

Bulletin

Issue 1 Term 1, 2013

OUR SCHOOL GARDEN



GRANVILLE BOYS HIGH SCHOOL

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“A GREAT PLACE TO
LEARN”



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SRC CEREMONY



PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Ms O'Brien

Welcome to 2013. For those families whose sons have just joined us we promise you that the future is bright for your sons at this great school. We come from many different lands to this place and our school is a wonderfully hospitable place.

In 2012 there were many outstanding achievements. Our community partnerships were strengthened through the hard work of staff to benefit all students.

Outstanding Achievement in 2012

The Year 12 of 2012 graduated with distinction and the following boys are now attending university.

Osama Jamal-Eddine –B of Pharmacy – University of Sydney

Sobhi Maaliki B of Health Science- University of Sydney

Musab Afridi B of Mechatronics – University of Sydney

Hasan Colak B of Arts- Macquarie University

Khaled Alameddine B Info & Comm Tech/B Bus&Com UWS

Abdullah Abas B of Computer Science UWS

Bilal Naboulsi B of Business and Commerce UWS

Yousef Zeidan B of Engineering UWS

Khoder Matar Diploma in Engineering Science UWS

Rabah Zreika Diploma in Science UWS

Year 9 who's learning growth for all areas of NAPLAN exceeded the other schools in our SEG. Grammar and Punctuation growth results were 37 points above state average

Adam Alahmad- regional School Ambassador for Granville Schools who addressed the national conference of NAB Schools First winners at a conference in Melbourne in November

Wassim Nabousli- NSW winner Doug Jukes Memorial Scholarship for Stage 6

Jacob Starley And Musab Afridi High Distinction in the Big Science Competition

Salah Zeidan- Victor Chang award for Science

The Coalition of Knowledge Building Schools Inaugural film award -Mohammed Grawi, Mohamed Taleb, Tark Hamze, Fadi Naboulsi, Ahmed Karabelly
Yahya El Arab- 2nd Prize in Fairfax Media's Design Ad Competition

School Governance

As one of 229 schools participating in the Empowering Local Schools National Partnership we are very keen to consult with our community and to actively engage our parent body in educational decisions that effect the students at our school. Parents and citizens are welcome at the school and are encouraged to join the Parents and Citizens association. Meetings will be held on the last Wednesday of the month commencing at 9.30 am.

Staff Conference

This year all staff will participate in professional learning to assist students with reading. The "Reading to Learn" program involves 8 days of training and this training will commence on Saturday 23rd of March. It is anticipated that this day will be in lieu of Staff Development Day at the end of Term 4.

In the past two years staff have participated in a weekend conference conducted off school premises. This year in order to accommodate the reading program we would like to conduct the conference on two Saturdays, one in term 1 and one in term 3. If you have any queries about the training please do not hesitate to contact the school.

School Activities

Already this year we have enjoyed the annual GBHS swimming carnival, the Year 6 Open Day and the Year 7 Orientation project. Congratulations to all staff and students who participated in these events and who worked so hard to make them successful.



DEPUTY PRINCIPAL REPORT

Mr. Marciniak

Welcome back to a busy start to the term 1. Over the past few weeks Mrs Ioannidis (Year Advisor for year 7 2014) and I have been visiting our local primary school and talking to the year 6 students about high school enrolments for next year. Last week (Week 5) we had over 200 students attend Granville Boys High School for the annual Year 6 Open Day.

Our teachers ran 10 different lessons on the days and primary students got to experienced different lessons from Math's, Drama, and Food Technology to PDHPE. Although the day was extremely hot all the students had a great time. A special thanks to GBHS teachers who participated on the day and to the primary school teachers that have been extremely cooperative during the planning and organising of the visits and the Open Day. On Thursday 7th March we will our third year of Enrichment testing occurred to year 6 who are seeking a place within our Enrichment class in 2014. This year we will be conducting the testing for the boys at Granville Boys High School (previously boys and girls testing occurred at Auburn Girls). We received a lot of interest in the testing. If there are any enquires about the testing or the selection process to be accepted into the Enrichment class please contact the school for further details.

As well as the Enrichment test, students who have elected to sit for the Selective test, their exams will occur on the 14th March at Granville Boys High School. Next year is the first year Granville Boys will receive its first intake of Year 7 students into the Selective stream. It is a very exciting time for staff, students and the community as we prepare ourselves for this new intake.

Year 11 students have been participating in a series of study skills workshops with representatives from Macquarie University and the local youth council groups. The program is the start of an ongoing study support structure to assist Year 11 students to set goals, develop positive study habits and deal with the stresses of preparing for the HSC. The tutors from Macquarie University will continue to mentor and support the students on a one to one basis throughout the year and hopefully next year. We anticipate the study skills program and the mentoring program will be well utilised by the students and will assist them in achieving their personal academic goal.



DEPUTY PRINCIPAL REPORT

Mr. Mallios

2013 has started off busy as usual with new students entering Year 7 and some new and existing learning projects being prepared for students mainly in stage 4. Teams within the school are refining the Yr 8 Integrated Learning projects run as pilots in 2012 from student and staff feedback collected last year. We are expanding the program to include Yr 7 in Terms 2, 3 & 4. This will result in every student being given the opportunity to explore broad issues within multiple Key Learning Areas every Term in stage 4.

We have setup our second enrichment classroom and are completing the setup of equipment for students and teachers. This move forward is supporting the schools move towards changing the learning environment to be more dynamic and student centered.

The Microsoft Peer Coach program at GBHS is continuing to thrive with 8 new staff undertaking a one day induction into the program. With so many accredited Peer Coaches we are developing a process for upgrading highly experienced Peer Coach Leaders to Facilitators. This will ensure new coaches will be trained locally and make the program sustainable across the long term.

The 2013 Inspire Innovate Conference will be on at the end of Term 1 with several teachers presenting some great things happening at GBHS. Peter Budnik will be presenting the Urban Development at Clyde project, Adam Luck will conduct a workshop on using iPads within the classroom and Grant Odei will be demonstrating the use of 3D printing within the curriculum. Presenters have received free registration to the two day conference and the opportunity to network with educators from across the state.



DEPUTY PRINCIPAL REPORT

Mr. Abas

As we begin another school year I would like to welcome all students.

This term we continue to support student learning in literacy and numeracy by expanding the writing program from last year. In the fortnightly faculty professional learning periods, faculties will continue to develop writing tasks and assessments using mnemonic writing devices. The two main devices are TEEL, which stands for Topic Sentence, Explanation, Evidence and Link and AFOREST, which represents an Anecdote, Fact, Rhetorical Question, Example, Statistic and Triple. Students use these devices to improve writing structure and technique. AFOREST is a persuasive writing technique that allows students to structure their thinking more clearly. The faculties have started to select suitable learning activities and assessment tasks for implementation in year 8 and year 9 learning.

The writing activities will be embedded in faculty learning so that students experience significant writing experiences that connect directly to their learning. Complementing the faculty learning, intensive writing workshops will be provided to students to consolidate learning and further improve student ability to communicate in the written form. Some students will be involved in additional workshops in writing to build their capacity to achieve at least their minimum expected growth.

Although there has been significant increase in the performance of students in all aspects of NAPLAN, further analysis of school performance data by the learning teams highlighted school wide pattern of student underachievement in reading and comprehension. In 2012, the learning teams began to research possible professional learning for reading and writing, which could build on the previous knowledge gained through Teaching English Language Learners (TELL), and the Accelerated Literacy program. After significant discussion and debate, the learning teams selected the 'Reading to Learn' (R2L) program as it brought together the language knowledge from TELL, the holistic approach from Accelerated Literacy and supported the school priority of language development across the curriculum. The professional learning journey will continue in 2013 with all staff participating in R2L workshops.

The school cross-faculty learning teams are continuing to innovate with both the literacy and numeracy teams looking to influence classroom learning. This term the numeracy team will commence learning activity and assessment analysis sessions to provide opportunities for reflection and discussion around more significant numeracy learning. In the coming weeks, the team will analyse stage 4 PDHPE and HSIE learning material. The knowledge gained from the analysis will inform future numeracy curriculum discussion and learning development. The literacy team is preparing for the commencement of the R2L program with the team reviewing the existing methodology for learning development within faculties. Spelling activities in the

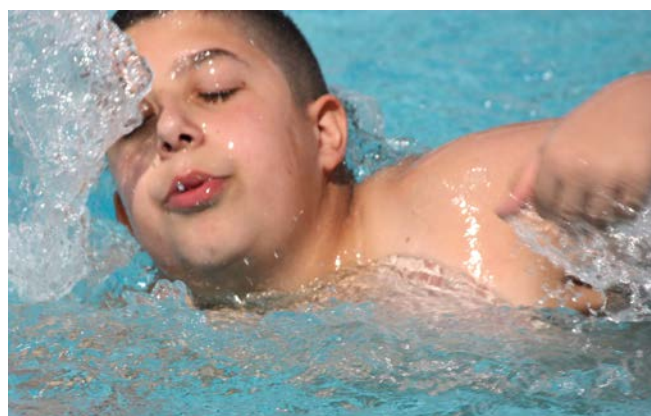
form of word activities and spelling competitions are being developed for year 8 and 9 students.

In week two we invited all parents of year 9 students to interviews about NAPLAN and the school preparation program. The interviews provided parents with information on student performance in Literacy and Numeracy and options for improving student performance. Students in Years 7 and 9 will be completing the National Assessment Program for Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) during May. There are four tests covering numeracy, reading, writing and language conventions (spelling, punctuation and grammar).

The test will be held this year on:

- Tuesday 14th May 2013 for Language Conventions and Writing,
- Wednesday 15th May 2013 for Reading
- Thursday 16th May 2013 for Numeracy

Throughout the term Year 7 and 9 students will be completing a number of learning booklets that target specific areas of learning to further develop basic skills and understanding of literacy and numeracy. The learning booklets have been distributed to year 9 students and should be completed at home, or during homework club at school. Students will be informed when each learning booklet is to be returned. Please encourage your boys to attend the homework club every Monday and Wednesday afternoon between 3pm and 4pm.



HEAD TEACHER WELFARE

Ms. Libdy

Welcome back everyone for another exciting year at Granville Boys High School. I would also like to welcome our Year 7 students and their parents to our school community. I would also like to take this opportunity to explain my role again to our new and current parents.

Student Welfare is the concern of every member of staff. In its widest context it covers the safety of all students in our care, their emotional, social and intellectual wellbeing as well as their conduct and behaviour.

Particular responsibilities for student welfare lie with the Student Advisers, Head Teachers, the School Counsellor, Head Teacher Welfare, Deputy Principals and Principal. The school Welfare Committee is made up of the above-mentioned teachers as well as a number of interested and committed staff. This committee meets regularly and is co-ordinated by the Deputy Principal Mr Marciniak and Head Teacher Welfare.

As Head Teacher Welfare, I am responsible for the your sons welfare and wellbeing. I am here to ensure that your son is at school, attending all classes and is working in a safe and happy environment.

I am also responsible for promoting leadership in our school. Our students deserve every opportunity and chance to be involved in as many programs that will enhance their confidence and leadership qualities. There are many programs that our students can be involved with.

Students and parents may also find the Head Teacher Welfare of assistance for:

- referral of students by parents;
- parents coping with adolescents; and
- Students coping with life problems.

Welfare Aims:

- To promote the idea that student welfare is intrinsic to the education process.
- To initiate and integrate programs into the school curriculum that will maximise student development and produce a broader based welfare network within the school.
- To inform students, staff, parents and the community of the welfare program, the educational demands on, and the progress of students and the services available.
- To implement DET policies, including Child Protection, Anti-Bullying and Anti-Racism.

Welfare Priorities:

- Continue to implement the Anti-Bullying policy within the school community.
 - Implementation of Child protection Policies and Procedures.
 - Develop and implement a Targeted Study Skills program.
 - Implement Social Skills Intervention program
- Develop and further the structures for communication of welfare issues within the school.

- Enhance the process for student monitoring, through greater use of RISC.
- Encourage the use of the Merit System.
- Target students for mentoring program.
- Target students for leadership programs.

This Term *Aspirations* for Year 11 will commence in March. This is a Mentoring program run by PricewaterhouseCoopers (PWC). The students will be travelling to PWC once a month. There they will work with Mentors from the company.

The Mentors are there to assist the students with Goal setting, Pathways and ways to reach their potential. It is an excellent program and previous students who have been involved in the program always speak highly of this program and are thankful for the opportunity. Some of our Year 10 students will be involved with Links to Learning. This will commence in March.

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 and will be running every Tuesday at school from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm. Students will then attend sport in the afternoon.

Activ 8 will recommence on March the 13th at school, periods 1 and 2 every fortnight on a Wednesday for year 9 and 10 students. This program is run by the Association of Bhanin El Minieh.

ACTIV8 aims to promote engagement in learning and employment. 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.

Together for Humanity started last Wednesday. This program is now running with Years 9 and 10 Students. It is on three times this Term on Wednesday. Year 10 are on period 4 and Year 9 period 5.

This program teaches students to replace religious and cultural prejudice with mutual respect and cooperation. The school nominated Year 9 and 10 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.

The peer mediators have been working closely with Year 7 students during Orientation week. The boys have been divided amongst the 4 Year 7 classes. They are there to help build a close relationship with the boys. They ran a session on conflict and resolution. They ran different activities that helped the Year 7 students build strategies to help them deal with bullying, teasing and anger.

The peer mediators have enjoyed working with the Year 7 students and they are looking forward to continue their work with these boys and as well as Year 8 students.

On the 4th of April we will be running a study skills day for Year 12 students and their parents. The aim of this day is to give parents and students strategies to help them prepare for examinations and deal with stress during this very busy year. Some of the areas that will be covered during the day will be:

- What is studying
- Learning styles
- Routine and structure
- Stress management
- How can parents help

This program will be facilitated by Shareen Birges Adolescent Support Worker from Granville Multicultural Community Centre.

More information will be forwarded to relevant students and parents regarding all programs and initiatives held on during this term.

As you can see we have a very busy Term ahead of us in terms of student leadership and involvement and I am looking forward to continue building a close relationship with our parents and their children.

Below is important information regarding attendance.

Attendance

Attendance at school is compulsory, five days a week. Apart from the legal requirements for attendance, it is important that students gain continuity in their education in order to move ahead as they should

It is possible that due to an unsatisfactory record of attendance a student is not meeting course outcomes this could affect a student's eligibility to receive the Higher School Certificate. It may also affect social security and/or Centrelink entitlements. It is, therefore, important that students cultivate habits of good attendance right from the start.

The school recognises, however, that for a variety of sound reasons - such as illness, dental appointments, family emergencies etc - that students may not be able to attend on every day of school. In such cases, an exemption from school is granted and recorded in the rolls. Please read the following paragraphs closely.

If a student is away for any reason and you have not contacted the school, you will receive a phone call home advising you of your child's absence. A written explanation is still required on the child's return to school.

Unexplained student absence is reported on school reports.

STUDENT ABSENCES:

If an absence is anticipated, then a note should be produced **before** the absence and presented to reception for approval. This could occur, for example, when a medical appointment has been made. Any extended leave of absence, including overseas travel **must** have **prior** approval from the Principal.

If your child is absent through illness or any other unforeseen reason a phone call to myself or the school office is advisable. A note should also be produced on the **first day back to school** and presented to the roll teacher.

If a student is absent from school, without prior warning having been given, **for three days or more**, a phone call will be made home asking for an explanation of the absence. In cases when parents know that an illness or injury will prevent attendance for three or more days, it is advisable to phone the school office. This will prevent a phone call made to the home. If a student returns to school after an absence, up to a week is allowed for the presentation of an absence note before a letter is sent home.

FRACTIONAL TRUANCY:

It is essential that students attend every class in a day. Teachers mark rolls every period and will inform the Head Teacher Welfare if a student is absent from class without approval. I follow up on all students who have been recognised as fractional truants. Unauthorised absence is treated as a discipline issue and will result in sanctions such as afternoon detention. Parents are informed of such breaches.

LATENESS TO SCHOOL:

Students arriving late to school must:

- Report to myself immediately on arrival at school and write your name and time of arrival onto a form. Students will stay with me until the end of roll call.
- Students who arrive later than 9:20 will receive a phone call home. If there is no reasonable explanation an afternoon detention will be issued.
- Students will go to period 1
- Parents will be notified in writing of students who have more than three days late per term.
- Students who are late several times without written explanation will be placed on after school detention.

LEAVING EARLY:

If a student needs to leave school early, the following procedure applies:

- Before school, students must notify a deputy that they will be leaving early
- At recess students need to return to reception and pickup their early departure pass.

- If your early departure pass has not been issued, please see the Deputy Principal.
- Your note must contain a valid reason for leaving school early.

Attendance rates are monitored regularly. Students with poor attendance rates –i.e. below 90% will be interviewed by myself and the Home School Liaison Officer(HSLO). These students will be put on an attendance card and improvements must be made. Failure to improve will be monitored by The HSLO. If you have any questions or queries regarding attendance or anything that may be of concern to you please contact me at school.



SCIENCE REPORT

Mrs Saliba



The Science Headquarters

Welcome to another great year of Science here at Granville Boys High School.

This year promises to be **BIGGER** and better than last year. Watch out GUYS!!

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome our new 2013 students and their families.

I would like to welcome a new member to the Science faculty this year, Ms Daniella Vitetta who is filling in for Ms Selina Tran who is on maternity leave until Term 3. The other members of the Science Faculty are, Mrs Kotelawela, Mrs Andraos and Mrs Ioannidis. Our dedicated Science staff, together with our supportive parents are continually working together in assisting the boys in achieving their potential. The Science faculty requests that parents/carers help to optimise their child's learning opportunities by ensuring that students have all necessary equipment in class. Parents are also encouraged to support their sons by ensuring homework is completed every night. Thank you in advance for your assistance and support.

The Science faculty would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate our 2012 Year 12 HSC and School Certificate students on a great performance. We wish all our students well in their future.



FIND WORDS ABOUT HOW YOU DO SCIENCE:

science	measure	graph
nature	prediction	qualitative
scientific method	variation	quantitative
observation	replication	dependent variable
hypothesis	experiment	independent variable
control	inference	
data	procedure	
safety	analysis	

HINT:
WORDS CAN GO
FORWARDS,
BACKWARDS,
UP, DOWN, AND
DIAGONALLY

D D N B T S O S H Y J E R U S A E M F B N M A X C W Z E I
 A N A L Y S I S U J K M L P O L P W S Q V A R I A T I O N
 T W C V T B H C P I N F E R E N C E U I D O V E B M E P D
 A E T P L B M I Z Q Y G B U I J D P L W N Q S T Q I M W E
 S E I Y S A F E T Y L S W H Y P O T H E S I S G U F G Y P
 D E S V G Y U N H U I J N M W M X M V C E D T G A R R Y E
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 E R G R R D T U I L P M K H J W S E C B N T S T V R E F A
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 C E D J M N O S E R E S A U I Q U A N T I T A T I V E S L
 E A C P R E D I C T I O N Y U N P E S A R S E D E T G Y E
 D E S U H U I K N N M P O L S L S E D B P O O L W S T T A
 S C I E N T I F I C M E T H O D I S I S O P E M F N W O A

Some fun Science Facts:

- Sound travels about 4 times faster in water than in air.
- Shrimp's hearts are in their heads.
- Emus and kangaroos cannot walk backwards.
- A mosquito has 47 teeth.

Questions or Concerns??

If any parent or carer needs information on any aspect of the Science courses, you are invited to contact me via the usual school channels.

HSIE REPORT

Mr Mandarakas

2013 has found the HSIE faculty involved in a number of projects including supporting the Year 7 students with the orientation project, extending the garden proposal started last year and building on our links with Sydney University. It has been an extraordinarily busy start to the year across the school and HSIE is not immune. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome our newest staff member, Miss Elaine Bazouni who is specialising in history and geography. She comes to Granville Boys with fresh ideas and perspective and during our open day worked with year 6 students from our feeder schools on an orienteering challenge.

Firstly thank you to the many boys who, during the last weeks of term 4, helped to regenerate the flower beds at the back oval. Shady Kanj, Ubdullah Alameddine,

ENGLISH REPORT

Mr Hardcastle

Marwan Taha, Yehya Kanj were a few of the students involved in distributing mulch along our flower beds. New flower beds were created close to the newly renovated chicken coups (aka Chicken Hilton), erected scare crows and planted silver beet, rosemary and fennel. The HSIE faculty is hoping to offer gardening as an elective during sport soon. We are well on our way into preparing for the next part of our garden project – an Indigenous garden that will recreate some of the plants found in the area prior to colonisation.

Offering a range of subjects, HSIE provides many diverse learning experiences for students. The Mock Trial competition has begun for 2013 and our first challenge of round one is against Mitchell High School. Students have started to prepare for the Mock Trial competition. Students in Year 8 will soon have the opportunity to compete against other schools in what is now an annual geography competition at Auburn Girls. Last year representatives from Granville won a very convincing third place. Students will also be taking part in a Business Studies competition held at Macquarie University, congratulations to the boys who have volunteered to compete in this event. Students in the Year 12 Business Studies class will also be completing a week of work experience in a retail store.

Over the last couple of weeks Mr Belavia and I have been working with the year 7 students and introducing them to some of the historical features of the area. We have spoken about the initial uses of the land around Granville, the old gaol, the many different types of houses and architectural styles found in the area, Granville Railway Station and the collapse of the Bold Street Bridge. We also looked at the different uses of what is now Abla's patisserie. Some of our readers may remember it as a bank while others may remember it as a rather infamous pool hall. Mr Belavia will also work with students from Auburn West on a project that helps students to transition to high school and students from Granville Boys will act as mentors.

Students should now be getting ready to complete or are in the process of completing their first assessment task for Term One. If you would like more information or assistance please do not hesitate to make contact with the members of the HSIE faculty.



Kicking off 2013, we welcome back Ms Francis McLean, and hope the year ahead will be prosperous for both staff and students. With the departure of Mr. Nicholas Kalouche in 2012, Mr. Adel Soliman and Ms Carolyn Gandouin have stepped up to take on the role as LOTE teacher for Arabic and French respectively. Having built a strong collegiatle platform in the faculty over the previous years, 2013 is no exception, with all English staff hard at work in the programming of innovative and engaging units into which the students to sink their teeth.

Thanks to the meticulous planning of Mr. Owen Egan, the Year 7 cohort has kicked off the year with an exploration of the picture book 'Mirror'. Examining how students daily school lives have changed between primary school and high school, students have been focussed on improving their understanding of direct speech and the relationship between text and image. Following on from students' excursion across Sydney, as part of the Orientation Program, students will begin to explore a range of traditional and modern Fairy tales, exploring their relevance and value in today's society. In addition students have been completing homework booklets to enhance their language skill for the upcoming NAPLAN tests in Term 2.

Year 8 students have begun to explore a variety of Myths and Monsters from across the world. Tracing their way across the continents in a student are given the opportunity to learn about various cultures and traditions. Our Year 8 Enrichment class has been examining similar tales of monsters in literature, focussing on Mary Shelley's gothic novel 'Frankenstein'.

Starting the year on a similar footing, Year 9 students have sought to increase their vocabulary and capacity to use descriptive language, examining the Horror genre through a variety of activities, including kinaesthetic learning and auditory based soundscapes. In addition to student exploration of how language is used to create sensory and emotive reactions, extension projects have seen the beginnings of a horror themed choose your own adventure novel come to life.

Our Year 10 students have also been hard at work exploring Songs of Protest and Rebellion from the 1970s to present day. This unit focuses on further students understanding of both language devices and the significant role of pop-culture protest in swaying public opinion.

We welcome a new senior cohort, who have also been working diligently in Term 1, with both Standard and Advanced students exploring Dystopian texts and their comment on contemporary society's actions. Our English Studies students have been focussed on understanding the global job market, developing their written resumes and interview skills.

Year 12 students in their second term of their HSC are working towards positive end of year results with both Advanced and Standard students working hard on their Area of Study: Belonging. In their endeavours to explore the concept of belonging Advanced students have worked feverishly on their exploration of the

memoir 'Romulus My Father, by Raimond Gaita', whilst Standard classes have been examining the Baz Luhrmann classic 'Strictly Ballroom'. Our Year 12 English Studies class have returned from a day of exploration, navigating Sydney's CBD and have commenced a novel study.

With the term now in full swing, nominations for the Premier's Debating Challenge have begun with first rounds against neighbouring high schools to commence shortly in the state wide competition. Entries for **The Whitlam Institute 2013: What Matters?** competition and **The Sydney Morning Herald Young Writer of the Year competition** are open, with all students invited to enter for their chance to win great prizes.

With a busy year ahead, the English staff are looking forward to another fruitful year with students.

MATHEMATICS REPORT

Ms Ram

2013 is promising to be a great year for the Mathematics faculty in terms of teaching and learning. The students are very excited and engaged in their learning and the teachers are busy organising work for them, even helping them during the recess and lunch breaks. Most students are very enthusiastic to learn and have demonstrated good organisational skills.

There have been a few staff changes within the faculty. This year, two new teachers, Mr R Jordan and Mr J Highlands have joined the dynamic Mathematics faculty. I would like to welcome these gentlemen to Granville Boys as well as all students back to school, particularly the year 7's who are attending high school for the first time and also a warm welcome to the new students across the year who joined Granville Boys in 2013.

NAPLAN

Years 7 and 9 will sit for the National assessment, NAPLAN, in May this year. This year our focus is year 9's. From Week 5, teachers would issue students with NAPLAN preparation booklets every fortnight. Students are expected to complete the booklet at home. 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 booklets.

MATHLETICS

This year again, the school has invested a large sum of money to purchase the licence for the interactive learning software, Mathletics, for students in years 7 to 10. All students will soon be given passwords that allow access to Mathletics both at home and in school. Teachers will set focus activities, home work, and tests through Mathletics, which gives 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 2013. "Maths Live" games and competitions help develop mathematical skills in students through interactive activities and are enjoyed by all students. Classroom teachers allocate a period of

their teaching time to encourage learning through Mathletics. Students must remember to bring their laptops on that day. 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.

AUSTRALIAN MATHEMATICS COMPETITION

Students across all years are given the opportunity to participate in Australian Mathematics Competition (AMC) each year. The AMC gives students an opportunity to experience doing a test prepared by an external source and compare their achievements with other students in the state. Certificates of distinction, Credit and Participation are issued to the participants. Westpac awards are also given to students who do very well. Students, who wish to attempt AMC this year, must pay an entry fee of \$5.50 to the front office by the 9th of May, 2013. See the organiser of the competition, Mrs Khan, in the Maths staffroom for further details.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN MATHEMATICS

The most common barrier to success in Mathematics encountered by students is a lack of effective techniques for study and exam preparation. If you are one of the vast majorities of students whose answer to the question, "How do you study for your tests?" is, "I go over my notes," or "I don't know", then you need to take a serious look at your study skills. Here are some suggestions to increase your effectiveness as a student.

- Take good notes and date each entry into your notebook.
- Your notes should contain a complete record of what you learnt in class and all the homework you were given.
- Anything the teacher writes on the board should appear in your notes. If the teacher took the time to write it out, he or she considers it important. You should do the same.
- Organise your work in order, highlighting topics and main ideas. This will make it easier for you to read.
- Be involved in your classes. Participation in discussions will help you retain knowledge.
- If the teacher is moving too rapidly for you, or if you don't understand what is being said, **say something!**
- Ask questions if you are confused. Confusion is definitely your worst enemy.
- If your class includes group activities, participate as fully as you can. Such exercises are done for your benefit.
- Review your notes every day.
This suggestion is one which we have all heard a thousand times. Unfortunately, most of us never really believe it until we actually try it. Spend 30 minutes or so each evening going over the notes from each class. There are at least two tremendous benefits to be gained from this discipline.
- Research has shown that reviewing new material within 24 hours of hearing it increases your retention of that material by about 60%. This means that you will be 60% ahead of the game the next time you walk into class. If you want to significantly

reduce the time necessary to prepare for exams, this is the way to do it.

- Reviewing material before the next Maths period enables you to identify points of confusion or omission in your notes, which prepares you to ask the questions you need to ask before the next lesson.
- Keep in mind that you want to be an **active** learner, not a passive one. The more you use and manipulate the information, the better you will understand it. Using and manipulating information in as many ways as possible also maximizes your ability to access your memory.

Do not wait until the night before an exam to study!

PDHPE REPORT

Mr Abraham

On Thursday 21st February 2013 our boys participated in a very challenging and enjoyable GBHS annual Swimming carnival at Merrylands pool. The students been very engaged in all the events including the swimming and fun aquatic games. I would like to congratulate all the students in Kempster for winning 2013 Swimming carnival, also to our 2013 age champions, Zayd El Sayed 7 (u/12s), Melik Ibrahim 7 (u/12s), Junior Panisi 8 (u/13s), Abdel Khader Elsajj 9 (u/14s), Nedir Elsamad 10 (u/15s), Souliman Boustani 12 (Opens) We also congratulate all the students and teachers who took part to make it a fun and enjoyable day.

Tuesday sports are up and running this year with the students experiencing a wide variety of activities. After some intense trials, teams have been picked for all grade sports including touch, basketball, cricket and volleyball. There has been some success in grade sport and we look forward to some good performances in the future. In addition, the students have been involved in other activities such as bowling, climbing and rec sport.

Knockout sport has also started in 2013 with cricket, Rugby League, Rugby Union and soccer to look forward to this term. The basketball team played against Cumberland High school but unfortunately were beaten by a very good team.



SUPPORT UNIT REPORT

Mrs Rudek

This year, Mrs Sivrioglu is teaching the year 7 class. I am teaching year 8 & 9. Mr Collins is teaching year 10, 11 & 12.

Early this term we had an individual education planning day for the year 8 & 9 students. It was a successful day as most parents attended this planning day and contributed towards setting goals for their son in order to achieve learning outcomes. The support unit would like to thank all parents who were involved in this valuable process.

This year students in years 10, 11 and 12 are involved in a work placement program. This program sees each student take up a position of employment at a local business. Hopefully, this association with the local businesses is an opportunity for permanent employment for some of the students. In 2012 we had a very successful year, as students gained apprenticeships and casual work through this program.

The Get Ready Program is up and running in conjunction with the Granville Youth Centre. Year 8 & 9 students are taking part in the Get Ready Program. We would like to thank Chris Baker for his ongoing involvement with Granville Boys High Schools' Get Ready program.



CREATIVE & PERFORMING ARTS

Mr Dixon

It has been a busy start to the year for the Arts Faculty. Mr Luck and I have moved into our new staffroom in block 2 (beside the Science staffroom) we share with Ms Guzman and Miss Holland. This is the new home for Visual Arts, Computers and Music.

Our faculty welcomes Mr Marak who will be teaching year 7 Visual Arts and Mr Heiler who will be taking a year 9 computer class. All students are enjoying these practical subjects and are working well. An excursion has been planned for year 10, 11 and 12 Visual Arts for the Artexpress.

Performance groups have started already. We have a new String Tutor Tatiana Luckich who will be teaching violin and cello. Our regular tutors Daniel Neurath (Piano and vocals), Jake Meadows (drums and guitar), Kris Lewis (Hip hop dance), Ahmad Hoblas (Arabic band) are all back again. This year there will be a junior Arabic band as well as a junior HipHop crew. Look out for auditions for both groups.

Our Concert band Sectional leaders in 2013 will be Khaled Ahmad (trumpets), Mustafa Chaker (Saxophones), David Gataluk (keyboards), Jimi Valu (trombones) and the overall student band leader is EJ Taufa. These students have the job of organising their sections and tutoring the new students as they come into the band. Over 30 year 7 students will audition for concert band in 2013, so they will have their work cut out for them.

The bands already have number of performances coming up, including performances at Parramatta Function Centre launching the partnership between Legal Aid and the Migrant Resource Centre, Guildford Multicultural Women's Day and Auburn Girls High School Multicultural day celebrations



TEACHING & LEARNING

Ms Cullenward

Teaching and Learning at Granville Boys High School has gained momentum in the past 5 weeks as the many programs started for 2013.

The GBHS enrichment program has expanded in 2013 with a discreet class in both years 7 and 8. A number of boys have sought the opportunity to take the enrichment test and if their results permitted, have joined the program.

Year 7 students have been well-oriented to GBHS with their introductory program. The students have enjoyed a diverse range of excursions – getting to know the Granville area on foot, a visit to Sydney University and Taronga Zoo and workshops with Fizzics and Peer Mediation. This introduction to high school used the innovative picture book by Jeannie Baker, *Mirror*, as stimulus material. The book “comprised of two parts designed to be read simultaneously – one from the left, the other from the right. Page by page, we experience a day in the lives of two boys and their families - one from inner city Sydney, Australia and the other from a small, remote village in Morocco, North Africa. These worlds couldn't be further apart, yet with the showing of the parallel lives of the two families, we see a simple truth. We see that in the context of strikingly different lifestyles, remotely different countries, landscapes, differences of clothing and all. The families are essentially the same. They care for each other, they need to belong, to be loved by their loved ones and be a part of their community. The simple truth is that even with all these differences we are all the same. (<http://www.jeanniebaker.com/mirror.htm>)

The teaching staff have been busy meeting with their Peer Coach Leaders to engage in professional discussion about instructional pedagogy and how to improve the learning outcomes of all students through the development of programming and teaching activities. Through this process, the staff can support the implementation of the school plan, their faculty plan and their individual learning plan. They will be filming their classes and will use the video as a reflection tool to further develop their teaching strategies. If your son is in one of these classes and does not wish to be in the video, he can tell his teacher and sit on one side of the classroom out of view of the camera. Integrated Learning will be implemented in year 8 again this year. The first project to be offered will be The Myhbusters.



TAS REPORT

Mr Odei

Welcome back to all students, staff and indeed anyone who partners with Granville Boys High School. The year 2012 was exciting and presented numerous opportunities for students and teachers within the then TAS/Arts faculty. Notably were the Creative and Performing Arts night and the catering for all the Peer Coach leaders by our year 12 Hospitality class. A big thank you to Mr. Dixon and all the TAS/Arts staff who coordinated for the success of these events.

In 2013 the TAS faculty is independent and I am humbled by the opportunity to lead a wonderful, dedicated and hardworking staff in providing 21st Century learning opportunities to our students. I would like to take a moment to introduce myself and the rest of the TAS staff.



Ms Rodriguez
Hospitality
Teacher

"I started teaching at Granville Boys in 2010. In my time here there have been great changes within the TAS department in which I have been fortunate to be part of. The successful introduction of Food Technology, Hospitality and Pulse Café are projects that I am extremely proud of and have proven to be extremely rewarding.

This year I look forward to further developing the skills and understanding of all students by engaging in a range of learning opportunities within the school and wider community."



Mr Odei	Ms Havea	Ms Haber
Head Teacher TAS	Electronics & Timber Teacher	Food Tech and Design & Technology Teacher
<i>"This year marks six years for me here at Granville Boys High School and definitely one that I look forward to the most. As the leader of these hardworking staff, our aim is to provide a challenging and an amenable learning environment for our students.</i>	<i>"I was fortunate enough to start teaching at Granville Boys High School in 2012. I had the awesome opportunity to teach Food Technology last year and learnt so many interesting ideas and concepts through both the subject studied and the young gentlemen I taught.</i>	<i>"I came from Richmond High School where I taught junior Food Technology, Textiles and Hospitality.</i>
<i>We also plan to continue to provide opportunities for students to excel through extra-curricula programs such as the UNSW solar car challenge and Master Chef competition."</i>	<i>This term I look forward to embarking on the exciting voyage of creating hand steady games with my stage four and five Electronic students, establishing craftsmanship and technique through making letter holders and toolboxes in the Timber workshop and blending theoretical information with practical concepts in Construction."</i>	<i>I look forward to bringing my knowledge and skills into all of my classes. I look forward to using the new commercial kitchen with my junior and senior food technology classes to teach them fundamental skills in the kitchen.</i>
		<i>My goal for stage 6 Design and Technology is to help my students complete their major works and make them creative."</i>

FOOD TECHNOLOGY

Our boys are very excited to be working in our newly refurbished kitchen, we were fortunate to have our kitchen renovated to include commercial equipment. Pulse café also has a new coffee machine that is producing quality coffee. A very special thank you to Ahmed Hammoud, Mohammed Yassine, Ahmad El Fata, Ahmed El Sayah, Nedir Elsamad for their ongoing commitment to running Pulse café.

Year 7 and 8 Students are working on developing safe hygienic work practices and food preparation skills this term.

Year 9 Students are studying Food in Australia where they have cooked Damper over an open fire, delicious Pavlova's and Kangaroo Sausage rolls.

Also on my staff are Mr. Hryce, Mr. Wynne and Ms. Bazouni who all contribute immensely in providing quality learning strategies within the TAS department.

The year has started earnestly in TAS with the upgrade of our kitchen to a commercial standard. The kitchen is

looking modern and we are looking forward to our grand opening soon. I would like to publicly thank all staff particularly Ms Rodriguez who has worked tirelessly to make this happen.

On the teaching and learning front:

Stage 4

Enrichment

Year 8 Enrichment students are busily creating a sustainable garden in which the produce can be utilised in Food technology. We have 6 garden beds containing Ngami cumquat trees, Blueberry bushes, radishes, tomatoes, beetroot, broccoli, strawberries and various herbs. A very special thank you to John Koch, Bruce and Ali for their enthusiasm and support with the garden program.

Stage 5

The year 10 food technology class is looking forward to the prospect of using our new kitchen. They are planning a luncheon which will welcome some teachers, parents and members of the community. Under the leadership of Ms Haber the food technology teacher, the students have taken ownership and responsibility for their learning.

Year 9 timber classes have started work on their fishing rod rack project with Mr Hryce and Ms Havea providing the necessary guidance.



Stage 6

This year has seen the return of Engineering studies as part of the TAS curriculum and our school's partnership with the University of Technology Sydney has provided a lot of excitement amongst our new year 11 Engineering studies

students. Already students have completed several tests and experiments and are looking forward to solving real-life problems.

The Year 11 Hospitality class is studying Hygiene, Health, Safety and Security Procedures. They are also developing skills to prepare and serve non-alcoholic beverages.

Year 12 Design and Technology students have started working on their major design projects for the HSC and are encouraged to plan meticulously to use their time and resources efficiently.

Year 12 Hospitality are working steadily towards completing the course and are preparing for their second round of work placement.

Finally, I would like to encourage all students to take active part in the extra-curricula activities that would be provided by the TAS faculty.



Year11Engineering Studies

LEARNING SUPPORT TEAM REPORT

Mrs Adderley

It has been a busy start to the year for the Learning Services Faculty many of the team members have been part of the year 7 Orientation program. Ms Love (our newest member of the Learning Services Faculty) and Mr Hryce have been going to Sydney University with students. Myself and Ms Bailey have been taking students to the Zoo. While Mr Chebib (an old boy, himself) has been taking the "Old Boy Sessions" as well as supervising the Fizzics session.



In between the Learning and Support Teacher have been testing students. Many students have been placed in intensive reading groups in order to help with their reading decoding, reading comprehension and vocabulary. Ms Das the ESL teacher has been around to meet all the new English as Second Language (ESL) students. She will be assisting ESL students in the classroom. Mr Honess is working three days a week this year (Wednesday to Friday). We will be arranging Individual Education Plan meeting with students and parents throughout this semester.

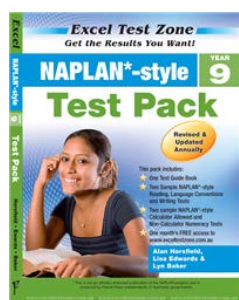
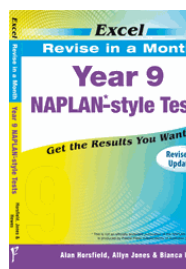
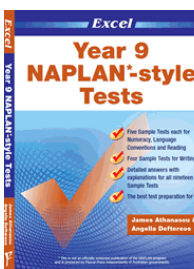
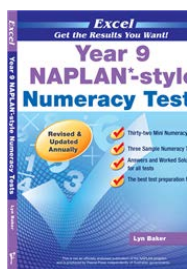
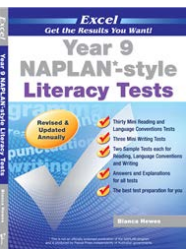
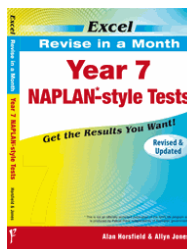
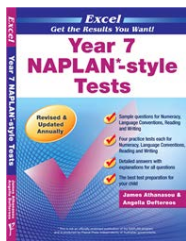
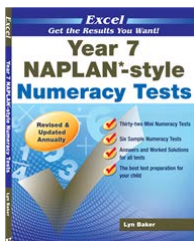
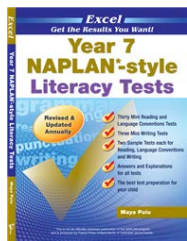
Mr Abbas and I have met with many of the year 9 parents and student in order to explain the academic requirements and what they need to do outside of the classroom. While it is only the beginning of the year it is very important to set up a study schedule early on. This will help students get into a good educational routine. Research has shown that the most effective way to improved reading and comprehension is through reading. Each student should be participating in at least 30 minutes reading a day. The best thing to read is fiction as it engages in language in a different way to what is found in factual texts and helps students gain a

diverse vocabulary. Below is an example of a junior student's homework and study timetable. It is a really good idea if parents can sit with students to develop this and support them in following the timetable.

MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN
Reading	Reading	Reading	Reading	Reading	Reading	Reading
Home work and assignments	Home work and assignments	Home work and assignments	Home work and assignments		Home work and assignments	Home work and assignments
Maths	Science	English	Football Training	History and Geography		PDHPE / ART / Music TAS

Students in years 7 and 8 should be doing at least 30 to 60 minutes **study** each night on top of their homework and reading. Student in years 9 and 10 should be doing at least 1.30 to 2 hours a night and year 11 and 12 students should be doing at least three hour.

This term there is a focus on NAPLAN for students in years 7 and 9. There are many resources available to help students improve their numeracy and literacy skills for NAPLAN. Below are some examples from the Excel series.



Ms Love is co-ordinating Homework club for this year it is running on Monday from 3pm till 4pm and Wednesday from 3pm till 4pm. All students are welcome to attend.

If you are worried about your sons learning please feel free to contact me.

HEAD TEACHER MENTOR Ms Faddoul

1. HEAD TEACHER MENTOR POSITION FOR 2013

The Head Teacher Mentor position has been extended until the end of 2013 and will be continued to be shared between Granville Boys High School (GBHS) and our sister –school, Auburn Girls High School (AGHS). The position is at Granville Boys every Monday and Friday and at Auburn Girls Tuesday and Wednesdays with alternating Thursdays in each school. It has been very exciting working across the two sites and there already has been many opportunities to forge new collaborations between the two schools. Ms Obrien (Principal GBHS) and Mr Charles (Principal AGHS) have both been very accomodating in the sharing, supporting and developing the Head Teacher Mentor position.

2. NEW SCHEME TEACHERS GAINING PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE IN 2013

We have a total of 6 New Scheme Teachers going through the procedure of gaining Professional Competence this year. They are;

- Ms Bendeich in English
- Ms Havea in TAS
- Ms Bazouni in HSIE
- Ms Vitetta in Science
- Mr Highlands in Maths
- Mr Jordan in Maths

These teachers are all currently going through the New Scheme Teacher Professional Learning Program on Thursday Bs after school and will be aiming to submit their evidence for Accreditation at Professional Competence this year.. I will be providing ongoing individual support as well as organising release time for all teachers submitting Accreditation this year to assist them with this process.

3. PROFESSIONAL LEARNING PROGRAMS

NST Professional Learning – this program is run every second Thursday after school for new NST's in their first year at GBHS. The focus of this terms Professional Learning Seminars have been; Induction & Orientation, School Policies and Procedures, PBIS, Classroom Routines, Behaviour Management Strategies and Cultural Communities of the school. As well as the Beginning Teachers Program other support mechanisms provided are Pedagogy and Behaviour Management Strategies, Classroom Support, introduction to the Accreditation Process, access to Resources & Training Opportunities and Lobbying and Advocacy.

TAS Faculty PL – I will be running a variety of modules from the Classroom Teacher Program in collaboration with the TAS faculty and Mr Abas. This is due to the fact that all the TAS faculty are NSTs at different levels and it is an opportunity to develop collegiality, leadership capacity whilst undergoing Institute-registered professional learning.

NST maintaining their Competence – We have a large number of NSTs at our school. As well as providing ongoing individual support to all NST maintaining their

Competence I will also be running an information session for these teachers in WEEK 8B Wednesday. This session will deal with policy, process and procedure for maintaining accreditation as well as the provision of resources and support.

Cross-site resource days for NSTs – I have facilitated a variety of cross-site collaborations and resource days for NSTs where teachers from AGHS and GBHS visit each site to gain an experience of a different setting. These days have been valuable in providing new teachers with an opportunity to collaborate, engage in professional dialogue and exchange resources. This term we have Ms Pham from AGHS coming to tap into the expertise of another NST, our very own Ms Holland.

CAREERS

Mrs Bailey - Marsman

Welcome back to a busy year.

Year 12: Students have all been interviewed and will soon be receiving information about their chosen post school pathways. These interviews are an ongoing process for year 12. During Term 2 they will be having Workshops on how to apply for University/TAFE and private providers. Also during this time Guest speakers will be coming to give information to students about post-school pathways whether they are ATAR or non-ATAR pathways.

White Card Induction Course: Students have currently completed their White Card Induction Course last week and have received their certificates. The White Card will arrive at their home addresses within the next few weeks. Students who want to work in Trade areas for their Year 10 work experience in Term 4 need to participate in this opportunity we provide for the students. Another course will be arranged for Term 2 so if a student missed out on the first course they must put their name down with the Careers Adviser or Transition Adviser.

Year 10 Work Experience: Even though this does not occur until Term 4 students should be looking and researching the careers that they might think about going into after school NOW.

Cadetship Information:



Chartered Accountants

NUMBER ONE IN NUMBERS

The Institute of Chartered Accountants will host some exciting and **informative FREE** events in 2013 for high school students who are interested in a career in business or accounting. Please see the information below.

Cadetship Evening – Wednesday, 15 May 2013 from 4.30pm

Venue: Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre

This is an excellent opportunity for Year 12 students to engage with over 22 employers, attend information

sessions regarding cadetships and receive tips on the recruitment process.

For more information please visit: charteredaccountants.com.au/students

Employment Opportunities:

My Gateway :

For more information or to apply please visit our website

www.mygateway.org.au

And click on 'Job Vacancies' or call 1800993200

Resume Workshops and Applications online:

Next week I will be running Resume workshops and then Applications online workshops for students who are interested. Please bring your laptop.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

- **Easter Holiday's 29th March -01st April.**
- **School Holidays 15th April- 29th April.**
- **Term 2 resumes Tuesday 30th April.**



