This program runs every Tuesday at school.

Links to Learning projects help young people to remain in school, or access post school education or training courses by :

- improving skills in reading, writing and maths
- developing communication and technology skills
- increasing confidence, self esteem and resilience
- setting education, training and career goals
- developing work skills

This program is run by facilitators from The Arab Council Australia.

We have also started Social Skills Intervention Program this Term. This program is run with students from Years 7 to 9. It is aimed at improving students social skills.

We are using The Help Increase the Peace (HIP) program which was developed by the American Friends Service Committee staff in Syracuse, New York, in 1991 as a youth-oriented program to address the epidemic of violence in schools. HIP is based on the conviction that nonviolence and participation in our communities can better each of us and our world.

Workshops focus on three themes: options to violence; dealing with racism, prejudices, and our differences; and the belief that we can each participate in our communities to bring about positive social change.



HIP training is composed of three levels of workshops, each 1 period long once a week, with increases in skills.

The building blocks of the workshops are affirmation, communication, cooperation, conflict resolution, and prejudice reduction. HIP uses cooperative games, discussions, role-playing, and lively group activities to build skills.

Another program which began two weeks ago is ACTIV 8. This program is run by the Association of Bhanin El Minieh

ACTIV8 aims to promote engagement in learning and employment through fortnightly mentoring sessions running from March to October 2012. The program aims to encourage awareness of lifelong learning and career opportunities, as well as an awareness of the benefits of community engagement. Students are involved in football, ice skating, drumming, celebrity appearances to name a few.

It is designed for Years 8 and 9 students. It is on every Thursday fortnight from 2:00 pm until 4:00 pm. The boys got the chance to meet Hazem El-Masri during the first session. They were very excited to listen to and play football with him. It has been a very successful program so far and hopefully the students will continue to learn from it and enjoy it at the same time.

Next Term The GOALS program will commence. This is for Year 9 students.

We are making every effort to ensure that boys are involved in a program that suits their needs.

Please ensure that students arrive to school on time everyday and are in full school uniform.

I hope that the students have a very good and restful holiday and I am looking forward to working with you and your children next term.

Below are links to websites that you may be of interest to you or someone that you know may need help.

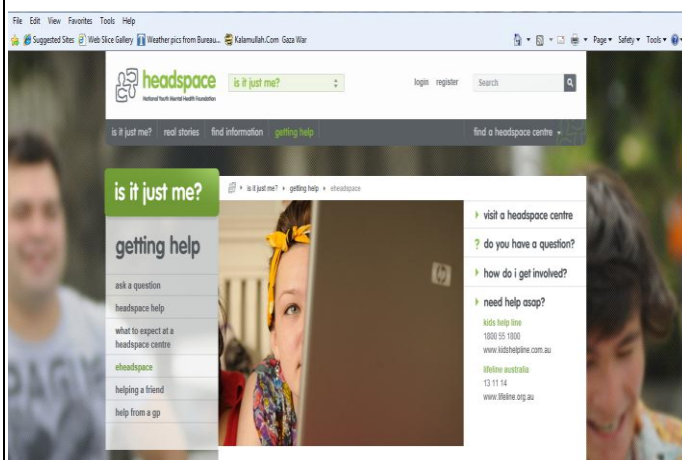
- www.beyondblue.org.au/
This website provides information on anxiety and depression
- <http://au.reachout.com/?gclid=CLLMvvXDK68CFQcipAodgy5-yA>

This is an Anti-Bullying website that provides Information and support so you can get through your own tough times.

- <http://www.headspace.org.au/>

This website is a confidential, free, anonymous, secure space where you can chat, email or speak with qualified youth mental health professionals if you are 12 to 25 years and:

- want to chat about what's going on in your life
- need advice
- are worried about your mental health or feeling depressed or anxious
- are feeling isolated or alone



SCIENCE REPORT

Mrs Saliba



The Science Headquarters

Rio Tinto Science Competition

Students from years 7 to 12 has been offered the opportunity to represent Granville Boys High School in the Big Rio Tinto Science Competition next term on Wednesday the 23rd of May 2012. The Science competition aims to stimulate interest in Science and allows students to develop skills essential for scientific practice. The science faculty urges students to become involved as the experience gained in these competitions will assist them in their learning and their performance in school based tests. The entry fee of \$7.00 is required to the front office before the end of this term. WATCH this space for more details!!

Year 7:

Year 7 students are enjoying a series of experiments planned under the topic "Being Scientific". The skills that students have developed in doing these experiments are helping them to develop their capacity in planning and carrying out first hand investigations, making observations and reading scales. In addition, Year 7 are also learning about safety and types of equipment used in the Science laboratory.

Year 8:

This term, the students of 8B and the Enrichment class were actively engaged in an Integrated Learning project called "Myth Busters". The boys began the project with the myth "toast always falls face down". After conducting a number of trials of the experiment they found that this myth was not correct. Students were then given the opportunity to choose their own topic of interest and conduct experiments in small groups. Some of the boys chose to investigate whether diet coke and mentos causes effervescence while others experimented to see whether an egg shell disappears when placed in vinegar and etc...



Year 9

The students are learning about electricity, light and the effects of global warming. Their assessment task included a research component and an oral presentation on global warming through various mediums such as a poster, a rap song, creative writing story etc...

Year 10:

This term, Year 10 students are working on their Student Research Projects and are also extending their knowledge of the periodic table and learning to write formulae, balance equations and conduct experiments on chemical reactions.

Year 11:

On Wednesday 7 March, Year 11 Biology and Year 11 Senior Science students went to Bicentennial Park in Sydney Olympic Park to investigate a local ecosystem. It was a Field Study Assessment Task that meets the Board of Studies course requirements. The students eagerly participated in numerous activities that were set up and co-ordinated by the service team at Sydney Olympic Park. They worked in groups and studied the adaptations of mangroves to its habitat and the distribution and abundance of plant and animal species in a salt marsh. It was a great success and the students thoroughly enjoyed applying the skills they had learnt in class, to a practical situation.



Year 12

The Biology and Senior Science students attended a workshop at the UNSW Museum of Diseases on Tuesday 28 February. The boys had a wonderful time to see diseased preserved body parts and prosthetics.

The Science faculty would like to take this opportunity to thank our parents for their support this term and we wish all our families a safe and good holiday!

HSIE REPORT

Mr Mandarakas

Once again the HSIE faculty has had a busy but productive time since the printing of the last Bulletin. The faculty has worked together to jointly input into its yearly plan. Members of the faculty have also spent time reviewing programs to introduce a greater variety of ICT tasks, including the use of the electronic white board into their classrooms.

Teachers are working collaboratively during faculty meetings to address issues raised as a result of last year's Year 9 NAPLAN results. We are hoping to introduce strategies to improve student outcomes. Another feature of this term has been the involvement of our students in competitions and the completion of assessment tasks by some students to a very high standard.

Over the last month a number of excursions have taken place. The Year 7 students participated in a very successful excursion on Sydney Harbour and achieved a number of outcomes including the investigation of Australia's physical environments and looking at the issues in Australian environments. Student got to see how Sydney-siders exploit the natural environment to conduct trade and business and also how the trade and business along Sydney's coastline has changed over the centuries especially due to the impact of technology. As a trained Historian I found the journey from Circular Quay to Balmain and out past Garden Island illuminating. The stay at Shark Island was also greeted enthusiastically by students – especially our keen fishermen. All in all it was a great day. Special thanks to Ms Kiran and Mr Heiler for the organisation and their participation in the day – special thanks to Ms Cullen-Ward.



Students in Year 8 also attended an excursion this term on the topic of Indigenous Australians. Part of the course relies on students recalling what traditional aboriginal life was like. Students on the excursion got to meet a number of people who work in the sustainability area of Auburn Council. Students investigated Duck River by comparing through observation and comparison how the river's health has changed over time, particularly with the arrival of Europeans. Students got to discuss with resident artists the features of aboriginal painting and in one group I participated in an interesting conversation evolved from the simple question of "how did the artist achieve that effect"? Students and artists then went on to discuss subject the matter in the artist's art. By far the most captivating was the exhibition on the tools and methods used by Aborigines to catch and collect food and how they prepared it for eating. Congratulations to the boys for their excellent behavior on the day and thank you to Ms Ghosh for organizing the excursion.



Have you ever wondered how do companies know what price to set for a product? The Year 9 Commerce boys have been working on this with Mr Heiler and as part of their course have gone to the school's kitchens and created cakes that they then went out into the school and sold. I am told the money raised will go towards subsidizing an excursion. The students have gained valuable information in how to create a budget and how to source supplies cheaply in order to make a good quality product at a profit. Mr Heiler reports that the boys were very enthusiastic and the experience

has created a very positive buzz in the class. In week 9 Mr Heiler took students from the year 10 Geography classes to a regional geography competition. Our students came second from a total of 10 teams – congratulations to those boys.

Now what would you do if, as a fisheries inspector you came across someone catching a protected species? Should they have the right to say I'm innocent because I didn't know? Over the last two weeks 7 boys in Year 10 have been working solidly to prove that ignorance isn't always a legal defense. The boys from the Mock trial team will compete against St Patricks on Thursday at 4:30pm. Close family members are always welcome to come along and support the school team.

In the first week of term 2 the school will be commemorating ANZAC day. This day has grown over the decades and has gone from being a small event when "I was a school boy" often regarded as something that will eventually die out into a day that is looked on as a chance for all people of all nationalities to honour the bravery and sacrifice of the many men and women who have died as soldiers in battle. Our school has the unique opportunity of celebrating the bravery and valour of both Australian and Turkish soldiers on the battlefields of Gallipoli Africa, Asia and Europe as well as the sacrifices of many other nationalities. Mr Bellavia is coordinating the day's activities with the support of faculty members.

Over the last 10 weeks students in Year 11 History have studied the background causes of the Arab Israeli conflict. One of the highlights of any learning is the incidental things you pick up as you read, discuss and come to a conclusion. For me the fact that no pogroms were only a European occurrence and not a feature of Arab or Palestinian life was something that gives me hope that the conflict does have a peaceful solution. We were lucky that people from the Jewish and Palestinian communities were willing to give their time and come and explain the position of their nation to our students.

Lastly I wanted to explore some of the careers that are available to students who choose the HSIE subjects. In this issue I'm going to start off with Geography in Years 11 and 12. While there aren't many job titles that are "geographer," there are many types of positions that fit well with a degree in geography. A recent internet search yielded an interesting array of vocations some of which are listed below: urban planning which Geography is a natural tie-in with urban or city planning. City planners work on zoning, land use, and new developments, from a petrol station renovation to

the development of whole new sections of urban area. City governments, council agencies, and other government agencies and private groups are often in need of experienced GIS professionals. Coursework and internships in GIS are especially important. Computer programming or engineering skills are very helpful in this arena - the more about computers and languages you know, the better off you are.

In **Transportation management** like urban and city planning, there are opportunities in local government but regional transit authorities or shipping, logistics, and transportation companies look kindly to someone with transportation geography in their background and good computer and analytical skills.

Environmental Management A plethora of environmental assessment, cleanup, and management companies exist throughout the world today. A geographer brings excellent skills for project management and the development of reports like environmental impact reports. It's often a wide-open field with tremendous growth opportunities. The above information appeared in a site called about.com

I'm extremely interested to hear your opinions about the courses that are offered in the HSIE faculty and we will soon begin to look at ways of connecting with parents about the various courses and opportunities offered by the faculty.

Finally on behalf of the HSIE faculty we wish you a safe and relaxing break.



ENGLISH REPORT

Mr Hardcastle

During the first term of 2012, the English Faculty has been working hard to involve students in an array of activities both inside and outside the classroom.

Year 12 Standard English, accompanied by Mr Budnik & Ms. Gandouin attended an evening performance of the play 'Cosi' at the Riverside Theatre in Parramatta to help with their understanding of the HSC Close Study of Text. From all accounts the students conduct was flawless with their appreciation of the supervising teachers' time being a credit to their maturing character.

Year 11 Advanced and Standard classes have completed reading the novels 'Fahrenheit 451' & 'Roar' respectively and are well on their way with the Preliminary HSC course.

Year 10 have finished up the term, gaining a greater understanding of **Protest & Rebellion**, completing a chronologically examination of world issues reflected in song since the early 1970's.

Employing sensory boxes filled with an array of slippery, sharp and slimy objects, **Year 9** have focussed on developing their vocabulary and descriptive language capabilities through their Horror genre focus this term. With NAPLAN just around the corner, both Year 7 & 9 cohorts have begun focussing on the use of Persuasive Language Devices within the Fairy Tale & Horror units respectively. Through the **AFOREST** acronym, students have been working towards providing evidence based arguments for a number of controversial topics. We wish these students the best of luck in their preparations and look forward to their **success in NAPLAN**.

Producing scripts for the filming of their own **MythBusters** episode, the Enrichment class and 8B's cross KLA project has seen positive students engaged and enthusiastic efforts from both staff and students. With the assistance of Ms. Adderley, the majority of Stage 4 Students have commenced the **Premier's Reading Challenge**, with some students well on their way to the target of 15 books.

Year 9 Drama & Film have been exploring the genre of Slapstick, enjoying filming the throwing of cream pies with Mr. Egan. Also during the term, students were given the opportunity to attend a **Virtual Shakespearian Excursion with the Bell Shakespeare Education Unit**, being commended by the organisers for their outstanding participation.

Finally, as the term draws to a close, Debating Teams from Years 7-11 are being finalised as we kick off into the Regional rounds of the **Premier's Debating Challenge** during Term 2

NAPLAN
PERSUASIVE
WRITING
STRATEGY

Anecdote
Fact
Opinion
Rhetorical Question
Expert Opinion
Statistics
Triplets

MATHEMATICS REPORT

Ms Ram

Mathematics Faculty Article (Term 1, Bulletin 2)
We approach the end of Term 1 with relief and excitement at the prospect of the upcoming vacation. This term all students have been busy with setting the routine in their Mathematics classes. The year 7's have settled in very well as well and can navigate themselves around the school without getting lost. It is very encouraging to see the senior students displaying a greater sense of purpose and determination in their study of Mathematics.

Studying Mathematics (Helpful Hints)

1. **Avoid the risk of frustration.** The later stuff builds on the earlier stuff. A math book is like a novel, it doesn't make sense unless you start at the beginning.
2. **Know your basics.** Practise regularly to develop your Mathematical brain. Regular practice will ease your challenges.
3. **Try to work out the problems and do the exercises.** If there is a sample problem in your book, or an example problem, work through it yourself, and use the sample in your book to guide you.
4. **Solve the easier problems first,** so you can mentally warm up your brain for the more complicated ones
5. **Learn the vocabulary!** Every area of Math has its own vocabulary. You must understand the language of Mathematics. The commonly used words in English may not mean the same in Mathematics.

6. **Identify the error.** If you make a mistake in a problem, or in a proof, or take a wrong turn, figure out why! Figure out what it was, or what it was that you were thinking, that led you down the wrong path
7. **Be able to explain it to somebody else.** This is a sure way to find out what you don't understand. You learn more when you teach it to someone else.

NAPLAN

Years 7 and 9 will sit for the National assessment (NAPLAN) from 15 to 17th of May this year. To help students prepare well for this assessment, the year 9 students are issued with NAPLAN preparation booklets every week. Students are required to complete the booklet during the week. Teachers have allocated specific times to go over the booklets with students so as to clarify doubts and offer help. Parents are encouraged to help their children complete the books.

MATHLETICS

Mathletics is the interactive learning software, for students. At Granville Boys, all students from years 7 to 10 have now been given passwords that allow access to Mathletics and a Literacy feature Spellodrome, both at home and in school. Teachers set focus activities, home work, and tests through Mathletics, which give instant feedback to both the student and the teacher. The lessons set on Mathletics are based on the teaching program planned for the particular classes in 2012. Students accumulate points on Mathletics and are awarded Bronze, Silver and Gold certificates. Maths live games and competitions develop mathematical skills in students through interactive activities and are enjoyed by all students. All students must spend some time at home on Mathletics every week. I would like parents to encourage their children to practice Mathematics on Mathletics.



HSC TUTORIALS

The Mathematics faculty has been offering HSC tutorials this year. The attendance at the tutorials has been very good indicating that students are keen to achieve success. These tutorials are voluntary and are available to all year 11 and 12 students. The lessons happen from 3 -4pm after

school on Thursdays in room 515. Maths teachers are available to offer help to students and all senior students are encouraged to attend. Those students particularly, who have missed some lessons due to absence, or who have a pending N- Warning must make an effort to be present at the tutorials.



PDHPE REPORT

Mr Abraham

It has been a very busy term with lots of activities. Years 7 and 8 Swim School

The highlight of the term has been the Swim School program for Year 7 and Year 8 students. The program was held at Granville Swimming Centre over a period of two weeks. I would like to congratulate all the students for their excellent behaviour during this period. All students enjoyed the program, particularly the water activities. The program catered for all levels of swimming ability, allowing all students to achieve success throughout the week-long program.

Sydney South West Rugby League Trials

On Monday 26th March, 14 students were selected to represent the Prospect Zone in Rugby League and Trial for the Sydney South West Regional team. The boys played two pool games before a "Possible vs. Probable" match-up was selected for a final trial. The boys faced Macquarie Zone in the first match and showed some exceptional skill by becoming away with a 6-all draw. The second game was against heavy favourites, Hills Sports High. The boys matched them physically and performed well; however, a few costly errors gave

Hills Sports plenty of possession and they ran away with the game 12-0. A big congratulation goes to Malakai Uate and Michael Masila for making it through to the second round of trials. Well done to all boys involved.

Term 2 Sports

Next term sees a new season of Grade Sports Competitions against local high schools in the Prospect Zone. As usual, a range of non-competitive ('House') sports will be available as well. The list of sports and their respective costs are listed below.



House sports	
Sport	Cost
Laser skirmish	\$10 per visit
Ten pin bowling	\$10 per visit
School fitness room	\$ 10 /term
Computer club	Free
School sports	Free

Competitive sport		
Sport	Coach	Cost
Open Soccer	Mr. Wynne	\$30 / term
Junior Soccer	Mr. Soliman	\$30 / term
Open AFL	Mr. Rutherford	\$30 / term
Open OZ Tag	Mr. Chebib	\$30 / term
Junior Oz Tag	Mr. Ghazal	\$30 / term



SUPPORT UNIT REPORT

Mrs Rudek

Another busy term has almost passed. Work Experience has been a great success and our faculty has received positive feedback about our students who have participated in this program. Employees have been very happy with our students in Year 9 completing their first work experience placements. Before work experience students completed a Work Ready Program with the Careers Adviser and Parents participated in a Work Experience Information Morning. We are very appreciative of all the community businesses that embrace our students and give them these opportunities that allow them to develop and strengthen the employability skills that are required once they have finished school.

Sila Manukeu, Hadi Saifi and Mohamed Jalloh worked in Target Parramatta for the term. They worked out in the back dock as well as inside the store and assisted customers. Khaled El Moubayed worked in Woolworths and gained casual work. Whereas, Shane Lane and Adem Akgul worked in Kmart and received positive feedback.

Throughout the year. The Get Ready Boys will be participating in number of workshops at Parramatta stadium with Ryan James who is the education coordinator with the Parramatta Eels. The boys had the opportunity to see the Eels rugby players practising at Parramatta stadium. They also completed their first workshop with Ryan which was Dream, Believe and Achieve. The boys were enthusiastic and thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

Last week Julianne Elliott, a solicitor for Community Legal Education ran a Burn workshop with the Get Ready Boys. This was a terrific, informative workshop as the boys eagerly participated in the discussions and asked appropriate questions. It was great to see our Students displaying our school values of being safe, respectful learners.

The Support Unit staff would like to wish everyone a happy and safe holiday



LEARNING SUPPORT TEAM REPORT

Mrs Adderley

Learning Support Faculty Report

This year has got off to an exciting start. The Learning

Support Faculty has expanded and now consists of:

This term has been very busy for the Learning Support Faculty we are working hard to support year 7 and 9 students to prepare for their NAPLAN test which they will be sitting term 2 through individual, small group and in class support. If you are interested in finding out more about NAPLAN please visit <http://www.naplan.edu.au/> where you will find extensive information including past tests.

Reading is directly linked to academic success if your son/ward tells you he has no homework then get him to read or do some literacy activities.

Online Activities to Improve Literacy and Numeracy

Read a book

Online books and comics can be found at

<http://comic.wtso.net/>

<http://htmlcomics.com/>

<http://www.lardlad.com/comicstrip.shtml>

<http://www.readprint.com/>

<http://www.onemanga.com/>

<http://www.magickeys.com/books/#ya>

<http://bygosh.com/>

Literacy activities

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/skillswise/>

http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/websites/11_16/site/english.shtml

<http://www.mathsonline.com.au/> you will need to register first

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/skillswise/>

http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/websites/11_16/site/maths.shtml

Also there are many literacy and numeracy activities on TaLE

www.tale.edu.au/ (which you can also be access through son/ward logging into there DET portal). When you sign in type in numeracy or literacy and it will take you to a lot of different activities. Activities from the Learning Federation are very good.

TAS REPORT

Mr Dixon

If you feel that your son / ward is having difficulties with his school work please feel free to contact me. Homework club is running on Monday and Wednesday afternoons for student from 7 to 12. On Tuesday afternoon from 1.00pm till 2.30 we are running a year 12 tutorial and supported study session. Next term we should be having uni students attend as well in order to support the year 12 students.

There has been a change of support staff in the library we now have Ms Ayten in the morning Mrs Holloway in the afternoon they have been doing a fantastic job.. We have a great number of students doing the Premiers reading Challenge this year, which is very exciting. The library has lots new book on the Premiers reading Challenge list, so ask your son/ward what PRC book they have borrowed. Also many of the local libraries can also help you with PRC books so don't forget to ask when you are in there.

A Chess and Checkers Club has commenced on Friday morning from 8am to 9.20, any boys interested are encouraged to join. We now also have a junior and intermediate chess team who will compete in competitions with other schools.

The Learning Support Faculty continues to look forward to supporting you and collaborating with you to improve your son /wards learning opportunities.



Term 1 has been a busy term for the Arts faculty. In Music we received a range of new musical instruments, including a new violin, cello, trombones, tenor saxophone and trumpets. The New Year 7 students have been placed in their Band roll call class and have been busy learning their instruments with Mr Luck and Miss Richardson. Many of our senior band students are learning new pieces to perform. A new Arabic drum group will start up next year for year 7 students. Boys interested should see Mr Dixon. Many of our classes have been involved in inventive lessons this term.

Mrs Rodriguez has been making solar cars with her year 10 electronics class and racing them across the playground. She has also been working with her year 11 class filling the lower school yard with sweet aromas of home-made Hot-cross buns. The process involved kneading the dough 24 hours before cooking. In TAS Enrichment students are developing research techniques and applying the design brief across a number of areas including Lego Robotics and Myth experimentation. The students are working in teams to build and program robots they can use to test a number of experiments.

Mr Hryce and Mr Odei have been busy preparing their HSC classes for their major works. Mrs Rogers Year 10 Food tech class produced a fantastic luncheon for all staff that displayed their culinary expertise.

Miss Holland's year 9 IST students have shown great commitment to their learning by HyperText Markup Language, to build their own web-sites. Her year 10 classes have been studying animation using Adobe Flash.



In Music Mr Luck has been busy preparing his year 12 students for their upcoming HSC. His year 7 classes have been working with Ipads and learning the instruments of the orchestra and his year 9 elective students are busy learning performance items.

In Visual Arts year 7 are investigating marks, year 8 are doing cartooning and PopArt and year 12's are busy designing their major works.

As you can see there's a lot creativity happening in the Arts/Tas faculty this semester.



TEACHING & LEARNING

Ms Cullenward

Granville Boys High School Explodes!

Ominous? Yes! When it comes to myth-busting at GBHS, there has been plenty of explosion, froth and bubble this term. Boys in 8B and the Enrichment class vowed to bust a myth – working on their investigation across many of their subjects – English, Maths, Science, HSIE, TAS and PDHPE.

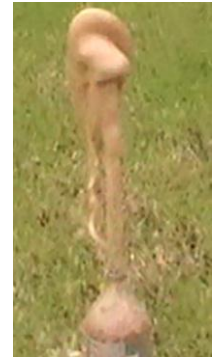
Marwan Taha (8B) can explain what he has been doing far more eloquently than I can:

“As an avid learner of all things fun, I just couldn't resist the temptation of experimenting with something that's messy and extremely fun to do. On a sunny afternoon, I put a diet Cola bottle on the lawn at school and, as quickly as possible, dropped a roll of Mentos into it and the reaction was instantaneous! As the Mentos hit the Cola,

carbon dioxide was released and flew into the air in a foamed formation of the diet Cola.”



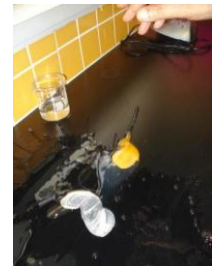
From this to
that



While a number of the groups investigated whether Diet Coke effervesced when Mentos was added, several groups investigated the outcome of leaving eggs in vinegar.



From this
to that



One myth tested is when a 50 cent coin is tossed into a bucket of water, will it always fall in the middle of the bottom of the bucket? Another group investigated change to the boiling point of water once salt is added.

The students have filmed their experiments and will edit their films to create a product à la Mythbusters.

A group from each class has met with Ms Lay to record their reflections about what they have learnt, how they learnt and what can be fun

Congratulations to the boys in these classes and to their teachers for achieving such wonderful learning outcomes.

In addition to taking on the above integrated learning project, the teachers also have been very busy with the rest of the staff at GBHS, meeting with their peer coaches, refining their ideas, strategies and lessons to improve the learning

outcomes of all their students. Staff, as well as meeting with their peer coach a number of times, have had nominated lessons observed by their coach. These observations have been followed up with discussion and reflection. More than just diet Cola has been exploding at GBHS this term!

Congratulations to the boys and the staff for all their achievements this term and a big thankyou to the parents and caregivers whose continued support of the boys and their teachers in this journey of life-long learning is imperative. Finally, a safe and relaxing Easter vacation to all!



CAREERS

Mrs Bailey-Marsman

Our Transition Adviser has been very busy assisting those students who are looking for post-school options to successfully transition into alternate pathways. This would include, courses at TAFE or private providers, part-time work, work experience and apprenticeships.

Year 12 VET students have been completing their work placements this semester. We have had great feedback from Retail and Hospitality employers who are impressed by our students behaviour and dedication to their work.

Support students have had rave reviews by host employers during work experience this semester. The year 9 support students who have not had any previous work experience have enjoyed their first step into the world of work. Some even being offered part-time work.

YEAR 7 ADVISOR

Ms Rodriguez

This term has been very busy for our new Year 7 students. The boys are settling into high school routines well. Year 7 have participated in many events already this term.

They have been on an excursion to the Sydney Harbour and Shark Island for History. Participated in the Swimming Carnival and Swim School program both organised by PDHPE to improve the boys swimming ability. School Camp at Narrabeen which involved Rock Climbing, Archery, Kayaking and Abseiling. Congratulations to all students involved for their excellent behaviour.

All Year 7 students are due to sit for NAPLAN testing early Term 2. All boys are currently participating in pre testing to prepare them for these tests. I would like to wish the boys the best of luck in their upcoming examinations and I would also like to wish them a happy and safe holiday.





Notice Board

- * Term 2 resumes 24th April 2012
- * ANZAC day 25th April 2012 is a public holiday
- * Uniform Shop will be open on Thursday the 26th April 2012

