

Principal's Report

Upon becoming Principal at Chester Hill High School, I knew that I was coming to the school with a wonderful reputation for hard working and committed staff providing wonderful learning experiences and opportunities for the student community. Seeing this truth in action has been inspirational and heart warming. CHHS is a nurturing place where wonderful things happen every week in both the main school and the IEC.

I have met the loveliest students. They are quick to smile and greet you with sincerity. They perform, create and produce work that reflects their commitment to taking risks, trying new things and challenging themselves. I have also had the privilege of meeting so many parents as they pass through the main office or attend special functions and meetings. Each one of the parents I have met is devoted to their children and wants the best for them. So many of these parents were quick to demonstrate their support for the school and our philosophy that the best outcomes for their children stem from working in partnership with us. We encourage parents



to attend our evening community forums where we discuss issues and information related to the secondary education with our school's context. We are also working towards running workshops and meetings during the weekdays to encourage the attendance of parents who cannot come at night. More information will be

provided when the details of this initiative are finalised.

Much of our focus at the end of this term has been on Year 12, final preparations before the HSC and their celebrations marking the end of six significant years in their lives. While their journey at Chester Hill High School draws to a close, their preparations for final exams are a rite of passage. Not only are they overwhelmed by the challenge of their 'final hurdle' - the looming exams - they are drawn together by sentimentality and a realisation that the security of their daily routine and their relationships will never be the same.

And while this may seem sad, the reality is a positive and exciting one. Change is inevitable and inevitably, change is good. Even the most difficult experiences provide insight into who we are and what we are capable of. The most important experience relating to the HSC is completing it and understanding that it was possible all along. At the very least, if the outcome is not the best, you take responsibility and realise that you could have done better. At best, you realise that hard work pays off and embrace the fruits of your labour.

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There is a lesson in the HSC for everyone.

As time passes, the real value of their experiences will shape their perspectives and understanding of how they will approach their future lives. The real lessons learned during their adolescence and the impact of their teachers will truly take hold.

Most adults will agree that these are some of the best years of students' lives. The Chester Hill High School Community wish each and every graduate of the Class of 2016 the very best in their upcoming exams and future lives. This will always be your home and you will always be welcome. We urge you to understand that you hold the key to all our futures and hope that you will be diligent and promote positive values that will improve our community, including prioritising peace, education, love and respect for all individuals.

As we prepare to say goodbye to the Class of 2016, we find ourselves also farewelling a staff member who has devoted most, if not all of her career to Chester Hill High School.

Mrs Linda Fields began at Chester Hill High School 37 years ago. During this time, in addition to being an incredible teacher, she has shaped the quality and intensity of our school's Wellbeing and Welfare programs. We could not possibly measure the impact that Mrs Fields has had. All we can do is estimate (conservatively) that she has touched the lives of every student, staff member and parent that have walked through these gates since her first entry in 1979.

Her calm and nurturing manner is only exceeded by her warmth, love and commitment to every child at our school - past, present and future. Mrs Field's intelligence and expertise in pedagogy has meant that she is highly respected by the staff who have also valued her contributions. Ultimately, whatever school improvement has been achieved in the past 37 years, Mrs Fields has the right to share credit.

For me, the measure of Mrs Field's value is that despite knowing her for only 10 weeks as I write this, I do it with confidence because of what I have experienced in my observations and personal dealings.

While we will hold a more formal series of farewells for Mrs Fields at the end of the year, we wish her all the best as she takes some leave prior to her retirement. On behalf of the entire Chester Hill High School community, please accept our gratitude, our appreciation and our humble thanks. We wish you all the best in your future and hope that it involves you returning to us as often as possible.

Ms Z Dabaja

IEC Report

This term has been jam packed with events and programs at the IEC, all of which aim to develop the communication skills of our newly arrived students. Term three has seen students visit the Optus Headquarters at Macquarie Park, display their passion for reading and love of literature at Book Week and compete for the title of Best Orator at the Oratory Competition.

The students involved in the Your Face Your Story program have been working hard to finalise their written stories as well as their artworks ahead of the graduation ceremony at Optus in November. On September 2, the students were accompanied by **Mr Lui** and **Mr Ocampo** to Macquarie Park to attend a public speaking workshop delivered by their Optus mentors. Our IEC students proudly represented the school by standing in front of a room full of strangers and revealing their life stories. It was a truly heartwarming moment watching the students overcome their fears and anxieties and take the stage as their own.



In week 6, the IEC put on a spectacular show as part of the 2016 Book Week. With teachers dressed as Harry Potter characters and witches, the students were inspired by the wonderful worlds created by their favourite novels. Each class

IEC / High School Basketball Challenge

In Term 3, selected members of the High School and IEC Basketball teams squared off in a 3 game series. The series was created to establish stronger sporting links between high school and IEC students. These games will enable students from both teams to represent the school at a zone level in future school competitions.

Each game was fiercely competitive and resulted in many exciting moments for other students to watch and enjoy. **Javier** and **Sebastian Lopez Araneda** led the high school team with many displays of athleticism and teamwork. The boys' biological chemistry was evident with many no-look passes and great decision-making.

Andy Cam, Andy Ho, San Dinh, Jimmy Zhan, Patrick Lim and **Alaa Agha** were all supportive team members and worked hard to squeeze out the 2 games to 1 victory.

Mr Serrato has dedicated many hours after school to support and train his IEC team. He and his team are to be commended for the effort and diligence they displayed during the series.

put together a short reenactment or scene from their class novels and performed them in the school hall. Teachers and students alike were very impressed with the acting skills and the enthusiasm of the students who performed on the day.

On Wednesday, September 7, fifteen brave IEC students voiced their views on a range of topics at the Oratory Contest. From the value of teachers in a modern world to the idea of world peace, students showed off their skills with rhetoric in front of a crowd of impressive judges and special guests. Congratulations to the winner of the competition, **Fatima Saif**. Her sense of humour and effortless delivery really carried across her points about the impact of social media. Thank you to all those involved, particularly the English teachers who worked hard to prepare the students for the competition.



As the term comes to an end, there were some opportunities to relax for the students at the IEC. To wrap up the Film Study unit, the IEC enjoyed an excursion to the cinema on Friday, September 16. Finally with the term's graduation ceremony on Friday, September 23, it looks like the students will be busy and engaged all the way until the start of the school holidays!

Mr Ocampo

Overall, the series was played with the utmost sportsmanship and intensity. A teacher vs student game is scheduled for Term 4 to strengthen the strong links that have been formed by this series.

Mr Rau



Book Week

On Friday, August 26, Chester Hill High School staff and Year 12 celebrated Book Week by dressing up as literary characters. The theme this year was Australia! Story Country. **The SASS staff** looked amazing as the gumnut babies from the classic Australian book 'Snugglypot and Cuddlepup' by May Gibbs. **Mr Rosewall** also joined the Australiana theme, bouncing around the school as one of the title characters from 'Dot and the Kangaroo'. A special mention goes to **Ms Dabaja** for braving the world in her B1 Bananas in Pyjamas costume, despite not having B2 to help her down the stairs.

Throughout the day, the school was abuzz with discussions of novels and it was wonderful to see so many students discovering a range of new characters. Thank you to all the staff and Year 12s who embraced the day and dressed up. Thanks also to the wonderful support of the SASS staff, **Ms Gabriel** and to our amazing photographers, **Ms Sharma** and **Mr Criniti**.

Ms Sullivan



Jumprope for Heart

In week 8, Year 11 SRC students organised the Jumprope for Heart fundraiser at the school. For the entire week, students and staff were invited to jump together in the quad at lunch time. The event was an absolute success, not only for the \$375 raised in donations for the Heart Foundation but also for the way the quad was transformed into a buzzing, inclusive and active playground with smiles all round.

Each day, around 80 - 100 students across all years, could be seen skipping together in the quad. Students were seen warmly welcoming others to join their group for a jump and enjoyed watching teachers revisit their childhoods as they too joined in. There were some particularly talented skippers in the school, while others were trying it for the first time. A special mention must be made of our Deputy, **Ms Mateus**, who showed us how to jump in heels.

At the end of the week many students had commented on how much they had enjoyed themselves and wanted the event to continue into the next week.

A big thank you must go to our SRC students for being there every day to set up and pack up, collect donations and encourage everyone to join in.

Ms A Smith



Year 12 Study Skills, Pathways and Scholarship Sessions

Year 12 students planning to go to university, were fortunate to have three sessions offered to them by three universities to help improve their chances of gaining an awesome ATAR and potentially a scholarship.

All three sessions were offered on Tuesdays, running from lunch until they finished. No session concluded after 2.30.

Session 1 was on Tuesday, July 19 and was conducted by Jen and Rosie from ASPIRE UNSW. This session focused on preparation for exams and stress management.

Session 2 was on Tuesday, August 2 and was presented by student ambassadors from UTS. This session was about Pathways to University, the Access Scheme, and included a Q&A about bonus points and advice about applying for scholarships.

Session 3, the final session, was on Tuesday, August 23 and was enthusiastically presented by Compass USYD representatives, one of whom had studied in Iran for a number of years and was fluent in Farsi. The session was devoted to practical tips and practice at applying for scholarships and in particular E12 (early conditional entry).

The purpose of scheduling these sessions on Tuesday was to avoid taking Year 12 out of class at such a critical time in their preparation for the HSC. I would like to thank the students who attended and then put the advice they were given into action. In particular, **Monique De Freitas-Antoine** is to be commended for attending each session and being prepared to make this investment in her future.

This was an amazing opportunity to help Year 12 students sort out what they wanted to do and how best to achieve those university-focused goals.

Mrs Corcoran

Working Towards a Dream

When I ask students, particularly Year 12 students, what they want to do in the future, I'm often told that they do not have any idea or that they have a range of possibilities depending on their HSC results.

Recently I had the great pleasure of accompanying one of our Year 12 students, **Masoma Haidarzadah**, to an information evening for aspiring flight attendants. The information evening was held at the QANTAS Centre for Service Excellence in Alexandria.



Masoma has always dreamt of being a flight attendant and has completed a TVET course to further this dream. She also wanted to see what this facility had to offer. We were both amazed by the vastness of the various airplane interior mock-ups at the Centre. As a result, we could pretend to experience being First Class, Business and Premium Economy passengers as well as Economy ones. There were kitchens for each type of travelling section as well as the facilities that are available to young travellers.

There was a feeling of both awe and excitement.

For myself, it was wonderful to be accompanying a young person who not only had a dream but was also working hard to achieve it.

Mrs Corcoran

THE SMITH FAMILY – WORK INSPIRATIONS at COLGATE PALMOLIVE

Fifteen of our Year 11 students attended a Work Inspirations workshop organised by The Smith Family and hosted by Colgate Palmolive at Villawood. This has been an annual event as Cheso has a strong partnership with The Smith family and also Colgate Palmolive. We are grateful that this strong link exists and provides students with the opportunity to experience a different work environment and allows them to talk to people from a variety of work backgrounds.

The students all passed the visitor WHS induction and then it was down to business! First was an icebreaker activity where students needed to identify their favourite colour – black, red and blue came out tops; their favourite subject – quite a range; and their favourite movie or TV series – lots of students just loved watching most types of movies.

Students were all given a Work Inspiration Student Workbook. They then had to complete a set of questions to determine what personality type they were. There were many students who identified as Nurturers, others as Leaders, Counsellors, Strategists and Trendsetters. It was an entertaining and insightful activity!

Part of the Work Inspirations program is focused on employees talking to students about their backgrounds and career journeys. The students had to interview a number of Colgate-Palmolive employees and learnt that there were many pathways to reaching the job or career they wanted. Our students were fortunate enough to meet, amongst others, an elite, Rio Olympics qualifying swimmer who has just commenced working in marketing; a young woman who started on her journey to her senior marketing role as a part-time employee in an ice cream shop and then a call centre; a chemical engineer who was responsible for the development of all the new liquid products and an electrical engineer who spoke highly of his education in India before emigrating to Australia. There were many stories from people of various ages, ethnic backgrounds and life experiences.

The students also participated in a tour of the factory floor where robots and computerised equipment have replaced workers. This was a sobering insight into the working world of the future for our young people.



The workshop concluded with students developing storyboards about one of the people they had interviewed. It was fabulous seeing how the students engaged with the activity, and the confidence they displayed when delivering a short explanation of their storyboard to the entire group as well as the person on whom they had focused their interest and attention.

Needless to say, all the students enjoyed the generosity and hospitality shown to them by The Smith Family staff and the staff of Colgate-Palmolive. They were able to enjoy a wonderful assortment of delights both for recess and lunch and then as a farewell, were given goody bags of products to take home with them.

Each student commented on how much they had enjoyed the day. They weren't certain what to expect and were impressed by the friendliness of the people they met and the willingness of these people to share their career journeys.

I would like to thank **Hassan Hassan, Shiwei He, Aiden Huang, Mu Lar, Mohammed Morshed, Reena Shee, Thay Wah, Sah Kue Say, Alan Van Huizen, Kristeen Chaston, Priyanka Kumar, Iman Hares, Aterhawk Marial, Nirshika Bhan** and **Sara Georgis** for their enthusiasm and maturity. They were a delight to accompany and represented Chesos with pride.

Mrs Corcoran



The Run Beyond Project



The Run Beyond Project has lived up to its name and gone *beyond* the gates of Chester Hill High School in 2016, commencing at Evans High School, Chifley College, Shalvey Campus and, more recently, Katoomba High school, in addition to continuing at Chesos.

Students at all of these schools are working hard to develop skills related to goal-setting, commitment and resilience as they complete the program which leads them towards a challenging long-distance running goal; ours being the Cadbury Half-marathon on January 17, 2017, in Hobart.

As with many goals, it is important to measure progress along the way, and it seems that the training of **Ehtesham Ghaffar, Mohamed Jama, Daniel Khalef, and Eh Kwa Lar Sher** is on track, given their admirable performances at the Rhodes Parkrun event on Saturday, September 10.

Parkruns are free, community-based 5km running events, held in various locations around the world at 8 o'clock each Saturday morning. The organisers at the Rhodes event were wonderfully welcoming, writing messages of support to our students in chalk at various points along the course, and introducing The Run Beyond Project students to the crowd at the pre-race briefing.

Despite being their first official event, the boys resisted the temptation to succumb to the common rookie mistake of starting at an unsustainable pace, and all judged their races sensibly, finishing fast with smiles of satisfaction spread wide across their faces.

The smiles continued after the conclusion of the race when students from all participating schools had the chance to



meet each other, something they look forward to repeating at future events.

Mr Jones and **Ms El Samman** also enjoyed their first Parkrun immensely, and buoyed the students with their presence and support.

Mr Criniti

Cadbury Marathon

Debating Update

In football you have 'Minor Premiers' and in debating you have 'Zone Winners'. The Zone Winners for 2016 were our Year 9 and 10 debating team. They successfully defeated Strathfield South HS and Birrong Girls HS to progress to the Finals. There they were met by a strong team from Sir Joseph Banks HS and an incredibly tough topic – We should force victims of natural disasters to relocate. Being the affirmative team, they had to argue for this notion, which was no small feat. Unfortunately, their argument was not as successful as the negative team's, but they fought gallantly and proved themselves to be very mature and skilled speakers.



Two members of the team, **Aisha Adra** and **Khadija Mossavi**, were also asked to return to Sir Joseph Banks HS to trial for the Regional Debating Team. Both students presented

strong arguments. Although they were not chosen, they were personally encouraged by the adjudicators to continue debating because they showed great promise.

In an unusual twist to the debating draw, the Year 7 and 8 debating teams have had to compete against each other twice! The first bout was to decide a winner for the Zone, and after they were both declared winners (along with Fairfield HS), they had to compete again. Only one team could be victorious and they will have to compete against Fairfield HS once again. We wish them all the best.

Ms Kivilcim

Public Speaking Update

On the Wednesday, August 3, our school was host to The Legacy Junior Public Speaking Award. In front of many other competitors from nearby schools, their parents and teachers, as well as honorary guest, Bankstown Division Legacy Chairman Mr Alan Rawlinson, Year 7 student **Abdul Aldhafiri** presented a very inspirational speech about living positively and leaving a legacy for future generations. The adjudicator was extremely impressed with his skills and asked him to compete again in future years.

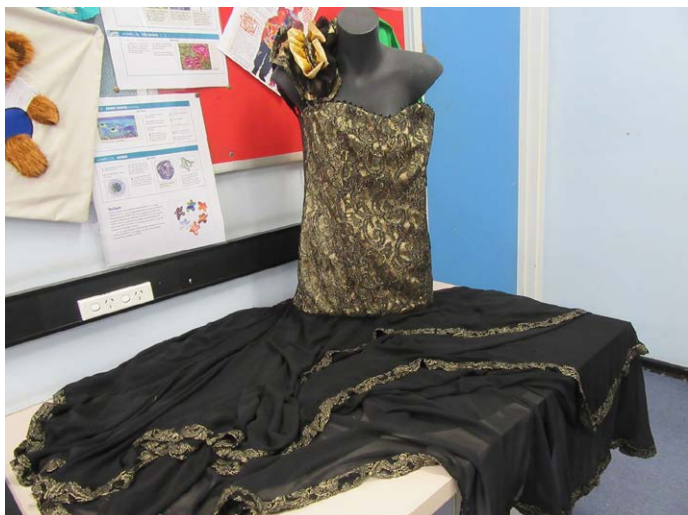
Thanks must also be given to all of the Debating and Public Speaking students who assisted with the smooth organisation of the day. Many guests complimented their politeness and welcoming attitude. Overall, the day was a great success.

Ms Kivilcim

Year 12 Textiles and Design

Chester Hill High School can be extremely proud of their candidates in Year 12 Textiles and Design for 2016. The students have just completed their Major Textile's Projects and Portfolios. The knowledge they have accumulated in this course will give them a great head start for a career as a Fashion Designer. Projects have been displayed and are currently being marked by Board of Studies examiners.

Our Textile and Design students produced an amazing and eye catching fashion collection of Haute Couture representing their individual design styles and inspirations. Each design had an element of surprise in the decorative or structural features chosen, and all were designed to flatter and enhance the feminine form.



Congratulations to Chester Hill High School's young designers **Tabarak Abdellatif**, **Hadawat Abdulkader-Hawchar**, **Ayat Al-Rashed**, **Aya El Chakik**, **Amine El Masri**, **Nahid El- Afshal** and **Reem Rima**.

Amine produced a tailored black suit with a decorative twist by including a contrast of white in the design. Tabarak designed a flower inspired white silk gown using various silk painting techniques to introduce a splash of colour true to nature. She also included a delicate embroidered strapless bodice. Ayat's breath-taking creation produced a multilayered skirt with both a modern and traditional styling. Her black lace over gold satin strapless gown featured three layers of sheer fabric with a train edged meticulously with contrasting lace.

Aya chose to combine a traditional Japanese obi with a wrap dress. She used various techniques in textile arts to introduce both colour and texture to her original design. Nahid chose black satin as her canvas and introduced a touch of black lace to her cocktail dress. Her structural design was a fitted princess line with bare straps. Hadawat also chose black satin with a touch of pink lace to create style and elegance to her fitted and delicately pleated gown. The main feature being a stunning lace train certain to turn heads on the red carpet. Reem was inspired to brighten the cold winter chill by producing a tailored red coat. The design was created to be worn with a variety of clothing and would enhance any look from the casual to the elegant.

Congratulations again Year 12 Textile students 2016. May you find success as young design entrepreneurs in your future endeavours.

Ms Taimins

Gillawarna Dance Festival

Earlier in 2016 we held auditions for the Cheso's first dance group. Under the guidance of **Miss Tulloch**, the students spent Tuesday afternoons working on choreography for both Flag Day and the Gillawarna Dance Festival which showcases the talent from both primary and high schools in the Bankstown and Fairfield areas.

On Monday, September 5, the group wowed the audience with their fantastic performance. The feedback from parents, committee members and our own **Mrs Dabaja** was outstanding. I would like to thank **Miss Bogard** and **Mr Htoo** for giving up their time to provide backstage assistance at the shows.

A huge congratulations also goes to the girls. I am beyond proud of them! The 2016 Cheso dance group consisted of **Melissa Pendino, Daneesha Escobar, Vina Le, Kaitlin Williamson, Celine Cinkilinc, Michelle Tran, Vivien Quach, Yen Hoang, Georgia Li, Natalie Hamad, Amy Chen, Irene**

Russo, Angella Vu, Teresa Vu, Katie Ford, Dalena Tran, Dominique Marilag, Hayley Whelan, Anna Chau and Tien Phan.

Miss Tulloch



Oztag Gala Day

On Wednesday, August 17, 51 students from Years 7-12 competed against several local schools for the title of Fairfield Oztag Champions.



Cheso were tough competitors, and played with exceptional skill and speed. We were not an easy school to beat and we had the best taggers in the competition.

The 7/8 Boys team made it through to the grand final against Casula. After a long, undefeated day, the boys unfortunately lost the final and had nothing left in the tank. The 11/12 Boys Team lost their semi final in extra time. The 7/8 Girls Team were the fastest team going around for the girls division, they won 2/4 games. The 9/10 Girls Team also won 2/4 games and unfortunately lost a few team members due to injury. The 9/10 Boys Team won 3/4 games making them 2nd in their pool which was just short of making it into the semi finals.

Cheso played exceptionally well and were very sportsmanlike. Congratulations to all the students selected and we look forward to next year!

Thank you to **Mr Bullen, Mr Weavers** and **Ms Gavric** for chaperoning this year and coaching the teams.

Ms Gavric

PASS Excursion

On Thursday, September 1, nine PASS students attended the Greater Western Sydney's AFL team training facilities.

Students pushed themselves to the limits completing a 20m timed sprint, vertical jump and 20m beep test. **Cha Tee Ra Cha** achieved an amazing 75cm vertical jump while **Nicholis Mravicic** and **Mark Chol** achieved an impressive score of 10.4 for the beep test.

Students also had the opportunity to participate in an intense Masterchef experience. They were given a source of protein, carbohydrate and vegetables from which they had to create a dish that was healthy, tasty and visually appealing. All teams produced outstanding dishes that impressed the judges, so much so, that they had to pick a top 3 as they couldn't decide which dish was the best.

Among the top dishes were a honey soy garlic chicken and vegetables from **Crystal McLean's** team and a chicken stir fry from **Nasser Sabbagh's** team. Students took away a better

understanding of what constitutes healthy food and a better knowledge of their current fitness levels.

Mr J Bullen



Memories of Cheso and a Fond Goodbye

My first year of teaching was in 1978 and I was sent to a school in Newcastle called Glendale High. I was young and missed my friends and family and after one year, I wanted to come home to Sydney. When I got a transfer to Chester Hill, I said to the lady on the phone, "Is that in Sydney?" because I'd never heard of it. She said "yes" and so here I came. **Mr De Martin** and I started on the same day. It was in January, 1979. When we came here, most of your parents were probably babies.

Mr De Martin and I have been here for 37 out of the fifty-four years that Cheso has been a school. Mr De Martin and I have lived a lot more of our lives in this place than out of it. Not only that, we found our marriage partners here. Between my husband, (who used to be the Science Head Teacher), plus me, plus Mr De Martin plus **Ms Panizzolo**, we have had over 130 years of service to Chester Hill High School.

When I first came here, I didn't like it much. It was rundown, there was graffiti everywhere and the kids were tough. I decided not to stay and applied to do a School Counselling course. It was hard to get in, but I succeeded and was selected out of all the applicants and was due to start the course the year after I arrived at Cheso. But by the end of 1979 something had changed. Cheso had started to get under my skin and I changed my mind.

I'm probably in a good position therefore, to tell you how things have changed. For a start, the place looks much, much better than it did 37 years ago. Classrooms are no longer covered in graffiti, there are now covered areas, gardens and murals which we didn't have before. The furniture is clean and nice. Because we have gates and CCTV cameras, we don't have to come to school on Monday and wonder what's been broken into or damaged on the weekend.



When I came here, there was no technology at all. Rooms had blackboards and chalk. That's it. We thought it was pretty cool when the school got a TV (yes ONE) which was in D5 and you could take a class there to watch a VHS. Sometimes, on a rainy Tuesday afternoon, we put the whole school into the Hall to watch a movie on an old fashioned projector. The projector had big reels of film which you had to change part way through the movie. Before I came here, Cheso used to put on a Shakespeare play every year and perform it in F Block quad because the Hall was only opened the year I arrived. From 1980 for a lot of years, we had teachers here who used to direct musicals and plays and you can still see the pictures from those productions down in the Hall. The English Head Teacher was a guy called **Mr Rice**. The History Head Teacher was a guy called **Mr Curry** and wait for it... The Head Teacher Admin was called **Mr Ham**. Yes... Curry, Ham and Rice. Strange but true.

I'll tell you about a few of my favourite Cheso Moments. The first was a funny story about a pair of identical twin girls. They had names from the '80's like Sharon and Leanne or something like that. They weren't clever and they looked exactly, exactly the same. No one could tell them apart. One day they had a big argument in the playground and yelled insults at each other. Either Sharon or Leanne got the last word when she finished the argument with this. "And I hate you because you're so ugly!!!"

Another one of my favourite stories was about a huge Yr 10 boy who was really, really upset one day with another kid and was going to hit him. This was up in F Block. I knew what he was planning and tried to stop him but he was built like a truck and went straight past me. So I grabbed his arm to slow him down and he just kept walking, dragging me behind him. I don't think he even knew I was there. As he dragged me past the English Staff Room, with me still hanging on for dear life, I yelled, "HELP!" Cheso was much rougher back then.

Before I arrived here, Chester Hill High was used for all the Cyclone Tracy refugees from the Northern Territory. We've been looking after refugees ever since, first from South East Asia when the Vietnamese, Cambodian and Laotian students came and then we welcomed wave after wave of students from all around the world, like the Pacific Community, Eastern Europe and the Middle East. Each new group of students has changed Cheso in some way but fundamentally we've always been the same. Like **Mr Brown** (the previous History Head Teacher) used to say, "If you've got a bum, we've got a seat."



In the last five years I have truly enjoyed my big fat lie that I am a billionaire who owns a chain of cookie stores and who comes to Cheso, not for the money, (clearly if you have a cookie empire) but because I love the kids I teach. The bit about loving the kids is true but now I have to publicly state that the cookie chain Mrs Fields is not actually owned by me. To perpetuate the lie, I even had a Mrs Fields cookie jar for authenticity. I always bought chocolate chip cookies from Woolies and when I told kids they were from my cookie store they would say, "I can tell. These are much better than supermarket ones!" I can't tell you how awesome it was that heaps of kids actually believed I was rich and just came to work to breathe the same oxygen as them. Priceless!

One of the best things about being here, for me, is that Cheso is where my friendship group comes from. When you spend

37 years, with more waking hours of the day spent with your workmates than with your family, then your workmates can become a kind of family too. I have been so lucky to have made close friends with all the History staff over the years as well as other staff from other faculties, who I really care about and will keep seeing for years and years to come.

You might see me around next year because I plan to do a bit of part time work in the IEC. I don't want to stop being a teacher but, now that I am aged "plenty one" I need to slow down a bit and spend some time with my family. Please say hello and let me know how you are going.

As I think about my time here coming to an end, I can reflect on what's important. A school is not a bunch of buildings with an address. A school is about the people – all the people who make an investment of parts of their lives together and who learn and grow together. We're a school community and the fact that our lives all intersect in this place is very important. Every one of us only has one shot at life and for all of us we are brought together, by this place in this time.

I can't speak for every teacher who has stayed here for a long time. But I can explain why I have made Cheso my career. I can't say I've never taught a naughty kid here because that would be a big lie. But I've had the privilege of teaching and working with so many wonderful people that I feel very lucky. I'm lucky to have been a teacher at Cheso and to have worked with so many of you all on Flag Day. Every year I got to feel like an Olympic Gold Medalist when up to 400 students all worked together to produce something that we were all proud to be part of. In my 37 years I have taught and worked with many thousands of fine young people, who it's been my privilege to know. You're all part of the Cheso community which ties our lives together and it's a community which has a long and proud history. I hope you can all remember your time here with happy memories and think about how Cheso helped to shape you into the good citizen and responsible adult that you're about to become.

Mrs Fields



Literacy Group

The below articles have been written by two students from the Year 8 Literacy Group. Congratulations **Ahmed Ridani** and **Ifdal Kanj**. Keep up the good work!

The Great NRL Game

About a month ago I had a great day with my friend from the area. His name is Salem Malaki and we have been mates since Year 7.

We had just finished playing NRL against North Rd Hawks. We had won 20-0 and we were feeling great.

We arrived at ANZ stadium around 2:30pm and we were excited for Bulldogs vs the Tigers. Sam and I are massive Bulldogs fans so we were pumped.

My favourite player is Will Hopoate. He is the team's fullback, which means he has to try to avoid the other team from scoring. He has all the right skills; speed, power, strength and determination. I would love to be able to play like him one day.

In this game Will did not disappoint us. He scored a try and stopped the Tigers from scoring a try. The crowd went wild.

Sam's mum got us pizza and popcorn with some chips and drink. Whenever the Bulldogs scored, I would celebrate and my popcorn would fly out all over the place. One time it spilled out onto the guy's head in front of me. Sam and I laughed so hard.

When the game was over, we were so happy because the Bulldogs won. The score was 36-4 it was a big score and a great day.

Ahmed Ridani

Vacation Care

My name is Ifdal. I am 13. I have 3 siblings. After school, I attend a big daycare/vacation care. The care centre is at a lady's house. Her name is Ahlam. All the kids in the daycare like to go over to her house and eat her delicious Lebanese food. In the holidays, Ahlam takes us to fun places where we can play and have fun. Those days go only for 3 days a week. But I would like to talk about where I went last term on the holidays.

On one day we went to Bunnings Warehouse so we could do arts and craft. After meeting at Ahlam's house we took a bus together. We decorated flower pots for the activity. I made Bulldog stripes for my favourite football team and put some blue sprinkles on the stripes. After that we went to the park and played there.

Another time we went to Boing. Boing is a place where you can jump into a pit filled with soft foam squares. It's so hard to come out of it. When we first arrived, we had our recess and then we had to pay to enter. We had so much fun. We were that 'hypo' from jumping around that I needed my puffer (inhaler) for the first time in ages!

There was also a big square thing in the middle of the trampoline that you could climb on. Some of my friends in the group see me as the cool, brave one so they asked me to carry them up to the big square. They also held me up there as well. It was so fun. I would love to go back there and play again.

I know it might seem a bit childish, but I really enjoy my holidays at vacation care because we get to do such great things. I am looking forward to the next holidays.

Ifdal Kanj

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.

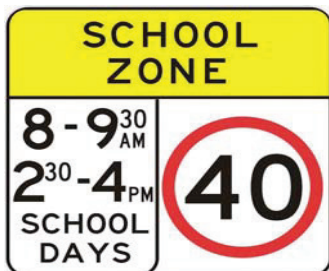


Please drop your child off in Campbell Hill Road / Kenward Avenue or Miller Road. Your child can then walk in through the footpath gate.



SCHOOL ZONE TRAFFIC OFFENCES

Increased penalties for School Zones. Current as at 1 July 2015



SPEEDING OFFENCES

There has been an increase to the monetary fine and number of demerit points applicable to Speeding Offences in School Zones

Maximum Penalty

\$3,740
+ 7 Demerit Points

MOBILE PHONE USE

Drive using a hand-held mobile phone in a School Zone.

Penalty

\$425
+ 4 Demerit Points

CHILDREN'S CROSSINGS

Disobey hand-held stop sign at Children's Crossing or approach Children's Crossing too quickly to stop safely.

Penalty

\$531
+ 4 Demerit Points

U-TURNS

Make a U-Turn without giving way to pedestrian or vehicle in a School Zone

Penalty

\$425
+ 4 Demerit Points

For a full list of all new penalties and offences, please visit:
www.rta.nsw.gov.au or phone the RMS on: 13 22 13

Please Note: fines subject to change without notice. Current to 30 June 2016.
These penalties apply to offences in school zones during posted school hours.



NSW Police Force

For more information contact the Bankstown City Council on 9707 9999.

HSC Showcase Evening

It is my pleasure to congratulate our Year 12 Music students who performed at the HSC Showcase Evening on Wednesday, September 7. Our students have been working very hard towards their HSC practical examination throughout the whole year and the evening showcased a variety of pieces from their exam repertoire. It was a successful evening with many family members and friends attending the concert. We also exhibited some HSC Major Bodies of Work by Visual Arts and TAS students. We wish our students all the best for their upcoming exams.



Mr Htoo



Chester Hill High School Calendar of Events - Term 3 - 2016



10B	Monday	19.9.16	* YEAR 11 PRELIMINARY EXAMS continue to 23/9
	Thursday	22.9.16	* YEAR 12 FAREWELL ASSEMBLY – Hall (10.30am – 12.00am)

Last Day Term 3 – Friday 23.9.16 First Day Term 4 – Monday 10.10.16
Please Note: Dates/Times correct at time of publication

Uniform Shop (School Hall): Term 3

Tuesday - 8.30am to 11.30am

Students may also purchase uniform before school and at recess

Monday, Wednesday and Fridays

Chester Hill High School Calendar of Events - Term 4 - 2016

Week	Day	Date	Event
1A	Monday	10.10.16	* School resumes
2B	Monday	17.10.16	* HSC Commences
4B	Wednesday	2.11.16	* NEWSLETTER AVAILABLE ONLINE www.chesterhillhighschool.com -click on news-then newsletters
			* Year 8 Science VALID Test
	Friday	4.11.16	* Year 7 GALA Day
5A	Tuesday	8.11.16	* Year 12 Sign-out day (Family Name beginning with A – L 9.15am) * Year 12 Sign-out day (Family Name beginning with M – Z 10.15am)
	Wednesday	9.11.16	* COMBINED COMMUNITY FORUM MEETING , includes (Arabic, Vietnamese, Karen and Pacific Islander parents - 6.00pm)