

Bulletin

Issue 1 Term 1, 2014



CONGRATULATIONS DON

50 YEARS SERVICES TO PUBLIC EDUCATION

WELL DONE!

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“A GREAT PLACE TO
LEARN”



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YEAR 7 ORIENTATION PROGRAM



PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Ms L O'Brien

Welcome to 2014. Once again we are "off to a good start", to borrow from the Year 11 and 12 program that has been run by Macquarie University here at school.

The school congratulated one of our wonderful teachers, **Mr Don Hones** who has served the children of public schools in NSW for 50 years.

Mr Hones has been at Granville Boys High School for 23 years and has devoted many hours to helping our students and their families. The whole community thanks him.

"Off to a Good Start" - Not only have our Seniors planned their study program, they have set goals for themselves and aligned their work at school and at home to ensure that they achieve their very best at school. Mr Marciniak has facilitated the program and worked closely with Ms Sharon Smithies from Macquarie University to ensure that the program is a great success.

Mr Abas and Ms Adderley have met with all year 9 students and their families to prepare an Individual Education Program to assist in the preparation for NAPLN exams in May. This is a vitally important process as it informs parents about our expectations and assists students to focus on their literacy and numeracy.

Congratulations to Year 7 who have completed the Orientation Program based on the picture book "Mirror" The program has been coordinated by Mr Egan and students completed the program last week. Over the past weeks students have visited the Taronga Zoo, Sydney University, the historic streets of Granville and participated in workshops at school. A highlight for parents was the Moroccan Feast which was in fact a feast of Moroccan desserts. Our Year 7 students have enjoyed their learning experiences and the variety of activities in which they have participated.

As a result of our contact with Sydney Symphony Orchestra boys lives have again been enriched with music. Students attended a workshop on film music and then attended a performance at the Opera House of the film music of John Williams. A select group of students have been participating in a series of music composition workshops with the Bantan Brothers organised in association with Musica Viva.

As you may be aware each of the Deputy Principal's has responsibility for a cohort of boys to assist with the pastoral care and discipline of students. If you have any concerns please contact the Deputy who cares for your son.

Deputy Supervision and management for 2014 is as follows.

Mark Marciniak - Year 7 & 10

Jim Mallios - Year 8 & 9

Frank Abas - Year 11 & 12

Swimming Carnival 2014

Mr Liam Wynne and his team from the PDHPE organised a wonderful day for students. Swimming carnivals often see boys as audience rather than participants but not at our carnival thanks to the organising team who are to be congratulated for the innovative ideas that kept all students engaged for the day. Looking around all students were having fun and there were few if any discipline problems. Congratulations to those boys who made it to the Zone carnival and to Sean Logie who will represent GBHS at the regional carnival in backstroke

Year 7 Welcome BBQ – It was wonderful to see so many parents and their sons at this year's BBQ and information afternoon. It was very pleasing to hear from so many of you that your sons are enjoying high school and making pleasing progress with their studies.

Rugby League -

Congratulations to Mohammed Chebib and Shadi Ghazal for their work with the Junior and Senior League teams who tried out for the Prospect Zone Teams. Congratulations also to Fouad Skaf, Patrick Langi, Alofi Leapai, Paul Takau and Aymen Alameddine who made it into the team.

WOW -World of Work

Selected Year 10 and Year 11 students have been participating in a program to introduce them to the world of work held in various business locations across the city. This opportunity enables students to experience work from a different angle and get to know students from other schools. Thanks to Ms Rodriguez and Mr Hryce for their facilitation.



Don and his grandchildren

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Mr Marciniak

It has been a busy start to the term with Mr Chebib student representatives from year 7 and 8 and myself visiting our 6 local primary schools over the last 5 weeks. It was a great opportunity for us to go out and see the students at their schools. This is the sixth year in which we have promoted Granville Boys High School to our local primary schools and every year we have more students interested in enrolling at GBHS in Year 7. On Monday February 24th we had over 180 students attend our Year 6 Open Day and students had the opportunity to participate in some exciting lessons. I would like to thank our teachers that were involved in the day, Ms Holland, Mrs Guzman, Ms Su, Ms Havea, Mr Ghazal, Mr Marak, Mr Jordan, Mr Heiler and Mrs Andraos, and all our local primary schools and their teachers for assisting in the organisation and coming out on the day. Amongst the primary school visits we also had all Year 7 students participating in our Orientation Program. Students in Year 7 were provided with the experience of going to: the University of Sydney, Taronga Zoo, a local walk and Peer Mediation workshop and cooking a Moroccan Feast. This was an extremely exciting couple of weeks for the students and all the students and teachers had a fantastic time. I would like to thank Mr Egan for developing and organising the Orientation Program and all the teachers that attended the excursions with the students.



On Thursday 6th March Mrs Adderley, Ms Guzman and Mr Chebib, from our High Performance Team, facilitated our Enrichment Test for the Year 6 students who were interested in gaining a position in our 2015 Enrichment Class.

The following week we had over 70 students attend Granville Boys High to sit for the States Selective School testing process. We wish all the students who completed the tests all the best in their academic endeavours. Year 6 students who were not able to sit the Enrichment Test on the 6th of March will be able to sit for the test after our enrolment day which will be held in early December 2014. If you have any enquires

regarding enrolment into year 7 please contact the school for further information.

Year 7 parents had the opportunity to meet their son's teachers at our annual Year 7 BBQ. This was the first opportunity for parents to meet the teachers and discuss the progress of their sons. It was a wonderful informal afternoon which helped strengthen the relationship between home and school. We look forward to continuing to communicate and provide valuable feedback to our parents and carers throughout the year at our Parent and Teacher report evenings next term.



DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Mr Abas

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

Throughout 2013, the school has been developing teaching and learning using the '**Reading to Learn**' (R2L) program. After an experimentation phase with the program methodology and suggested pedagogy, staff began to develop school specific common skills to be used across all learning areas. This deeper understanding for transforming a valid educational method into a useful tool for the school is a testament to the quality and enthusiasm of the staff.

The confidence of teachers to showcase their experiences was also evident during the development of writing devices for stage 4 and 5. Teachers from all learning areas participated in demonstration classes to build student ability to use the devices and teacher confidence with the process. Teacher leadership in curriculum development and pedagogy experimentation occurs: for the school literacy and numeracy priorities; when project learning is used to engage and foster creativity; developing fun and meaningful learning for the students.

This Year, we continue to support student learning

in literacy and numeracy by expanding the writing and reading program to include more structured and connected processes from R2L. In the fortnightly faculty professional learning periods, faculties have been reviewing and developing writing tasks and assessments using mnemonic writing devices linked to the R2L process. 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 reading and 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.

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 continue to expand the learning activity and assessment analysis sessions to provide opportunities for reflection and discussion around more significant numeracy learning. The knowledge gained from the analysis will inform future numeracy curriculum discussion and learning development. The literacy team is aligning all team activities to the R2L platform.

The educational focus for the teams on project based learning in the form of integrated learning projects has also provided students with more meaningful learning experiences. The expansion of the educational methodology to include the R2L process will further improve student-learning experiences. The structures used to transform student-learning experiences using this approach has enhanced student potential to engage in learning by helping them feel more positive about themselves as learners.

In week two and three 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 13th May 2013 for Language Conventions and Writing,
- Wednesday 14th May 2013 for Reading
- Thursday 15th May 2013 for Numeracy

Throughout the term 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 well being 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 myself, Head Teacher Welfare.

As Head Teacher Welfare, I am responsible for your sons welfare and well -being. 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:

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

Welfare Aims:

1. To promote the academic, emotional, social and physical development of each student.
2. To promote the idea that student welfare is intrinsic to the education process.
3. To initiate and integrate programs into the school curriculum that will maximise student development and produce a broader based welfare network within the school.
4. 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.

“Together for Humanity” will commence again on the 26th of March with selected Year 9 students. We will also be working with Cronulla High School

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.

A select group of Year 10 students have been working closely with the Year 7 boys during Orientation week. The boys have been divided amongst the 5 Year 7 classes. They were 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, anger and trust building exercises.

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 overseas: 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 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.

Importance of school diary use:

The School Diary: It is important that all students have a diary at school and we recommend the official GBHS school diary as it has a great deal of information specific to goings on a Granville Boys. The diary has several functions:

- a) **It is an organisational tool** so that your child can keep on top of homework, assignments

- b) **It is a communication tool** between you and your sons teachers. You can use the diary to comment on your sons progress or to communicate with teachers.
- c) **It is a rewards tool** staff will issue “ **Safe, Respectful Learner**” stamps in your child’s diary, for which students gain merit awards and other rewards throughout the year
- d) **Record keeping** Teachers will note toilet passes, out of class passes etc.

The diary is provided free of charge when you pay your son’s fees. If your son loses the diary he will have to purchase a diary from the office for a small fee.

Year Advisors will check diaries in roll call every morning to ensure that students have them and that they are being used effectively. Please ensure that you check your child’s diary on a daily basis to see what home work or assignments your child might have to complete.

Year Advisors:

Please remember the Year Advisors are your first point of contact for any concerns you may have about your son’s academic progress, social or emotional wellbeing. Year Advisors are responsible for monitoring the progress of their year group at school. The Year Advisors are a team of dedicated teachers who take on the extra responsibility of looking after the welfare of our students.

The Year Advisors are for 2014 are:

- Year 7: Mr Samuel Pakkiam – Maths Faculty**
- Year 8: Mr Jimmy Bellavia – HSIE Faculty**
- Year 9: Ms Nerissa Rodriguez – TAS Faculty**
- Year 10: Mr Rod Collins- Support Faculty**
- Year 11: Mr Andrew Rutherford- PDHPE Faculty**
- Year 12: Ms Sandra Love- Learning Services Faculty**

THINK YOU KNOW Cyber Safety

Thinkyouknow.org.au is a website set up by the Australian Federal Police and Microsoft to make parents and children aware of online safety.

What is my child doing online?



How do I talk to my child about what they’re up to online?

As a parent or carer you have a challenging job, you need to know what your children are doing online and also help them to do it in a safe way. With technology changing on a day-to-day basis, the best way to stay informed is to get involved.

Here are three good ways to help you keep up-to-date with your children and teach them the basics of staying safe:



Risks your child may face online As with the real world, there are risks online and it’s important that you teach your child how to navigate them.



For more detailed information you can visit the [thinkyouknow](http://thinkyouknow.org.au) website:

Parenting online: Teenagers The following general internet safety tips will help you to guide your teen and help them to develop safe and responsible online behaviour.

- Stay involved in your teen's use of new technologies, ask them to show you the websites they use, including their social networking and gaming sites.

- Encourage your teen to use their privacy settings on social networking sites to restrict their online information to viewing by friends only, and to screen who they accept as friends.
- Remind your teen to create screen names or IDs that do not indicate gender, age, name or location and are not sexually provocative.
- Encourage your teen to think before they post information who might see this, could it be misread by others?
- Ask your teen to think about the images they upload of themselves and others, to ensure they aren't exposing themselves to risk through provocative images, and that they aren't compromising their privacy or others' privacy.
- Advise your teen to keep their online friends online.
- Recommend that your teen not to respond to negative messages and to actively block and report abusive people to website administrators. Encourage them to tell you or another trusted adult about such incidents.
- Talk to your teen about cyberbullying before it happens. Work out strategies to address cyberbullying with which you are both comfortable so your teen knows what to expect if they do report concerns to you.
- If your teen has encountered issues online express your support for them and help them stay connected to supportive friends and family both online and offline this is an important protection against longer term negative impacts.
- Consider using filters, labels and safe zones to help manage your teen's online access.
- Install and update anti-virus and other e-security software to restrict unauthorised access to data on the home computer and protect that data from corruption.
- If your teen shows changes in behaviour or mood that are concerning explore your concerns with them and if necessary seek professional support, including through the Cybersmart Online Helpline at www.cybersmart.gov.au/report.aspx.

Teenagers: Many teens spend a fair amount of time on the internet socialising, studying and for entertainment. For many their online activities form a part of their social identity. However, it is important that teens take care of themselves and balance their online interactions with other aspects of their lives.

There are no guidelines for the right amount of time for teens to spend online, however if their online behaviour appears to impact negatively on their behaviour or wellbeing or that of the family, it may be time to discuss expectations, and establish

agreed time limits on use.

or more information, resources, advice and tips, visit the [Cybersmart website](#). Encourage your children and teens to take a look around the website. If you have young children, you may like to explore it together to help them understand how to protect themselves against online risks and make the most of their experiences online.

MATHS REPORT

Ms Ram

Welcome to 2014 and a special welcome to our new students, particularly the year 7's who are enjoying the experience of being in high school. Our experienced and dedicated team of Mathematics teachers namely Mrs Khan, Mr Pakkiam, Mr Shouk, Mr Highlands and Mr Jordan are back for 2014.

Most boys have started the year off with enthusiasm and the year 7's seem to be settled well however, it is essential that all boys are prepared for their maths lessons. Students require a mathematics **grid book \$3.00** and **scientific calculator \$20.00**, which may be purchased at the front office. Students need to provide all other stationery requirements. We advise that grid books and homework books should be covered for extra protection.

This year, years 7 and 9 have commenced with the new Australian curriculum, after a year of planning, writing and reviewing programs. The new curriculum is quite intense and requires the learner to be actively involved in learning in the classroom and complete sections of work for homework in order to successfully achieve to the expected standard. To ensure that no child is left behind, teachers do their best to deliver quality education in the classroom and to help students achieve to their potential. However, parental influence is an utmost important factor in supporting their children achieve to a desirable standard.

The Mathematics faculty has a strong emphasis on homework. Homework helps consolidate knowledge and skills learnt in class. Students are given some form of homework at the end of every Maths lesson. Homework can be in the form of exercises from the text book or worksheets or in the form of an assignment. Students are expected to complete all set homework as homework is marked by the class teacher and a bookmark is awarded. Students are also expected to seek help if they face difficulties. A Mathematics teacher is also available to offer help at the homework centre

that is open on Mondays and Wednesdays after school.

Teachers are currently in the process of writing programs for years 8 and 10. Parents can access further information on the new Australian curriculum from the Board of studies website so as to familiarise themselves with the content of the mathematics curriculum.

NAPLAN:

Years 7 and 9 will sit for the National assessment NAPLAN in May this year. Teachers have issued students with NAPLAN booklets. Students are expected to complete one paper per week to be able to achieve the level of skills required for this test.

AUSTRALIAN MATHEMATICS COMPETITION

Every year all students are given the opportunity to participate in Australian Mathematics Competition (AMC). This year the competition will be held on the 7th August. The AMC gives students an opportunity to experience doing a test prepared by an external agency and compare their achievements with other students in the state. Certificates of distinction, Credit and Participation are issued to the participants. A Westpac award is also given to students who do very well. Students who wish to attempt AMC this year, must pay an entry fee of \$6 to the AMC organiser, Mrs Khan.

Students who are preparing for an external examination this year or next year must maintain a balance between school work and other commitments, and ensure that they do not fall behind. It is very important that all students earn their HSC by showing due diligence and meeting all course outcomes. If parents are concerned about their son's progress in Mathematics, they must contact the Head Teacher Mathematics for a feedback.

ENGLISH REPORT

Mr Budnik

The English faculty has welcomed year 7 including the selective stream, and a number of other new students in years 8 to 12 to the study of English literature and language in what has so far been a busy but very exciting term.

The year 7 students have been busy wrapping up their work within the GBHS orientation program. This unit saw students focus on traditional narrative structure and character archetypes, as well as developing confidence with technical aspects of writing such as punctuation and direct speech. The students have had fun exploring

ideas of heroes and villains, which forms a perfect springboard into their unit on fairytales.

The fairytales unit requires students to assess the relevance today, and role of traditional values conveyed through a range of fairy tales. They have worked on vocabulary, grammar, punctuation, sentence structure and persuasive language devices in order to convey their ideas about the texts.

Year 8 students have enjoyed learning about how culture and other historical factors have led to the emergence of different myths and monsters from around the world. They have completed a series of tasks for assessment including poster design and writing descriptions. Classes have now begun exploring contemporary monsters and myths from literature and film, culminating in a task that requires the English staff to themselves be turned into monsters!

Year 9 students have increased their understanding of the gothic genre by reading a number of horror stories. They have worked on targeted reading skills such as inferential reading and a variety of language features including persuasive language devices. It has been a really exciting to see the progress students have made with their writing through kinesthetic tasks, such as the 'bucket of body parts' exercise. Students have also been using audio prompts and soundscapes as inspiration for scene setting in their writing.

Year 10 students have been approaching texts within a framework of 'protest songs'. Students are exploring famous songs throughout history, analysing how this powerful form of expression has encouraged change through protest and rebellion. Everything from war, the environment and contemporary social issues are coming under the microscope within these lessons. It is also extremely exciting to watch select year ten students partake in the Slam Poetry workshops that are being held this term. These workshops will culminate in a Slam Poetry competition with four other schools participating.

Year 11 has had a busy and challenging year so far, exploring the concept of dystopian worlds through various texts. All standard classes are comparing the film 'Demolition Man' to the short story 'Harrison Bergeron'. Advanced students, however, are looking at the text Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury. In an effort to support the learning of the year 11 students, each student is partaking in an online wiki where they can discuss ideas and seek additional support from their peers or their teacher.

The students in the English Studies course have been busy writing resumes and preparing job applications as part of the compulsory module, Achieving through English – English and the Worlds of Education, Careers and Community. Although this course does not enable students to be awarded an ATAR, it is a vital course preparing the candidates for the world beyond school. Much of the assessment is based around real-life activities, such as preparing for a job interview and it is very important that the students complete all set tasks.

The students of year 12 have been tirelessly working on the area of study for their HSC course. For the last year ever, the theme of the unit is Belonging, where the core text to be explored is Baz Luhrmann's Strictly Ballroom. Year 12 students have a number of assessments to complete throughout the semester, and so, should be making good use of the assessment term planner they receive for each unit of study in English. Year 12 must keep up to date with their online wiki discussions. The online component of each course is the best way for students to deepen their understanding of course materials.

As well as the regular English curriculum, there are a number of exciting, extra curricular events on the horizon for the students. These include numerous theatre excursions and workshops, as well as opportunities in filmmaking and writing intensives. Students in years 7 – 10 are reminded that if they are interested in participating in the inter schools debating competition, to come and put their names down in the English staffroom during lunch and recess.

We wish all students and their families well for a busy year of learning!

SCIENCE REPORT

Ms Kotelawela



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 2014 students and their families.

This year we have a record breaking number of students in year 7 with a selective class making history at GBHS and an Enrichment class.

I would like to welcome two new members to the Science faculty this year, Ms Juliet Alameddine and Mr Dimitri Nikiforos. Ms. Alameddine is filling in

for Mrs Jasmine Kotelawela who has taken Mrs Aline Saliba's position as the HT who is on leave until the end of this year. Mr Nikiforos is filling in for Ms Selina Tran who is working part time this term. Ms. Daniella Vitetta is filling in for Ms Manuela Ioannidis who is on maternity leave until the end of this year. The other member of the Science Faculty is none other than Ms Jackie Andraos. 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 2013 Year 12 HSC students on their great performance. We wish all our students well in their future.

Year 7:

Year 7 students are enjoying a series of investigations planned under the topic "Classification and Habitats." They visited the Taronga Zoo as part of the Orientation Program and their Classification Topic. Students had a wonderful day at the zoo and completed a Classification workbook as part of their assessment requirement. Two classes were able to experience hands on classification workshop where they were able to touch reptiles and possums. The skills that students have developed in doing these investigations are helping them to develop their capacity in planning and carrying out first hand investigations and making dichotomous keys in order to classify living things.





Year 8:

This term, the year 8 students were actively engaged in carrying out a series of first-hand investigations. After conducting a number of trials of the experiment they were able to bust the myth “toast always falls with the buttered face down”. They also performed an investigation to find out how the drop time of various parachutes is affected by the material from which the parachute is made.



Year 9

The students are learning about electricity, light, sound and waves. Their assessment task includes a practical component on electricity and a quiz.

Year 10:

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



On Wednesday 5 March, Year 11 Biology and Year 11 Senior Science students went to Bicentennial Park in Sydney Olympic Park to investigate a local ecosystem. It was a Field Study Assessment Task that meets the Board of Studies course requirements. The students eagerly participated in numerous activities that were set up and co-ordinated by the service team at Sydney Olympic Park. They worked in groups and studied the adaptations of mangroves to its habitat and the distribution and abundance of plant and animal species in a salt marsh ecosystem. It was a great success and the students thoroughly enjoyed applying the skills they had learnt in class, to a practical situation.



Year 12

Year 12 physics students will be going on an excursion later this term to Luna Park. This visit will enhance the students’ knowledge of the topics Space and Motors & Generators studied in Year12. They will enjoy the rides as well as complete a work book relating to Space and Motors to ensure a deeper understanding of concepts.

The Biology and Senior Science students are attending a workshop at the UNSW Museum of Diseases on Wednesday 26 March. The boys would get an opportunity to see diseased preserved body parts and prosthetics.

Selected Science students from Yr7-Yr12 have been chosen to represent Granville boys’ High

school in the Big Science Competition held in May this year. This will give the students an opportunity to gain a measure of their skills in Science in an external assessment situation.

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



TAS REPORT

Mr Odei

This year has taken off at a very fast pace. We have seen the arrival of our highly energetic and motivated Year 7 students. In TAS, we played a key role in orienting our year 7 students to their new school community with a number of fun and engaging activities which would be reported further in this article. The composition of our Technology Mandatory classes is real mixed ability and we are really excited as staff about the learning experiences that are in place to cater for the needs of our new crop of students.

Stage 4

The early part of this term saw our focus for Year 7 shift to the orientation program and our Moroccan Feast theme. The rationale behind the Moroccan Feast was for the Year 7 students to create a Moroccan themed dish and share a plate with their parents at school. The preparation and hard work to make it a success was testament to the dedication from our TAS staff. Special thanks to all who assisted particularly Ms Rodriguez, Ms Haber, Ms Havea and Ms Verbanaz. I would also like to public acknowledge Omeima Sukkarieh of ACDN for providing us with accessories to decorate our function area to simulate a Moroccan setting.

Parents who were able to grace the lunch organised by their sons/wards were particularly impressed with the standard of service and hospitality provided them. In TAS we are always keen to involve members of the community and as such we are grateful to all the parents who took time out to attend the lunch. As part of the learning activities for orientation program the year 7 students designed a safety poster some of which I must say was of a very high standard. On behalf of the TAS staff I officially welcome all year 7 students to Granville Boys High School and particularly to the TAS learning area.

The Year 8 students have been working on their individual themed projects to demonstrate their understanding of the design process. Some of the projects include a bedside lamp, pencil case, tool box and various food products.



Stage 5

Our year 9 and 10 students are working really well and are beginning to take a lot of responsibility for their own learning. Noteworthy is the Year 10 food technology class who assisted the teachers during the Moroccan Feast lunch. They mentored the year 7 students in the preparation of the food as well as assisted in welcoming the parents and caregivers to the luncheon. The timber and

electronics students are also working on their projects which involve a chopping board and a door bell respectively.



Vocational Education and Training (VET) students in year 12 Hospitality and Construction have started their work placements this week and they are enthused to completing their training with distinction. The majority of our students often leave a positive impression with the employers and always uplift the image of our school. We wish them all the very best in their industry placement training.

Finally a big thank you to all parents and caregivers who have made payment contributions to TAS to support their sons/wards practical learning experiences. Your contributions and payments ensure that we are able to provide high quality learning projects for your sons/wards. Thank you for your continued support.

H/T TEACHING AND LEARNING

Relieving - Mr Rutherford

What an exciting time it is for Granville Boys High School as we welcome our inaugural Selective stream class for 2014. These students have been selected on their academic achievement in the State Selective Test held in March 2013 and were successful in gaining a selective placement in NSW Public Schools for Year 7 this year. The students in this class are a welcome addition to our Enrichment program, which is now in its third year, thus giving us a Year 7 Selective class, Year 7 Enrichment class and a Year 8 Enrichment class. It is fantastic to see the junior students in the school leading by example in academics.

On the subject of Year 7, the students have recently completed their first unit of work through the Orientation program titled "Mirror". Using the innovative picture book *Mirror*, by Jeannie Baker, as a stimulus, students have learnt that we are all the same. Students and teachers have experienced 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. Despite the strikingly different lifestyles, remotely different countries, landscapes and differences of clothing, 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. Part of the unit of work has been the diverse range of excursions over a two week period, from travelling to Sydney University and Taronga Zoo, to an on-foot excursion around the local area to 'Get to know Granville', to hosting a Moroccan feast under tents in the library. It has just been an amazing time for Year 7!

As the school undergoes change to meet the needs of twenty-first century learning, staff have



Stage 6

Engineering studies students in Year 12 have just submitted their first assessment task and the rate of submission has been excellent. The group enjoyed the practical component of the assessment as it involved building accurate truss bridges and then later testing to see whose bridge could hold the most weight. Mouhamed Ibrahim was the proud designer of the bridge that could hold a 550 Newtons weight for about 3 seconds. In year 11, the Engineering studies boys are keen and progressing steadily with their new teacher Mr Benic who is enjoying his second spell as a teacher at Granville Boys High School. Mr Benic is highly motivated, well organised and we are pleased to have him on our staff.

been busily programming for the Australian Curriculum (English, Mathematics, Science, History and Geography) as well as planning authentic learning tasks that enrich learning through project based tasks and integrated (cross-curriculum) learning. Students from Years 7 – 10 will get to experience these new teaching and learning programs first-hand as they are being developed, including Big History, a program that will be featured in stage 5 later in the year.

Teachers work diligently to provide students with engaging and differentiated learning experiences and it could not be possible without the dedicated and united approach all staff at Granville Boys High School have towards ongoing professional development. Staff meet in a wide range of forums, whole-school, faculty, cross-faculty and through Peer Coaching to enhance instructional pedagogy and how to improve the learning outcomes of all students. Integral to this process is the feedback from the students, parents and wider community, in which Granville Boys High School regular ascertain through informal interviews, surveys, student voice forums, the 'Tell them from me' survey, the Student Representative Council and the Parents and Citizens Association.

Finally, I would like to thank the support I have received from the entire school community, including Mrs. Cullenward, whom I have been relieving in the position of Head Teacher Teaching and Learning. I look forward to welcoming her back into the position on her return at the start of next term.

SUPPORT REPORT

Ms Rudek

The Support Unit staff would like to welcome our new Year 7 students to the support unit. This year Mrs Sivrioglu is teaching year 7 and 8 Support. I am teaching the rest of the year 8 students and Year 9. Mr Collins is teaching years 10, 11 and 12. Early this term parents were invited to partake in their sons Individual Education Planning Meeting. We had all the parents involved and I would like to thank all the parents, older siblings and carers for partaking and contributing to this valuable process of establishing and setting out education goals. It was great to catch up and to meet new parents and carers.

This year, the Get Ready program is running each Thursday at Granville Youth Centre. Ms Moshref and I are running this program with our Year 8/9 class. We will be participating in a number of workshops at Parramatta Stadium with Mel who is the education coordinator with the Parramatta

Eels. The boys had the opportunity to see the Eels rugby players practicing at Parramatta Stadium. They also completed their first workshop with Mel which was Dream and Believe. The boys were enthusiastic and thoroughly enjoyed their first experience of this program.

In the next couple of weeks our year 7 and 8 students will be participating in the Swimming School program at Granville Swimming Pool. This will allow the boys to develop their swimming skills as well as providing them with the opportunity to embrace water safety awareness.



Careers and Transition Team

Ms Bailey-Marsman

2014 is off to a very busy start. Students from year 10-12 have been completing or updating their Resumes in preparation of applying online for part-time jobs and students have been applying for their Tax File Numbers.

Year 12

Students have completed a Career Questionnaire and shortly they will be receiving information about particular universities and the courses they offer, Apprenticeships, TAFE courses, Private Providers and Employment Agency details. They will also be receiving an information booklet about ATAR and Non-ATAR Pathways. Early next term Guest Speakers will be coming to the school and speaking to the students about University, TAFE, Private Colleges and Employment Agencies. This will provide the students with information that will enable them to strengthen their Plan A pathway and develop a Plan B pathway. HSC Expo's are coming up soon so please take note of dates and information.

INFORMATION: The Daily Telegraph HSC and Careers Expo 2014.

- Saturday 31 May and Sunday 1 June 2014
Royal Hall of Industries, Moore Park,
Sydney 10am – 3pm

This Expo brings together over 140 exhibitors providing HSC, Tertiary course, career, study skills and gap year information and resources.

Admission is \$10 or \$25 for families of 3 or more (children 14 and under free). The school has limited free passes so please see Careers Adviser closer to the date.

For more details see the Expo Visitor Guide in The Daily Telegraph on Tuesday 27 May or visit hscandcareers.com.au

White Card Course

Students who are 15 and in year 10, 11 or 12 and require a white card due to working in a trade or thinking of working in a trade for year 12 work experience, please see the Careers Adviser or Transition Adviser to put your name down on the list. Trades include: plumbing, painting, tiling, cement rendering, electrician, building anything to do with working on a building site or house site.

PDHPE REPORT

Mr Abraham

The PDHPE staff would like to welcome everyone to 2014 and a special welcome to our new Year 7 students.

In term 1, Stage 4 and 5 students will study the following topics in PDH:

Year 7. Sense of self

Year 8. Risky business

Year 9. Body image and mental health

Year 10. Relationships

2014 Swimming carnival

What an exciting and busy term for our faculty. We started term 1 with our successful carnival. The carnival took place in week 5 at Granville Aquatic Centre and was a great day with high participation in a range of activities in and outside the pool.

There were some excellent performances from the students with 8 boys going on to represent the school at the Prospect Zone swimming carnival.

2014 Swimming School Program

This year I'm so pleased to inform you that our Swim school program is being held at Granville Aquatic Centre. The program is designed for our students and will be conducted and run by professional swimming instructors from the Aquatic

Centre. It is compulsory for all students in years 7 and 8. All year 7 students will be attending the swim school program in week 8 and year 8 students in week 9 for 5 days from Monday to Friday

2014 Prospect Zone Rugby League Trials

Granville Boys HS took part in the prospect zone trials and fielded u/15s and opens teams. The gala day took place at Richie Benaud oval in which over 200 students battled it out for a coveted position in the prospect zone team. The day got off to a flying start for the u/15s as they battled Merrylands HS in the first round and were quick to get out to a 12 nil lead with Fouad Elskaf and Patrick Langi both crossing the line in a brilliant solo effort. However an array of errors invited Merrylands back into the game with a soft try and then crossing in the final seconds to salvage a 12 all draw. Despite the solid effort Coach Chebib felt his troops should've wrapped up the ball game "We had our chances but failed to capitalise on our opportunities" Chebib told the Granville Times.

This result saw coach Chebib give the boys a well-deserved rev up along with some controversial tactical changes which proved to be successful. Granville Boys then go on a 5 game unbeaten streak to cement a spot in the final against local rivals Merrylands HS. Coach Chebib proved he is worth every dollar they spent on him to get him to take over the u/15s team with decisions that ultimately paid massive dividends. After a short 15 minute turn around to the final the boys tried hard with some bone rattling defence from new recruit Ayman Alameddine. Unfortunately fatigue took its toll and the boys suffered a close defeat in the final. Despite being disappointed with the result there was some positive news with the following boys making it to the Prospect Zone Rep Team:

Ayman Alameddine u/15

Fouad Elskaf u/15

Patrick Langi u/15

Alofi Leapai u/15

Yousef Dib Opens

Paul Takau Opens

Jimi Valu Opens

We would like to wish the boys the very best in the zone tournament.

Finally, we would like to wish all the sportsmen good luck and hope that Granville has a very successful sporting year.



HSIE REPORT

Mr Mandarakas

On behalf of the HSIE Faculty welcome to the New School Year! It has been a busy seven weeks for the HSIE faculty with students competing in competitions, completing assessment tasks and the trialling of new units of work. I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome to our Faculty Mr Di lenno who came to us as a casual teacher last year and will this year work within the HSIE faculty.

All HSIE students should now have completed or are in the process of completing their first assessment task for Term One. Students in year 7 have been completing a project on physical and human environments. Year 8 is working on Aboriginal resistance to European colonisation and Year 9 are studying natural hazards. Early next term Year 9 students will be involved on an excursion to Penrith Lakes and St Mary's recycling plant as part of the Land and Water Management component of the course.

This week Ms Ghosh's Year 12 Legal Studies students will be visiting the Supreme Court to gain an understanding of how the legal system works. Students of Mr Heiler's Year 11 Business Studies class are participating in the Macquarie University Business Challenge. During week 4 students went along to Macquarie University to hear from a non government organisation that delivers food to charities for distribution to needy and homeless people. The students over a period of weeks will develop and pitch a proposal to the company about raising its profile. The successful school team will have the opportunity to work with the company to implement their proposal. This will give the students a deeper insight into how businesses develop a plan and the challenges they face in implementing business plans.

Students in the year 9 and 10 Commerce classes will also soon begin the ASX challenge. As the name suggests students will be developing a deeper knowledge of not only what shares are but also the responsibilities to a business of share holders.

Over the five weeks Mr Belavia has been introducing year 7 students to some of the geographical and historical features of the Granville 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 in the 1970s. He also looked at the different uses of what is now Abla's patisserie - some of our readers may remember it as the Commonwealth bank while others may remember it as a rather infamous pool hall.

A major priority has been the analysis of past HSC results using the RAP data. With the assistance of Mr Abas the Faculty will pinpoint trends and assess student performance. This experience is also informing our efforts on a unit of work on natural disasters where the focus will be to improve student's write about a disaster using a narrative or story-telling approach if you would like more information or assistance please do not hesitate to make contact with the members of the HSIE faculty.

YR 7 BBQ



LEARNING SERVICES

Ms 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 and Mr Hryce have been going to Sydney University with students. Myself and the science teachers have been taking students to the Zoo. The Library hosted the Moroccan Feast, which Mr Chebib enjoyed immensely on the occasion he got to attend.





students. She will be assisting ESL students in the classroom. Mr Honess is working three days a week this year. We will be arranging Individual Education Plan meeting with students and parents throughout this

Mr Abbas and I have meet 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.

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.

Mr Mandarakas and I went to a teacher evening at the NSW State Library. The State Library has a huge amount of resources both in the library and online. It is a great source for information (particularly for Australian History, Geography and English especially for senior students). <http://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/>



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 got around to meet all the new English as Second Language (ESL)

Ms Das is coordinating a refugee program with Macquarie University. Volunteers come from the university to work with students. Everyone seems to be enjoying the program

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. It is becoming very popular with both senior and junior student. Recently almost 40 students turned up to use the library facilities and get extra support with their homework and assignments.

TERM 1

UTS TUTORS IN THE LIBRARY

Monday 17th March – Friday 11th April 2014

MONDAYS 3:00 – 4:00pm	TUESDAYS 1:00 – 2.30pm	WEDNESDAYS 3:00 – 4:00pm
George Yousef (Maths – General)	Luke Coffey (Maths – General)	Nam Hoang (Chemistry + Biology)
Gabriela Sanchez English (2U Stan + Adv)	Gabriela Sanchez (Modern History)	Adam Cheng (Physics + Engineering Studies)
		Emily Quinn Smyth English (2U Stan + Adv)



CAPA REPORT

Mr Dixon

It's been a busy start to the year for all CAPA subjects.

Ms Holland is pleased with her year 12 IDT class who have completed their work placements with very positive reports.

Ms Guzman took the year 12's to Art Express at the NSW Art Gallery. The students enjoyed seeing the best of last year's HSC student works and also got to see current exhibitions on offer. The boys have been inspired to produce excellence in their own HSC works.



A group of band students attended a recent workshop and performance by the Sydney Symphony on John Williams Film music. They then saw the Sydney Symphony perform the music at the Sydney Opera House, including the Theme from Star Wars and music from Harry Potter. The band is working hard on new performance pieces, including items for this year's Opera House Our Spectacular audition. As well, a group of year 9 and year 10 students are working with the Banton brothers, a professional recording duo to write, produce and record their own songs.

Finally I'm leaving Granville Boys as I've accepted a permanent job as Head Teacher Administration at Ashfield Boys High School. I'd like to thank all of the boys I've had the pleasure working with and their parents who have been very supportive of all we've been able to achieve together. I take with me fond memories of this school and look forward to reading about all the future success stories at Granville Boys.

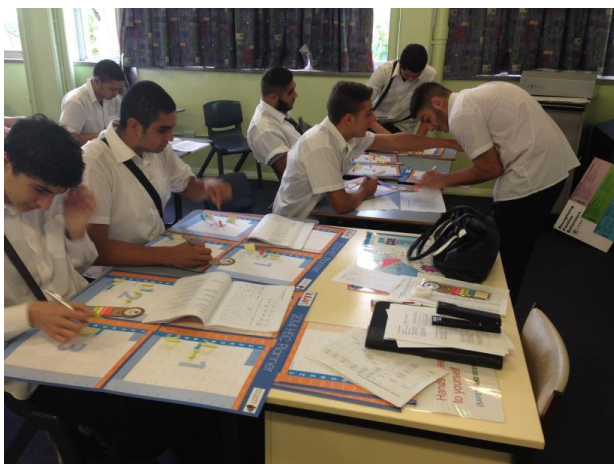


Yr 11 ADVISOR

Mr Rutherford

Year 11 have hit the ground running as they embark on their journey towards the HSC in 2015. Most of the students have demonstrated a real commitment to their studies already, seeking ongoing advice and support from their teachers, Careers Advisors, Deputy Principals and myself.

Year 11 have already commenced the "Off to a Good Start" program, facilitated by Macquarie University, which seeks to develop a range of personal skills that fundamental to successful study and life after school. So far, students have used their assessment schedule to map out due dates for all of their assessments, creating study plans in which to achieve their goals. I encourage parents and guardians to talk with their son/ward to see how they can be supported at home with their study routine.



Year 11 can connect to the school at any time through Edmodo – www.edmodo.com – an educational social networking website being used by the school to communicate with students through social media, allowing students to be constantly up to date with key events that are happening in the school. Students can view their assessment schedule online, download assessment tasks and other important documents and ask questions of the Year Advisor at any time. Students are encouraged to download the **free app** through the Apple iTunes store or the Android app through the Google Play store. Parent codes are available so that parents and guardians may also communicate with the school as well as observing their son/ward's online activity. If you would like a parent access code, please contact Mr Rutherford during school business hours.

Yr 12 ADVISOR

Ms Love

Term 1 has been a busy time for Year 12 with students working hard to keep up with the demanding schedule of assessments that are a necessary part of their HSC. It has been gratifying to see so many of them working hard in Homework Club, keeping the voluntary teaching staff on their toes with lots of clever questions and ideas. Many are also using the Library during free periods to catch up on assignments or research their topics on the computer

It has also been, however, a very exciting time for the students as they await the long anticipated arrival of their jerseys. Our thanks go to Mr Budnik for arranging the jerseys last year. As the new HT English, Mr Budnik was sadly required to relinquish his role as Year Advisor but not before having expertly guided the boys through the various decisions necessary for the ordering of these highly sought after garments, as well as steering them through countless other rites of passage over the years.

Year 12 have, this term, begun to recognise the importance of their place within the school community and the jerseys are one visual indication of that position to the rest of the school. On that note, it has been very pleasing to see Year 12 maintaining and modelling the school's PBIS focus while in the playground. Their sense of fair play and the respect they show towards others has been a shining example for the younger students. Finally, over the next few weeks, it is important that the boys keep up their efforts with school work as all marks gained throughout Year 12 count towards their HSC. Their years at school are coming to a close over the next six months and while this is a time for rejoicing, it is also a time for settling down to serious study. Every mark gained in their HSC will be of benefit by allowing each student increased choices in their future careers.

For that reason, I ask all parents to assist their sons by encouraging them to keep up to date with their assessments. All Year 12 students have been supplied with an assessment timetable and it is advised that it be displayed in a suitable place on the wall, as a reminder. They have also been provided with an HSC Assessment booklet that contains every assessment task they will be expected to complete this term.

I look forward to a fruitful year and wish all Year 12 well with their studies in 20