

Bulletin

Issue 1 Term 3, 2012



2012 Enrichment

GRANVILLE BOYS HIGH SCHOOL

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“A GREAT PLACE TO
LEARN”



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PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Ms O'Brien

We have had a fantastic start to Term 3. We have been recognised for our work at school on a regional, state and national level. The school as usual has been a hive of activity and staff and students have been working hard.

Adam Alahmad was named the Regional School Ambassador for the Granville Groups of Schools in South Western Sydney at a ceremony held during Education Week. We are justly proud of his achievements. The School Education Director, John Selby commented that Adam was a worthy winner of this award because of his leadership not only within our school and in the wider community but he also at the workshops at University of Western Sydney and at Belgenny Farm where he supported younger students from our Primary Schools. Adam is committed to our great school and has represented us with honour and integrity.

Our thanks to Ms Nerissa Rodriguez, Kym Orman and Fiona Cullenward who successfully submitted an application to the National Australia Bank's School First for a seeding grant for the school café. The Pulse Café has been operating at the school and is exceptional in that it is a student initiative. Ali Amood has passed the manger baton to Yayha El Arab in Year 11 and he is most ably assisted by Ahmed Amoud and Mohammed Yassine. These boys are at the Café by 7.30 every morning ready for 8.00am opening. They serve the students a healthy breakfast as well as coffees and milkshakes. The grant will help us establish a commercial cooking bay in the school kitchen where all our budding chefs will gain their qualifications. The hospitality of the students and staff is wonderfully warm and the food is delicious. Congratulations to all of you are involved in this enterprise.

As a result of the work of the staff and students with the Pulse Café, I have been invited to lead a committee representing schools across Australia to advise NAB Schools First alumni schools. To quote from our invitation our "partnership is an impressive example of what school-community partnerships are all about – and as it's been student driven, is also really unique". It is a great privilege to represent Granville Boys High School on this committee.

This term we have worked with students from Auburn West Public Schools. Jimmy Bellavia and his Year 10 Elective History Class have visited a Year 6 class at Auburn West to mentor students about their own personal histories. The Year 6 students have created a mobile museum about themselves and they will present their exhibits at

GBHS to our teachers so that we can learn something about them before they come to High School. Adam Luck and Owen Egan, our resident filmmakers, have also visited the Primary School to film the progress and preparation of the exhibition.

In our next Bulletin I hope to report to you about our annual staff conference. We have had a very exciting and fruitful time building learning projects for the students in Year 8. All teachers are in one of four teams at the school and they have worked collaboratively to plan integrated learning tasks that link different faculties. I am sure you will enjoy reading about these projects later in the Bulletin. We are planning to have staff present their work at staff conference.



DEPUTY PRINCIPAL REPORT

Mr. Abas

Staff Development Day provided staff with an opportunity to showcase some of the great projects happening around the school. The projects included curriculum mapping, differentiated learning, and concept mapping. The quality of the presentations was evident and staff feedback confirmed the value and relevance of the presentations on what they believed is good practice teaching and learning. The depth and quality of the professional learning being completed at the school suggests that the spirit of the school leadership framework - 'The Platform for Collaborative Learning' is contributing significantly to the school improvement initiatives.

The school leadership framework advocates professional learning that is centred on the local learning environment, based on staff sharing experiences and expertise, and focused on the integration of teacher practice into professional dialogue. The richness and broadness of this school improvement program is indicative of effective and sustainable school improvement. In the model collectively developed at the school, there is a high degree of leadership support for teacher learning and risk taking, which leads to substantial staff interaction and co-dependence. The strength of this model was demonstrated at the Staff Development Day where teachers worked together to explore teaching and learning issues and strategies, and shared teaching experiences.

In the PAS (fortnightly faculty professional learning) periods, staff were introduced to concept mapping and critical literacy. These teaching tools were selected as they will be used over the semester to review learning material and assessment. The focus for this term will be on the development of new writing tasks for year 7 and 8. As part of the process, faculties will be introduced to current thinking on the cognitive domain, strategic assessment and the marking criteria that will be developed by the school literacy team. I would like to thank Mr Shouk (Mathematics) and Ms Gandouin (English) for their assistance and support during the first two PAS fortnights.

This term, as part of the ongoing review of the effectiveness of the professional learning process at the school, staff completed a survey on the critical elements of professional learning and school quality. A significant number of teachers selected teaching and learning (pedagogy) and learning environment as the most significant areas that affect the quality of a school, and a focus on student learning and a strong collaborative culture as significant elements of professional learning.

The outcome of the survey is in line with current research on collaborative professional learning and the methodology behind the development of the school leadership framework.

South Western Sydney Region will share and celebrate Priority School Program supported initiatives that have improved students' learning potential. Granville Boys High School will be showcasing the music and dance program and its broader impact on literacy and numeracy engagement. The presentation will demonstrate how the process used to transform student attitudes to learning within the dance and music program was translated to other areas of learning and further to learning programs within faculties and to integrated learning tasks, which were developed by the school learning teams.

Year 10 students are entering an important time in their education. In week 7 and 8, (6-12 September), Year 11 subject selection interviews will held with all Year 10 students and their parents. The interview with the parent is a compulsory process. The subject selection process will be an opportunity for students to select subjects regardless of whether they want to go to university, or they see themselves pursuing a trade or apprenticeship. The subject selection process is about targeting subjects that will allow the student to succeed. Students will receive a subject selection handbook on or before the 30th August 2012. Additional information will be sent to Parents outlining the procedure for subject selection and important information that can be accessed prior to the interview. Please contact me if you have any questions about the subject selection process.

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL REPORT

Mr. Marciniak

Year 6 to 7 Community of schools Transition project

This year is the second year that Granville Boys High School is participating with its community of schools (Auburn Girls High School, Granville South Performing and Creative Arts High School, Blaxcell Street Public) in creating units of work to assist year 6 students in the transition from Primary to High school. The objective of the community of schools transition project is to aid students learning in subject areas of Maths, English, Geography, Science, Design and Technology and PDHPE as well provide them with the necessary social skills to adjust to High school life. In term four Year 6 students from local Primary

schools will be invited to Granville Boys High and the other community of schools (High Schools) to experience different subjects of a three day period

Year 8 subject selection

This term Year 8 students will be provided with information regarding subject selections into year 9 2013. Students will be provided with a subject selection booklet and parents will be invited to the school for an information session regarding the choice of subjects on offer.

PBIS Day- Wednesday 5th September 2012

This Year Granville Boys High School will be celebrating its fourth year as a Positive Behaviour Intervention Systems (PBIS) High school. This year our focus will be the Community and the role the individual plays. The day will consist of workshops, where people from the local community will speak with the students about community involvement. There will be a formal assembly with musical performances from our students as well as local High Schools. Lunch will consist of multicultural food stalls, with food provided by the school, students and the local community. Our PBIS day is a fantastic opportunity for students, parents, staff and the community to celebrate the success of our school. We look forward to seeing you on the day.

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL REPORT

Mr. Mallios

Term 3 has been very busy with several important events undertaken or in the planning phase. This includes:

- Whole Staff Conference at Rydges Rose Hill
- Parent Meetings with Year 12 parents and students
- Preparation for the Year 12 Graduation
- Completion of HSC Major Works by students
- Creation of a second Enrichment Classroom in the school
- PLANE - Highly Accomplished ICT Educator program

The school teams have worked tirelessly carrying out their briefs across the year and had the opportunity to present their accomplishments to all staff at the Rydges Conference Centre on Friday 17th August. Teachers highlighted amazing works produced by students and staff, and several great upcoming projects including 3D development using Minecraft.

Year 12 are busy preparing for the HSC and as part of the process the Senior Executive interviewed each student with their parents about results from the Trial HSC and how best to prepare for the coming examinations. Also underway is planning for the Graduation celebrations on the 20 September followed by dinner with staff and students at Granville RSL.

In Preparation for a second Enrichment class in 2013, we are setting up a new classroom with resources including Interactive Whiteboards and ipads. We are also upskilling the selected teachers with skills to utilise technology within the classroom. This is further to training undertaken earlier in Term 3 about utilising technology in a 21st century classroom.

Lastly, I have been working with the new PLANE project. PLANE is an acronym for *Pathways for Learning, Anywhere, anytime – a Network for Educators*.

PLANE is an innovative and fun educator community, networking space, and virtual world; providing accredited professional learning, courses, multi-media resources, ICT skills development, e-portfolio, collaborative tools, games-based-learning, and peer coaching. PLANE's Mission is to utilise cutting edge technology and best practice methodology to ubiquitously empower all educators to learn, create, collaborate, innovate, and transform their teaching practices to, in turn, inspire and enable their own 21st Century students.

As an early adopter I have been able to participate in Virtual Keynote workshops including 2 with Les Foltos, the developer of the Microsoft Peer Coaching program. PLANE is giving the opportunity to every educator to build/join a Professional Learning Network for expanding their knowledge of education.



HEAD TEACHER WELFARE

Ms.Libdy

Welcome to Term 3. It has been a very busy term so far. The students are again involved in many extracurricular activities that deal with leadership, social skills, understanding the wider community and peer mediation.

We have recommenced the social skills program as it was put on hiatus last term due to unforeseen circumstances. The program is going well and hopefully it will be completed by the end of this term.

The Goals students have their third session on Thursday the 16th of August. They will be attending the Australian Theatre for the young. During this session students will learn to develop better communication skills and improve their confidence in public situations.

This term we started our relationship with the 'Together for Humanity' program. This program teaches students to replace religious and cultural prejudice with mutual respect and cooperation. The school nominated Year 9 students from a variety of communities and religious denominations.

In our diverse society, differences of belief (including beliefs that are non-religious), culture, race and experiences of injustice, both real and perceived, often divide us. Together for Humanity looks to address these divisions, through fostering positive experiences of diversity.

The 'Together for Humanity' team come from Muslims, Christians, Jews, Agnostics, Atheists, Aboriginals and Pacific Islanders traditions. The team present stories around values shared between their traditions. They are actively contributing to the development of a society where everyone feels that they belong and are valued.

This program is in its third week and the students have given us positive feedback. The facilitators are also quite impressed with our boys level of engagement and interest.

This Term Youth Peace Initiative (YPI) is partnering with Sydney University's Centre for Peace & Conflict Studies (CPACS) to run a youth mentoring program with our school to strengthen our student-led activities in conflict resolution, social justice, anti-racism, anti-bullying, community service, and/or peer mediation.

This will begin on Monday the 27th of August. The facilitator from Sydney University will come and speak to the Year 10 cohort regarding mentoring. Following on from that event, twelve Year 10 students will be selected and will attend Sydney

University for a two day peer mentoring training on the 4th and 5th of September.

Two of our Year 11 students are attending Youth Leaders Day on the 28th of August at the Parkroyal Hotel in Parramatta. The students will be attending different workshops that centre on world issues. The students are Adnan Obeid and James Keikura.

ACTIV8 program is recommencing on Thursday the 30th of August. This program aims to promote engagement in learning and employment through fortnightly mentoring sessions. 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.

School Attendance:

Did you know that if your child misses as few as eight days in a school term, by the end of primary school they will have missed a whole year of education?

By law, you are required to send your child to school every day. If your child has to be away from school for any reason, please either tell your child's teacher or send a signed note explaining the reason for the absence, as soon as possible. If your child arrives at school late, or needs to leave early, you will need to go to the office to sign your child in or out. If you're having problems getting your child to attend school regularly and on time, please talk to the Head Teacher Welfare, Deputy Principals or principal.

For your obligations under the school attendance guidelines, please go to:

www.det.nsw.edu.au/policies/student_admin/attendance/sch_polproc/PD20050259.shtml

There will be an attendance blitz run by the HSLO (Home School Liaison Officer) Belinda Elliott on Thursday the 16th of August. Belinda and myself will be interviewing students who have had high partial and full day absences. All parents involved have been notified via letters regarding the blitz.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our Muslim families an Eid Mubarak and may Allah shower you and your families with good health, success, happiness and long life.

What is resilience?

In some video games you have to get your character through all sorts of obstacles to the next level, and then do the same sort of things again!

On the way you can 'power up' by hitting or jumping on something and that would give you the strength to keep going. Well, life is a bit like that. You go through life trying to 'get to the next level', and there are all sorts of obstacles to stop you, and times when you can 'power up' to help

You keep going. Coping with everything, keeping on going, and collecting something to help you is what resilience is all about.

What helps you to become resilient?

Where is it that you get your 'power'?

- A caring and supportive family
- Caring friends who you can trust
- Being encouraged to try
- Setting yourself realistic goals and reaching them
- Being confident in your own abilities
- Being able to communicate with others
- Successfully using your problem-solving skills
- Managing strong feelings like anger.

How to build up your own resilience

If you have all these 'power builders', that's great! But what if you don't? You can still build up your own resilience and create the kind of caring support that everyone needs by:

Getting connected

Make friends, get to know people, join in with teams, clubs and organisations. Talk to and help people and allow them to help you.

Don't give up

Everyone has to deal with a crisis from time to time. Just go into 'automatic mode' and work your way through it. Things will get better. It isn't easy, but you do get through eventually.

Change is here to stay – accept it!

Of course, it's unsettling when you feel comfortable with something, then it all changes. Try to see change as a chance to alter the future, not the end of the world as you know it!

Get good at making realistic goals.

- Make long-term goals, then work out the steps you have to take to achieve them.
- Set these as your short-term goals, and work your way through all the short-term goals that will get you where you want to be.

Remember that being realistic doesn't mean accepting second best. As you reach each goal, you can aim higher.

• **Face up to problems.** Think about how you can solve them instead of wishing that they would go away.

• **Learn from the bad times.** Often people find that they have developed better skills, made new friends and got to know themselves better after they have gone through some crisis.

• **Trust yourself.** Develop your skills [e.g. communication, problem solving, conflict resolving] and instincts, and then develop confidence in your ability to use them.

• **Don't turn every small setback into a '10 act drama!'** Unless of course you are practising to be a stand-up comedian!

• **Practise thinking positive thoughts.** Always be hopeful of your ability to get through, and that things will improve.

• **Look after yourself.** Exercise and eat well for a healthy body, and learn to relax.

• **Get to know yourself.** Some people do this by meditation or writing down their thoughts. It's helpful to know what your opinions are, and also to reflect on how you handle life, what works for you and what doesn't.

How you can destroy your resilience

All you need to do is to look at all the ways in which you can build your resilience then do the opposite!

Don't connect with others, allow them to help you, care about yourself, develop skills, be positive, face up to problems or have confidence in yourself.

Do put yourself down, give up, become a loner, neglect your body and mind, be miserable and unhappy.

Then, like the video game you will be knocked out by every obstacle and without the 'power builders' you will be out of the game.

Learn, adapt and move on

We need resilience to cope with the challenges life throws at us. Looking at how you have managed and survived past events can help you become more resilient at managing future events.

Ask yourself:

- What were the bad times?
- How was I affected?
- Who helped me?
- Who did I help?
- Did I overcome obstacles and how did I do it?
- What did I learn that would help in future?
- What did I learn about myself?

Every time you face a crisis, deal with a disappointment, lose someone or something you love, you use your resilience to help you recover and move on with your life.

Kids Helpline - telephone 1800 55 1800

<http://www.kidshelp.com.au/>
<http://www.cyh.com/HealthTopics/HealthTopicDetails.aspx?p=243&np=293&id=2198>

Year 12 Get Ready for the HSC Examination Marathon

At the moment Year 12 students are preparing themselves for the HSC exams. It can be a daunting task to review and commit to memory all that has been learned in each subject over the course of the year! In order to make the most of the time left before the actual exams, students need to, like the Olympic athletes, train for the big event.

So, how can they do this?

12 Steps for Effective Studying

Studying effectively is a process, not an event. The process leads to success.

1. Plan a definite time for studying every day. Studying every day, even for a short period of time, keeps you from falling behind. It will also help to keep all the necessary information familiar to you.

2. Know the requirements for each subject and exactly what will be assessed in each subject. By doing this, you can then break down what you need to know into sections, which will make it easier to structure your study time.

3. Predicting the amount of time you need for each session causes you to work smarter as well as harder and more productively. By keeping track of the actual amount of time you spend on your tasks and revision activities, you are more likely to concentrate and less likely to become bored.

4. Do a variety of revision activities. Don't just stick to reading over notes. Create mind maps, flash cards or wall charts. Rewrite notes, work with a partner and quiz each other, complete practice papers. There are a lot of different ways to study, so experiment.

5. Talk to your teachers. If you have a question or are struggling to understand something while studying, make a note of it and follow it up with your teacher when you see them.

6. When reading or reviewing a textbook pay attention to charts, diagrams, and special "boxed text" areas. They are definite aids to understanding the material.

7. Every time you study, spend at least ten minutes reviewing the material from your previous study session. These "refresher shots" are part of the secret for long term memory retention. This habit of frequent review also results in less time needed for studying prior to a major exam.

8. Study during the day. You are probably less efficient at night.

9. Study for 30 to 40 minutes and then take a 5minute break, or if your concentration and discipline will allow, study for 50 minutes and take a 10minute break. Get up walk around, stretch, drink some water, or eat a light snack. Taking regular breaks refreshes your mind so you can concentrate better, finish faster, and retain more.

10. If you do study at night set a "stopping time" for yourself. This "time frame" will encourage hard work in anticipation of the clock going off. You may even set a goal for yourself to complete an assignment before the time limit. This increased impetus may help you to concentrate.

11. Do not cram the night before a test. Distribute your review in half hour segments over a period of days. If you do not adopt a structured study schedule, you will not master required course material and you will set yourself up to fail.

12. Learning is accumulative. New ideas must be incorporated with previous material from class, readings, and other resources. You have to continuously make the connection in your mind from new material to previously learned material and/or experiences. Putting it all together is easier if you schedule time daily to read, to think, to write, to reflect, and to review.



SCIENCE REPORT

Mrs Saliba



The Science Headquarters

There has been a very wide range of activities that students have experienced this semester in Science.

Year 12 Visit to the University of Western Sydney-Parramatta Campus

On Thursday the 19th of July a group of Year 12 Physics students led by Mrs. Andraos went to the University of Western Sydney-Parramatta Campus. They conducted experiments and participated in activities based on the practical applications of the Michelson & Morley experiment, x-ray diffraction and Superconduction. They gained a deeper knowledge and understanding of concepts that were presented by specialist researchers and Doctors in the field of Physics.



AUSGRID Excursion



On the 24th July a group of 16 year 10 students attended the AUSGRID Science and Engineering Challenge in Silverwater. The challenge is a day-long competition designed to provide year 10 high school students with a positive experience of Science and Engineering. Activities included the building of an Eco-Habitech model home, building a small bridge from balsa wood, constructing a

small hovercraft and a tall earthquake-proof tower, as well as a circuit board with which they could simulate power distribution. The students competed against seven other schools and demonstrated an exceptionally high level of competitiveness and teamwork. Well done boys!

Science Exposed Excursion 2012

Science Exposed is a FREE event during **Science Week** for year 9 students and teachers to explore the latest in Science and Technology and learn more about careers in Science. On the 3rd August 2012, 19 year 9 students led by Mrs. Kotelawela and Mrs. Ioannidis attended an excursion at the University of Western Sydney-Parramatta Campus. The students attended a number of lectures presented by ANSTO; they examined Science exhibits and participated in a series of hands on activities including making slime, electronic robots, observed reptiles and looked at sunspots through a telescope.



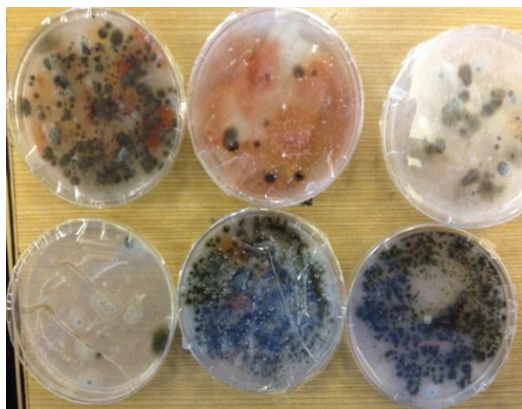
Year 12 Biology Report

This term, the Year 12 Biology students are learning about Communication. As part of the HSC course requirement students had the opportunity to dissect a cow's eye. The students were excited because they were able to successfully dissect and identify the different structures of the cow's eyes.



Year 8 Report

This term, the year 8 students were given the opportunity to grow their own bacterial and fungal colonies by swabbing different areas of the classroom onto sterile agar plates. For example the walls, floor, shoes, door handles etc. Students were fascinated by the amount growth of bacteria and fungi growing on the plates.



2012 Big Science Competition

Science competition results have arrived and it is most pleasing to see some good achievements. Every student who took part in the completion received a certificate that reflected their achievement.

To all 51 students who participated, Congratulations! Whatever result each of you has achieved, simply participating makes you a winner! Granville Boys High School is very proud of the results our students achieved in this competition. The following boys received a certificate:

Score	Award
100-95 %	High Distinction
94- 85%	Distinction
84- 60%	Credit
0 – 59%	Participation

Participation:

Ahmad Abdel Sada, AbdelKader Alssaje, Ibrahim Amin Hayford Ayirebi, Mohammed El-Arab, Mostafa El-Bahri, Bilal El-Bikai, Kelvin Huynh , Ahmed Kaballan, Toufic Sabouh, Abdullah Taher, Mohammed Taleb, Ossama Trad, Mohammad Zeidan, Mohamed Abbas, Ali Al Sakafi, Adam Alameddine, Khader El- Arab, Ramazan Askary, Mohamed El-Bikai, Ahmed El-Sayah, Mohamad El-Skaf, Faheem Emdad, Suehaib Frache, Hamza Ghonaim, Mouhamed Ibrahim, Hamze Jablaoui, Ibrahim Kanj, Mohammad Khodr, Hadi Naboulsi, Nassim Naboulsi, Wassim Naboulsi, Amer Obeid, Abayazied Osman, Abraham Rifahi, Jalall Sabouh, Homam Sawadi, Gazwan Shahrouk, Ibrahim

Sleiman, Mohamad Sobhie, Hamza Taha, Gerbrail Yaghi, Bourhan Zeidan, Abdullah Abbas, Osama Jamal-Eddine, Sobhi Maaliki, Khoder Matar, Youseff Zeidan.

Credit:

Peter Tupou

Distinction:

Jacob Starley, Musab Afridi

HSIE REPORT

Mr Mandarakas

Hello again. When I think back to the time I did the HSC I often tell students that compared to the stress of the HSC, University exams seem far less stressful, in fact, I don't remember University as a stressful place. The HSIE faculty has been focused on the preparation of the year 12 students for the HSC. They have gone over their Yearly exam papers and students are focusing on developing their multiple choice and essay writing skills. All HSC students should be working that bit harder.

Year 11 are working towards their exams in weeks 9 and 10 and are in the process of completing their last assessment task for term 4. Recently Year 11 History students from Granville Boys were given a tour of Sydney University and introduced to the resources of the University Library. Last week these students came to Granville Boys and spent time in the classroom discussing research topics with our students. The students from Sydney University are acting as coaches for our boys. The boys will now return to Sydney University with their coach to further develop their research project. In this way our students are learning the skill of how to research as well as gaining an understanding of the process of how to undertake independent research.

Ms Ghosh has been working with students in the Together for Humanity project. In this project facilitators challenge and support our students to work with their peers from other schools with backgrounds different from their own. The program aims at expanding cross cultural understanding, develops citizenship and communal responsibility. It also builds real relationships across cultural and religious difference. The program addresses syllabus outcomes in Geography and PDHPE.

During the latter part of Term 2 Year 10 returned from a very successful tour of Canberra and a day at the snow of Jindabyne. Student toured the High Court, Parliament House, the War Memorial, and the Australian Institute of Sport. Students appreciated the planning of Mr Bellavia.



In other news preparations are under way for the year 8 excursion to Dubbo Zoo. Students will be travelling by train to the Zoo to undertaking a number of activities designed to give students a deeper understanding of the role of a Zoo in the conservation of species. Students will also have an opportunity to go on a night tour of the Zoo. Thank you to Mr Heiler who has done an excellent job initiating and organising this activity.

All teachers in the faculty will be playing a central role in the GBHS PBIS day. Ms Ghosh, Ms Kirin and Mr Heiler will be organising the Indian food stall, while Mr Bellavia and I organise the European food stall. It promises to be a great day and we all look forward to meeting with you. HSIE Staff have also been involved in the creation, teaching and assessment of integrated units of work. Year 8A students are currently completing a unit on games and Year 8 are soon to begin a unit on Urban Renewal which will focus on the redevelopment of the Clyde Industrial area.

MATHEMATICS REPORT

Ms Ram

Mathematics Faculty

Term 3 has commenced with the usual enthusiasm among both students and teachers at Granville Boys High School. Year 12 students completed their Trial HSC examinations at the beginning of the term and are fast approaching the completion of their coursework in Mathematics. They will sit for one final assessment task this term before the actual HSC examination. Students are encouraged

to use all the time and effort that they can muster to prepare for their HSC examination.



Australian Mathematics Competition

A group of students sat for the Australian Maths Competition on Thursday the 2nd of August this year. Those students who missed out or were unable to participate in the competition this year will be able to participate in the competition again next year. 2013 competition date will be advertised at the beginning of next year.

Mathletics

In schools there is a strong emphasis on providing interactive and engaging lessons for students. We believe that most learners, particularly those who are visual learners, are able to process information much better when they use multiple sensory receptors to learn. Mathletics provides this type of learning. All students from years 7 to 10 are enrolled in Mathletics, which can be accessed from home as well. This term, we have added year 11's to the list of Mathletics users. All students can access the course work that their teachers set on Mathletics, or the focus activities, and use the self explanatory demonstrations to improve their understanding of the various concepts.

Homework

Doing homework is an essential part of learning Mathematics. In the Maths faculty, homework is set and marked for each year group. Parents are encouraged to monitor their son's homework in Mathematics. If there are any concerns, please contact your son's class teacher or Ms Ram, the Head Teacher of Mathematics faculty to discuss the issue.

Numeracy Week

Numeracy team and the Mathematics faculty of Granville Boys High school will be celebrating Numeracy week at the school during week 7 in Term 3 (27th August to 31st August). During this week, students from years 7 to 10 will participate in a variety of numeracy activities which are designed to create an awareness of the existence of numeracy in the fun, games and the problem solving that we do in real life.

Students will be divided into teams and each team will move through an “Amazing Race” of 10 activities. At each activity station they will work out clues to get to the next station. The year 7 and 8 students will also participate in a problem solving game called Jeopardy. A team of students will be chosen from each class in the year group to represent their class.

Students and teachers have also designed banners that will be displayed around the school during that week.

WHAT IS NUMERACY?

Numeracy involves the functional, social, and cultural dimensions of Mathematics. Numeracy is the type of math skills needed to function in everyday life, in the home, workplace, and community (Withnall 1995). To be numerate is to confidently and effectively use mathematics to meet the everyday demands of life. Numeracy is about procedural, practical knowledge.

Why is Numeracy important?

Numeracy enables you to develop logical thinking and reasoning strategies in your daily life. We need numeracy to solve problems and make sense of time, numbers, patterns and shapes for activities like cooking, reading a map or a bill, reading instructions and even playing sport etc.

Ways to support your child's Numeracy development

Research has shown that children's motivation and achievement improve when their parents or carers are involved in their education. There are many everyday things you can do to encourage numeracy learning. These include:

- encouraging your child to use mathematical language — how much, how big, how small, how many
- discussing the use of numbers, patterns and shapes in your day-to-day life, numbers found on library books, spatial, patterns or shapes in playgrounds, in the home and architecture
- talking about occasions when you are using mathematics in daily jobs and real life situations — cooking, map reading, building and playing sport
- exploring situations using money such as shopping, budgets and credit cards
- estimating, measuring and comparing lengths and heights, how heavy or light things are and how much containers hold
- talking about different ways to solve a problem
- using everyday tools like tape measures or kitchen scales and discussing the units of measure

- asking ‘does that make sense?’, ‘is the answer reasonable?’ or ‘what other ways could we do this?’
- observing and using timetables, calendars and clocks for different purposes like study periods, holiday, planning and catching public transport
- helping your child to work out how much things cost and what change they will receive
- playing number games using magazines, books, newspapers and number plates
- organising, categorising and counting collections of things like toys, books, clothing and shoes.
- And many many more...

Ramadan

The Maths faculty would like to send their best wishes for Ramadan and say “Eid Mubarak” to all students, teachers and parents.

PDHPE REPORT

Mr Abraham

U/13s Rugby League

Last term the u/13s rugby league team finished 2nd in a local tournament which saw the team progress to the prestigious NSW All Schools Rugby League Tournament. This tournament is held every year with schools all over NSW vying to be crowned NSW champions. Our boys got off to a flying start versus James Cook HS with a dominate display up front which saw barnstorming prop Fouad El-Skaf run 60 meters with his first touch for an excellent solo try. The game was free flowing from end to end as Granville capitalised on some errors to take the opening game 16-8.

The 2nd and 3rd saw Granville Boys come up against some stiff opponents in James Busby HS and Bidwell HS respectively. The boys from Granville showed plenty of courage against the bigger packs, but were unable to come up with a victory. Captain Alofi Leapai led by example with some powerful runs and a bone jarring hit that even bought applause from the opposition supporters. Despite not progressing to the finals the boys should be very proud of their efforts as they represented their school and region at such a prestigious event.



RecSport

Yr 9 & 10 students who have elected Recreational Sport have begun competing in an in house Soccer Competition. The students now have the opportunity to battle it out against their peers in a 4 week competition that will decide the year champions.



Round 1 saw some exciting action from both years as the students put on a show of skill and talent for all to see. As part of Recreational Sport the boys will compete in different sports to enhance participation and allow the students to excel in many different activities.

SUPPORT UNIT REPORT

Mrs Rudek

This term our year 7 and year 8 students have joined the mainstream Sport classes. This has allowed our students to actively participate in a range of sporting activities as well as interacting with their peer group.

In ICT, Mrs Sivrioglu is teaching her class to create a power point presentation. I have viewed some of the boys work and it is of a high standard!

On the 29th August we will be holding our Support Unit Review with the School Counsellor. We welcome parents to come along to participate in this meeting.

This term we have started a new Science topic Inventors and Inventions. We are researching famous inventors of the past and their contributions to our world.

Our latest guest speaker at the Granville Youth Centre has been Lomalito Moala the 2010 Commonwealth Games Bronze medalist in the light weight division for Boxing. Lomalito showed the boys footage from his Commonwealth Games match and gave us an inspirational talk about his career and his goals for his boxing future. We then had a boxing training session.

The boys were given a brief rundown of 6 boxing defense techniques. Footwork, blocking, parrying,

rolling, slipping, and countering. They Learnt how each defensive technique is used, their advantages and disadvantages.



This term the AFFORD Australian Foundation for Disabilities is working with our Faculty. Our staff would like to thank Diane Lechner a Vocational Trainer who specialises in transition to work. Diane has been teaching our Year 9, 10,11 and 12 students each Monday of this term. The students have differentiated the differences between fulltime, parttime and casual work. They have had lessons on Occupational health and safety in the workplace as well as how to dress appropriately for work. Diane will continue to work with our students till the end of this term.

Work Experience students are working well.



LEARNING SUPPORT TEAM REPORT

Mrs Adderley

This term the Learning Assistance Support Teachers have been working with year seven and eight students in small groups or individually to improve their literacy with an emphasis on developing comprehension. There has been a very exciting buzz in the library with students trying to get the premiers reading challenge finished by the 31st of August. Many students are coming down during recess and lunch to read and write up the books that they have read for the Premiers Reading Challenge. Last year 20 boys in total complete the challenge this year we already have 11 boys finished and many more working hard to complete the challenge.



Chess has had a revival at recess and lunch time with both senior and junior students. This is fantastic to see as chess is a great activity to develop thinking skills.



We have many university tutors coming in to work with students. This is a great benefit for students and both the University tutor and our student benefit greatly from these opportunities as well as have a good time.

Homework club is running on Monday and Wednesday from 3pm till 4pm. On Tuesday afternoon between 1pm and 2.30pm there is HSC support available if you have any questions regarding Homework club feel free to contact myself. if your son/ward is having difficulty with homework and assessment please direct him to the homework club.

Remember as this year is the National Year of Reading there are lots events happening through the department of education and through local libraries. Reading is an essential element of learning students who read do better in tests including NAPLAN and the HSC. Reading should be done every night for at least 20 minutes. Please feel free to contact me if you have any concerns about your son/wards learning.



www.love2read.org.au

TAS REPORT

Mr Dixon

As usual there are lots happening in the Arts faculty.

The Concert Band have successfully auditioned for "Our Spectacular" and will be performing in October at the Sydney Opera House. The boys have an upcoming overnight camp to prepare for their performance.

Our dance group also has recently auditioned for The School Spectacular and successfully, will be performing three shows at Sydney Entertainment Centre as well as having their performance broadcast across Australia on ABC TV.

Mrs Guzman is working hard in final preparations for this year's HSC students. Mr Hryce and Mr Odei have been spending many extra hours, including coming to school on weekends in

order to complete major works in their Industrial Tech and Design and Technology classes.

Congratulations to the Year 7/8 Enrichment students for hosting a wonderful morning tea for their parents, teachers and Ms O'Brien at the beginning of this term, the morning was a great success, well done boys! These students also attended Macquarie University for a Lego Robotics Workshop.

Year 7 Students are working on 'Food Design' were students are developing food preparation skills and unique recipes.

Year 8 Students are studying Food Packaging where they will be creating class recipe booklet.

Year 9 Students are studying Food Trends where they will be creating their own unique Jam and packaging.

Year 10 Students are studying Food Service and Catering where they will be hosting an Italian Themed Luncheon later in the term. Students are looking forward to attending the Filming of Ready Steady Cook in Week 7.

The Year 11 Hospitality class is studying Food and Beverage Service requirements, students have enjoyed participating in Silver service workshops. The majority of the class has completed their Work Placement and should be congratulated for their effort.

Year 12 Hospitality are working towards completing the course and are busily preparing for the HSC.

This time of the year 8 and 10 students are choosing their Elective subjects for next year. Research indicates that secondary students who study Music often achieve higher results in English and maths. I know in my subject area, University studies show students who study music achieve higher results in English and Maths. All students should be choosing subjects that reflect their interests. So, if you've got a passion for Music, Food Tech, Electronics Visual Arts and Industrial Tech you should elect these subjects.

A couple of quotes from last weeks' newspapers back this up.

"When a child finds a passion, it unlocks the key to happiness and success. The difference it makes to their confidence, social life, school results and sheer enjoyment cannot be underestimated."
(Adele Horin. Sydney Morning Herald)

And when you do a subject you enjoy, you should aim to be as good as you can. An article on the recently deceased world famous Australian author and Art critic Robert Hughes sums up this attitude.

"He believed passionately in an elitism that was not based on class, wealth or race, but on skill, imagination, high ability and intense vision."

We want our students to use imagination and intense vision to develop skills to the highest level. This is the aim of all subjects in The Arts faculty at Granville Boys high school.

TEACHING & LEARNING

Ms Cullenward

Game On!

Class 8A have had an exciting time in English, PDHPE and Technology Mandatory this term learning about the finer of details of games – the history and social/cultural value of a variety of games, how to promote games and how learning about movement skills can improve performance – and have begun the process of constructing their own game in Technology Mandatory. They have completed their research presentation in English and have started learning the skills to create a promotional poster for their game. In Technology Mandatory the students have revisited the design cycle and kept a record of each part of the design process in their special booklet.

The students will have an opportunity to showcase their games later this term at school.

Peer Coaching Program

In 2012, curriculum development at GBHS has focused on curriculum differentiation. The purpose of this is to enable us (classroom teachers) to respond to each learner's diverse range of needs. So far, all staff have spent time investigating, implementing and reflecting on several such strategies.

In Semester 2, the staff have continued to trial ways of incorporating the revised Bloom's Taxonomy into lesson sequences and have then spent time reflecting with each other or/and their peer coach leader on the outcomes of these sequences, making improvements where necessary and sharing successes.

Staff were introduced to concept mapping on term 3 Staff Development Day as a result of a group of teachers attending a South Western Sydney regional project in which they utilised this tool for planning a unit of work which has been published on a wiki. The project requires the participants to implement the unit of work and then publish student work samples from that unit. Concept mapping is a particular tool for planning a lesson or a unit of work to include differentiated learning experiences for students.

GBHS staff has now begun considering appropriate units of work in their KLA or with other KLAs which might be planned this way to improve the learning outcomes of your son.

The school has acquired an exciting and powerful new technology –IRIS- for staff to use to record their teaching and learning sequences which can then be used for individual and collaborative reflection to constantly improve classroom practices. The software which comes with the camera is web-based and provides greater opportunity and ease of accessibility for effective collaborative practices between staff.

It is awe-inspiring to observe, daily, the enthusiasm, diligence and innovation of both staff and students trying out new ways to learn together so that the students can become effective, critical thinking, global citizens of the 21st century.

CAREERS

Mrs Bailey-Marsman

This term the focus is on yr 10-12.

Year 10

Students will soon be getting information about their work experience for term 4 that they all must participate in. So students and parents start thinking about where it is you might like to be working and what type of work you might like to be doing. Note that students will require a White Card if they want to work in the Trade areas. I will have a list of possible employment positions up later Term 3 so students need to check on that as well.

Year 11

Have participated in two workshops related to their School to Work Program.

Year 11 Mock Interviews Workshop Program Granville Boys High School in conjunction with PwC

Friday July 27 Year 11 students participated in a day workshop based on their School to Work Program. The workshop was conducted by Price Waterhouse Coopers Human Resources Personnel who gave the students an insight into how to:

- Read a job advertisement
- read a job advertisement
- write a cover letter for that job advertisement
- write a Resume
- present themselves at an interview

The students then prepared themselves by applying for a job, writing their cover letter for that job and producing their resume. Some responses from students were that they found the workshop very helpful, it was great to see that they were on the right track with their resume or cover letter and that it wasn't as difficult as they first thought it was going to be.



Their second workshop on Wednesday 8 August students participated in a Mock Interview for that job advertisement. Students had prearranged interview times and presented themselves for interviews. Various Human Resource Personnel from local community business links to Granville Boys High School conducted these mock interviews.



Participants in Mock Interviews Workshop 2

The morning was a very successful experience for those students who participated. Our guest interviewers were very impressed by the students'

employment histories and how involved some students have been within their school and their community. Stating that these experiences would be developing their leadership skills and in general their employability skills.

Guest Interviewers

Students have said that they are now more confident in themselves, it was really good to have that experience as now they know what to expect from an interview and it was great having feedback from the interviewers there and then. Some students stated that they were very nervous but the guest interviewers helped to settle them by making them feel comfortable and focusing on interview questions.

Those students who participated gained experience in how to read a job advertisement, how to write a cover letter and resume and tips on how to present themselves for their interview. Students should be proud of themselves for participating as some had never had that experience before and some had only had an interview with one person not two people.



Year 12

Have been issued your UAC handbook and have workshops on your disadvantages. Both these are now accessible online. You have till the 28 of September to finalise your university choices. There will be further workshops in the library with Careers Adviser on how to apply to university and how to complete your disadvantage forms. These disadvantage application forms can be downloaded by you and completed with the assistance of the careers adviser or you can collect disadvantage application forms from the careers adviser and complete during further workshops. Please note that Disadvantage forms are due to UAC by the 28 September but these forms need to be signed by school personnel so make sure that you are collecting the support documentation you require for disadvantage/s you are applying for and that these application forms are handed to the careers adviser no later than Friday 14 September. Disadvantage forms will be mailed from school.

Guest speakers from different universities, TAFE, Private colleges and employment agencies have been coming to school and giving presentations to students. So please make sure you know when a guest speaker is coming so that you can get the relevant information required.

If any parent would like to attend a workshop on how to assist their son/guardian on how to apply to the different universities, disadvantages or applying to private colleges please contact the careers adviser to make an appointment.

ASPIRE Step Up.

Students participated in a range of activities including workshops on careers, study skills and university pathways, attending lectures and attending a mini open day where they had the opportunity to talk to university faculty staff and support services.

A major component of Step Up was splitting the students into mixed schools groups to work on a group project throughout the 3 days on the theme of 'the learning processes. Each group attended lectures on the theory of the learning process and presented what they had learned in the form of a group performance on the last day of Step Up. Enclosed are some photos of Step Up to you to share with your school.



Child Protection Week: 2-8th September 2012

NAME	SERVICE OFFERED	CONTACT
Auburn Community Health Centre Child Adolescent and Family Team (CAFT)	Free psychological assessment/ therapy for children & adolescents aged 0-18 years & their families. Issues addressed include developmental, behavioural, emotional or other psychosocial concerns. Various interventions available including: individual counselling with parents, children & adolescents; family therapy; group therapy.	Auburn Community Health Centre, Norval St, Auburn NSW 2144 Telephone 8759 4000 Referral: Phone 1800 222 608 9am - 4 pm.
Auburn Diversity Services Inc (ADSi)	This service offers opportunities for mothers, fathers & their children to make friends. Playgroups for 0-5 age group enhance child development & are available for a range of cultural backgrounds. Culturally specific groups meet to receive emotional & practical support as well as exchange information & learn new skills.	17 Macquarie Rd, Auburn NSW 2144 Telephone: 9649 6955
Auburn Youth Centre	Offers social recreational activities, counselling and casework support to young people aged 12 to 14 who live, study or spend time in the Auburn area.	17 Macquarie Rd, Auburn NSW 2144 Telephone: 9649 6955
Auburn Department of Family & Community Services (FaCS)	Primary concerns are the safety and well-being of children. Community Service Centres can assist with appropriate referrals to useful organisations and short term training and counselling as appropriate.	57-61 Queen St, Auburn NSW 2144 Telephone: 9335 4100 CS Helpline on 132 111
Barnardos - Auburn Children's Family Centre	Barnardos offers counselling for children, young people and their families where children & young people have been affected by domestic violence or experienced sexual assault. Support is provided to young people aged 12-17 who have experienced severe family conflict, homelessness, being in a refuge, mental health issues, violence/abuse &/or neglect, in Out of Home Care or engaging in criminal & other risk-taking activity.	18-24 Kerr Parade, Auburn NSW 2144 Telephone: 9646 2770 Fax: 9749 1050 Contact: Marlene Gilbert
Association of Bhanin El-Minieh	The Arabic Family Support project offers a range of flexible support services to families from Arabic speaking backgrounds. It provides women with opportunities to socialise, create networks, & gain useful information on a range of social, personal, health and educational issues.	98 Auburn Rd Auburn Telephone: 9649 2063 Contact: Mary Semaan
Cumberland Brighter Futures (CBF)	CBF assists families find services and supports. Home visits by supportive caseworkers can assist with a variety of problems that many parents face when raising young children. We offer parenting programs, social support opportunities & education to develop new ways to manage children's behaviour. Assistance to access quality playgroups or childcare can be provided.	Telephone: 93307200 Fax: 93307291 Email: cbfintake@wesleymission.org.au
Granville Multicultural Community Centre (GMCC)	Case management for families with children aged 0-12 years, in the local government area, that requiring support for a range of issues.	8 Factory St, Granville. Phone: 9637 7600 fss@gmcc.org.au
NSW Service for the treatment and rehabilitation of torture and trauma survivors (STARTTS)	STARTTS' mission is to help people from a refugee background to overcome traumatic experiences. STARTTS supports young people & children from refugee backgrounds by offering counselling & working closely with schools to support student welfare. STARTTS also offers other youth-focused programs, including camps, Drumbeat and the Capoeira Angola project.	152 – 168, The Horsley Drive Carramar NSW 2163 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Telephone: 9794 1900 • Fax: 9794 1910 • Email: startts@sswahs.nsw.gov.au •



Notices

- PBIS Day Wednesday 5th September
- Term 4 commences on 9th October 2012

CHANGED CONTACT DETAILS?

FILL IN SLIP, CUT AND RETURN TO THE SIDE OFFICE.

STUDENT NAME: _____

NEW ADDRESS: _____

HOME NUMBER: _____

MOBILE NUMBER: _____

WORK NUMBER: _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT: _____

