



# CHESO NEWS

CHESTER HILL HIGH SCHOOL  
KENWARD AVENUE  
CHESTER HILL 2162

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FEBRUARY 2010

## Term 1 Issue 1

### **PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE**

**Thank you** to all families, for such a smooth start to Term 1 2010. Students are settled into work and we have large numbers in Year 11 due to the raising of the school leaving age to 17 years.

**Our Swimming Carnival** was held last week and despite the rain and the sun, a good time was had by all! My thanks to all staff, in particular **Mrs. Langmack** and **Mr Dablin** and the PDHPE team for their excellent organization of the day. Photographs can be seen on other pages of the newsletter.

The P&C and School Council meeting were held in Week 3 and an overview of our excellent School Certificate and HSC results in 2009 were discussed along with many other issues.

**Our Senior Excellence Assembly** was also held in Week 3. It was great to see so many of our students achieve such great results and have their families present to support them. Many friends of Cheso were also present for this assembly, including **Johnny Luu**. **Johnny** was school captain in 2001. His inspirational and engaging speech is included in this newsletter.

**Please find below a copy of my speech at the Senior Excellence Assembly which includes some of the highlights of 2009 including our SC and HSC results.**

### **“Principal’s Report 2010 Excellence Assembly for 2009 Achievers**

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you all here today to celebrate the performance of our Year 11-12 students of 2009. I would like to especially welcome our Cheso HSC Achievers of Excellence of 2009 and their families to their final ceremony at the school as participants.

Chester Hill High School is a public high school with proud traditions and a strong culture of excellence and equity. We sincerely aim to live our motto: *Strength in Unity, Excellence in Education*. Our students have a pride in the school that is voiced daily and teachers often comment on the so called “Cheso moments”.....when a student might be overheard saying.....”*don’t do that it’s not the Cheso way*” or as a senior student asked me on my first meeting with her “*What do you think of the Cheso Spirit Miss?*” We are the envy of many other schools and without any attempt to attract students to us we are still turning away large

numbers of non-local students of all ages who want to attend our school. We are proud of our achievements but always willing to evaluate what we do and try to improve. Our students are entitled to the best educational experiences we can offer and we are committed to providing an environment that allows teachers to teach and students to learn. Our students deserve no less!

**The purpose of this assembly is to celebrate the major achievements by individuals and to review some of our school successes in 2009.**

### **HSC Results**

Our results in the 2009 HSC were very good. The HSC is reported in marks and in bands in each course, with Band 6 being the highest and awarded to students who score 90 marks or over in a course. Band 6 results are listed on the Board of Studies Distinguished Achievements List. Our Cheso Class of 2009 achieved **18 Distinguished Achievement** results and in addition our students gained **108 Band 5** results, which means they scored between 80-89 in a course, many in fact scoring 88 and 89.

**In 5 HSC courses in 2009 our students achieved above state average results. These courses were: Biology, Music, PDHPE, Japanese Beginners and Japanese Extension.**

### **ATAR Results: Top 5 results**

The ATAR is an Australia wide measure of comparison. It is a measure that adds all a students marks together with a weighting for harder subjects. This is the measure that is used to compare students across the country for university admission. **Congratulations to our Dux of 2009, Natalie Pavlovic** who achieved an **ATAR of 95.60** meaning she achieved a higher result than 95.60% of the students in the country.

Congratulations also to **Jing Yu Cao** with an **ATAR of 95.50**, **Alfred Wong** **ATAR of 95.35**, **Katherine Tran** **ATAR 95.25**, **Charles Tweedie** **ATAR 95.20**. These students make up our top five results for the 2009 HSC. Please refer to your program for further details.

In addition to students listed in the program, there are **three other students whose outstanding ATAR results gained them entry to courses requiring an ATAR of 90 or over**, but we have not verified their actual ATARs and they are therefore not listed. Overall this is an excellent set of results from a very special Year 12.

**58 of the 116 Year 12 students ie 50% of Year 12 Class of 2009 gained university places for 2010 in the first round of university offers, with further offers pending.**

### **SC Results**

Our Year 10 class of 2009 achieved some really excellent results although we still have work to do in basic literacy and numeracy with some students. Students are assessed in 2 ways: through in-school assessment for which they receive a grade from A-E, with A being the highest and by statewide examinations in the mandatory subjects: English, Mathematics, Science, History and Geography in which students are awarded Bands the same as the HSC. **Twenty five students gained 90% or above in subjects (Band 6 results) while an additional 127 students scored between 80%- 89% (Band 5 results).**

**All students gained Highly Competent or Competent in the Computing Skills test.**

Our top seven students in the SC examinations were: **joint 1st: Stephanie Ambrose and Alexandria Nunez, joint 3<sup>rd</sup> :**

**Natalie Ambrose and Duyen Phan, joint 5<sup>th</sup>: Christine Ma, Aakash Prasad.** In grades our top five students were: **joint 1<sup>st</sup> Christine Ma and Stephanie Ambrose, 3<sup>rd</sup> Natalie Ambrose, 4<sup>th</sup> Alexandria Nunez and 5<sup>th</sup> Thien Tuyet Nhu Huynh.**

**Our SC results in all subjects improved dramatically from 2008. The percentage improvements are: English up 15%, Maths up 4%, Science up 10%, History up 16%, Geography up 5% and Computing up 26%.**

**13<sup>th</sup> Annual Multicultural Flag Celebrations:** On Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> July and Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July our hall was packed to the rafters for our biggest and best celebrations ever! Our theme for 2009 was “From Little Things Big Things Grow”. We were joined on the day again by the NSW Governor **Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir** and her husband **Sir Nicholas Shehadie**, who are great supporters of Cheso. In excess of 300 students performed, with more that 200 of these in traditional costumes. The highlight for me was the Grande Finale when performers in traditional dress all joined with our Dance Group for a spectacular finale dancing in unison. At all of the three ceremonies held I was again moved and impressed by the sincerity, respect and effort of all involved. I want to again acknowledge my heartfelt thanks to the Cheso community, under the leadership of **Mrs. Fields**, for such a wonderful celebration of who we are and what we stand for, summed up by our Cheso song “We Are One” sung by the whole school community during each ceremony. As **Mrs Fields** wrote in the Flag Day program “We affirm for ourselves that we are happy and proud Australians, who can recognise with equal pride the diverse parts of the globe from which we have come. We also show that we respect each others differences and take

joy in each others cultural pride”.

### **Sport**

2009 was a very successful year due in no small part to our Sports Coordinator **Mr. Jones** and his Cheso Sports Team of teachers. Cheso students performed well in all carnivals in 2009. We also sent the largest number of competitors to South West Sydney Regional carnivals and some on to State and national carnivals in Athletics, Cross Country and Swimming. A great effort by all concerned, including our supportive band of parents and caregivers who attended these events in good numbers.

Cheso also competed with pride in a range of NSW Combined High Schools knockout competitions including: soccer, baseball, rugby league, cricket, basketball and touch football. Our students were commended often for their maturity and sportsmanship as well as their skills and abilities throughout the year.

In 2009 we dominated the Tuesday Zone Sports Program, Carnivals and Gala Days at both senior and junior level, with Age Champions and Premierships to be celebrated at this and our Sports Assemblies. Congratulations to all involved students, staff and families!

### **Student Mentoring Programs**

In 2009 students in Years 9 and 10 again had the opportunity to be part of a mentoring program. **Mrs Fields** coordinated the Year 10 **iTrack Program** supported by the Smith Family and **Mrs McNab** coordinated the Year 9 **LEAPS** (Law Firms Education and Assisting Promising Students) Program. Each of these involved on-going contact in person and electronically with students matched to appropriate mentors. We continued our participation in the “**100 Faces, 100 Stories**” project with the **Australian Business**

**Community Network** (ABCN) and our partner company **Optus**. This was coordinated by **Ms Goodwin and Mrs Liao**. This program, involved mentors working with 10 Year 9 high school students and 10 IEC students. They produced a work of art, supported by a story about themselves. Their work was formally exhibited at Optus in late 2009 and will be exhibited at school this term.

It became clear towards the end of the year just how much all concerned in the mentoring programs gained from the experience with nearly all mentors being with us for Flag Day and visiting the school on a number of occasions. They were so impressed by our students and how much they as mentors had learned from the program and how impressive our school and students are!

These are just some of our 2009 highlights space prevents me from further elaboration. There are many more, as regular readers of our **Cheso News** will know. Suffice it to say that 2009 was an excellent year for the Chester Hill High School community and we are looking forward to further achievements in 2010.

### ***Staffing changes 2009***

We are part of a very large system of public education and, as such, staff are promoted, retire or resign and a small number transfer to schools closer to their homes.

We welcomed back **Mrs Armao, Mrs Lykouras, Mrs Nasser, Mrs Grant, Mrs Sepulveda and Mrs Pinto** who returned from maternity leave. We welcomed new staff in 2009 including a newly promoted head teacher in the IEC **Mrs Liao**, and the following teachers **Mr Hajjar, Ms Zhao, Mrs Reynolds Ms Kivilcim and Mrs Langmack. Mr Graham and Ms Edwards** retired after long and outstanding careers at

Cheso but their legacies live on! The following teachers transferred closer to home: **Mrs Mazzolini and Mr Edwards**.

In conclusion, I would like to thank **Ms Coonan** and our Cheso Administration Team, particularly **Ms Sweedman and Ms Beach** for all the care and hard work that has gone into the lead up to our ceremony today and **Mrs Howard** for her assistance on the stage today.

Thank You”.

### **Condolences**

On Tuesday 9 February one of our Year 10 students, **Mohamed Afchal**, died in a terrible accident. A letter of condolence has been sent to the family on behalf of the school community. A letter was sent home with all students on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> February to explain the situation as we understand it. A number of memorial ceremonies took place on the day and others are planned. Please keep **Mohamed** and his family in your thoughts and prayers at this terrible time.

**Christine Casey**



*In loving memory of Mohamed Afchal  
who sadly passed away on Tuesday 9th  
February, 2010.*

*The Chester Hill High School community  
sends its condolences and respects to the  
Afchal family.*

*Mohamed Afchal  
Rest in Peace*

**JOHNNY LUU**  
**10<sup>th</sup> February 2010**

Thank you for the opportunity to return here to speak here today. I've a lot of fond memories of going to school at Chester Hill High, so it's a privilege to be able to return and address everyone here today.

It was actually back here in high school that I first seriously thought about being a journalist. A day after the September 11 attacks in New York, I was glued to the television screen. Somehow, I managed to leave roll call early, and spent the morning watching news in the library with Mr Hong, who was the librarian at the time.

For most people of my age, September 11 has been the most significant event that we've lived through, subsequently changing the course of history. And for me, this event violently flung open the doors into the world and it ignited my desire to know more and understand our world better. So it was during my time at school that I thought journalism would be the way to do it.

After high school I went to university and studied journalism and law at UTS. Up until that day in the library, I was convinced that I wanted to be a lawyer. From an early age everyone said I loved to argue so I should consider law. At Chester Hill, thought provoking legal studies in F-block with an always-entertaining Mr Brown only cemented that idea. I would go to law school, then graduate and become a corporate lawyer.

But it just goes to show how one day or one event can change your course.

So for those yet to settle on their own course after high school, take comfort in the fact that there are some things that happen which are

outside your control. And for those things you cannot plan, you should not worry too much about.

University was an exciting and eye-opening experience: meeting new people, people who are different from you, people who are the same as you – from different parts of the city, country and the world. I travelled during university holidays and worked two jobs and won a scholarship so I could afford to study a semester overseas.

There is a well-worn path after high school. Get good marks, get into a good university course, study hard and get good marks there and then in your final year, apply for a handful of graduate jobs, land an interview and then score a great job to begin your career.

And there's nothing wrong with that path: it's tried and tested. These are the things you can plan for and work hard towards, so you may as well do them well.

But in my industry, while having a degree these days is essential - it's been what I've done outside of study that has counted. No editor I've ever written for, executive producer or other boss I've worked with, has ever asked me about my university marks, or how well I did in high school.

My first break as a journalist was during first year of university. It may expose the age gap between us, but it was a long, long time ago before iPods were popular and iTunes existed. The music industry was taking students to court for illegal downloads.

I wrote an opinion article from the view of a young person, saying that if industry wanted to stop people downloading, they'd better get to work on making music available online for

us to buy. I sent the article – a page and a half long - into the Sydney Morning Herald and incredibly they published it. It was a thrill to see my work in a paper I respected. From there the editor of Rolling Stones magazine read it and liked what I had to say, so he found my email address and wrote to me asking me to write a similar article for them also.

Life is sometimes about a lucky break. But while I mention luck, I think luck only has a little to do with it. For me at least, getting breaks in life whether it's been in career or otherwise, rarely *just* happen; it's because you've put yourself out there.

Having done surf lessons this weekend, something I've always wanted to do, let me put this into surfing terms: you're never going to catch a wave if you don't push yourself out into the water.

I was 21 and still at university when I went for an interview at SBS, a great organisation where I still currently work. I had emailed a few people I knew who were working for companies when a friend from university emailed back saying a position was available at her work.

I'd be the first to admit that I was slightly inexperienced when I started, but they liked that I had made them laugh. More importantly, they liked that I had put myself out there.

Whether it was submitting articles for newspapers and magazines or doing lots of work experience at my local paper *The Fairfield Advance* while studying, it showed that I was keen and had a good work ethic.

At the time I had never really considered working in television. Apart from thinking I

had a “face for radio” – as the saying goes – or in my case, newspapers, which is the medium I desired, I didn't seriously consider working for a TV station.

To be honest, I grew up not seeing many Asian faces on television, whether it was a reporter on the news or actors on Aussie television. Because of that, perhaps subconsciously I assumed that non-white people just didn't work in media, whether it was in front of the camera or behind the scenes.

In my first month at SBS I found myself chatting to a well-known straight-talking Liberal Senator from rural Australia, who asked me if I had “studied here” – meaning in Australia. So amazed he was at my English fluency and Australian accent.

It's only in the last few years that we are beginning to see more diverse faces on television and in the media, although we are not there yet. For far too long our newspapers, magazines and televisions, which are supposed to tell our stories, have not reflected the reality and diversity that exists in this country. It's also a diversity I can see here at Chester Hill – a real strength of this school that we rightly celebrate.

Another thing that has changed for me is that there are so many different jobs and careers that I did not even contemplate being open to me when I had finished high school. Many more jobs nowadays simply didn't exist. Even in the media, hundreds and hundreds of people now work as online journalists, a role that was almost unheard only ten years ago.

At SBS I currently work as a producer and reporter for a program called *Insight*, a weekly hour-long discussion program that focuses on a single big issue each week, whether it be about unemployment and the

economy, climate change, or social topics.

I revel in being able to chat to people with minds, from politicians to scientists, academics and authors about big ideas. I'm constantly in awe of everyday Australians who share with me their incredible stories.

For me, SBS has been an exciting place to work, and I've pushed for, and been granted, many opportunities to learn and grow in my profession.

I've been able to travel the country to meet interesting people and film stories. I've been able to cover a Federal Election and work on topics I'm interested in or passionate about. At the age of 24, I was sent to New York on assignment for two months in the lead up to the Presidential election to find out if Americans were ready to elect its first black leader.

One thing that school can't properly teach you is just how much opportunity is really open to you. Teachers can act as wise counsel and careers advisers can give you brochures – but only you can only grasp what's available when you venture outside these gates. Which is why I'm pleased to hear of some of the great programs our school now have with work placement programs with companies like Optus.

But there many other things school can teach you that have nothing to do with textbooks. From Chester Hill I was able to take away many things for which I'm grateful.

Of being resourceful – making the absolute most with what you have got; a vital trait for schools like ours considering the inequitable funding of the public school system. Of being well rounded and taking every opportunity. To not be afraid of try new things. During my time at Chesos, I even

managed to take one of the lead roles in our school musical - an even more amusing and horrifying fact considering I can't sing.

I believe while a school takes in students, it turns out people. And the most valuable things I took away from Chester Hill has been my character and desire to strive for excellence; something not measurable by any test, website or league table.

To finish, I'd like to congratulate the Class of 2009 for completing their HSC. I'm not too old to remember the pressure and stress that occurs at this time – and the dedication and hard work required to do well in these exams.

For those who are getting awards today, and those who are happy with their marks and have gotten into a course of your choice – I offer my heartfelt congratulations. For those younger students who are yet to face this period, I hope these ex-students serve as some sort of motivation when you come to your own future studies.

But to those who may not be happy with their marks, or did not get into your university of choice, I've got some other words of comfort: the most exciting stuff in life is the stuff you can't plan. But once again, to get access to these exciting things, you've got to put yourself out there, swim out into rough seas, don't be afraid to get wet, even if you're not a strong swimmer.

There's a saying that youth is wasted on the young. I hope you walk away today hoping to prove that wrong.



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RASIN TOAST	\$1.50
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HAM /CHEESE TOASTED SAND	\$2.00
CHEESE/TOM TOASTED SAND	\$2.00
HAM/CHS/TOM TOASTED SAND	\$2.50

GARLIC BREAD	\$1.50
CHICKEN & CORN PATTIE	\$3.00
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SWEET CHILLI CHICKEN ROLL	\$4.50
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SWEET CHILLI CHICKEN WRAP *	\$6.00
BEEF KEBAB *	\$6.00
DEVIL WINGS & NUGGETS (large)	\$6.00
EXTRA SAUCE	\$0.20

## BREAKFAST cont'd

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VANILA CHOCOLATE	\$2.00
BILLABONG ( PETERS )	\$2.00
FROZEN JUICE CUP	\$1.50

**WEEKLY SPECIALS****MONDAY****CHICKEN BURGER + DRINK or WATER \$5.00****TUESDAY****HOT DOG+DRINK or WATER+FROZEN JUICE \$5.00****WEDNESDAY****BBQ or GREEN DAY FOOD + FREE DRINK \*\*\*****THURSDAY****CHEESE BURGER + DRINK or WATER \$5.00****FRIDAY****MEAT PIE + DRINK or WATER \$4.50****\*\*\* cost as per sandwich price**


**Chester Hill Optical**

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**KAREN MILLGATE** BA J.P.  
OPTICAL DISPENSER

STRENGTH IN UNITY, EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

Dear School Principal,

**Re: FREE Childhood Overweight & Obesity Program for local families**

As you are aware, childhood obesity is an important issue in our local communities. Almost 25% of Australian children are currently overweight or obese. The NSW Department of Health has recently provided funding to address this issue through the NSW Parenting Program. Sydney South West Area Health Service (SSWAHS) is now delivering this program in your local area.

**WHICH CHILDREN ARE ELIGIBLE FOR THE PROGRAM:**

- Aged between 7-13 years;
- Above the ideal weight for their height and age;
- Otherwise well (with no learning or behavioural difficulties);
- Have a parent or carer able to attend all program sessions.

**ABOUT THE PROGRAM:**

The program is run in a **local community venue** and is offered **completely free** to families. It is based on the MEND program, an evidenced-based, multi-disciplinary program which places equal emphasis on (M)ind, (E)xercise and (N)utrition and combines this with the ability to motivate parents and children to (D)o It! The program includes family involvement, practical education in nutrition and diet, increasing physical activity and behavioral change. You can read more about the MEND Program at [www.mendprogramme.org](http://www.mendprogramme.org).

**HOW YOUR SCHOOL CAN SUPPORT THE PROGRAM:**

- **Print a short article about the program in your school newsletters throughout this school term** (an article is attached with this letter); AND / OR
- **Distribute flyers to all children aged 7-13 years in your school** (i.e. students in Years 2 - 6 at primary schools or Years 7 & 8 at secondary schools).

In this way, the families can refer themselves to the program, encouraging personal responsibility and heightened motivation. By delivering information to all children and families we also avoid the risk of stigmatising children who are overweight.

I hope that you will agree to support SSWAHS to provide a healthy lifestyle program to overweight and obese children in your local area. A member of the program team will contact you shortly. Should you require any additional information, please contact **Natasha Fayle** (Program Manager) on **(02) 9780 2811**.

Yours sincerely,  
**Natasha Fayle**

NSW Parenting Program Manager  
Sydney South West Area Health Service (SSWAHS)

## FREE fun program for kids to become healthier, fitter and happier!

**Do you have children 7 to 13 years old? Are you worried about them being overweight?**

The NSW Parenting Program is an established healthy lifestyle program to improve **health, fitness, self esteem and confidence** in children above their ideal weight.

### What happens in the NSW Parenting Program?

The program runs over one school term for 10 weeks. Sessions include:

Games, activities and swimming for kids

Easy, effective ways to improve your child's self esteem and confidence

Demonstrations, games and tips on healthy foods, label reading and portion sizes

A fun supermarket tour and a chance to try delicious new foods!

Thanks to funding from the NSW Department of Health, Sydney South West Area Health Service (SSWAHS) has **15 places** on the program in your local area, **completely FREE of charge**. The **next program** will be running in **School Term 2**.



Photo courtesy of MEND Australia Pty Ltd

### How can I join the program?

Places on the Program are being given away on a first come, first served basis. Children need to be **7-13 years old** and **above their ideal weight** to qualify for the program. Contact Natasha Fayle (Program Manager) on **(02) 9780 2811**. You can also visit [www.mendprogramme.org](http://www.mendprogramme.org) and click on 'Join a MEND Program'.

\*Please note a parent or carer must accompany each child to every session\*

## **FROM CAREERS**

Term 1 Careers has begun in an exciting fashion.

There was wonderful news from Year 12 2009 with so many students gaining university offers and other students enrolling in TAFE courses. Congratulations to all those young people. I would also like to express my gratitude to Year 12 2009 for making me feel so welcome in the school. A number of past students are seeking assistance with resumes and of course there is help available.

Two students spent 10 days of the **school holidays** at an intensive **IT course** that was organised by the Smith Family in collaboration with **TATA**, a worldwide IT consultancy and **UTS**. **Chloe Aston (Year 11)** and **Anthony Nguyen (Year 12)** so impressed the consultants and university representatives that they have been offered scholarships if they wish to pursue their IT interests at university. In the words of the Smith Family representative all the senior personnel involved were 'blown away' by the quality of Chloe and Anthony's presentation to the group. Congratulations to both of these young people. They are the first students from Cheso to be involved in this program and they were wonderful ambassadors for themselves, their families and the school community. There will be a more detailed report in the next issue. Watch this space.

Congratulations to **Brandon Brown of Year 11** who was one of only 20 young people in the region to be awarded the **KARI Indigenous School Scholarship**. This scholarship was fiercely contested with over 100 applicants. **Brandon** met with **Dylan Reynolds**, the Policy and Community Development Manager for KARI, who was impressed with **Brandon's** attitude and ambition for the future. Well done **Brandon**.

Students and their parents / caregivers will be able to **access career information via the school's website** hopefully from Week 4. This information can be found in the **Curriculum** section of the web page under the heading **School To Work**. As this is only early days there will be some teething problems however I hope that you will all find this resource to be valuable. It is planned to update this site regularly with the latest information regarding jobs, apprenticeships, traineeships, university open days, scholarships, resume writing and work experience.

**Year 10 Careers** lessons are up and running for this term. Most of the material that will be used will be accessed on line and there will be word processing of resumes and cover letters as the year proceeds. All students will be expected to have their computers available for these lessons. Saving work on computer means that students will be able to show their parents what they have been doing in class and how they are progressing with their School To Work planning.

**TVET** has also commenced with students in Radio Broadcasting, Media Journalism and Automotive. These are valuable courses and will provide the students participating experience, knowledge and recognition towards their HSC.

A number of students have come to ask about **Tax File Numbers (TFN)**. It is much easier to apply for a TFN through school and it is much better to apply before it is really needed. TFNs are needed for university, TAFE and certain Centrelink payments. Students are encouraged to obtain an application form from my office.

**Year 10 Work Experience** will be in **Term 2, Week 8** from **7/6/2010 to 11/6/2010**. All Year 10 students will be part of this valuable program. Students are encouraged to start thinking about where they would like to complete their work experience. Information packages will be sent home in the next few weeks. More details about work experience will be placed on the **Curriculum – School To Work** site on the school website.

**Mrs Corcoran**  
(Rel Careers Adviser)



### **Lateness Issues**

The executive staff at Chester Hill H.S. are concerned by the growing number of students who are arriving late to school each morning.

The school day **commences at 8.45am** with a warning bell followed by music. Students are required to be in **roll call before 8.50am** when roll marking is conducted. Where the student has a legitimate excuse for lateness to school a parental note outlining the reason is required

Students who arrive during or after roll call are expected to sign in and are recorded as

late. If a student is late 3 times an SMS will be automatically sent and they will be given a behaviour consequence.

We would appreciate your support in ensuring that all students arrive at school on time to aid in the smooth running of the school and to reinforce the value of punctuality as a necessary life and workforce competency.

### **ID Cards**

Students are reminded they are to carry their ID Cards with them each day. ID cards are used to swipe at the office:

Early Leave Passes

Lateness

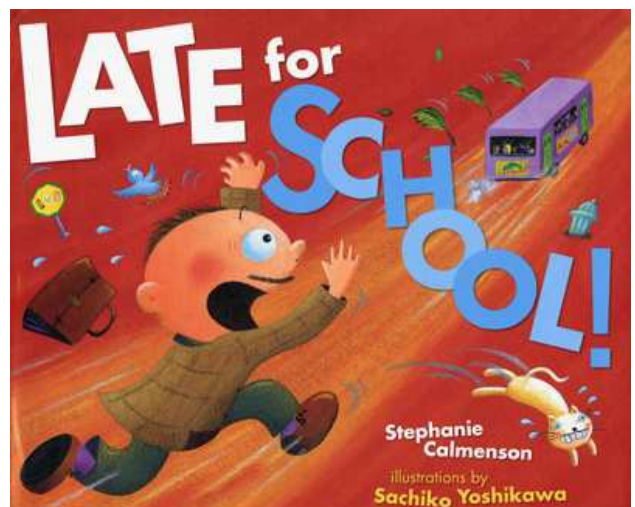
Toilet during class time

Paying for excursions, fees, discos etc.

Students are responsible for keeping these cards in good condition. The student photo, name and cards barcode must be visible.

All damaged cards will be confiscated!

New or replacement cards can be ordered at the front office. Replacements cards cost \$10.



## ATTENDANCE UPDATE

Chester Hill High School is proud to announce the introduction of its new SMS Attendance Communication system – message you that went ‘live’ for the first time on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February.

SMS is designed to advise parents that, according to school records, the student is absent and no reason has been provided to the school.

Each school day, our school computer systems will automatically send parents a message between 11.30am and 2pm similar to:



### For absence:

**Chester Hill High records show (Name) is absent Wed 10/2/10. Please reply SMS or ph 96441099 student name/reason/abs date.**

### For Late:

**Chester Hill High is concerned John Smith arrived late MON, 26/3/10 for 3rd time since 8/02/10. Behaviour consequences apply.**

### Working Together for Our Children: What Parents Must Do

The school is taking important steps to benefit your child. This is a shared responsibility, and parents must also help the school.

#### 1. *Keep your mobile phone details up to date.*

Make sure the school has your current mobile phone number, and notify the school immediately if this number changes.

#### 2. *Notify the school in advance when your child is absent.*

If you notify the school as soon as you know your child will be absent, the school will know your child is safe, and will not need to contact you. An SMS text message sent to the school is the best way to do this.

#### 3. *Respond to messages from the school.*

If you receive an absence message from the school, please respond via return SMS or phone 96441099. The school needs to know why your child is absent.

#### *If you don't have a mobile phone...*

Details of low-cost phone plans ideal for parents who want to benefit from the new system are available from mobile phone providers. The school will maintain its existing contact methods for parents who do not have mobile phones.

Chester Hill High School would like to thank the school community for their support of the new SMS system. If you have any queries please contact **Mr. Milne** (Head Teacher Administration) on **96441099**.



## **I.E.C Report**

### **Student numbers:**

We currently have 153 students.

### **Rejoicing with our ex-student: Soo Hwa Jeon:**

**Soo Hwa** was enrolled with the I.E.C in 2006 and went on to study Year 11 Bridging at Cheso. In 2008 she left to accept a part scholarship at P.L.C (Croydon). Last week, we were pleasantly surprised to have her visit us and delighted to hear that she had scored an A.T.A.R of 99.55%. **Soo Hwa** has been offered a place at University of Sydney to study Clinical Psychology.

### **Student Leaders:**

This term student leaders have been elected through staff nominations. Every candidate was able to articulate very clearly what they hoped to achieve and to contribute as a member of the team. Based on this, 12 student leaders have been elected. They will receive their badges and certificates next week together with the high school SRC in the hall.



**IEC Term 1 2010 Student Leaders**

# ***SWIMMING CARNIVAL 2010***



STRENGTH IN UNITY, EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

# SWIMMING CARNIVAL 2010



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