

Bulletin

Issue 1 Term 1, 2015



Minister visits GBHS

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“A GREAT PLACE TO LEARN”



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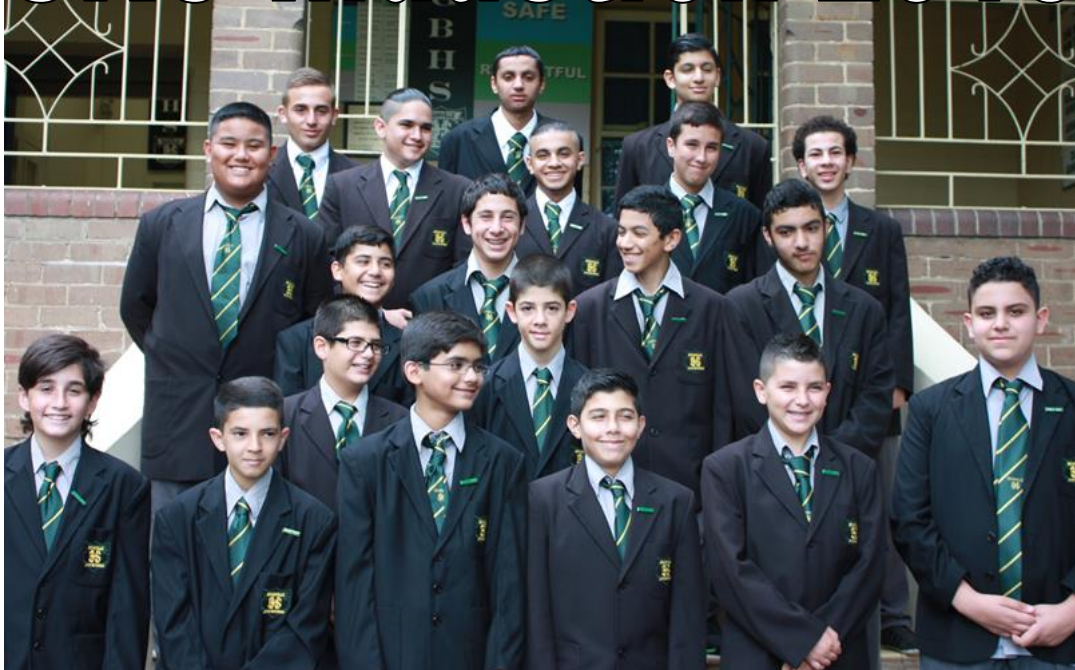
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PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Ms O'Brien

Once again we have had a wonderfully exciting term at Granville Boys. Students and teachers have been engaged a wide variety of exciting learning experiences in school and in the community. We have welcomed new teachers and now we farewell some members of staff. The following teachers are new to our school this year: In English, Mr Robert Jones and Mr Lucas Widdison, in HSIE Mr Tarek El Homsy, in Art Ms Fiona Donnelly. Ms Helen Helou has been filling a vacancy as the Autism teacher and Ms Fiona Cullenward has been acting Deputy Principal. This term we ran panels for the permanent position of English teacher and Deputy Principal.

The new Deputy Principal is Mr Noel Dixon who will commence in term 2 and Ms Elaine Bazouni has been appointed as a permanent member of the English staff. Mr David Taylor who we had "borrowed" temporarily has picked up a Deputy's job at Cromer Campus, Northern Beaches Secondary College. He will be replaced by Mr Adel Ahmed from Liverpool Boys. The wonderful Mrs Meredith Maggs has a substantive new position as School Admin Manager at Kingsgrove Public School. Miss Fatma Hosari replaces Meredith and Jo Zreika will commence part time in the office.

One highlight this term was the Robotics Challenge that was held at Homebush Sports Centre. The "Jokers" our GHBS team competed against teams from across Australia and the Pacific, including schools in China, Taiwan and the USA. Our team was placed sixth out of 33 teams. Many of the teams have been competing for years and GBHS is a relatively newcomer. We are so proud of the work of our students.

In the first weeks of the term Ms Nerissa Rodriguez and Nedir Elsamad travelled to Melbourne to participate in the creation of a training film for the wellbeing and good health program "MindMatters". Our school café was chosen as an exemplar of great projects that build social cohesion in a school. They were joined by expert educators and child psychologists from across Australia. The work of the school continues to gain this recognition. We are so proud of them both.

The Minister for Education the Honourable Adrian Piccoli visited the school in early March to announce funding for the school for an upgrade of the facilities. We will receive \$2 million to improve the grounds and the administration area of the school. This will free some of our maintenance funding for other work around the school. The new Trade Skills Centre will commence construction in June. It will be located on the corner of Mary and Hutcheson streets in front of the gym and will also include a bistro. It is envisaged that it will be completed for the beginning of the school year in 2016. Students have been engaged in new programs this term and our community partners are most impressed with the work of the students. "Creating Chances" is a

leadership program for boys using the world of football to build social cohesion and an understanding of diversity. It aims to support students to become more resilient and influence others positively. Our "Links to Learning" partners, the Information and Cultural Exchange in Parramatta, have engaged spoken word poets and artists to work with students to create projects and enhance the boys' engagement with school.

It was my very great honour to accompany Sanskar Shrestha and his parents to Sydney University where Sanskar received an academic award from the university. Sanskar is a very capable student and we are so proud of his achievement. He has been in Australia for only two years and has worked hard at his studies to receive these impressive results.

Year 7 have been off to a good start. Thanks to Mr Egan and the team of teachers who managed the Orientation Program. Again this students travelled all over Sydney to explore their environment. They studied a picture book entitled "Mirror" that explored their cultural identity and the students were able to compose texts about themselves. As well parents enjoyed meeting teachers at a welcome BBQ.

Our sporting teams, particularly the Buckley Shield Rugby League have had a successful start to the season. The grand final of this competition was postponed when rain interrupted play. GBHS has 7 representative in the Prospect Zone team. Thank you to Coach Chebib! The swim school is under way and students from year 7 have impressed their teachers and the staff at Granville Pool by their enthusiasm and the good behaviour.

The music and dance ensembles have also been busy touring across Sydney. So far they have played at three school including, James Cook Technology High School, Alexandria Park Community School and Auburn Girls High School for a combined Harmony Day, and Seniors Week. The students in Year 9 & 10 have also participated in workshop with Banton Brothers and a concert will be held in Week 2 of next term. Parents you are most welcome.

I do hope you have a restful break and enjoy yourselves. I look forward to another productive and happy term.



DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Miss Scott

My name is Carla Scott, I am the new Deputy Principal at Granville Boys. I have thoroughly enjoyed my first term working at GBHS, I have enjoyed the energy of the boys and the enthusiasm of the staff. I would sincerely like to express my appreciation to all of the friendly staff, students and parents who have helped me to settle in over the past term and who have helped me to better understand our school community. I have previously worked at Bass HS as the Head Teacher Welfare and prior to that at Chifley College Shalvey Campus. My teaching background is HSIE and Special Education, at GBHS I am teaching HSIE (History and Geography) to our new Autism class.

In my role as Deputy Principal I am specifically managing Year 7 and 8, the Year 6 – 7 transition program as well as overseeing the Welfare and PBIS teams. My focus in 2015 will be to improve student attendance (whole day and partial attendance) as well as to implement clear and consistent behaviour management strategies and focuses to support positive behaviour across the school.

Term 1 has been a busy term. Year 7 have completed their Orientation Program as well as swim school. It was lovely to meet so many families at the Year 7 Welcome BBQ. I hope meeting with some of your son's teachers has helped to put to rest any of the concerns you may have had about your son starting high school and that the comprehensive Orientation Program developed by Mr Egan has helped ease the transition for all Year 7 students.

The swim school program attended by Year 7 students has been a huge success. Mr Wynne has done a great job ensuring the participation of most Year 7 students. Swim school is such an important program for all students as not only does it help to improve swimming ability and water safety but it also focuses on First Aid and CPR, skills that are invaluable in all facets of life.

This Term I have had the pleasure of working with Mr Ghazal and Mr Highlands to coordinate our transition program for Year 6 students. It was wonderful to visit our local primary schools and speak about all the great facilities, programs and learning opportunities that Granville Boys has to offer. Year 6 students came to GBHS this term also to participate in an open day where students got a taste of some of the different subjects they will study at high school. Our student helpers were amazing ambassadors for our school and really helped the Year 6 students to feel comfortable and participate fully. Thank you to all staff who assisted on the day also. The enrichment and selective class placement tests have been held at GBHS. Further opportunities to sit the enrichment class placement test will arise throughout the year and parents will be notified through their primary schools.

The Deputy Principal rewards excursion will be held on Wednesday April 1st of Term 1. The criteria to receive an invitation for this excursion was based on behaviour, attendance and effort in class. Year Advisers nominated students to attend the excursion. We are off to Bundeena for a beach day, students will be able to swim and fish and will have a BBQ for lunch. I am really looking forward to spending the day with these boys and congratulating them for their hard work this term.

I am excited about my future at Granville Boys High and what I hope to contribute to the dynamic school community. Thank you for making me feel so welcome, I look forward to getting to know more students and meeting more families over the coming terms.

Warm regards for the holidays.

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Ms Cullenward

This term has been a busy one for all staff and students. In class, students have been working towards and on assessment tasks. Staff has been attending professional learning to collaboratively plan, implement and review numeracy learning in stage 4. Staff are constantly reviewing literacy data relevant to the students, and implementing the Reading To Learn program in units of work. The teaching and learning strategies are being aligned to school priorities in Literacy and Numeracy, and Engagement.

Year 9 students and parents were interviewed midway through the term to create an individual NAPLAN Intervention Program. Throughout the term, Year 9 students completed a number of booklets that targeted specific areas of learning to develop basic skills and understanding in literacy and numeracy. Early in term two, Year 7 and 9 students will complete a practice NAPLAN test to familiarise themselves with test procedures, provide a snapshot for their achievement and give teachers an opportunity to evaluate current faculty programs. Students will be rehearsing the routines of the NAPLAN test during the practice test and they will be participating in writing workshops to reinforce persuasive and narrative writing techniques. The results from this practice test will be included in student achievement in the semester one report.

Students will be supplied with practice tests to complete over the term 1 holiday. Parents are encouraged to support this process, as students will benefit greatly by completing the sample tests.

A reminder that students in Years 7 and 9 will be completing the National Assessment Program for Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) test in 2015. There are four tests covering numeracy, reading, writing and language conventions (spelling, punctuation and grammar).

The test schedule is:

Tuesday 12th May 2015 – Language Conventions and Writing

Wednesday 13th May 2015 – Reading

Thursday 14th May 2015 – Numeracy

As part of the continual improvement and innovation cycle which underpins The Platform for Collaborative Education, teachers meet with their peer coach leader regularly to design, implement and review teaching/learning in their classrooms. Implementing numeracy outcomes in learning tasks and assessment is the focus of peer coaching this year.

Integrated learning tasks will be created, implemented and reviewed as part of the professional learning in 2015. These tasks will be developed by members from different KLAs using data about common learning outcomes collected in 2013/2014 and implemented in stage 4 classes.



MATH Report

Ms Ram

2015 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. This year the new Australian curriculum is being implemented for years 8 and 10. For more information on course content visit the Board of Studies website. <http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/>

I would like to welcome 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 2015. This year has seen an increase in student enrolment and consequently each class has more students than in the previous year. Thus teacher's capacity to devote substantial amount of time to help students individually is constrained. I would like to urge students to be independent learners and effectively participate in learning. Parents can help by supporting students with their homework and regularly checking their son's work to ensure that all homework is completed and to a satisfactory standard. Raise any concerns with your son's teachers so that any learning/g difficulties can be addressed early.

In February, year 8 students from selective and enrichment classes attended a GAT competition at Northmead High school. The accompanying teachers, Ms Khan and Mr Shouk, reported that our student were thoroughly engaged and presented quite a challenge to their competitors.



NAPLAN

Years 7 and 9 will sit for the National assessment, NAPLAN, in May this year. This year our focus is year 9's. Teachers have issued students with NAPLAN preparation booklets every fortnight. Students are expected to complete the booklet at home. These

booklets are meant to familiarise students with the nature of questions they will expect to see in their actual NAPLAN exam.

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 \$6.00 to the front office by the 7th of May, 2013. The actual competition will be held on 30th July, 2015. See the organiser of the competition, Mrs Khan, in the Maths staffroom for further details.

Studying Mathematics (Helpful Hints)

1. **Avoid the risk of frustration.** The later stuff builds on the earlier stuff. A math book is like a novel, it doesn't make sense unless you start at the beginning.
2. **Know your basics.** Practise regularly to develop your Mathematical brain. Regular practice will ease your challenges.
3. **Try to work out the problems and do the exercises.** If there is a sample problem in your book, or an example problem, work through it yourself, and use the sample in your book to guide you.
4. **Solve the easier problems first,** so you can mentally warm up your brain for the more complicated ones
5. **Learn the vocabulary!** Every area of Math has its own vocabulary. You must understand the language of Mathematics. The commonly used words in English may not mean the same in Mathematics.
6. **Identify the error.** If you make a mistake in a problem, or in a proof, or take a wrong turn, figure out why! Figure out what it was, or what it was that you were thinking, that led you down the wrong path
7. **Be able to explain it to somebody else.** This is a sure way to find out what you don't understand. You learn more when you teach it to someone else

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

Year 9 ESS

The new Exercise and Sport Science course in Year 9 have been studying the Fundamentals of Anatomy and Physiology, which is the body parts and how they work. In particular, students have been investigating the components and function of the circulatory system and the respiratory system and how they work together to supply oxygen to the working muscles during exercise. In their assessment task, students have assessed their cardiorespiratory fitness using the multistage beep test, analysing the impact endurance training has on the efficiency of the cardiorespiratory system and its ability to function in endurance events.

Opens Rugby League

Term1 has been a term for Granville Boys High The opens rugby league team participated in the University Shield competition at Whalan Reserve in Tregear. The boys were off to a flying start winning our opening game 36-0 against a tough and resilient opponent. New recruit Youssef Afram impressed with some solid dummy half running and some very strong defence. Youssef was pleased with his first hit out after scoring a try and polling heavily in the Players Player votes, when asked about his first try for Granville Boys Youssef replied "Id like to thank coach Ghazal for giving me an opportunity, he showed a lot of belief in me and I hope my efforts repaid his faith a little bit". The second clash saw the boys down to twelve men due to injuries but that didn't dampen the confidence, the boys rallied together to earn a 12 points to 6 victory in what was a mammoth defensive effort by all the players. The final game was crucial with the winner going through to the semi-finals and the boys put in a massive effort. Unfortunately it wasn't the result we were after going down in a tight battle 12 points to 10; however al involved should be remarkably proud of their efforts.

Grade sport got under way in week 3 and involved a number of sports including touch, AFL 9's, basketball and cricket. The teams have had mixed success but generally the students have represented the school well with the AFL and touch teams playing to a high level. The finals will be played in week 9 and 10 so lets hope GBHS gets some wins on the board in term1.

The swimming carnival took place in week 4 at Merrylands pool with a participation rate at an all time high. Not only did the students get the opportunity to swim but took part in a melee of different sports including soccer, volleyball, tug o war and modified water polo. The day was a great success and fun was had by all. From this a small contingent of students were selected to represent the school at the zone carnival a week later. Despite some valiant efforts by

some of the students none made it through to the next level at Sydney west.

GBHS has also been involved number of sports programs, knockout fixtures and gala days this term. This term a "creating chances" started their sports leadership program in week 5 with 16 students selected to take part in this 10 week project designed to empower and create leaders at the school. The students have thoroughly enjoyed program thus far and we look forward to them apply their acquired skill in term 3 this year. The opens basketball team, led by Mr Heiler, made it through to the 2nd round of the knockout competition only to lose narrowly to Baulkham hills HS. The soccer team are in the 2nd round also and set to play early in term 2.

It's been a busy term but theirs not let up in term 2 with the cross country and athletics carnival coming up and more fixtures and gala days planned.

Have a safe holiday



CAPA REPORT

Ms Libdy

Welcome to 2015 and what appears to be a very busy year. I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome our Year 7 students and their families.

The CAPA faculty is a versatile and creative faculty. This faculty is made up of Music, Visual Arts and Computing.

The teaching staff of this faculty:

- Safa Libdy- HT CAPA/ IST, IDT and IPT
- Kylie Holland- IST, IDT, Technology Mandatory and IPT
- Rosemary Guzman- Visual Arts
- Fiona Donnelly- Visual Arts
- Peter Calvert- Music
- Daniel Chick- Music

The CAPA faculty has had a very busy start to the Semester. All the teachers in this Faculty have been working hard to ensure that students are being exposed to as many creative opportunities as possible.

Students have been kept very busy in Visual Arts. Year 7 are working on 'Famous portraits.' They will be learning to use Photoshop to create portraits of themselves. They will be incorporating technology and Art to create a portrait.

Year 8 are working on Pop Art in Advertising. Pop art is an art movement that emerged in the mid-1950s in Britain and in the late 1950s in the United States. Pop art presented a challenge to traditions of fine art by including imagery from popular culture such as advertising, news, etc. Students are learning about how Pop Art is used in advertising.

Year 9 are learning about landscape Art. They are using canvases and paint to create their own landscapes.

Year 10 are studying Surrealism. Surrealism is aimed at expressing imaginative dreams and visions free from conscious rational control. Salvador Dali was an influential surrealist painter; Jean Cocteau was a master of surrealist film. The students are using ink and black pens to create fantasy drawings.

Year 12 are working on their HSC Body of work for Art.

Music has already begun rehearsals for 'Our Spectacular'. Mr Calvert and Mr Chick are working very hard with the boys to ensure success at the audition.

The Arabic junior and senior band have been going strong, Ahmad Hoblos their tutor comes in every Wednesday morning periods 1&2 to rehearse with the boys.

We are going to introduce a Dabbke group to the school. We will be asking boys to audition early next term.

Jacob is another Music tutor who will be coming in on Wednesday next Term. He tutors the boys in Trombone, Trumpet, Saxophone and Guitar. He has done a tremendous job with our boys. We would like to take this opportunity to thank both Ahmad and Jacob for their hard work and dedication to helping our boys.

Ahmad Hoblos and I took the Arabic band to perform at Alexandria Park Community School for Harmony Day.

The boys were a great hit and they were great ambassadors for the school. Many more opportunities will present themselves where our boys will be invited to perform at different venues.

The Banton Brothers have been working with Year 9 and 10 Music classes every Friday. The Banton Brothers are an Australian songwriting and production team originating from Auckland New Zealand. They're rappers, session singers (soul right through to rock), beat makers, and creative directors, who also specialise in writing and producing pop and urban music for Major and Independent Labels/Artists. They are all about making positive change. They have been working closely with the boys to write and perform a song. This performance will be held in the school Library, week 2 of next term.

Junior Music classes are studying a range of topics such as pop Music, Rock and making their own percussion instruments.

The Computing Faculty is also going strong. Year 11 and 12 VET IDT students are working on their competency based assessments. Most of their tasks are practical by nature. They need to learn skills in using different software applications such as Excel, Access, and MS Word amongst others. Year 12 IDT students will be completing a one week work simulation with Miss Holland next term. The year 9 IST cohort is busy working on learning different skills in computing. They are very busy completing a unit of work on How to design their own restaurant. Within this unit of work they have had to use MS Word, Excel, Access, PowerPoint, Publisher and Paint programs.

Together for Humanity will begin again next term. The team will be working with a select group from Years 9 and 10. *Together for Humanity* is a multi-faith not-for-profit organisation that is helping schools, organisations and communities to respond effectively to differences of culture and belief. They do this by bringing students, teachers and those in the community into contact with people from diverse backgrounds in an open, supportive and enjoyable setting – this inspires interest, empathy and understanding as well as questioning existing prejudices and encouraging greater appreciation of others as people.

ASPIRE is a program run by the University of NSW. They will also begin work with our students next term. The ASPIRE Program would like schools to target

students for ASPIRE workshops and activities, selecting those who:

- Will be the first in their family to attend university;
- Have potential to go onto higher education but are inhibited by circumstances beyond their control and choosing e.g. financial, carer responsibilities;
- Are a key influencer amongst their peers;
- Are not enrolled in the selective academic stream of the school (excludes creative and performing arts and sports).

The team will be working with students from Years 7-12:

Aspirations is another program that will begin in Term 2 and it is a six month program. *Aspirations* involves four workshops all held at PwC. The students involved in the program will be from Year 11. Students and mentors always meet as a group accompanied by a teacher from the school to ensure complete compliance with child protection requirements. Students and mentors take part in small and large group activities focussing on a different topic during each workshop. Workshop topics cover aspects of career planning including learning style, individual strengths and foundation skills for careers.

We ask for your support in ensuring that your child always brings the correct equipment to class so as we can help your son achieve maximum success in our subject area.

We as a faculty would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your family a safe and happy holiday. Please don't hesitate to call if you have any queries or questions regarding any of our courses or the programs that I am coordinating.



TAS REPORT

Mr Odei

As usual, it has been an action packed term for TAS. The year began in earnest for the TAS staff as we kick started our numeracy professional learning during staff development day with the rest of the staff. The learning process is guiding our thoughts on how we can develop fun, challenging and engaging numeracy activities for our students. At the time of reporting, Ms Havea, Ms Haber and Mr Benic were all working in collaboration with their Peer coach leaders to commence the implementation phase of a numeracy activity for our stage four students.

Teaching and Learning

There have been numerous opportunities as usual for our students to hone their craft in the classroom as well as enrich their learning experiences with extra-curriculum activities. Here are some of the highlights of the learning that's been happening in TAS.

Stage 4

All of our Year 7 students were oriented into our learning space by introducing food technology at the beginning of the year. The theme this year was the Italian feast. Our students got to prepare a three course meal and invited their parents to eat with them. They made Garlic Bread, Pizzas and Chocolate Sundae for the feast.

Year 7 Enrichment class had the opportunity to attend the First Robotics Competition at Sydney Olympic Park as audience for our school's FRC team. It was indeed a wonderful learning experience for our Year 7's as it links in nicely with what they are learning at the moment. The excursion allowed them to make real-life connections with what happens in their learning environment. They met former winners of the competition who came all the way from Honolulu and China.



Stage 5

Ms Rodriguez and Ms Haber with the assistance of Mrs Michelle Gallagher engaged the Year 9's and 10's in a Master Chef style cook off. The boys enjoyed the learning experience as they had the opportunity to bring their own ingredients as well as equipment needed to prepare a dish they chose themselves.



Stage 6

Our Year 12 VET classes, Construction and Hospitality have both had whole day competency assessment days to ensure our students were equipped with the right industry skills. The construction students converted part of the back oval into a construction site to put up formwork. They used several industry equipment such as Automatic level. The Hospitality class on the other hand prepared and served a luncheon to staff and some of their peers.



Generally the learning experiences this term has been fulfilling for staff and students.

Enjoy the break!

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 2015 students and their families.

This year we have a record breaking number of students in year 7 with another selective class and an Enrichment class.

I would like to welcome Mrs Bolbol to the Science faculty this year and Mrs Ioannidis who has come back to work part time. The other members of the Science Faculty are Mr. Hathaway and Miss Vitetta. 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 2014 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. They performed investigations to find out how the height of the bounce of a tennis ball varies with the type of surface on which the ball is bounced, the reaction time of individuals and if the thickness of the bread affects the time it takes to toast, just to mention a few.

Year 9

The students are learning about electricity, light, sound and waves. They have carried out a series of experiments to demonstrate series and parallel electric circuits as well as transverse and longitudinal waves using a slinky. Their assessment task includes a practical component on electricity and a quiz.

Year 10:

This term, Year 10 students are working on an in class assessment task and are also extending their knowledge of the Periodic Table and learning to write formulae, balanced equations and conducting experiments on chemical reactions.

Year 11:

On Wednesday 4th of March accompanied by Miss Vitetta and Mrs Bolbol, Year 11 Biology and Senior Science students went to the 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

On Monday 9th Of March accompanied by Mrs. Bolbol, Year 12 physics and chemistry students went on an excursion to ANSTO to participate in activities enhancing their understanding of Nuclear Science and Technology.

The Biology and Senior Science students attended a workshop at the UNSW Museum of Diseases on Wednesday 25th February. The boys got an opportunity to see diseased preserved body parts and prosthetics. They were accompanied by Mrs. Kotelawela and Miss Vitetta.

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!



Support Report

Ms Rudek

The Support Unit staff would like to welcome our New Autism Class which consists of seven students to Granville Boys High. We would like to especially thank Miss Helen Helou and Kehe for doing an outstanding job. This year Mrs Sivrioglu and Ms Knappick are teaching year 7 and 8 Support. I am teaching the rest of the year 8 students and Year 9 with Ms Moshref. Mr Collins is teaching years 10, 11 and 12 with Mrs Khouri.

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 careers 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 careers.

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. This Term the boys have had the opportunity to go on an excursion to the Pylon Museum which is located at the Sydney Harbour Bridge. The boys recently met our local Youth Liaison Officer Constable Elie EL-Jammal. Elie had a great and informative discussion with our students in relation to a number of issues such as how do you approach a police officer, the role of a policeman, respecting public members and acceptable behaviour in public. In term 2, we will be participating in a number of workshops at Parramatta Stadium with Mel who is the education coordinator with the Parramatta Eels.

Our year 7 and 8 students have been 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.



ENGLISH Report

Mr Soliman

Term I has flown by very quickly! Our year 7 students have settled into the rhythm of secondary English studies with ease.

Year 12 Advanced and Standard English classes are in the process of completing their current modules of study and have completed their second HSC assessment task. Students should be taking advantage of the school break to revise their studies of 'Discovery' and put into place suggestions for improvement (in written work) from their class teachers as well as preparing for the third HSC module of study; for the Advanced English students, that will be **Module C: Comparative Study of Texts and Context**; Nineteen Eighty-Four paired with Metropolis and for the students of Standard English, that will be **Module A: Distinctively Visual**; The Shoe Horn Sonata by J Misto.

It is imperative that all HSC students should be reading and re-reading their set texts at home as their success in the HSC English examination is dependent on their knowledge of the text and being able to answer any question about that text set by the Board of Studies. Students should be undertaking a regular home study program to ensure their success in the next round of Assessment Tasks.

Year 11 Advanced and Standard English classes have completed their first module of study and round of assessment tasks into 'Dystopian Fiction'. Students need to be implementing teacher recommendations for improving their work to ensure improved outcomes in their next assessment task.

Year 10 Drama students have learnt much about video production this term and had the opportunity to create their own sports reporting videos.

Year 10 English have the opportunity to attend the Riverside Theatre to view a performance of In the Fairfield: Romeo and Juliet in the West to experience of a famous Shakespeare text and gain insight into its production, as they are studying the play.

Year 9 Drama students have been introduced to video and sound editing and have completed their first music video, with completed results being very impressive at this early stage of learning.

Year 9 English have completed reading a series of short stories about Horror and will undertake a film study in the Spy Fiction genre next term. The students have been required to study the language of Horror as well as the stories. Year 8 have studied a selection of myths and legends, while Year 7 have been learning about character archetypes culminating in the writing and performance of a monologue.

There are many opportunities for your son to extend himself in extra-curricular activities: debating; writing competitions; and drama activities. If he is interested,

he should make enquiries at the English staffroom. In particular there will be a study of Shakespeare's King Lear, with students who complete the learning being taken to see a live performance Australia's Geoffrey Rush.

Please ensure that your son has his diary, an exercise book and other necessary equipment – pens, pencils, ruler, eraser, pencil sharpener –at the beginning of next term and every day for use in his English class.

The English faculty wishes the school community a safe and happy holiday.



CAREERS Report

Ms Bailey-Marsman

- **Year 12**

Students now should be settling into their own pattern of study. This is a busy time for students and individual interviews will start once information sheets have been issued. These interviews will allow students to ask questions, collect information and research university, TAFE or other relevant choices on jobjump.

Remember that there is a Year 12 section of information in the library. This information includes University, TAFE, Private Colleges and Employment Agencies. Students who will be claiming Educational Disadvantages for their Higher School Certificate must start collecting support documentation. There will be workshops on these and other interest points during Term 2 in the Library. If you want more information please see Career Adviser.

- **Year 11**

I will be conducting interviews with students during Term 2 to make sure students are staying engaged in their subjects.

Reminder: Students doing construction and who don't have their White Card yet must see the Career Adviser or speak to your construction teacher to collect a permission note for the White Card course being conducted in Week 9 of this term.

VET subject news

Construction, Hospitality, Retail Services and Information Digital Technology.

Parents of students who are doing one or more VET subjects for their Higher School Certificate please be aware that students **MUST** complete **ALL** class work and assessments and complete work placement/s to qualify.

Students please do not think that it is alright for you to attend class and not complete set work or to attend class and complete some of the work and you will still be marked as being competent for this subject. **YOU WILL NOT.** Also remember as part of your VET subject you will need to participate and complete 70 hours of work placement related to your VET subject over year 11 and year 12. If you are doing more than one VET subject this means you will be completing 70 hours over years 11 and 12 for **ALL** your VET subjects. If you are experiencing any problems please speak to your VET teacher, Head Teacher or VET Coordinator.

- **Year 10**

Work Experience

Please be active by assisting your son in his search for a work experience placement. Work Experience occurs towards the end of Term 4. If you are unsure of what type of work experience your son is allowed to do please contact the careers adviser. Remember if your son is thinking of doing a trade for work experience they need to collect the permission note for the White Card Course from the Career Adviser and pay as soon as possible. Details below.

White Card Course

Students who are 14 and in year 10 and require a white card due to working in a trade or thinking of working in a trade for year 10 work experience, please see the Career Adviser for a permission note. Once you have paid please bring your receipt to the Career Adviser. The White Card Course will be held Week 9 Term 1 Friday 27 March. Trades include: plumbing, painting, tiling, cement rendering, electrician, building anything to do with working on a building site or house site. This is the first of our White Card courses so please if you miss out on this one you will have another running in Term 2 and Term 3.

- **General news**

During Term 1 students from year 9 to 12 have been either updating or creating their Resumes, applying online for part-time jobs or applying for their TAX file number. For their Resumes students have been putting the relevant information on a word document (name, address, phone number, email, qualifications, languages, education, work history, sports, hobbies and interests and 2 referees) and emailing it to the Career Adviser – bernadette.bailey@det.nsw.edu.au. I have then been formatting the document for them.

HSIE Report

Mr Mandarakas

- **Useful Websites for everyone**

Two educational websites that students in all years and parents may find useful are Myfuture and Jobjump.

myfuture.edu.au

This is an informative website that allows students to research their interests and map out a plan for their post-school options. It allows students to complete an interest survey which they can then research further to see if that type of interest is for them.

job.jump.com.au

To log on you put in your school email address and your school password is jaguar. This is a great informative one stop website that gives you access to universities, ATARs, private providers, TAFE and employment agencies, videos on careers and loads of other information at the click of a button.

- **TAX File numbers**

Please remember that to apply for a TAX file number you must do this online. Go to the ATO website and follow the prompts. If students require any assistance with this please see the Career Adviser.

HOW SOCIAL MEDIA MISTAKES CAN COST YOU DREAM JOB

BEN PIKE – SUNDAY TELEGRAPH

FLIPPING the bird on your LinkedIn profile pic, boasting on Facebook about telling lies during a job interview, and posting semi-naked pictures of yourself are just some of the reasons why many people are being knocked back from work.

Despite having good qualifications and experience, recruiters are reporting more employers are rejecting candidates because they have tripped up on social media.

The gaffes have even spawned a new industry, with companies providing reports about people's online profiles to let them know what makes them unemployable.

Recruitment Company Randstad director Steve Shepherd said each employee with a social media account can effectively become a company spokesman with just one Facebook post.

“It constantly amazes me that people think what they say online or what they do online won't be found out by their boss,” he said.

David Griffiths last month founded Social Check, which sprang up in response to young people being knocked back from work because of their social media profiles. ‘Ninety-one per cent of recruiters are screening candidates via social media in some way,’ Mr Griffiths said.

In other news around the faculty year 7 students are choosing a World Heritage Site to write a persuasive report on. Year 8 students are in the process of choosing a Transnational Corporation and researching its markets and its growth over the last ten years. Year 9 History students have completed the study of where Australians fought in World War I and are now comparing Australia's entry into World War II. In Year 10, students are researching a key environmental issue in Australia and assessing its impact on people. I would like to congratulate the way the students in all years have chosen to be participants in their own learning and as I look through the workbooks of students I am delighted with the high standards that students are setting for themselves.

HSIE staff has been cooperating with other members of the school community to develop lessons with a numeracy outcome. This strategy is providing teachers not only with the opportunity to embed numeracy strategies into their lessons and programs but to also gain an insight into preferred models of learning. Feedback from surveying students about the methodologies used in the classroom will be analysed and included in our programs.

This term Year 7 students visited the Homebush Olympic Centre to survey the built and natural environments, students walked a trail to complete a quiz about the Olympic Centre and walked around what the Brick Pit to discover its many different uses – firstly as a sanctuary to many animals and birds then as a habitat of the indigenous people, then as a supply of clay and bricks to the growing colony. Year 11 Business Studies students toured Taronga Park Zoo and attended a seminar on the business practices of Taronga Zoo. Students of Mr El Homsis's Business Studies class gained an insight into how businesses put together a business plan. During the month of May Commerce students will be paid a visit from the Department of Fair Trade, who will discuss strategies to buying a car.

During this term I have had the chance to meet with many parents and guardians and discuss their son's progress. During term two exams and assessments will take place. Now during the holidays is a great chance for students to begin revising for the upcoming exams. On behalf of all members of the HSIE staff I wish you a safe and peaceful holiday.



Learning Services Report

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 has bene going to Sydney University with students. I have visited the Zoo and Olympic Park. The Library hosted the Italian Feast this year.



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

Ms Cullenward 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. Attached 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.

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.

There are some fantastic resources available for students at the State Library of NSW website <http://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/> as well as a huge amount of resources on the National Library of Australia website <http://trove.nla.gov.au/> . These sites are a great source for information (particularly for Australian History, Geography and English especially for senior students).

The library is hosting a Macquarie University Pacific Islander Program (Coordinated by Miss Havea from TAS), volunteers come from the university to work with students. Everyone seems to be enjoying the program.



STATE LIBRARY™
NEW SOUTH WALES



The library is hosting a Macquarie University Pacific Islander Program (Coordinated by Miss Havea from TAS), 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 remains very popular with both senior and junior student particularly when the university tutors turn up and are there to support student's particularly senior students with their homework and assignments.

Please remember the Learning Services Faculty is here to support your son. If you are worried about your sons learning please feel free to myself or another faculty member.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Reading	Reading	Reading	Reading	Reading	Reading	Reading
Homework and assignments	Homework and assignments	Homework and assignments	Homework and assignments		Homework and assignments	Homework and assignments
Maths	Science	English	Football Training	History and Geography		PDHPE / ART / Music TAS

YEAR 11/12 TUTORING - TERM 1 and 2 UTS TUTORS IN THE LIBRARY

Monday 17th March – Friday 11th April 2014

MONDAYS	TUESDAYS	WEDNESDAYS
3:00 – 4:00pm	1:00 – 2.30pm	3:00 – 4:00pm
Physics Chemistry Maths 2U Maths General	PDHPE Biology English Physics Business Maths 2U Maths General	Physics Chemistry Maths 2U Maths General Maths Extension 1 Englised Advanced



Learning Difficulties PARENT Helpline

We're just a phone call away

9806 9960

www.ldc.org.au
info@ldc.org.au

OPEN SCHOOL DAYS
9am - 3pm during school terms

Helpline
provides support and advocacy to parents whose children have learning difficulties, and information to teachers, other professionals and members of the community interested in the field of learning difficulties.

- ✔ an extensive referral register to assist you in finding resources
- ✔ advice regarding the resources available within the school systems
- ✔ contact with your nearest parent support group
- ✔ booklists and websites
- ✔ handout information on LD and ADHD and co-morbid conditions
- ✔ booklets and informative articles on topics in this field

Membership brings benefits of:

- ✔ Fortnightly emails of current news and articles relating to Learning Difficulties
- ✔ Quarterly Newsletter
- ✔ A discounted entry to LDC seminars
- ✔ A discount on LDC Resources

The Helpline is co-ordinated by Learning Difficulties Coalition of NSW Inc
PO Box 1400 Westmead NSW 2145
Tel (02) 9836 9960 Fax (02) 9836 2874

The Learning Difficulties Parent Helpline is a Parent / Health / Education initiative supported by NSW DE

School Resumes:
Tuesday 21/04/2015



