



# CHESSO NEWS

**CHESTER HILL HIGH SCHOOL**  
**KENWARD AVENUE**  
**CHESTER HILL 2162**

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**OCTOBER 2013**

## **Term 4 Issue 1**

### **Principal's Report**

#### **Student Leadership Team**

It is my great pleasure to announce our Student Leadership team for 2013/4.



**School Captains:** Jessie Vy Ai Thien Huynh  
and Delian Kotevski

**Vice Captains:** Phoebe Percy and Mustafa  
Allawi

I know that these accomplished young people will carry on the fine traditions of CHHS and lead with courage and conviction. Congratulations!

### **The Low SES National Partnership Program**

We have recently submitted our last evaluation report for the Low SES National Partnership. This was the last evaluation report as the program, for us, concludes at the end of this year. If parents and students are interested, the report can be read on the school website. It is very detailed and is a credit to the hard work of Ms Mateus, our Deputy Principal who has expertly guided the program for those four years. What I would like to concentrate upon is how we are going to sustain many of the successful initiatives.

We are going to maintain the third Deputy Principal position throughout 2014. This position has brought many benefits to the school including increased attention to individual student welfare needs, stronger support for teachers and a significant reduction in the number of suspensions. We will also maintain the Head Teacher, Student Engagement position as this initiative has had a direct increase in our community's participation in the school and it has had a

significant increase in the participation rate of a number of 'at-risk' students and thereby maintaining our healthy attendance rates.

For our Aboriginal or refugee students, the programs will continue for 2014 by embedding them in the Learning Support program. We will also continue with the School-to-Work Transition Adviser position as this is vital to meeting the needs of a significant number of our senior students. When the mandatory school leaving age was raised to 17 years, students who would have traditionally moved to vocational education had to stay at school. It is an important service to our community that we retain the ability to make flexible arrangements for the welfare of these students. The Transition Adviser position will be funded through our global funds. We will also have the on-going benefit of a number of initiatives funded through the National Partnership Program. There is a much more integrated approach between the high school and the IEC, our website will be much more informative and interactive and we will have grown even stronger links to our Primary Partner schools.

One of the lasting benefits of the program is the Professional Learning afforded to our staff. 85% of staff have completed the Teaching English Language Learners (TELL) program and 50% have completed the Teaching Refugees in my Classroom program. The entire staff have completed the Team Leadership for School Improvement course. There have been many, many courses undertaken by staff in curriculum, leadership, literacy, numeracy, ICT, gifted & talented education, special education and student welfare which has increased the school's

capacity to meet the challenges of a constantly evolving educational landscape.

### **School Contributions**

Thank you to all parents who have promptly paid the voluntary school contribution of \$40 this year. It is vitally important that we receive as much money as possible from this scheme. The previous section of my report outlined the generous National Partnership program that has contributed much to the school. The funds of this program are tied funds, which mean that we have no discretion about how we expend them. Over the years, we have mainly spent our global funds (discretionary funds) on classroom improvements such as air-conditioning. Just recently we received notice of our 2014 budget. We have been given around \$55,000 for our electricity bills. Our annual electricity bill is around \$130,000 and we have to make up the difference from our global funds. The average voluntary contribution for government schools across the state is \$93. In comparison with other state high schools our voluntary contribution is very modest. For example, Bossley Park HS has an upfront fee of \$360. Could those families who have yet to make the contribution please do so because the money directly impacts upon the quality of education here at CHHS.

### **Early University Entry**

I am pleased to announce that seven of our Yr.12 students have received early entry offers from the University of Sydney and the University of Technology. While this is an excellent achievement, this message is really intended for our current 2014 HSC students and their families. Each year, universities

offer potential places to students before the HSC. The universities are required by Federal Government to offer places to students from low SES backgrounds and every institution has such a program. This does not mean that these early entry offers are easy to obtain. Students need to perform well at HSC level and sit for an interview before they are accepted. However, early entry processes are worth pursuing because they avoid anxiety at HSC time and there is excellent support here at CHHS to ensure that there are successful applications. For more information about these schemes contact Mrs Corcoran and Ms Patrizi.

### **Our State Representatives**

Over the past few months five CHHS students have represented CHHS at State level.

Luke Bailey – CHS Oztag (Champions)  
Delian Kotevski - CHS Athletics - Discus and javelin

Rhiannon Minett - CHS Athletics - (2nd in 3k Walk)

Adrian Kotevski – CHS Athletics – 3k Walk

Andre Kotevski – CHS Athletics – Discus

Rhiannon was successful in being selected for the Australian All Schools Championship to be held in Townsville in December. Congratulations to all these champions!

### **NAPLAN Results**

At the time of writing all Yr. 7 & 9 students should have received their NAPLAN

results. If any parent does not have the results, please contact the school for a copy. If any parent wants to contact the school over individual student results, please contact the school to make an appointment. We are happy to give feedback to any family. On behalf of the DEC, I must apologise for the considerable delay in getting these results to you. The delay was not the fault of the school or the DEC. The problem occurred when a large number of results were incorrectly printed.



Mr B. Miller

## Senior Student Leaders 2013 - 2014



At the Year 12 Presentation Day Ceremony, the school was introduced to our new School Captains for 2014. Congratulations to:

**Delian Kotevski and Jessie Vy Ai Thien Huynh**  
**School Captains**

**Mustafa Allawi and Phoebe Percy**

### **School Vice-Captains**

These outstanding leaders of our school are joined by the following equally outstanding students as School Prefects for 2014:

Christine Dao	Peter Nguyen
Charlie Faleolo	Hassan Raza
Mohsin Ishtiaq	Katrina Tran
Chantelle Matar	Savannah Tran

**Bao Nguyen**



## National Partnerships Update

Our National Partnership Funding draws to an official close this year. The program, which began in 2010, has funded many of our teaching and learning initiatives and programs, student welfare and support programs, parent workshops and activities and staff professional development and leadership opportunities. Over the last four years, we have kept you informed, through our Newsletters and Website, of the programs and initiatives that we have been able to implement thanks to this Partnership. We have consulted with the Cheso school community in our decision making process through surveys, discussion groups, meetings and workshops and provided you with updates on our developments and achievements. This report aims at summarising our journey under the National Partnership Program and will hopefully highlight the wonderful programs and initiatives this funding has provided.

All students across the school have benefited greatly from the National Partnerships funding and this is most evident in our improved student outcomes. Changes in student outcomes have been noted in Literacy and Reading skills, achievement in course outcomes, improved assessment and feedback, general engagement in learning and improved quality of school life.

NAPLAN trend data for the current Year 7 indicated a greater than or equal to



expected student growth of 63% in Reading and 61% for Year 9. The school's Literacy Enhancement Program results indicated that 26.5% of the Year 7 students who participated in the program achieved band 8 in NAPLAN writing skills. Year 9 Literacy Enhancement Program students also made considerable improvement in persuasive writing with an average improvement of 18.3%.

As a direct result of the Partnership, there are tailored programs for Refugee and Aboriginal students and there is increased awareness by staff of the needs of these students. These students are now more engaged at school, they feel safer and welcomed in the school and have someone who supports them and looks after their welfare. They have ongoing support in the completion of assessments and homework through in-school assistance and the homework centre, as well as access to a number of cultural opportunities. Links with the Aboriginal Community resulted in the students being led by an Aboriginal artist to produce the Aboriginal Mural. The Aboriginal



students now perform annually at our Flag Day Ceremony, as well as at our Community of Schools. We often have Aboriginal Elders and other members of the community at the school to address our students, parents and community members. Our refugee students have been involved in various rich tasks, including Multicultural Writers Group, Drumming Workshop, Motivational Communication Workshop and Master Chef. From a welfare perspective, 26 students were successful in gaining Dept. of Housing Scholarships to assist them in their



schooling. Furthermore, they also have access to the Breakfast Club which operates in the school twice a week providing



students with breakfast and lunch on Mondays and Wednesdays. Thank you to Ms Apostle and Ms Fenton for their outstanding dedication and commitment to these students.

There are increased opportunities for our high achieving students with the introduction of the HAC (High Achievers Class) Initiative. This initiative provides students with the opportunities of project based learning and a high support, high challenge curriculum that will prepare them to become successful 21st Century learners. These students have access to a more innovative, project-based curriculum. They have worked with academic partners from



the University of Western Sydney, as well as the Red Cross to create projects which are meaningful and current. We now offer two HAC scholarships to each of our Primary schools to encourage and support our high achieving students in our Community of Schools.

Availability and opportunity to access technology at school for all students, has meant that students are able to access and manipulate their learning experiences. There has been a shift in the quality and variety of teaching and learning experiences in the school with over 40 Interactive Whiteboards available in the classrooms. This has

increased students' relevance in the material being taught. Students have access to revision, quizzes and assessments online via "Chesoebox". An invention by our very talented Mr Criniti. Students also have access to "Mathletics" and "Mathsonline" and are able to use these at home as part of their revision and reinforcement. The Maths Faculty data shows a definite improvement in Numeracy outcomes for students who use this resource regularly.

The successful development of our new school website and school digital profile which includes online message system, journal and improved news system, a school Facebook page, Instagram, "Chesoebox", YouTube and Schooltube channels, allows for ease of submission of assessments as well as ease of notifications of school events and other services to parents and students. This initiative is still in its early stages and will continue to be further developed under the expertise of Mr Criniti who has gained permanent employment at our school as an ESL teacher.

Significant changes to scaffolding of assessments and backward design of assessment tasks across the school has led to more consistent learning outcomes being achieved by all students. We also provide our school community with an online Assessment Hub on our school's website for parents and students. Here we have uploaded all Year 7-10 Assessment Schedules and tasks for the year. Parents and students of all Stages can now access their assessment schedules and tasks online on our school website and parents are able to support their children more readily.

There has been a significant improvement in transition for all students at Cheso. There are taster lessons for all Year 5 students from our Primary schools. There is also an improved transition program for students from the IEC through the Maths Extension program and the Welcome program, which provides students with orientation into the school. Students have reported feeling relieved about starting High School by the fact that they already knew someone and were aware of the schools expectations and operations. Thank you to Ms Watts for her leadership in the program. Students are also better prepared for their transition out of school as they are assisted by the Transition Adviser, our wonderful Mrs Corcoran. Together they examine the various alternate pathways available to the students when they want to leave school. She also assists the students with job and TAFE applications and interviews and supports students by accompanying them to interviews if necessary. Our students and families are also supported in the subject selection process for Year 11 through our Retention Task Force. This assists students in the subject selection process by providing them with workshops, information evenings and Parent-Student-Head Teacher interviews to assist in the decision making process. Parents have indicated that they are most appreciative of this initiative as they feel valued and involved in the process.

Over the four years of the Partnership, links have been established and strengthened with our Primary Schools. Two of our Primary Schools accepted our offer of Sport Coaching by our senior students. There is an increased number of Primary School students and parents attending our Flag Day Ceremonies.

We have established Community of Schools Meetings (COS) each term and a Principal or Deputy from each of our Primary Schools attends these meetings. As a result, we are planning a combined Staff Development Day in 2014 to explore opportunities for team teaching across the schools and cooperative planning to develop expertise in teaching Literacy and Numeracy.

In a recent school survey, all teachers have indicated that one of the highlights of the funding was the opportunity to participate in so many Professional Development opportunities. Teachers have developed their understanding and skills in teaching and learning strategies in ESL Pedagogy through in-school workshops by an expert ESL teacher, the “TELL” Course and “Teaching Refugees in My Classroom”. These teaching techniques are not only useful in the ESL classroom but staff have commented that there is an increased awareness of the teaching strategies that maximise all students’ outcomes. Through the Middle Band Workshops and the HAC (High Achievers Class) Project, a large number of teachers have had the opportunity to develop their teaching and learning strategies aimed at the middle to higher band student. The employment of a Deputy Principal, a Head Teacher Engagement and a Head Teacher Teaching and Learning and a Technology Deputy Principal (0.2), has led to professional learning opportunities for staff members in leadership roles. These staff members have played a crucial role in the implementation and leadership of programs to improve student outcomes and teacher skill enhancement.



Our parents and school community have been increasingly involved in our school through our fortnightly parent meetings, NAPLAN information evenings, parent excursions to TAFE, information workshops and parent community meetings. We currently hold a Vietnamese, Arabic, Pacifica, Karen and Aboriginal parent community meetings once per term, in addition to our Community Forum meetings which occur once a month. 20 parents from our Community of Schools participated in our school based Computing course run by Bankstown TAFE and CRS. These workshops trained parents in a Certificate III in Business, as well as providing them with a free laptop upon the completion of the program.

It has been a very busy and productive time under the Low SES National Partnership Program. Our school community is definitely reaping the rewards from this funding. We are confident that our students and school community will continue to benefit from these initiatives beyond the Partnership thanks to the innovative and sustainable approaches and initiatives.

Thank you to all the amazing staff who have in so many ways made such a difference to our school in the last four years – Mr De Martin, Mrs Watts, Ms Bhamjee, Mrs Corcoran, Ms Fenton, Ms Apostle, Mr Criniti, Ms Cumines, Ms Bebris, Mr Beerden, Ms Bryan, Ms Kairouz, Ms McMahon, Ms Southwell, Mr Barnes, Ms Michels, the awesome SASS staff and all the other staff members who have supported our National Partnerships Team.

THANK YOU



Ms C Mateus

DP National  
Partnerships

### Australian Mathematics Competition

On August 1st 2013, 103 students sat the Australian Mathematics Competition. Congratulations to our participants for achieving some excellent results!

Cheso students received:

5 Certificates of Distinction

37 Certificates of Credit

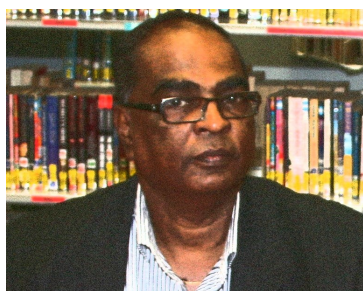
27 Certificates of Proficiency and 34 Certificates of Participation.



A Certificate of Distinction is an outstanding achievement! A special congratulations to Duy Phong Bob Tran and Andre Kotevsi in Year 7, Minh Nguyen and Qinyu Li in Year 9 and Min Hwan Tony Oh in Year 10 for achieving this result!



Congratulations also to Murtathah Al-Khazaaly who achieved the Prudence Award for Chesio. The Prudence Award is given for answering the most number of questions correctly in a row beginning at question one. Well done, Murtathah!

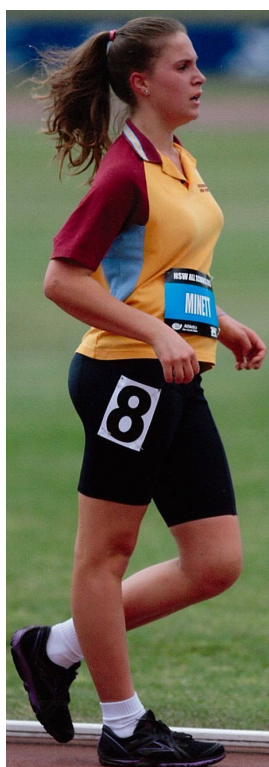


A big thank you to Mr Chetty for coordinating the event for our students. We look forward to the challenge of this

competition again in 2014!



Ms Blue  
Head Teacher  
Mathematics



**Rhiannon Minett** came 2nd in the 3000m walk in a time of 16:55 at the NSW All Schools Athletics Championships .

She is now going to the Australian All Schools Athletics Championships in Townsville on the 6th of December.

## CLEARANCE - YEARS 7, 8, 9 and 10

Parents are advised that students will be clearing from their current years this term. To enable this process to run smoothly for their transition into their next year of education, please ensure that all of their assessments /N awards are completed or redeemed, accounts finalised and for students to have all of their text books and library books ready to be returned. Invoices will be posted home to assist parents but some of you may have finalised payments already, for which we thank you.

## CLEARANCE - YEAR 12

A reminder that this clearance will occur as follows:

**Family Name A-M:** Thursday, 7 November

**Family Name N-Z:** Friday, 8 November

Information regarding this process was posted to you in August and is also included in the Year 12 Portfolio which was handed to students on their last day in September.

## SPECIAL EVENTS IN THE HALL IN DECEMBER

YEAR	EVENT	DAY	DATE	TIME
11	Presentation Day	Thursday	12 /12	9.30AM
9 & 10	Presentation Day	Friday	13 /12	9.30AM
7 & 8	Presentation Day	Friday	13 /12	1.30PM
12	HSC Congratulations Morning Tea	Thursday	19 /12	11AM - 12PM

## **IF YOUR CHILD HAS ANAPHYLAXIS SHOULD HE OR SHE CARRY THEIR OWN EPIPEN® OR ANAPEN® TO AND AT SCHOOL?**

If you have told the school that your child is diagnosed a risk of anaphylaxis you should have received a letter from Mr Miller (Principal)

### **What is an EpiPen® and an Anapen®?**



EpiPen® and Anapens® are the emergency treatment for children who are having an anaphylactic reaction.

### **What is Anaphylaxis?**

Anaphylaxis is a severe and sometimes sudden allergic reaction. If your child has been diagnosed by a doctor as being at risk of anaphylaxis there are some important things to remember that will help the school to support your child's health care needs.

Why you need to keep us informed if your child is diagnosed as being at risk of anaphylaxis or if his or her condition changes. This includes if they have an anaphylactic reaction while not at school.

The school can only respond to risks it knows about. Please keep the office informed so that we can plan to support your child at school.

Why you need to provide the school with your child's current ASCIA Action Plan for Anaphylaxis and an EpiPen® or Anapen® signed by their doctor. The plan sets out the steps the school needs to follow in an emergency. It is essential for us to have this to keep your child safe.

We will keep a copy of your child's ASCIA Action Plan for Anaphylaxis stored with your child's EpiPen® or Anapen®.

It is important to regularly talk with your child about when and where they are at risk of contact with the things they are allergic to and how to avoid this. If you have told them not to take part in sharing food at school, regularly remind them of this.

Reassure them that if they do come into contact with something they are allergic to or they feel unwell at school they won't get into trouble. They need to tell a teacher immediately.

If your child has been diagnosed with anaphylaxis you can request that they carry their own EpiPen® or Anapen® to school and at school. A request form has been sent home and is also available from the office.

If you request that your child carry an EpiPen® or Anapen® with them to school and at school you will still need to provide the school with at least one additional EpiPen® or Anapen® for storage in a central location

within the school and for access by staff in an emergency.

The school will contact you about any request you make for your son or daughter to carry their own EpiPen® or Anapen®.

Staff need to know your child carries an EpiPen® or Anapen® in an emergency. For this reason this information will be included in your child's individual health care plan.

They also need to be able to find it quickly so it is important that it be in an easily identifiable and accessible spot (eg. not a locker).

To find out more go to the Department's public schools website: <http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/studentsupport/studenthealth/conditions/anaphylaxis/index.php>

## Social Media

Cheso has recently launched Facebook and Instagram pages to showcase our students' diverse range of achievements & to add another modern communication channel to our arsenal. To keep up with the latest, like us on facebook & follow us on instagram.



Cheso's facebook page.  
[www.facebook.com/chesterhillhighschool](http://www.facebook.com/chesterhillhighschool)



Cheso's instagram page.  
<http://instagram.com/chesterhillhs>

## Yamaha Apprentice Technicians' Grand Prix

On Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October Yamaha ran its **Oceania Yamaha Apprentice Technicians' Grand Prix** at their head office at Wetherill Park. **Apprentice technicians** from around **Australia and NZ** were competing against each other to be awarded the prize at the **Oceania champion**. The most outstanding apprentice technician would then represent Oceania in **Japan** in the world championships.

**Brenden Williamson**, our school's winner of the **Yamaha Student Grand Prix** was invited to attend this prestigious competition as an observer. The manager, **Martin Dwyer**, said that he expected to see **Brenden** competing sometime in the next few years. The competition was a mixture of computer, manual interpretation and difficult skills problems. Each of the apprentices had to complete tasks that were closely evaluated by Yamaha's top technical people. The entire process was fascinating to watch.

As has been the case every time **Brenden** has represented the school, he has done so with considerable pride and has demonstrated maturity, enthusiasm and a deep interest. Everyone he has encountered at, and through, Yamaha has been impressed by his initiative and desire to learn.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank **Ampha Sihavong** from South West Connect who facilitated the partnership between Chester Hill High School and Yamaha, **Martin Dwyer** the manager of Yamaha in NSW who has the passion and enthusiasm for engaging youth in our schools with a future as bike technicians and our own Mr McLean whose passion for bikes has been a significant driver for this initiative.

Mrs Helen Corcoran  
Transition Adviser

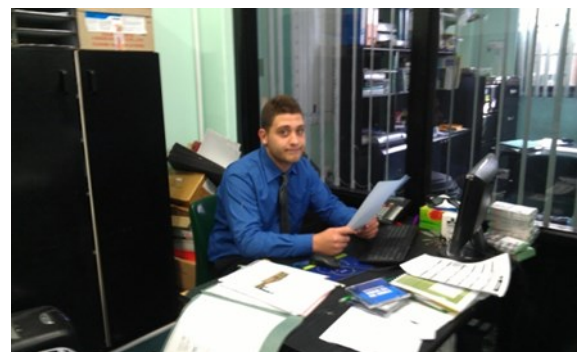
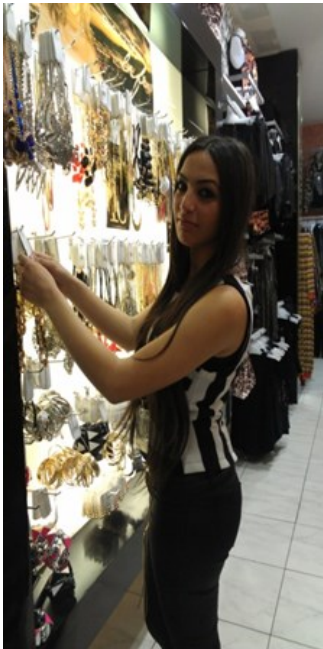


## Work Experience 2013

Our Year 10 students were very successful in sourcing a variety of workplaces this year. We are very grateful to both small and large businesses in our local community and from the wider Sydney community who choose to support our Work Experience Program. The mentoring and instruction given to our students by the employers is invaluable in assisting students form career goals.



Mrs Patrizi, Careers Adviser





**Australian Broadcasting Corporation**  
**Inaugural Careers Day at Ultimo Head**  
**Office**

We were very excited to be a part of the ABC's first Careers day. It was an informative day about the various types of jobs that exist within the ABC. Interesting career stories were presented ranging from



news presenter Jeremy Fernandez to behind the scenes camera crew members and technical staff and producers.  
 Felicia Akumah Year 11 , Mrs Patrizi





## Year 5 Taste Chester Hill High School



Over 6 days, Year 5 students from our feeder primary schools: Chester Hill North, Carramar, Villawood North, Old Guildford, Yennora and Chester Hill visited our school. They experienced a variety of lessons presented by our teachers from all subject areas. Much to the delight of the students their visit ended with a sausage sizzle. Many thanks to all the teachers involved from all the schools for their cooperation and assistance in this venture. Mrs Patrizi



**Life's too serious. Let's have a laugh.**



A man with a power saw has been hit by a falling tree.

Police fired over the heads of rioters today; however, they killed 20 people living on the second floor.

A physician in Florida claims that he is treating a 107 year old woman who is pregnant. He claims that because of her advanced age, she will have a grown-up.

A man has barricaded himself inside his house; however, he is not armed and nobody is paying any attention to him.

The Food and Drug Administration has announced that saliva causes stomach cancer. However, only when swallowed in small amounts over a long period of time.

Here are the results of the latest Gallup poll: 48% of the people were not home, 32% of the people made believe they weren't home and 20% of the people have no front door.

Out at the lake today, police arrested a one armed man who was bothering the other boaters by continuously rowing in a circle.

A dog exploded on a busy city street corner. No one was killed, however twenty people were overcome by fur. In addition, police estimate that between one hundred and one hundred and fifty fleas lost their lives in the blast.

To wind up the news, a team of medical scientists announced today that they have discovered a cure for apathy. However, they claim that no one has shown the slightest bit of interest.



## Chester Hill High School Calendar of Events - Term 4 - 2013



Week	Day	Date	Event
<b>5A</b>	Thursday	7.11.13	* Year 12 Sign-out day (Family Name beginning with A – L)
	Friday	8.11.13	* Year 12 Sign-out day (Family Name beginning with M – Z)
<b>6B</b>	Monday	11.11.13	* <b>COMMUNITY FORUM MEETING - 4.30pm</b>
	Tuesday	12.11.13	* ESSA Test
			* <b>PACIFIC COMMUNITY PARENTS MEETING (11.00am - 1.00pm)</b>
	Thursday	14.11.13	* Peer Support
	Friday	15.11.13	* Peer Support
			*Years 7–10 Clearance in Class commences Week 7 from 18/11
<b>8B</b>	Monday	25.11.13	* <b>ARABIC PARENT MEETING (6.00pm - 7.30pm)</b>
	Wednesday	27.11.13	* <b>NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTED</b>
			* Year 11 Bridging - Work Experience - all week - (2/12 - 6/12) * Years 7-9 Maths Exams - all week
<b>9A</b>	Monday	2.12.13	* <b>YEAR 7 WATER AWARENESS CLINIC</b>
	Tuesday	3.12.13	* <b>YEAR 7 WATER AWARENESS CLINIC</b>
	Wednesday	4.12.13	* Year 11 PD/H/PE Crossroads Camp ** 7V Camp
			* <b>YEAR 6 ORIENTATION DAY (9.00am)</b>
	Thursday	5.12.13	* Year 11 PD/H/PE Crossroads Camp ** 7V Camp
	Friday	6.12.13	* Year 11 PD/H/PE Crossroads Camp ** 7V Camp
<b>10B</b>	Monday	9.12.13	* <b>COMMUNITY FORUM MEETING - 4.30pm</b>
	Wednesday	11.12.13	* <b>KAREN PARENT MEETING (6.00pm-7.30pm)</b>
	Thursday	12.12.13	* <b>Year 11 Presentation Day - 9.30am</b>
	Friday	13.12.13	* <b>Year 9 &amp; 10 Presentation Day 9.30am</b> * <b>Year 7 &amp; 8 Presentation Day 1.30pm</b>
			* <b>Reports Distributed</b>
<b>11A</b>	Thursday	19.12.13	* School Development Day
	Friday	20.12.13	* School Development Day