



CHESO NEWS

CHESTER HILL HIGH SCHOOL
KENWARD AVENUE
CHESTER HILL 2162

TELEPHONE: 9644 1099
FACSIMILE: 9743 7174
AUGUST 2010

Term 3 Issue 1

Principal's Report

I returned on Monday 2nd August a little later than expected due to an injury while I was overseas. All is well now! I would like to thank **Mrs. McNab** who relieved as principal and **Mr. Milne** who relieved as deputy principal in my absence and **Mrs. Cremin** who relieved as deputy principal for **Mr. Rosewall** while he was on leave. We are fortunate that we have so many capable staff who "step up" to assist here at Cheso whenever it is needed.

Our Flag Day performances were in the words of **Mrs. Fields** "our best ever!" We will however have to look to make our final performance a ticketed one in future as a number of people including some of our own students missed out on the Friday performance. We offered a free DVD of Flag Day to these students and most have already picked these up.

On the first day of Term 3 the staff spent the day working on strategies to better meet our students learning needs. We had a guest speaker Associate Professor **Wayne Sawyer** who is working with us on one of our National Partnerships programs with a focus on improving our students' reading skills.

Other highlights so far this term have been:

Year 10 and 7 theatre and art gallery visits

The 100 Faces Project at the Art Gallery of NSW

The IEC Interact Mentoring Program Launch at the IEC

Various parent meetings after school including our first ever meeting for our indigenous families.

Staffing Update: congratulations to **Mr. Jones** who has been appointed as Head Teacher: Teaching and Learning, beginning this term. This is funded by our National Partnerships Program. Congratulations also to **Mr. Dablin** who was appointed as Sports Coordinator to replace **Mr. Jones**.

This is a busy and important term for our students. Please encourage your child to do their best and make the most of their opportunities here at school and be:

"Safe Respectful Learners who Belong at Cheso"

Christine Casey

NATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS UPDATE

Congratulations to **Mr Jones** who was successful in gaining the position of Head Teacher Teaching and Learning under the National Partnerships Program.

Mr Jones will now work closely with all staff and students to continue enhancing the teaching and learning experiences at Cheso.

Below is an update of what we have been working on so far under National Partnerships and also the projects we are soon to commence.

Literacy and Engagement.

Continued focus on Literacy through
 MULITLIT Program
 Yr 9 Individual Reading Programs
 Yr 8 Individual Reading Programs
 Fast Forward Reading Program
 Intensive Literacy Program

We are very lucky to have Associate Professor **Wayne Sawyer** from the UWS as our Academic Partner under the National Partnerships Program. Associate Professor Sawyer was the guest presenter at our Staff Development Day on the 19th July, where he elaborated on specific reading strategies that we can use across all KLAs (Key Learning Areas) which will improve students' knowledge and understanding.

Over the next semester each faculty will be focusing on 2 reading strategies and incorporate these in their programs. It is expected that by the end of the year students will have been exposed to a variety of strategies which will improve their reading skills.

Student Engagement

Yr11 Student Engagement Interviews are continuing and we have been successful in transitioning a few students into alternate pathways such as TAFE and Traineeships.

Yr 10 interviews are under way for students who are struggling with school work and assistance is being provided to catch up on missed work and redeem N Awards.

Various activities and excursions have been organised for Refugee Students and continued support for students through withdrawal. Students were also involved in the making of a quilt which was presented to the school during our Flag Day Ceremony.

ATSI (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Students have been involved in celebrations of Reconciliation Week and NAIDOC week. The School celebrated NAIDOC week by incorporating aspects of the Indigenous Culture into their lessons/programs. Some examples of students' work is on display in the library.

We have organised for various inspirational speakers from the community to talk to our students on careers and future pathways.

Discussions are underway to have a mural painted by our students under the guidance of Aboriginal Artist **Mrs Janice Bruny**.

Technology - Continued installation of IWB – Interactive WhiteBoards, (the school now has 37 IWBs and 3 connected classrooms). The majority of the school has access to wireless

internet and we have started to use our new Language Centre, which is also a Connected classroom.

Staff will be provided with training and development of their ICT skills and incorporating technology into their programs. Thus providing our students access to the latest technology.

ESL Pedagogy

Our aim for this semester is to further develop and implement ESL pedagogy across all KLAs through additional assistance in classes, resource development and ESL Pedagogy training of staff.

Gifted and Talented Program (GAT)

Variety of opportunities for students to participate in extension activities.

Future projects in GAT still under development.

Parent/Community Involvement

We had our inaugural Parent workshop on Thursday 22 July and will be having our second meeting on Thursday 5th August. These meetings are a forum for parents to get advice and assistance from the school and our District School Liaison Officer on any issues they may have concerning their child. They will also provide parents with practical skills such as computer literacy, dealing with stress, dealing with teenagers, cyber bullying and the sort.

These workshops will take place every 2nd Thursday at 9.30 am , and all parents are invited to attend.

On Wednesday 4th August we had our first Indigenous Parent Evening and we were very pleased to see so many members of our Indigenous community present. Among the guests was **Mr Nathan Towney**, Aboriginal Education Team Education Officer for South

Western Sydney Region

We want to continue strengthening our links with our Indigenous families by providing forums such as these evenings, which will take place once a term in the library.

On Wednesday 11th August at 4.15pm we held our Alternate Pathways Evening where we discussed what educational pathway is best for your child.

If you would like to attend any of these meetings or workshops or have an idea you would like to discuss please contact **Ms Mateus**.

Ms Mateus - Deputy Principal

RTP Excursion to the Australian Museum By Gar Dee Paw Year 9

On the second of July, the last day of school the RTP class attended the excursion to the Australian Museum; it was really interesting to find out how the Aboriginal people make knives from the rocks.

It was also fascinating to learn about how they killed the animals. It was particularly interesting for me because when I went to Australian museum I read that the Aboriginal people could kill the big mammoth with the rock.

One of the activities we participated in was painting the boomerangs. It was rather hard as it is not as easy as it looks. Aboriginal people are very creative, they like using the bright colours on the boomerangs. I never knew how to decorate a boomerang until I went on the excursion to the Australian Museum.

Some of the things I like about Aboriginal people are that they are incredibly creative, very good at drawing and painting and are

fantastic hunters.

The excursion was really interesting because we had a chance to see many animals which I never have seen before. We also were told an interesting story about how the Aboriginal people used the boomerang to kill the animals.

RTP Excursion to the Australian Museum

By Shekiba Tahery Year 11

On Friday, the Second of July all the students from the RTP program went on the excursion to the Australian Museum with **Mr. Criniti** and **Mrs. Fenton**.

We all had to meet down at Miller road at 9:00 o'clock. After the teacher marked our names off we all got on the bus. It took us about an hour to get to the Australian Museum. When we got there it was really cold but everyone was so excited that no one felt the cold. In the museum we were split into two groups. The first group went to the boomerang workshop first and the second group went to the hall where the Aboriginal artworks were displayed. The Aboriginal artworks were amazing. They were very interesting and showed the creativity of the artists. We learned a lot about the lifestyle of Aboriginal people. If we look closely we will find their way of living stunning.

Even though we did not want to leave the section with the Aboriginal art we proceeded to the exhibition of the dinosaurs. We saw huge fossils of dinosaurs, it was great! We learned about the Jurassic animals and plants. After that we saw more than one thousand samples of insects. My favourite part of the excursion was the boomerang workshop. We were given the boomerangs which we had to paint using the Aboriginal symbols shown to us by the Aboriginal curator. When we finished painting the boomerangs we went to another room and saw various tools used by Aboriginal people and animals they used to hunt. After all the exciting activities we had to leave the museum.

In conclusion I would like to say that it was the best excursion. We learned a lot during this excursion. I would like to thank **Mr. Criniti** and **Mrs. Fenton** for giving us another opportunity to learn more about Australia



100 Faces 100 Stories

On Wednesday of week two, the students attended the third session of the program at the Art Galley NSW. On arrival, students were met by their mentor as well as the education consultants from the gallery. First up, was a brief tour of the gallery. This was interesting because the students were able to see many differing styles of art and learn what constitutes an artwork and the reasons why artists make them. Usually they tell a story or express feelings, which is what the 100 Faces program is all about. Students and mentors also learned that paintings don't have to be *realistic* representations of something!

Everybody was pleasantly surprised at what the consultants had to offer them in terms of understanding art. Interesting was the "junk" that was thrown all over the floor in front of us and then framed (on the floor) with a price tag of \$500,000 and a "Please don't touch" sign. What was non-serious intent suddenly became a real work of art. With their mentors, students then went upstairs to make a self portrait. This activity was great because students were able to spend time working with their mentor in a relaxed environment. The gallery provided a very nice lunch for us and yet we still had time to fit in "Maccas" on the way home.

On Monday of week three, students from both the IEC and the High School met for an intensive studio workshop. Here, they worked on their story and artwork. This was a very productive day for everyone. Communicating their story both visually and verbally is a challenging and rewarding venture. Later this term the students will meet their mentors for the final session at the IEC. The conclusion of the program will take place during term four. This will encompass an exhibition and graduation ceremony at the Optus campus where this

great bunch of students will have the opportunity to showcase their work.

I would like to congratulate every one of the students in the program for their commitment and outstanding behaviour. As always, it is so nice to see students from our IEC and the High School working collaboratively and learning about compassion, diversity, difference and acceptance. Thanks also to **Mrs Gabb** for your contribution and assistance. Go the 100 Faces team!

Ms D. Goodwin

National Art School

Yin Mar Thinh - Year 11

This year, **Yin Mar's** port folio was selected from close to 400 applicants to participate in the *National Art School's HSC Extension Intensive Studio Practice*. The NAS has offered this course to students in all government and non-government high schools since 2000. This is a NSW Board of Studies endorsed course for HSC Visual Arts students which aim to extend the students technically, conceptually and intellectually within their Visual Arts practice in a post - school setting. Students have the opportunity to work within a specialized discipline and with a broad range of media and art making processes under the direction of practicing artists. In the studio workshops, students refine their ability to interpret and evaluate their own and others artworks and engage in sustained critical reflection and evaluation. They also gain practical skills in preparing for, mounting and curating an exhibition.

Yin Mar attended the first module during the last school holidays. The second module will take place in the October break. I am looking forward to accompanying **Yin Mar** and her family to the exhibition on completion of the course.

I am very proud of **Yin Mar**. I have watched her grow in her art making practice for some years now. She is a talented and committed student with a passion. She was also a participant in the first 100 Faces program in 2009 where she learned a great deal. I have no doubt her skills and her love of art have developed from her experience in this.

Congratulations **Yin Mar**. Good luck!

Ms Goodwin

Technical Support Phone Scam Warning

Memorandum to: Principals
DN/10/00224

The information in this memorandum should be passed on to any students, parents and staff members who use computers at home.

Concerns have been raised by parents about phone calls from cold callers, pretending to represent Microsoft, who attempt to scare people into believing that their computer has been infected by a virus.

The callers can be quite convincing and persistent. They take advantage of basic fears about online security. Their aim is to convince people to agree to use a credit card to pay for an online technical support and virus repair service.

The caller attempts to direct people to a remote access website by claiming that it will assist the caller to clean up the virus problem and install the technical support service. Not only is the service they provide a sham and based on deception, it can leave a computer more vulnerable to malicious attacks.

Please let your students and parents know that this type of call is a scam. These scammers have nothing to do with the Department or Microsoft. The best thing to do is to hang up on these callers.

It is not possible for any departmental computer to be monitored remotely by these callers, including the DER laptops when being used at home. Remote access websites are already blocked by DER and DET web filters. It is impossible for external companies to load software onto DER computers.

See this Sydney Morning Herald article for more information about these scams:

www.smh.com.au/technology/security/pay-up-or-your-pcs-toast-20100630-zm8i.html

Microsoft Australia's Government Affairs blog, GovTech, included information about this type of scam on 28 February 1010: <http://blogs.msdn.com/b/govtech/archive/2010/02/28/protecting-consumers-from-fraud.aspx>

If you have any questions about the above information, please contact the ICT Service Desk on 1800 338 483 or via the link on the DET Intranet home page.

Maria Claudia Romero
General Manager, Information and Communications Technology

Additional resources:

Symantec Security Response video -
Technical Support Phone Scams:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=pXdFRzkIypI

World Vision Global Leadership Conference 2010

On Friday the 11th of June, four Year 11 SRC members, **Jenny Huynh**, **Rahmatullah Hussainizada**, **Natalie Ambrose** and **Stephanie Ambrose** attended World Vision's Global Leadership Conference 2010.

It was a fun day that was aimed at promoting student leaders to take action not only within their school but on a global scale. Issues that were of particular concern included poverty, famine and country inequality. A particular point of interest was gaining support for the 40 hour famine.

The 40 hour famine is a fundraising event that is held annually, aimed at raising money for those who are less fortunate. This year, all donations will be going towards the Global Food Crisis.

If you wish to give up food, technology, furniture or something else for 40 hours, get sponsors and ultimately support World Vision in their cause, speak to your SRC representative and see what you can do!

Thank you to **Ms Whittle** who transported us to and from this wonderful and eye opening day!



Scoliosis

At the Year Meetings in Week Five, all girls in Years 7, 8 and 9 will be given a brochure to take home which explains the steps in self diagnosis for **Scoliosis**. The brochure was produced by the Spine Society of NSW for the National Self-Detection Program for Scoliosis (NSDPO) 2010. Girls and their parents are encouraged to check for signs of scoliosis and to follow up with their family doctors if they have any concerns.

Mrs Fields

Head Teacher Welfare



familiesnsw
supporting families to raise children



At Parent Line we are dedicated to helping families develop richer, more rewarding relationships and create safer more nurturing environments for children to grow and develop into happy, healthy, confident, contributing young adults.

Changing problems into opportunities for skills development

As adults we often forget what it was really like to be a child. We might have memories about events but we often forget that all the wisdom and knowledge that has been learnt along the way and that it did not come easily. We often expect our children to be able to manage all kinds of situations without difficulties and then become frustrated when they have problems.

The most common reason parents seek help from Parent Line is in managing their child's behaviour. Parents often feel embarrassed to tell other people that they are struggling with their child's behaviour. They feel it could be seen as a reflection on their parenting capabilities.

Parents sometimes blame it on others "It's the teacher that's causing my child to behave like that" or "She's bored at school so she misbehaves" etc. We as parents have all done that!

At Parent Line we suggest to parents that a very effective way of working with the problem is to view the problem as an opportunity for the child to learn skills. It might be a process of self discovery or it might be about learning relationship skills, problem solving skills or even help seeking skills.

This approach is about understanding that children can't know how to manage every situation. It is acknowledging that we all continue to learn and develop throughout life and that mistakes are just opportunities to learn. If the mistakes continue to happen then the learning isn't happening.

It helps eliminate some of the frustration and gives parents a different mindset that has an outcome. Instead of being just the disciplinarian, parents take on roles such as coach, mentor, limit setters and the child's cheer squad all in one.

This method creates opportunities for relationship building and closeness between the parent and child. It helps parents to break down the issue into parts that they feel that they can influence. There are many steps along the way that help parents put this into practise.

(adapted from Ben Furman, "Kids Skills", 2007, St Luke's Innovative Resources, Bendigo, Vic)

If you are interested in averting the negative spiral of being frustrated with your child's behaviour, stopping the nagging and the blaming, call us at Parent Line **1300 1300 52**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week or log onto our website for more parenting information on www.parentline.org.au

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 Go4Fun 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 Go4Fun Program?

The program runs over one school term (10 weeks). There are 20 sessions (2 sessions/week, 2hrs/session). All sessions run after school. 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 4**.



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 and click on 'Join a MEND Program'.

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

CHESTER HILL HIGH SCHOOL

DECISION TIME

YEAR 8

STUDENTS AND PARENTS
TO SELECT SUBJECTS

When: Monday 23rd August 2010
Time: 4.00pm - 5.00pm
Where: School Hall - Miller Rd Entrance

*YEAR 10 & YEAR 11 BRIDGING
STUDENTS AND PARENTS*

TO SELECT SUBJECTS

When: Monday 23rd August 2010
Time: 6.00pm - 7.15pm
Where: School Hall - Miller Rd Entrance

INTERPRETERS

FACULTY DISPLAYS

REFRESHMENTS



Chester Hill Optical

EYE TESTING ARRANGED
BULK BILLING AVAILABLE

Ph: (02) 9644 4420

7 Mariner Centre, Waldron Rd, Chester Hill. (Opposite. Hotel)

KAREN MILLGATE BA J.P.
OPTICAL DISPENSER

STRENGTH IN UNITY, EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION



STRENGTH IN UNITY, EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

13

2010 Flag Day Photo Album



STRENGTH IN UNITY, EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

2010 Flag Day Photo Album



STRENGTH IN UNITY, EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

2010 Flag Day Photo Album



STRENGTH IN UNITY, EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

2010 Flag Day¹⁶ Photo Album



STRENGTH IN UNITY, EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

