

## Principal's Report

Welcome to the first edition of our newsletter for 2016. A warm welcome to our new students and their families. We have had many new enrolments to our school this year and already they have settled in and are working hard.

Firstly, I would like to report that our Year 12 students from 2015 achieved some outstanding results in the HSC. Our highest ATAR was 94.6 and this was achieved by **Mohamed Malas**. Congratulations to Mohamed, to his family, and, of course, to his teachers for their hard work, commitment and dedication to Mohamed and to all our students. Another excellent achievement in the HSC was **Kristina Tato** who came 5th in the State of NSW in Society and Culture. What a remarkable achievement for Kristina and of course to her teacher, Mr Viller. Well done to the both of you!

Some of our staff have departed and we wish them all the best; we have had some new appointments this year. There has been a change of role for Ms Kenny who is now our Aboriginal Support Teacher. Ms Kenny brings outstanding first-hand knowledge of the Aboriginal culture to support our Aboriginal students and their families at Chester Hill High School.

Chester Hill has purchased a new school bus. This is very exciting because we will have a bus on the school premises to support students when travelling to and from school excursions and sport and extra-curricular activities. Students

will be required to pay a small fee of approximately \$5 to help cover the cost of petrol, insurance and other expenses. It is a 22-seater bus and we are organising teachers as nominated drivers to facilitate this process.

Week 5 of every term is our Community Forum. I would like to take this opportunity to invite our new parents to this meeting as well as our regular parents. This



CHESTER HILL HIGH SCHOOL  
KENWARD AVE

CHESTER HILL 2162

Ph: 9644 1099

Fax: 9743 7174

[www.chesterhillhighschool.com](http://www.chesterhillhighschool.com)

meeting commences at 6pm on Wednesday 24th February and finishes at approximately 7.30pm. Interpreters in Arabic, Vietnamese and Karen will be present to support families who require this service. All our parent/carer community are welcome. Looking forward to seeing you all then.

By **S C Mobayed**

## IEC Report

Happy 2016 to all from the IEC and for those away from home and celebrating the Lunar New Year, a special Xin Nian Kuai Le to you!

The IEC started off with an extra 25 new enrolments and anticipating more to come with the special refugees intake towards the end of February.

In Week 2, from the 2nd February to the 5th February, on the request of DE International, the IEC hosted 8 Chinese students and their parents from various provinces of China.

The visitors participated in classroom learning and the study tour ended successfully with a Presentation of Certificates Ceremony, entertained by multicultural performances provided by IEC students. The event has attracted the interest of Chinese educational providers.

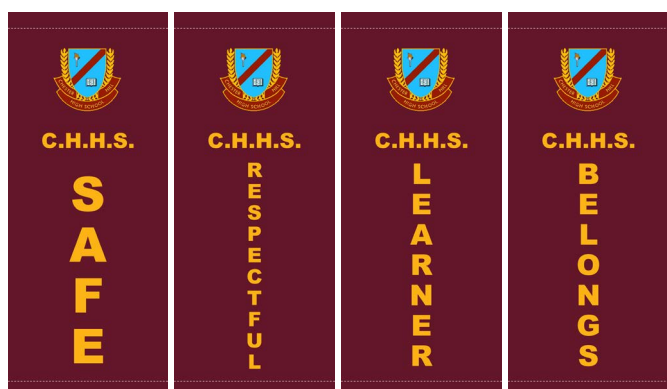
Our next big event will be the much-loved oratory competition, which will be reported upon in the next newsletter.

By **Ms Liao**



## In This Issue

- Congratulations class of 2015 [p2](#)
- Fish Markets Excursion [p3](#)
- Cheso students run for their lives! [p4](#)
- Cheso volunteers [p5](#)
- Aboriginal Meeting [p6](#)
- Open Day [p7](#)
- Calendar [p8](#)
- And more!



## The Welcome Program

Every term Chester Hill High School welcomes IEC students and international students from all around the world, adding more cultural diversity and tolerance.

Students are invited to participate in The Welcome Program which is held in the school library.

This term's program was conducted over two days with around fifty students attending. It commenced with a welcome to the school, after which the students were presented with a Welcome Program booklet which contains important information about how the school operates, including school rules, uniform, the importance of implementing the school motto '*I am a safe, respectful learner who belongs at Cheso*'. The students were then taken on a tour of the school to ensure they knew how to get to their designated classes and to know where their teachers and executive staff are located.

They were also orientated about safety and where to go in case of an emergency.

The students had an enjoyable orientation and walked away with a Chester Hill gift. :)

By **Miss El Samman**



### Eyecare Network – Optometrist

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Mention this ad for 30% off spectacles.

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## Life Savers

On Monday, 8 February, 96 CHHS & IEC staff undertook 2.5 hours of professional development completing their mandatory CPR and anaphylaxis training. An informative and professional training session was presented by Catch Training.

By **Mr Milne**



## Congratulations Class of 2015

It is with great pleasure and pride that I, on behalf of the school, congratulate the 161 students who completed Year 12 in 2015. They were a very special group of students. They sat for HSC Examinations in 39 courses studied at school and 5 Language courses studied at Saturday School. There were over 150 Bands 5 & 6 in a number of courses. A Special Congratulations to our School Dux **Mohamed Malas** and to **Kristina Tato** for achieving 5th Place in the State for Society and Culture.

A huge congratulations also to the following students who also achieved outstanding results and very high ATARs, **Miray Antoun, Anh-Thu Chung, Ruwen (Veronica) Deng, Ahmad Javid, Anthony Ho, Shireen Malas, Kevin Nguyen, Kristine Tran, Laura Tran, Aimee Troung, Aye-Phyu Tun, Alex Vo, Steve Vu** and **Canran Yang**. We are proud that you belong to Cheso.

The Cheso Community wish these students the very best in their future endeavours, whether it be Tertiary Education or employment opportunities. We are very proud of you!

By **Ms C Mateus**

Deputy Principal



STRENGTH IN UNITY, EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION



## Peer Support

As the Relieving Head Teacher Student Engagement, it has been an exciting start to the year, coordinating the Peer Support Program. Both our new students in Year 7, and the Year 11 Peer Support leaders have been fantastic in the running of the sessions.

Students are actively engaged in the activities and the leaders are enjoying an excellent opportunity to develop their leadership skills. I have been hearing wonderful feedback on how Year 7 students have settled into our school.

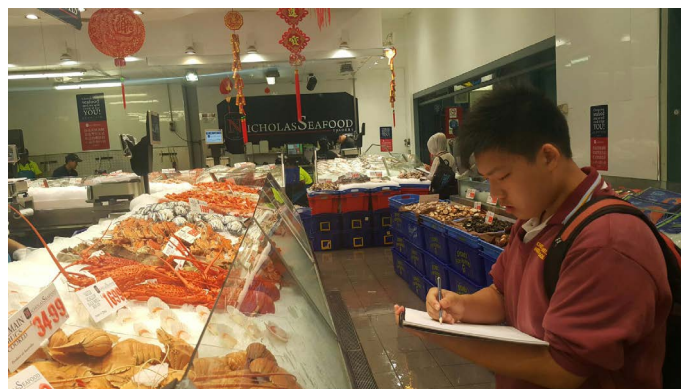
By **Mr Htoo**



## Fish Markets Excursion

On Friday, 12 February 2016, Year 10 Visual Arts students went on an excursion to the Sydney Fish Markets as part of their annual 'Sea Bounty' unit. It was a beautiful sunny morning with students arriving day two of the Chinese New Year celebrations. Students represented their school with pride and enjoyed Australia's biggest variety of fresh seafood whilst sketching the passing parade of pelicans, fishing boats and stunning views across the water. Students finished their drawings at the nearby Waterfront Park and returned to school having enjoyed a gorgeous day outdoors and satisfied with the collection of artworks in their Process Diaries.

By **Ms Truong**



## The Helmsman Project

In 2015, our 5th & 6th cohort of students participated in the Helmsman Project, bringing the total number of students to 48 that have been involved since the program's inception. It's a wonderful initiative that continues to expand each year. The combination of professional mentoring through individual and group sessions and adventure sparks amazing interest in our students. They never come away disappointed and it is always a hot topic of conversation whenever a group comes back from their sailing trip. Last year both groups adventure component was on the tall ship, the James Craig.

The growth and confidence that exudes from our students is incredible after 13 weeks participating in the program. They have many amazing stories of their time on the program and many new skills and attributes that they can draw upon. Self-belief is an amazing thing and with confidence the students grow.

By **Mr Milne**

**THE HELMSMAN  
PROJECT**  
*Young people. Making a difference.*

### 2015 Helmsman Graduates

Girls:

**Wendy Amid  
Jennifer Banh  
Catherine Dao  
Trish Duong  
Natalie Heredia  
Vivien Nguyen  
Sally Trinh**

Boys:

**Andre Kotevski  
Adam Ganaim  
Chris Robinson  
Bryton Morrison  
Malik Dehaibi  
Fawzy Malas  
Abdullah Sukkarieh  
Adam Ismail**





## The Run For Life Project Report



While many students were relaxing over the summer holidays, The Run For Life Project's initial cohort of students remained hard at work, training for the culminating task - Hobart's Cadbury Half Marathon.

For the uninitiated, a half marathon is a 21.1km run. It is a feat as taxing on the mind as it is on the body, and one for which many people train for years to achieve.



**Farhad Hussaini, Ali Mossavi, Reza Mossavi, Sayed Khalil Musavi and Suleiman Yabarow**, on the other hand, didn't have years - merely a few short months. They were aiming to complete this as part of something bigger - a project which involved them learning about goal-setting, commitment and resilience; skills which will serve them well into the future.

They gave up their own time after school and on weekends for theory sessions, training, and practise races over 10km at Smithfield, Homebush and Lane Cove.

Having built their fitness over the preceding months, the students rose well before dawn on Saturday, 9 January to make their way to Charles Kingsford Smith airport for the flight down to Hobart where they would be competing the following day.

The idea of the Hobart trip was to provide students with a suitable reward for all their hard work, which of course was only possible due to the generosity of a number of sponsors.

One generous sponsor was the world renowned Museum of Old and New Art ([MONA](#)) whose thought-provoking pieces kept the boys entertained and their nerves at bay on Saturday.

However, Sunday soon appeared and there was no hiding the nerves then as the team rose before dawn to travel to the race precinct at the Cadbury Chocolate Factory and make their final preparations.

At 6:30am the gun fired and the race commenced. With well over an hour of uninterrupted running ahead for even the leaders, and closer to two for most of our boys, there was a long way to go.

Thankfully, though, the boys were well prepared and paced themselves sensibly.

It was my good fortune to be running with our newest recruit, Farhad Hussaini as the course wound its way around the suburbs of Clairemont, then south towards the Hobart Entertainment Centre.

With less preparation than the other boys in the program, the half-marathon was a big leap for Farhad, who had only run a maximum of 12km before race day. He started off with a measured approach, pushing himself but leaving some in reserve.



We exchanged waves with the other members of the team as we crossed the Derwent River on the Bowen Bridge. Khalil was smiling out in front, followed by Ali and Reza. Soon after, Farhad hit the turnaround point and we headed for home.

Amazingly, Farhad picked up the pace in the second half, finishing it faster than the first half to be cheered on enthusiastically by all the boys who had finished earlier.

Later, these four acted in a supporting capacity to cheer Suleiman on as he completed the 10km event. One of the faster members of the team, Suleiman was unfortunate to be afflicted with ITB, a common injury among runners, but still managed to run an impressive 40:05 for the 10km, picking up a placing in his age group as a result.

Post-race, the boys were able to relish in their achievements and relax as they enjoyed another two days exploring Hobart and surrounds, including a trip to the top of Mt Wellington, Fish'n'Chips on the iconic Franklin Wharf, and excursions to Bruny Island and Port Arthur.

Congratulations boys. It was an honour to work with you.

This project would not have been possible without the generous support of [The Sydney Striders](#), [The Sydney Marathon Clinic](#), [Tzu Chi Australia](#), [Knox Grammar School](#), [Running Science](#), [Cadbury Marathon](#), [Chester Hill High School](#) and all the individuals who donated time and money.

By **Mr Criniti**.

## Debating and Public Speaking

The Debating and Public Speaking calendar has already begun for 2016. Students have been involved in a workshop incursion that aimed to continue to build their skills, as well as a way to meet and greet everyone from the different stages. Skills gained included how to develop an argument, a model and how to rebut. In addition, students learnt how to project their voice and express their ideas through body language. More workshops will be held throughout the year to keep all students engaged and learning.

The teams have yet to be finalised, but the coaches are eager. Thanks must be given to **Mr Criniti**, **Ms Tulloch** and **Ms Kenny** who will coach the junior debating teams, whilst **Ms Leong** will coach both the junior and senior public speaking students.

I will keep you posted with more information when the

draws are devised.

By **Ms Kivilcim**



## U@Uni Summer School Program

Building robots, creating a business and investigating a criminal case are just a few of the things that 17 students from Chester Hill High School got up to these summer holidays.

Nearly 200 Year 11 students in total were welcomed onto the UTS campus as part of the two-week U@Uni Summer School Program. The program consists of interactive and engaging workshops within the disciplines of Business, Science, Engineering and IT, Media Production, Health and Design.

Eight years after its establishment, the program has grown into an opportunity for students to analyse a forensic 'crime scene', create professional films using the university's cutting edge equipment, push their creative limits by designing

lamps and fashion items, or even take care of high-tech robotic 'patients' in a simulated hospital setting.

A graduation ceremony and exhibition was held on the final day with family and friends coming together to celebrate the incredible achievements of these dedicated students.

UTS is excited to help provide each student with support throughout their senior high-school years, regularly inviting them back to UTS for workshops, events and info sessions to help set positive, informed goals for their higher education.

A very special big thank you to all the secondary school teachers who contribute so much to help make the program a huge success.

By **Katia Sanfilippo**

University of Technology Sydney

## Volunteers in Public Service

Volunteering is a wonderful way in which a person can contribute to their community and learn about themselves.

We have a small number of amazing young people at Chester Hill High School who have made the commitment to volunteer and help others in the community. For two of these young people volunteering is something they have done throughout this year.

Last term **Ayat Al Rashed** of Year 11 and **Rebekah Albert**, **Nikki Doan**, **Say Ka Baw Lwe Kyi** and **Olivia Percy** of Year 10 were involved in volunteering in child care with the Chester Hill Neighbourhood Centre. The girls were involved in providing activities for school students ranging from infants to upper primary in an after school care program.

It was a great pleasure observing how well these girls interacted with the after school care students. They initiated activities, engaged these young people in craft, sport, dance and reading activities just to name a few. The girls were under the supervision of **Esta**, a youth worker from the Chester Hill Roundabout Youth Centre, and the staff at the Neighbourhood Centre. At the end of each volunteering session the students attended a debrief session in the Chester Hill Library. In the debrief they discussed what skills they learnt, what challenges they encountered and planned for the next session.

Ayat, Nikki, Rebekah, Olivia and Say volunteered every Wednesday afternoon from 4 to 5.30 pm. They demonstrated commitment and enthusiasm. They developed rapport with the young people they worked with and these young people



greated our students with eager anticipation.

I would like to acknowledge Say, in particular for her extraordinary dedication to volunteering. She volunteered for this program and also two previous programs throughout last year. Wonderful! I would also like to acknowledge Nikki as she has also volunteered for a previous program. All the girls will receive a certificate in recognition of their volunteering as well as a referee to add to their resumes.

I know when I observe the interactions between our students and the young people at the neighbourhood centre that positive things are happening. The enthusiasm, interest, energy and commitment is to be commended. Thank you and well done girls!

Let's see if we can get some more people to volunteer in 2016.

By **Mrs Corcoran**



## SRC Valentine's Day Fundraiser

On Friday, 12 February, the SRC held a fundraiser to sell roses, teddy bears and balloons to celebrate Valentine's Day. The day was a huge success as we sold out of roses before the second half of lunch. Proceeds of the fundraiser will go to the Red Cross' humanitarian aid efforts in Syria and to a local family who have lost everything in a recent house fire.

By **Ms Poon**



## Aboriginal Meeting

On Thursday, 11 February, we had the pleasure of welcoming back our Aboriginal Parent Community at a Parent Information Afternoon Tea. Thank you to all the parents who came and **Auntie Lynn, Carol** and **Leslie** who are Aboriginal Officers from the Department and from the Local AECG. It was wonderful to meet up with our parents again and meet our new Year 7 Aboriginal students and their families.

**Ms Mobayed**, our Principal, warmly welcomed the Aboriginal community and shared the school vision and the importance of us working together and supporting our students to maintain high attendance rates and academic achievement. **Ms Mateus**, our Deputy Principal, explained the support that is available to our students and the many opportunities our students have to engage in and improve learning. Our senior students can study in the Senior Learning Centre where teachers are timetabled to provide ongoing support. Students also have access to tutoring sessions to assist them to prepare for the HSC. It is wonderful to see that many Year 12 students already have tutors. **Ms Kenny**, our Aboriginal Teacher, explained the support she is providing students in class during the 2 days she is employed. She will also support the students in all facets of their school life, including the preparation of their PLPs. She has already coordinated a special camp at the University of Western Sydney for all our Aboriginal students to learn new skills and spend time together fostering their Aboriginal culture and traditions. Our Aboriginal Officers and Auntie Lyn, shared their personal journey and the importance of learning and having high expectations. We thank them for their time and ongoing support.

Our school community is committed to provide the best education and support available to assist our students and their families in collaboration with our Aboriginal Community and the local AECG.

We are looking forward to working together in 2016.

**Ms C Mateus** and **Ms A K-Thwaites**



## School Photos, Wednesday, 24 February

School photographs are scheduled to be taken by advancedlife Photography.

Whilst an envelope and flyer will be distributed shortly, if possible it is our preference that ordering be completed online to reduce administration and potential security issues related to the return of cash and envelopes on photo day.

Orders for packages and sibling photographs can be placed securely online at [www.advancedlife.com.au](http://www.advancedlife.com.au) using our school's unique 9 digit Online Order Code.

Portrait and group package orders are due by photography day.

Should you wish to purchase a sibling photograph online, the order must be placed no later than the day before photography day.

Sibling photographs will only be taken if an order has been placed.

Should you have any queries concerning school photographs or online ordering, please direct them via email to [enquiries@advancedlife.com.au](mailto:enquiries@advancedlife.com.au)



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# Chester Hill High School

## OPEN DAY FOR YEAR 6 STUDENTS

Dear Parent/Carer

When: Tuesday, 1 March 2016

Time: 12.45pm

Where: School Hall, Miller Road Entrance

The students will have the opportunity to:-

- ♦ visit the classrooms and observe displays of student's work
- ♦ see the major facilities and resources of the school

Parents **MUST** accompany their child.

Ms S C Mobayed  
Principal Rlg



*Chester Hill High School*

*Strength in Unity, Excellence in Education*



# Chester Hill High School

## Calendar of Events - Term 1 - 2016



Week	Day	Date	Event
1B	Thursday	28.1.16	* Years 7, 11 & 12 commence
	Friday	29.1.16	* Years 8, 9 & 10 return
3B	Monday	8.2.16	* Year 12 Drama Excursion - 'Onstage'
	Tuesday	9.2.16	* Year 7 - SRC Nominations due this week
	Friday	12.2.16	* Year 10 Art Excursion - Fishmarkets
4A	Wednesday	17.2.16	* <b>NEWSLETTER AVAILABLE ONLINE - School's Website</b> <i>www.chesterhillhighschool.com - click on news - then newsletters</i>
	Thursday	18.2.16	* Year 9 Visual Arts Excursion - Mt Annan
	Friday	19.2.16	* <b>SCHOOL SWIMMING CARNIVAL - Fairfield Leisure Centre</b>
5B	Wednesday	24.2.16	* <b>COMMUNITY FORUM MEETING (6.00pm) (All parents welcome)</b> <b>includes Arabic, Vietnamese, Karen, Pacific Islander parents</b>
			* School Photographs
	Friday	26.2.16	* Year 12 Group Photograph and Absentees
6A	Monday	29.2.16	* <b>Zone Swimming - Roselands</b>
	Tuesday	1.3.16	* <b>YEAR 6 OPEN DAY</b>
	Wednesday	2.3.16	* <b>LEADERSHIP ASSEMBLY (9.15am - 10.30am)</b>
	Thursday	3.3.16	* Year 11 Biology Excursion - Bicentennial Park
7B	Thursday	10.3.16	* <b>ATHLETICS CARNIVAL - at the Crest Bankstown</b>
8A	Monday	14.3.16	* <b>Regional Swimming Carnival - Bradbury</b>
	Wednesday	16.3.16	* <b>YEAR 7 PARENT/TEACHER AFTERNOON (4.00pm - 5.30pm)</b> <i>includes Assessment Policy Distribution and Naplan Information</i>
	Friday	18.3.16	* Year 11 Visual Arts Excursion - Art Express
9B	Wednesday	23.3.16	* <b>NEWSLETTER AVAILABLE ONLINE - School's Website</b> <i>www.chesterhillhighschool.com - click on news - then newsletters</i>
	Friday	25.3.16	* <b>PUBLIC HOLIDAY - Good Friday</b>
10A	Monday	28.3.16	* <b>PUBLIC HOLIDAY - Easter Monday</b>
	Tuesday	29.3.16	* Year 12 Half-Yearly Exams - Week 10 and Week 11
11B	Monday	4.4.16	* Year 12 Half-Yearly Exams - Week 10 and Week 11
	Friday	8.4.16	* Last day of Term 1 – Friday 8.4.16      First Day Term 2 – Wednesday 27.4.16

Please Note: Calendar Dates/Times are correct at time of publication

**Note: The Uniform Shop is open in the School Hall  
every Tuesday 8.00am - 12.00pm and Friday 12.00pm - 4.00pm**