

CHESO NEWS



Chester Hill High School Newsletter

Term 4, issue 2 | November, 2015

Principal's Report

Welcome to our last edition of the newsletter for 2015. I have been relieving as the principal of Chester Hill since May 4 2015, since Mr Miller took leave for a secondment. During this time, I have had the pleasure of working with a wonderful school community, as we strive to focus on improving student outcomes as well as improving our school facilities.

During the year, our achievements in NAPLAN have been outstanding with excellent results with value added in Numeracy and Literacy for both Year 7 and Year 9 students. We are now eagerly awaiting the Higher School Certificate results on Wednesday December 16.

There have also been many changes this year to our mobile phone policy, our attendance policy, our uniform policy and we have revised our communication systems with parents. I would like to thank our parent community for their support with these changes as we continue to modify and change our practices to improve processes and teaching and learning in the school.

Our parent forums have also been very successful this year with a large number of parents and caregivers attending the evenings and providing us with feedback as required.

Thank you to all our families who have been attending our yearly presentations where we have been celebrating student successes and achievements for 2015. I would like to take this opportunity to remind our families that we are holding a parent and teacher afternoon session where yearly reports will be available to be picked up from the hall on 10 December. Please note that we will not be handing our reports to our students. If families are unavailable on the afternoon to pick up reports and



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talk to some of our teachers, then please feel free to come to our front office to collect the reports at a time which is convenient to you.

The last school day will be Wednesday 16 December 2015. School resumes in 2016 for Years 7, 11 and 12 on Thursday 28 January and for Years 8, 9 and 10 on Friday 29 January.

I will continue in my role as the principal of Chester Hill High School in the new year and look forward to working with you all then.

To our Christian families, I would like to wish you a Merry Christmas and to all our community, I wish you all a safe and happy holiday and a very happy new Year.





Ms S C Mobayed

STOP PRESS

Congratulations to recent Cheso graduate **Shalice Tiata** on winning first prize at the Bankstown Poetry Slam on Wednesday 25 November at the Art Gallery of NSW.

Shalice and her two Nine Lives team-mates will now have the opportunity to further-develop their skills at a writing retreat in Spain.



 C.H.H.S. S A F E	 C.H.H.S. R E S P E C T F U L	 C.H.H.S. L E A R N E R	 C.H.H.S. B E L O N G S
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IEC Report

Even at the end of the year, when the world is winding down, Chester Hill IEC is a place that knows no rest. A term packed with as much business as excitement, the final few months of the year sees the students of Chester Hill IEC venture out to Bondi; welcome guests from Pymble Ladies College; learn to swim; speak and perform in front of crowds of hundreds; and sit a newly revised English Common Test.

This term afforded the students of the IEC the chance to visit the renowned Sculptures by the Sea exhibition hosted along the iconic coastline of Bondi Beach. It was a sweltering day and the humidity emptied drink bottles quickly, but the sea breeze and the thrill of discovering new and strange sculptures kept both students and teachers marching forward. A few sprays of water from giant bottles helped too!

Besides the excursion, the IEC played host to a cohort of girls from Pymble Ladies College who came to provide learning support to the students of the Centre. In class, the girls worked as peer mentors, helping to communicate and teach class content—in the playground they were friends in conversation and teammates in sport. A few lucky students from the IEC were given the chance to travel to Pymble Ladies College to participate in a specialised learn-to-swim program.

On Wednesday 18th November, students also participated in the annual Inter-IEC Public Speaking Showcase—an event founded by Chester Hill IEC—**Fady Fares** and **Merry Awi** rep-



resented the Centre by delivering speeches on 'Motivation' and 'Refugees' in front of an audience of 600 drawn from all the IECs in New South Wales.

On Friday, 20 November, despite the searing 41°C heat, the students of Chester Hill IEC sat for a newly revised English Common Test: new content, new skills, and an entirely new experience, based largely upon what the students will experience when they leave the IEC and enter their first high school environment.

Staff and students of Chester Hill IEC wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

By **Mr Serrato**

Space Camp

My name is **Shania Ahipene-Ruru** and I was one of the very lucky students who were able to experience a possible once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to travel to South Korea and America during the September holidays as part of Space-camp. I was accompanied by **Mr D'Souza**; who is my current Assistant Year Adviser; 16 students from different schools in the Sydney South West region, two students from inter-state schools and 8 teachers from schools in New South Wales.

On this journey, I boarded about 8 flights throughout the 18 day expedition across the globe.

My first stop was an amazing country with vibrant fresh food and traditions - South Korea. I was able to see the biggest city in the nation, Seoul and it's incredible night life. Also Samsung D'lite, National Museum of Korea, Gyeongbok Palace, Temples and Gangnam Street (where Gangnam Style by Psy was shot).

After departing Incheon airport, we headed to the States to explore the beauty of California and Alabama. In Los Angeles, I was fortunate enough to visit Santa Monica Pier, Hollywood, Griffith Observatory, Universal Studios and Disneyland. In San Diego, I visited the USS Midway and Sea World and in San Francisco I went to NASA Research, Google Headquarters, Alcatraz and Golden Gate Bridge. It was definitely a worthwhile venture as a tourist for the week.

For the remainder of the holidays, we were at the U.S Space and Rocket Centre, Huntsville, Alabama with hearts full of excitement. We were involved in the "Advanced Academy" that involved many activities both individual and teamwork-based. We learnt about the history of space shuttles, space stations and Astronomy. We were briefed on the different roles needed for the four mission simulations we performed



during the week, from flying a space shuttle to supporting the shuttle in Mission Control. We conquered the Area 51 activities that were designed to help us tackle our fear of heights and promote team encouragement. These included Low Ropes, Zipline and The Pamper Pole (Leap of Faith).

One activity that I accomplished at the Spacecamp was Scuba Diving. This consisted of a 7 metre tank in which we had to swim down to the bottom, with nothing but our oxygen masks. Those of us who succeeded in making it to the bottom were rewarded with games and free time.

There were many more fun activities at the camp, but I do not want to give away too much as it is better for you to experience this fantastic experience for yourself. You truly won't regret it! It was one of the most exciting and boundary-breaking experiences I have ever been through. And to top it off, I met some incredible mates on the journey, that I remain close with.

By **Shania Ahipene-Ruru**

Wheelchair Rugby Excursion

Students from Year 10 PASS journeyed to Olympic Park to spectate our state wheelchair rugby team. They were competing in a tournament against our other states and territories as well as international teams from New Zealand. Our students showed outstanding support during each match and received an abundance of prizes from the event organisers.

Matthew Rayner and **Shelley-Anne Ahipene-Ruru** were lucky enough to have the opportunity to take the court and try out wheelchair rugby for themselves. They quickly learnt that it is a tough and demanding sport, which requires multiple complex movement skills and a high degree of upper body strength.

The students were then taken on a tour of the training facilities for the Greater Western Sydney Giants AFL team. After a motivational speech from a former athlete, our students took to the field to kick some goals and let off some steam. **Thomas Kemp Brown** was showing some promise as a potential AFL player, slotting goals from around the park. The students thanked **Mr Bullen** and **Mr Chahrouk** for an educational and inspiring day.

By **Mr Bullen**.



9 PASS GWS Nutrition Workshop.

On Thursday, 3 September, Year 9 Physical Activity and Sports Studies students attended the Greater Western Sydney Giants AFL teams' Life-long Learning centre at Sydney Olympic Park. Upon arrival, students were given a presentation by Chef Daniel on the importance of healthy eating habits and the easy steps to cook your own nutritious meals at home. Students were given the opportunity to create and cook their own meal on site. This excursion allowed students to engage collaboratively to develop their cooking skills, empowering them with the knowledge needed to cook their own nutritious meals at home.

By **Mr Chahrouk**



Volleyball

On Sunday, 15 November, a team of Year 11 students: **Qudrat Haidary, Ali Agha Sayeedi, Javed Tamaki, Ahmad Zareh, Hafiz Jamshidi, Mohammed Vaezi** and **Farhad Hus-saini** and a team of Year 12 students: **Ahmad Javid, Anthony Ho, Ben Ly, Jimmy Nguyen, Timon Hua & Tatau Teapu** participated in the NSW Volleyball State Schools Cup. They played in the Open Boys Division 2 against very competitive and experienced teams from high schools across the state. It

was a great experience for them, with the tournament going from eight o'clock in the morning, and finishing late in the afternoon. The boys placed fourth and fifth in their division, representing the school admirably and showing great endurance and fitness.

They have shown significant improvement in their skills and teamwork after many months of weekly training after school in their own time.

By **Ms Poon**.



Textiles

Chester Hill High School can be extremely proud of their candidates in Year 12 Textiles and Design for 2015. The students have just completed their Major Textile's Projects, Portfolios and a study of designers as well as the Textile industry including scientific developments, marketing and well as the career requirements for a career as a Fashion Designer.

Our young designers include **Santo Mekonen** who produced a Kung Fu style jacket with a decorative twist by including an appliqué design of the Japanese Yin and Yan. **Maryem Abdellatif** designed an Egyptian inspired silk painted gown with a heavily jewelled collar fit for a pharaoh's queen. **Linh Hoang's** hand beaded lace strapless gown with a sheer train and **Mun Mun Lahtaw's** breath-taking machine embroidered cultural inspired creation meets tradition with elegance. **Amy Anderson** chose to combine a traditional

Japanese silk painted kimono with an Elizabethan gothic styled corset.

Rahima Adili produced a multilayered dress with beading and traditional styling and **Alissar Elazzaz** produced a child's quilt and playmat depicting brightly coloured fabric collage designs which would be the central attraction in any space.

Projects have been displayed and are currently being marked by Board of Studies examiners. Congratulations to Year 12 Textile students 2015, may you find success as young design entrepreneurs in your future endeavours.

By **Ms Taimins**



Peer Support

On 12 and 13 November, 46 eager Year 10 students participated in a two day Peer Support Training session. The students were trained by **Ms Sullivan, Ms Kivilcim, Mrs Stewart** and myself.

All the Year 10 students impressed the teachers with their level of dedication and enthusiasm for the training. All the students learnt about how to become a leader and how important a Peer Support leader is in helping with the transition of Year 7 students. The two days are always fun, with new friendships forming and lots of stories shared.

A big thank you to Mrs Stewart, Ms Sullivan and Ms Kivilcim for all their hard work over the two days.

By **Ms Watts.**



The Run For Life Project

On Saturday, 7 November, **Farhad Hussaini, Ali Mossavi, Reza Mossavi, Sayed Khalil Musavi** and **Suleiman Yabarow** took another significant step towards achieving their goal of completing the Cadbury Half Marathon in January, by participating in an interim-goal race at the Sydney Striders 10km.

The boys have demonstrated an extraordinary amount of commitment so far by participating in theory and practical training sessions after school, by dedicating themselves to their own training and by rising early on weekend mornings to participate in events such as this.

The Striders 10k is set in the picturesque Lane Cove National Park, and is conducted on an out-and-back course which tested the boys with some steep climbs.

All the boys completed the race with smiles on their faces and a determination to continue towards their half marathon event in the new year. Follow their progress at www.facebook.com/therunforlifeproject.

By **Mr Criniti**



Art Pathways

Art Pathways is a program run by the Art Gallery of NSW which provides creative learning opportunities for Year 5-12 students and teachers in Western Sydney.

The aim of this program is to create access to the Art Gallery of NSW collection and resources as well as connecting with the life of Western Sydney.

Our students were invited to attend a day at the gallery on Friday 30 October. The students were broken up into small groups and provided with guides who provided them with stimulating enrichment activities. This was part 2 of the program at Chester Hill High School. On the first day, two gallery guides came to the classes and provided our students with a day of excellent art activities.

By **The Art Faculty**



Student recount

On October 30, two year 8 classes went to the Sydney Art Gallery of NSW. The trip to the gallery was long but when we got there it was worth it.

When we arrived, we had morning tea beside a statue. Then we entered the art gallery and viewed some art. After that, we watched an awesome performance. The performers asked some of us to perform with them. Next we had lunch at the park across the street. Then we went back in and walked around and look at some captivating art works and statues. Some artwork was a video of people and debris that refers to the Twin Towers and another one was a painting about constellations. Then lastly, we walked outside and went back on the bus back to school. I really enjoyed the excursion, it was one of the most interesting and fascinating experiences I have had in my life.

By **Jordan Morris**



Japanese Excursion

On Friday, 13 November, Year 9 and 11 Japanese students attended the Japanese Film Festival excursion, which consisted of a Japanese movie and meal, long walks, train rides and crowded streets. With us were **Ms Sobrevega** and **Ms Li** and together we travelled to and from Event Cinemas on George Street.

We were introduced to the movie which was called, 'Wood

Job', by a man who spoke in Japanese and then English before suggesting we play some games like answering a few quick questions and naming the variety of prefectures in Japan.

Not long after the games were finished, the movie started. The movie was about 2 hours long, and while entertaining, it still demonstrated some major themes about Japanese society and culture.

After the movie we went to Hyde Park to eat lunch, which

consisted of a Japanese bento (lunch-box) that was either vegetarian, beef or chicken, along with other side dishes.

Through this excursion, we gained a fun experience and learnt more about Japanese language and culture. I'm sure that all the students who went on the excursion would like to participate in the following years to come

By **Joanne Truong.**



STEM Excursion

On Wednesday, 4 November, our Maths class, 9M1, had the opportunity to participate in the STEM program held by the University of Sydney. The aim of the STEM program is to motivate young learners to consider choosing the fields of either Science, Technology, Engineering or Mathematics as their university course.

We travelled to the venue by bus. Upon arrival, we were greeted by kind and friendly USYD students and volunteers but also, unfortunately, by strong winds and pouring rain.

The program began with a motivational talk by mathematician, Dr Clio Cresswell as she explained the importance of Mathematics, not only in our studies but also in real life. Dr Clio solved some myths such as the 'Infinite Chocolate' myth, using mathematics and showed us how mathematics help shape the world we have today and the vast possibilities that it allows.



After the presentation, our class went to a chemistry lab to do two experiments; the 'Silver Mirror' to test for organic substances and 'Luminol Chemiluminescence Reaction' to test for blood at crime scenes.

Both of the experiments were mesmerising; the silver precipitate stained the glass flask to produce a silver mirror surface and the eerie blue glow when the luminol solution reacted with potassium hydroxide.



After the chemistry experiments, we made our way to the building of architecture and completed a challenge to test our skills and knowledge about architecture by making the tallest and strongest tower out of raw spaghetti that could withstand the weight of a marshmallow. It was surprisingly more difficult than it first seemed but we had so much fun and laughter. One team even managed to beat the earlier record of the tallest structure.

Fortunately, we also had enough time for a quick tour of the workshop and got to see a laser cutter in action. It was lunch time so we walked back to the main hall and enjoyed ice-cream made with liquid hydrogen.

The program ended with another talk and Q & A with Dr Karl Kruszelnicki who has basically studied all of the STEM fields. Dr Karl talked to us about his life and his strong passion for learning and love of knowledge. He also introduced us to his book series and his unique way of teaching science - through a story.

After some Q & A, we left the university and went back to school. Not only did we learn about the courses available and the many opportunities they can bring, but we also learned about the real life experiences and stories about this wonderful path of STEM which has definitely encouraged and motivated us to be more involved in STEM courses. It was definitely a memorable experience.

By **Tina Le**

Walking on Air

This term, Chester Hill High School would love to commend **Sah Wee Thoo** of 8R. Sah Wee is a very courteous, caring and helpful young lady who is always cooperative. She is a diligent pupil who has demonstrated that she is serious about her studies, always showing persistence and commitment. In acknowledgement for her hard work and effort, Sah Wee has been awarded a brand new MacBook Air, very kindly donated by [Christian Marchegiani](#) (Channel Nine's Excess Baggage Coach and Proprietor of HIRT Fitness courses).

In 2013, Christian worked at CHHS mentoring a group of Karen refugee students and has formed a very special bond and connection with our school. He has inspired several students and teachers by speaking at several year meetings, the Year 10 Formal Interview days (2013, 2014 & 2015) and at the Welfare Development Conference in 2014. We are very grateful for Christian's donation and it has always been a pleasure having him work with the kids at Cheso.

By **Ms Margaronis**



The Helmsman Project

On Monday, October 19, eight Year 9 boys embarked on a once in a lifetime sailing trip aboard the James Craig, a 140 year old Australian Heritage tall ship. Across five days and four nights **Fawzy Malas, Bryton Morrison, Adam Ismail, Adam Ganaim, Andre Kotevski, Abdallah Sukkarieh, Christopher Robinson** and **Malik Dehaibi** learnt an array of seamanship skills and participated in adventure activities, which stretched their capacities to work as a team and overcome challenges. This included navigating the ship, hauling ropes, night watch rotations (which meant getting up at



2am!), kitchen duty, furling sails and braving the heights to climb 15m up the tallest mast of the ship.

They experienced the stunning natural beauty of Sydney Harbour and witnessed a spectacular sunset in Jervis Bay. Toward the final days of their trip, the boys sailed through a turbulent storm, jam-packed with gale force winds and big ocean swells that made for an exhilarating ride on board the James Craig. The Helmsman Project has provided the boys with new skills, increased confidence and memories to last a lifetime.

By **Ms A Truong**



SRC Election Speech

When students were recently asked to compose an SRC speech, one grabbed the attention of staff and students alike. Below are the powerful words of Year 9's **Hania Zahra**:

Good morning **Mr. Milne**, respected teachers and my fellow peers.

Today I stand here before you all to present my speech or thoughts of why should I be chosen as your representative. Before I ask you to vote for me or to support me I would ask a basic question: What comes into your mind when you first hear the word leader or leadership?

Probably most of you would say a person who is better than you, a person who is ahead of you, or a person who leads you or rules over you. But according to me I have a totally different interpretation of a leader. To me I guess as the quote by Jim Rhon says:

"The challenge of leadership is to be strong, but not rude; be kind, but not weak; be bold, but not bully; be thoughtful, but not lazy; be humble, but not timid; be proud, but not arrogant; have humour, but without folly."

I'm **Hania Zahra** and I joined Chesos at the start of this year. I know it hasn't been a long time since I joined but honestly it already feels like a second home. A place where you find a ton of cheerful and friendly people willing to learn and teach. My hobbies include drawing, arts and crafts, reading and as well as getting along with others. Therefore, it would be a great pleasure joining the SRC for the year 2016.

Today, I'm not going to stand here and make a bunch of promises, which are probably going to become political promises. But what I can assure you of, is to bring positive and enjoyable changes to the school. Such as, making the school holidays two times longer and the canteen free. Nah,

I'm joking. I can't do that.

I'm a friendly and an easy person who anyone can come up to with their ideas and problems and I would be more than happy to help if I can or to act upon the creative ideas for our school's better reputation.

I would also like to clarify that while being in the SRC I don't think I should be considered above everyone else but I shall be a representative of you guys. I shall be responsible to represent you all and to act on behalf of you all.

If under any unfortunate circumstances I'm not given your precious vote than I don't think I should be considered as a loser as in my favorite quote, it says:

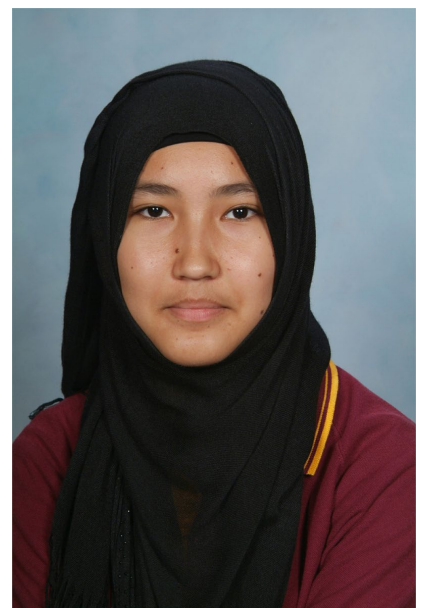
"If I have given my all and still do not win, I haven't lost.

Others might remember winning or losing; I remember the journey."

Because, "Winning provides happiness but losing provides wisdom."

Remember if you forget my name then you should... Oh wait a second, I don't think you will forget my name, will you? But once again I remind you that I'm Hania Zahra and vote for me if you think I will be suitable for the SRC 2016.

By **Hania Zahra**



2015 Australian School-based Apprentice of the Year Award

Earlier this year **Brenden Williamson** succeeded as NSW School-Based Apprentice of the Year. Consequently, he was



invited to attend the national event held in Hobart. It is with great pride that we congratulate Brenden Williamson in not only getting to this stage but of being successful in attaining this prestigious award.

We also congratulate Brenden's family who have been so supportive all through the two years. We know that they will be feeling very proud of their son's achievements. With his father an automotive mechanic, Brenden developed a knowledge of cars. This then developed into a passion for motorcycles. Brenden secured his School-Based Apprenticeship through the Yamaha Student Grand Prix Partnership created due to the skills shortage of experienced technicians in the marine and motorcycle industry.

His employer, On Two Wheels Motorsports, has already given Brenden important skills for his future career in the motorcycle industry. We also thank **Mr McLean** (Vocational Educational Coordinator) for representing our school at the event in Hobart and for initiating this opportunity for Brenden.

By **Ms Patrizi**

Chester Hill High School Calendar of Events - Term 4 - 2015

Revised Calendar as @ 27.10.15

Week	Day	Date	Event
8B	Monday	23.11.15	* Year 10 Work Experience - all week 23/11 to 27/11
	Wednesday	25.11.15	* NEWSLETTER AVAILABLE ONLINE
			www.chesterhillhighschool.com/newsletters.php
	Thursday	26.11.15	* Year Meetings (Clearance cards distributed to students)
9A	Thursday	3.12.15	* YEAR 6 ORIENTATION DAY (9.00am)
			* Year 11 Bridging - Work Experience - all week - (7/12 - 11/12)
10B	Monday	7.12.15	* Year 7 & 8 Presentation Day 9.30am
	Tuesday	8.12.15	* YEAR 7 WATER AWARENESS CLINIC (all Year 7 students)
	Wednesday	9.12.15	* Year 11 PD/H/PE Crossroads Camp ** 7V Camp
	Thursday	10.12.15	* Year 11 PD/H/PE Crossroads Camp ** 7V Camp
			* Year 7-10 Parent/Teacher Meeting - 3.15pm - 6.00pm (Parents to collect reports)
	Friday	11.12.15	* Year 11 PD/H/PE Crossroads Camp ** 7V Camp
			* Year 9 & 10 Presentation Day 9.30am
11A	Thursday	17.12.15	* School Development Day
	Friday	18.12.15	* School Development Day

** Please Note: Dates/Times correct at time of publication**

REMINDERS

** School Uniform is compulsory. School Parent Committees, the School Community Forum and staff all believe that school uniform enhances the school's image with the community and gives our students a sense of belonging and pride. All uniform is to be worn as designed, and not altered in any way.

** Uniform shop hours are Tuesday, 8:30am—11:30am and Friday, 1:00pm-4:00pm.

** **MOBILE PHONES** - must be switched off and in school bags at all times whilst on school premises or excursions.