



CHESSO NEWS

CHESTER HILL HIGH SCHOOL
KENWARD AVENUE
CHESTER HILL 2162

TELEPHONE: 9644 1099
FACSIMILE: 9743 7174
AUGUST 2013

www.chesterhil-h.schools.nsw.edu.au

Term 3 Issue 1

Principal's Report

NSW Department of Education and Communities (DEC) Restructure

The restructure of the NSW DEC bureaucracy is almost complete. Chester Hill HS is now in the Bankstown Group of Schools network and our Director of Schools is now **Ms Jan Green** who is located at the Riverwood Education Office (9408 8900). The old Regional structures are now gone and our ex-Regional Director, **Mr Murat Dizdar** is now Executive Director, Schools. The restructure is part of a new approach to administering schools called *Local Schools, Local Decisions* (LSLD) where the schools themselves have greater autonomy over money and areas like maintenance.

Part of the philosophy behind LSLD is that schools are free to form their own associations or networks if they choose. At CHHS we intend to maintain and grow our existing local networks with which we have been heavily involved. We have a very active Community of Schools group which involves our Primary partner Schools, Chester Hill North, Chester Hill, Villawood North, Old Guildford and Carramar. We have plans for joint Professional Learning with these

schools throughout 2014. We will also continue to be involved with the Fairfield group of high schools. For example, at the beginning of Term Two this year, the Fairfield High schools combined resources to help deliver Professional Learning on the new Australian Curriculum. As a secondary school network, we have a commitment to working together on issues such as the new Australian Professional Teaching Standards and helping each other develop leadership capacity.

Our former Fairfield Education Director, **James Coleborne** has retired after serving the students of NSW for an incredible 49 years in various capacities including teacher, principal, inspector, superintendent and director. On behalf of CHHS, I would like to thank James for the support, advice and wisdom he has provided to us over the years and wish him all the best in his well-deserved retirement.

South West Sydney, Regional Ambassador

On Thursday 1st August, **Jessie Huynh** from Yr. 11 was given the great honour of being named 2013 DEC Regional Ambassador. While the role is mainly a ceremonial one, Jessie was selected from over 100 competing schools. Additionally, Jessie was selected as a

recipient of our local MP, Jason Clare's Community Service Award. Unfortunately both ceremonies were on the same night and she couldn't attend both awards. The awards are well deserved and reflect very positively on her wonderful achievements thus far at school. (picture on page 4)

Yr. 7 Scholarships for 2014

The applications for the 2014 Yr. 7 academic scholarships are now open. There will be 10 scholarships offered, one each for students from our five Primary Partner schools (mentioned above) and five for our wider educational community. The scholarships cover the following costs associated with schooling in Yr. 7 at CHHS. These include: Exemption from all school/subject costs; exemption from the cost of the Enrichment Camp; Excursion costs; the Book Pack; a calculator; Art diaries / Aprons / USB. However, the most important aspect of the scholarship is that it guarantees entry into the High Achievers class for that year. The scholarship forms can be found on the school website:

www.chesourl.com/scholarship

It is very important that applicants follow the scholarship requirements and provide all documentation requested because the scholarships are very competitive. Last year there were over 60 applicants and some potential candidates were eliminated because not all the documentation was provided. **Applications will close on Friday 6th September** and all applicants will be informed of the results by **Wednesday 18th September**. Our High Achievers class (HAC) is a genuine alternative to sending your child to a selective high school. Students in this class have a rich, diverse curriculum, have many self-directed learning opportunities and many leadership opportunities. One of our Primary Principals told me she often asks returning ex-students "What is better,

Primary or High school?" Some of her ex-Primary students and now Yr. 7 HAC members claimed confidently that high school was more interesting than Primary. This was for her an answer she didn't expect! Proof enough of our HAC class.

Improving Literacy and Numeracy National Partnership (ILNNP)

Last Term we were very fortunate to be provided with generous funding by the Commonwealth government to help us develop new ways to enhance our Yr. 7 and Yr. 8 students' literacy and numeracy outcomes. We have completed detailed research into these year groups and know their capabilities very well. Already, we have purchased additional resources for intensive literacy work and have appointed **Ms Angela Smith**, a qualified Primary teacher, to run the program for the rest of this year. Ms Smith will co-ordinate the program, teach and provide regular feedback to students. All Yr. 7 and 30 Yr. 8 students are involved in this project for three periods a fortnight. Next year, part of the money will also be used to give opportunities to our staff to observe our Primary colleagues and vice versa so that we can gain better understandings of approaches to literacy education.

High Achievers Recognition Morning Teas

I have just had the great privilege of hosting three 'recognition' morning teas for our best performed students who received Principal's commendation awards for their half-yearly results. The awards are for academic performance across all subjects. To receive a Principal's commendation award, a Yr. 12 student needs to be ranked in the top ten in the majority of their subjects. For example, a student who is studying six subjects needs to be ranked in the top ten in four of those subjects. For students in Yrs. 7-11, they need to receive an "A" grade in the majority of their subjects. One of the subjects must be

English or Maths or Science. For example, a student in Year Nine would study nine subjects. Therefore they would have to receive five “A” grades to qualify for a Principal’s award including an “A” in the three above mentioned subjects. The simple message is that these award winners must perform consistently which is important in the long run because the students who obtain the best ATARs are the ones who perform most consistently across all their subjects. As I said at the morning teas, the awards are not for ‘encouragement’ but for acknowledgement of already high achievement. The award winners are:

Yr. 7: Kellie Tran, Jessica Walton, Vivien Nguyen, Kenny Tong, Anthony Tran, Tina Le, Trish Duong, Mohammad Mohibi, Andre Kotevski, Chanokphorn Sandy Lasakul, Abdallah Sukkarieh, Tanya-Ece Erdogan, Caitlin Fisher, Kent Khuat, Duy Phong, Bob Tran, Swan Zin, Catherine Dao

Yr. 8: Taylah Bailey, Queenie Bui, Jodie Chan, Rhianna Dalglish, Julie Galicia, Janet Huynh, Linh Huynh, Zena Mousa, Courtney Perry, Kirsty Stones, Christy Tran, Vivien Le Tran

Yr. 9: Jocelyn Huang, Shannon Huang, Adrian Kotevski, Elise Le, Ryan Matar, Rhiannon Minett, Minh Nguyen, Quinton Nunez, Alina Ta, Sally Tran

Yr.10: Cindy Chau, Lilian Do, Sophia Goustavsky, Mohamed Malas, Jessica Nguyen, Thao Luong Phuong, Minh Chau Pham, Aadarsh Prasad, Kristine Tran, Laura Tran, Miriam Tran

Yr 11: Judith Bow, Chelsea Fisher, Jessie Huynh, Delian Kotevski, Timothy La, Jaclyn Lim, Chantelle Matar, Jessica

Mendis, Phoebe Percy, Anika Synthi, Savannah Tran, Christina Vuong, Nancy Vuong, Shiyin Wendy Wang

Yr 12: Mary Bagdesar, Omar Barbar, Paige Casacchia, Ali Chami, Samih Chami Binfang Julie Hong, Johnny Le, Shelly Lien, Diana Luu, Emily Luu, Francis Nguyen, Johnny Nguyen, Susan Nguyen, Jessica Quinnell, Samantha Ramos, Yve Reyes, Nagham Suleiman, Jessica Taulaga, Alice Tran

Our Optus Partnership and the Australian Business Council Network.

CHHS is very fortunate to have Optus as our business partner. This partnership has flourished over the past six years and now there are numerous projects underway. On August 20th the entire CHHS executive team have been invited to Optus headquarters by Mr Andrew Buay, Vice President, Singtel-Optus Group Corporate Social Responsibility and Talent Coach for a leadership development session. On Friday 2nd August, the Optus *100 Faces* project was launched in the IEC library. This partnership project involves 10 high school students and 10 IEC students working one-on-one with Optus mentors to produce short narratives and art works about their lives. There has also been the volunteer gardening day where 35 Optus volunteers helped us rejuvenate the gardens around the school hall and there is a forthcoming volunteer day with Optus helping our IEC students to complete an assessment task centred on an excursion to Centennial Park in Sydney’s Eastern suburbs. Everybody at CHHS involved in this project deeply appreciates this partnership. It is NOT based on money or handouts but on mutual respect and an ability to learn from each other. We are also lucky to be part of the Australian Business Council Network (ABCN). This organisation

has provided our students with excellent extra-curricular activities in the form of the GOALS & ASPIRE programs and student leadership initiatives. We will continue to work with both Optus and ABCN because these organisations offer genuine help and opportunity for our students and staff.

on the night, you should have received them in the post by now except for the Yr.10 reports. We are keeping these back for the subject selection interviews on Tuesday 13th August.

Mr. B. Miller

Parent Teacher Night

Our annual Parent / Teacher night was very well attended in the first week of this term. We take great pride in the reports we distribute on the night and can assure parents every effort is made to ensure their quality. Reports are not just about what happened in the past. They should also be used to help set directions for the next semester. That is why it is important to make personal contact with your child's teachers so they can explain how this can be done. For those who could not attend

**South West Sydney, Regional
Ambassador — Jessie Huynh**



Year 11 Photography Excursion

In Term 2, Year 11 Photography students attended an excursion to the Head On Photo Festival at the State Library. The day included a walk through Sydney's Royal Botanic Gardens and past the opera house taking both digital and black and white film photographs which will be printed in the darkroom this term.



Insect Macro photograph taken by
Jason C. Year 11.



Copyrightjasoncalphotography

Art Workshop

In week 1 of this term, fifteen Year 10 Visual Arts students were invited to help run a day of art workshops at Villawood North Public School for students in grades 3 to 6. The topic for the day was 'food in art' which was interpreted in many ways from charcoal drawings to food photography to craft-made pizzas.

Congratulations to our Cheso student-teachers who were so helpful and responsible, leaving that day with many new young friends!



Year 7 Mathematics Excursion to Sydney Olympic Park

On the 25th of July, Ms. Ing, Ms. Blue and Mrs. Fenton took 60 Year 7 students to Sydney Olympic Park. The students were divided into 3 groups and completed 6 different activities. Students were able to apply mathematical skills in the environment.

Area and Shapes in the Environment

The students learnt how to estimate the area of leaves using 1cm x 1cm grids and discussed how to find the areas of different shapes in the environment.



Data Analysis

The students were able to view the mangrove trees and learnt how to collect data on the number of crab holes versus the number of seedlings per sample. The students then organised their information in a table and in a line graph.



Measuring in the Environment

The students used different equipment to record changes in the environment. They measured water turbidity, humidity, wind movement, water movement, water temperature and air temperature. The students



repeated each measure three times and found the average to obtain a more accurate answer. Here is what some students had to say about the excursion:



“The Maths excursion was really informative as we learnt how to measure the wind speed and water turbidity. We took the average out of three samples to get an accurate answer.”

Caitlyn FISHER, Mya Kyaw KYAW, Eman GHAMRAOUI and Catherine DAO 7V

“I thought the Maths excursion was a lot of fun. We did all sorts of things; we learnt how to read a sun dial.”

Jared SHERWIN 7G

“We thought it was really fun and interesting because we got to see mangroves. They had funny looking roots.”

Jina Le 7G and Sandy Isakul 7Y

“I learnt how to read the temperature from a thermometer and how to use a sun dial.”

Sally TRINH 7O

“The Maths excursion to Olympic Park helped me learn about how to measure temperature and water movement”

Mohammad MOHIBI 7B

Ms. Ing, Mathematics Faculty



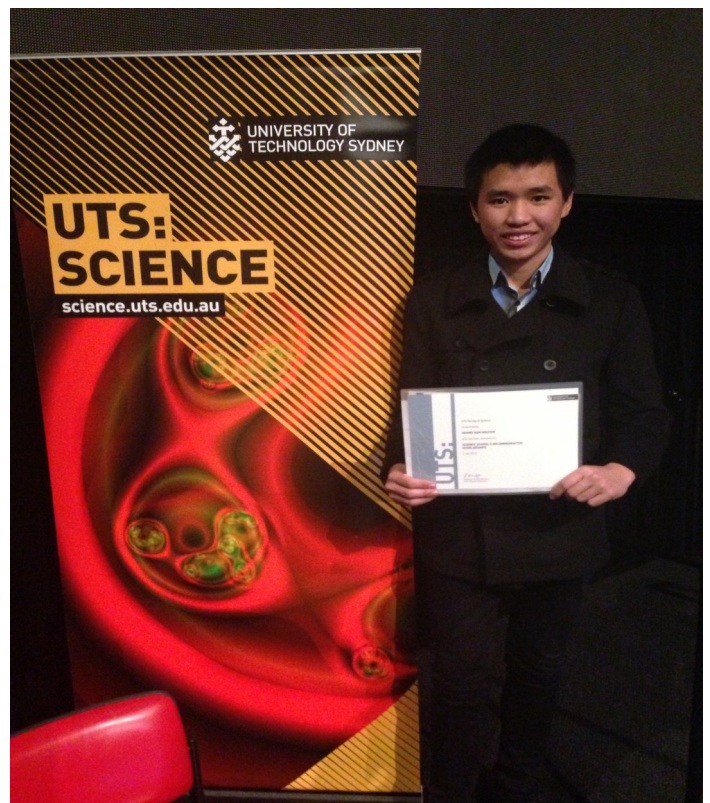
Congratulations To a Former Student

I was very fortunate to attend the annual UTS Science Prize Giving Ceremony held on July 5th, 2013 in the Great Hall at UTS. Science students who had excelled in their studies throughout their course, or who were receiving scholarships, were recognized at this ceremony.

Hoang Nam Nguyen, one of our outstanding Year 12 students from 2012, was awarded a Science School's Recommendation Scholarship valued at \$2000 per year for three years. Nam's ambition is to be a Science Teacher and he is well on the way to achieving his ambition. It was a moment of great delight and pride seeing him walk across the stage and being presented with his scholarship by the Dean of the Faculty of Science, Professor Bruce Milthorpe.

Congratulations to such a wonderful young person. Nam is an outstanding ambassador for our school and after the award ceremony had many fond recollections of his studies and teachers. He is wished all the very best for the future.

Helen Corcoran



	Chester Hill High School Strength in Unity, Excellence in Education <hr/> LEARNING AND SUPPORT FACULTY 2013
--	---

Personalised Learning and Support Signposting Tool (PLASST) – 2013 Trial

We are pleased to advise that during the next few weeks our school, along with other public schools in the area, will be participating in the trial of a new tool for teachers to identify the learning and support needs of students. PLASST stands for Personalised Learning and Support Signposting Tool.

This trial is focussed on the development of a sound and reliable online tool that, when finalised, can be used by teachers in collaboration with parents and carers to identify the strengths and educational needs of students with additional learning and support needs. This information will assist schools in planning and personalising learning and support for individual students who require adjustments in their day to day learning.

To assist with the delivery of the trial, the Department of Education and Communities has contracted an independent analytics and program management provider, PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC). PwC will also analyse the data collected from the trial and recommend adjustments to the tool before it is made available to all NSW public schools in 2014.

The trial will take place between July and September 2013 and involve up to 550 selected schools.

Teachers will complete a questionnaire about the educational needs of some of their students and submit their responses online. All data will be held in a secure web database designed specifically by PwC for the trial. The data supplied to PwC through the trial will not provide any names of individual students.

Students will not be required to complete any additional work or be formally assessed during the trial. This trial will not impact on students' education provisions.

If you have any questions about the PLASST trial, would like to discuss your child's possible involvement or would prefer that your child does not participate, please telephone the school.

If you need help with English to make an enquiry contact the Telephone Interpreter Service on 131 450 and ask for an interpreter in your language. The operator will call the number you provide and get an interpreter on the line to assist you with your conversation. You will not be charged for this service.

The Department of Education and Communities follows the requirements of the *Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998* in the collection, storage, use, and disclosure of personal information.

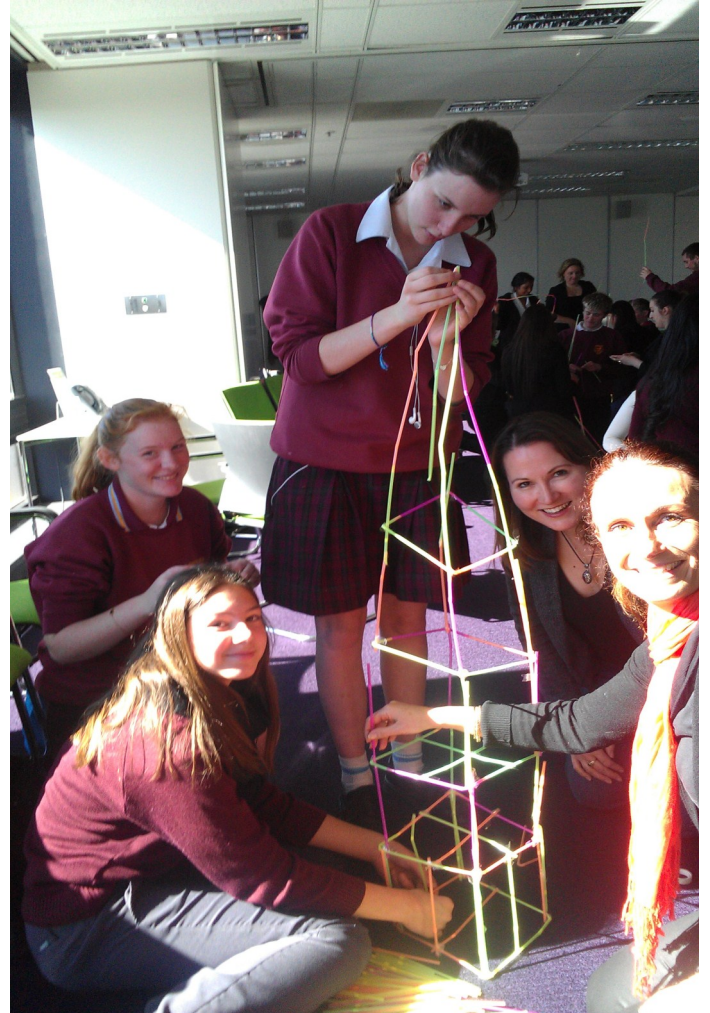
Year 8 Aspire Day at UNSW

The excursion to the University of New South Wales was a great experience. We had a great time and we learnt so many new things. There are so many courses of study at university its amazing. We walked around the campus and noticed a lot of interesting features, for example there was a sculpture of Mahatma Ghandi and below it one of his famous quotes:" An eye for an eye will make the world go blind." We visited NIDA the original theatre and had a look at some of the campus accommodation for students. This excursion was the best I've been to and I hope we get to go back to the UNSW.

Rhonda Kraini, Year 8.



Year 10 iTrack students went to DLA Piper Law Firm in Sydney where they caught up with their Mentors and participated in a variety of activities.



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

Cheso's instagram page.

<http://instagram.com/chesterhillhs>



REMINDER

To Parents/Guardians/ Students

Chester Hill HS Uniform

Now that the weather is getting cooler students will be starting to wear scarves/jumpers/jackets etc.

Please find listed below the correct uniform as per

Chester Hill High School Uniform Requirements

published in the Student Diary/Website and Student Handbook 2013

- Maroon Sloppy Joe or School Jumper
- School Jacket
- Maroon/White Official Winter Cheso School Scarf OR a Plain Black OR a Plain White Scarf ONLY

NB: No Beanies, hoodies, coloured or black clothing under shirts

UNIFORM SHOP

New Hours

1st June 2013 - 1st December 2013

Monday 8:30am - 11:30am

Friday 1pm - 4pm

SAFETY CONCERN REMINDER

Dear Parents/Guardians



If you drive your children to school or collect them of an afternoon - please do not drive through the school gates onto the school grounds - as there are students walking through, staff cars and delivery vehicles all coming and going at the same time. The school is concerned that an accident may occur with parents doing u-turns on the school grounds.



Please drop your child off in Campbell Hill Road / Kenward Avenue or Miller Road. Your child can then walk in through the footpath gate.



UNIFORM SHOP SALE

Last 2 weeks of term

9/9/13 – 20/9/13

20% Discount on all stocked items only
no refunds, no exchanges & no rainchecks

Year 11 Wearable Art Excursion

On the last day of Term 2 the Wearable Art class traveled via car with Ms Fenton and Ms Manion to the studio of textile artist and educator, Liz Gemmell, for hands-on activities. They started off learning how to do various shibori techniques using synthetic fabrics. They stitched with needles that were 15cm long, tied funny knots that came apart when you pulled on them, wrapped fabric around poles in unusual sleeve shapes and clamped their fabrics using G clamps and giant paper clips. These were then tossed into a big pot of boiling dye, while the students then embarked on a felting journey that took them through layers of colour and a final layer of coloured embellishment. Some students used string to write their names into their felted piece. By the end of the morning our students were exhausted having rolled their felted pieces in four different directions a hundred times each time, and then vigorously tossing them to make them shrink. They were delighted with their final samples of both felting and shibori.

We then travelled to the Powerhouse Museum where a leisurely lunch was enjoyed, followed by a viewing of the amazing 'Love+Lace' exhibition. Artists in this exhibition used a diverse and often unexpected range of materials to create hole patterns on a surface. Some were developed into wearable art costumes, others, installations. By the end of the day our students were tired but pleased with their day out. A delightful way to end a very bust term, with their heads filled with lots of skills and ideas that will be incorporated into their projects in Term 3.



On the icy morning of Friday 25th July, Mr Nolan, the Year 7 and 9 Debating team, and myself headed to the UTS Debating Workshop. Despite taking the scenic route to the Law Faculty in Haymarket, we arrived early thus highlighting our punctuality and



professionalism. This recognition also justified the 7am start at Chester Hill Station. The day began with an information session about the excellent facilities and opportunities the Law Faculty had to offer. As



informative as it was, our students were very eager to participate in the workshop. Debates ensued when students realised that they would be debating all day, but this was just a means of practising their skills before the real debates. After only an hour of planning, our students battled hard to convince the adjudicators that

homework should be banned and that pop stars lives should remain private. Mr Nolan and I learnt a lot about Taylor Swift and Justin Bieber (whoever they are?) and that students really don't like homework (I am sure that this was just an argument because all of the students at Cheso love homework!). We won some and we lost some, but competition was tough. Two of our teams versed the current NSW Debating Champions.

The day was wrapped up by a debate by the UTS University students who hosted the day. They were very lively and many interesting motions were made.

Overall, Chester Hill High School debaters had an excellent day. They learnt many new techniques and practises that will assist their future debates. Thank you Miss Abdulhadi for organising the day, and our students for being on their best behaviour.

- Miss Kivilcim



Careers Expo

Careers Expo was a very informative excursion which provided us with valuable information regarding our future education and career pathways. My great ambition is to become nurse but I did not have a definite idea about career in nursing before I went on this excursion. A number of universities including UTS and UWS informed us about careers in nursing and the best ways to achieve our goals. We have also learned about transition from school to UNI programs they run. At the end of the excursion I felt more confident about my future career path and about achieving my goal to become a nurse and work in the hospital.

Ehsan Nadir Year 11



Chester Hill High School

JOIN OUR HIGH ACHIEVERS IN 2014.

Chester Hill High School is offering ten scholarships for Year 7 students in 2014. The successful recipients of the *Academic Excellence Scholarships* will be granted automatic entry into the High Achievers' class in 2014. The scholarships are to the amount of \$800.00 and include school costs, excursion costs, the mandatory High Achievers' Camp cost and a book pack for Year 7. The following criteria will be used to select the successful applicants:

- ♦ NAPLAN Data Year 5
- ♦ Year 5 and Year 6 School Report
- ♦ Student leadership in primary school context
- ♦ Primary School Principal endorsement
- ♦ Student application

Please go to the following link for more information:-

www.chesourl.com/scholarship

Applications close: Friday 6 September 2013



Chester Hill High School

Strength in Unity, Excellence in Education



Chester Hill High School Calendar of Events - Term 3 - 2013



1A	Monday	15.7.13	* School Development Day
	Wednesday	17.7.13	* PARENT/TEACHER NIGHT Years 7-11 4.00pm - 7.30pm - Hall
2B	Wednesday	24.7.13	* Year 12 Trial HSC Drama
	Thursday	25.7.13	* Year 7 Mathematics Excursion - Sydney Olympic Park
	Friday	26.7.13	* Year 8 English Excursion - Theatre
			* High Achievers' Morning Tea - Years 11 & 12 (9.45am)
3A	Monday	29.7.13	* Year 12 – TRIAL HSC Examinations (all week)
			* Year 10 Subject Selection Workshops - all week
	Tuesday	30.7.13	* Regional Athletics - Campbelltown Athletics Centre
	Wednesday	31.7.13	* Regional Athletics - Campbelltown Athletics Centre
	Friday	2.8.13	* High Achievers' Morning Tea (Yr 7/8 - 9.45am) (Yr 9/10 - 12.00pm)
4B	Monday	5.8.13	* Year 12 – Trial HSC Examinations continue to 9/8
			* VIETNAMESE PARENT MEETING - (6.30pm – 8.00pm)
	Wednesday	7.8.13	* Newsletter Distributed
	Friday	9.8.13	* Year 9 Mathematics Excursion
5A	Monday	12.8.13	* DECISION TIME (Yrs 8, 10, 11 Bridging Subject Selection) (Year 8 - 4.00pm-5.00pm) (Year 10 & 11 Bridging 5.30pm-6.45pm)
	Tuesday	13.8.13	* COMMUNITY FORUM MEETING (4.30pm)
	Wednesday	14.8.13	* Year Meetings
6B	Tuesday	20.8.13	* PACIFIC COMMUNITY PARENT MEETING (10.00am - 12.00pm)
	Wednesday	21.8.13	* SENIOR MUSIC EVENING 6.00pm - 8.00pm (Invitation Only)
			* ABORIGINAL P&F MEETING (3.15pm - 4.15pm)
	Friday	23.8.13	* Motivational Media - Years 7-12
8B	Monday	2.9.13	* ARABIC PARENT MEETING (6.00pm - 7.30pm)
	Wednesday	4.9.13	* Year Meetings
			* Newsletter Distributed
9A	Monday	9.9.13	* YEAR 11 PRELIMINARY EXAMS commence
			* COMMUNITY FORUM MEETING (4.30pm)
	Wednesday	11.9.13	* KAREN PARENT MEETING (6.30pm - 8.00pm)
			* Year 10 Work Experience - all week
10B	Monday	16.9.13	* YEAR 11 PRELIMINARY EXAMS continue to 20/9
			* Year 10 Work Experience - all week 16/9 to 20/9
	Thursday	19.9.13	* YEAR 12 FAREWELL ASSEMBLY – Hall (10.00am – 11.00am) * Year 12 Formal (Evening)

Last Day Term 3 – Friday 20.9.13 First Day Term 4 – Tuesday 8.10.13
Please Note: Dates/Times correct at time of publication