

Principal's Report

The 2017 academic year is well underway with both students and staff committed to the business of teaching and learning. The school is buzzing with activity in the classrooms, across our grounds and facilities as well as in partnership with our industry, tertiary and community links. Chester Hill High School is a place of purpose and productivity. Most importantly, in our pursuit of equity, our students have the opportunity to take advantage of numerous initiatives, resources and programs to further enhance their skills, knowledge and understanding.

The Class of 2016 are now embarking on their post school pathways, with over 70% enrolled in tertiary study. We had a number of students with ATARs over 90 and students successful in gaining scholarships to support their chosen courses. Mohammad Vaezi, with an ATAR over 95, was offered more than one scholarship and has chosen to undertake a Bachelor of Engineering and Commerce at UNSW. His scholarship also



includes his accommodation and UNSW has been very impressed with the candidature from our school and in particular, the amazing achievements of Mohammad. Mohammad's story is a reminder that dedication, hard work and valuing the partnership with teachers reaps great rewards.

He has been and continues to be, an inspiration to all of us.

On February 22, we conducted information sessions for parents and students about the HSC course as well as a Years 7-10

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information session on effective study habits at home. These are the beginning of a series of sessions we will run this year aiming at providing high levels of information and support to improve student results. Our intention is to strengthen the partnership between school and home to achieve this.

Just as in life, we are constantly reminded of the cycles and circles that turn. Year 7 (the Class of 2022) have joined our school community and settled in exceptionally well. We extend Year 7 and their parents the warmest of welcomes and encourage them to participate actively in all aspects of school life.

Parents are reminded that the Senior Executive, Executive and Wellbeing Team members are available to meet with you and discuss any issues that arise. We advise that these conversations start early and pre-emptively so that our interventions and advice can be activated sooner rather than later. It can also prevent miscommunications and misunderstandings.

In the past few weeks many of our staff have undertaken exciting professional learning that will enhance the learning experiences we have designed. We sent a team of Science and Mathematics teachers to the University of Sydney to participate in professional learning in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM). The learning that this team has already commenced designing for our students is reflective of 'Futures and Innovation' education that we feel is vital to advantage students in their post school lives.

We look forward to a fantastic year of student growth and achievements.

Ms Z Dabaja.

Principal

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IEC Report

Welcome to all those in our school community – students, parents, teachers and friends. With a new year comes new opportunities to learn, grow and develop, both within the classroom and further afield. The first week back at school saw the IEC's office teeming with new students. A total of 43 new enrolments arrived in the first week. Since then, the IEC enrolments have risen to 215. We have seen new faces from Syria, Vietnam, Chile, the Philippines and Lebanon, to name a few. The playground is a melting pot for cultural diversity.



As students quickly got settled into their studies, numerous programs have been initiated. All the programs and initiatives aim to increase student engagement and further develop English language proficiency. **Mr Furey** is running a rigorous soccer program to sharpen the skills of our best players. Meanwhile, a new autobiographical art project has commenced that encourages students to tell their stories in multi-modal ways. Students will be writing about their experiences as well as creating an artwork that encapsulates a part of their journey.

In the last two weeks, as part of the Visual Literacy Unit being studied in English, 9 classes were fortunate enough to visit a range of art galleries in Sydney. Both the Museum of Contemporary Art and the Art Gallery of NSW provided the perfect backdrop for students to develop their understanding of symbolism, colour, salience, body language, facial expressions and vectors.

With a range of other activities and programs just around the corner, Term 1 is sure to be a very busy and enjoyable term. Keep your eye out in the next newsletter for an update on life in the IEC!

Mr Ocampo

Library Time

We've had a fantastic start to the new school year here in the Library. Some of our top borrowers had some fun selecting new book titles from the Manga Bus and it was even more exciting when the batch of new books arrived!

There has been a great deal of interest in serving as Library Monitors from our incoming Year 7 group. They will be trialing in Week 7 and have been paired up with some of our seasoned monitors who are more than happy to show them the ropes.



Our library is always full of life with so much going on but on **Wednesdays we WHISPER**. In order to keep our minds on our school work and get those assessments in on time, the library now has a whisper only policy for Wednesday Lunch. It was fantastic to see so many students making the most of the quiet environment to get stuck into their school work or catch up on some silent reading. A big congratulations to all students for their efforts.

Ms Campbell



Jasper Jones

Congratulations to year 10 Student, **Kevin Long**, who is starring alongside iconic Australian actors Toni Collette and Hugo Weaving in the film adaptation of Craig Silvey's award-winning novel, Jasper Jones, which is currently playing in cinemas.

Mr Criniti



Swimming Carnival

Chester Hill High School travelled to Fairfield Leisure Centre for our annual swimming carnival on Friday 17 February. **Steven Le** achieved a new CHHS record in the BOYS 14 year old 50m breaststroke. This is the 2nd year in a row that he has achieved a new record in the 50m breaststroke.



House points

Florey: 468

Hillary: 497

Glenn: 159

Murdoch: 339

Age champions

Boys

12 year old - **David An**

13 year old - **Mahmoud Deeb**

14 year old - **Steven Le**

15 year old - **Mohammed Chamma**

16 year old - **Antony Pham**

17+ year old - **Brendan Ta**

Girls

13 year old - **Reanna Cheng**

14 year old - **Natalie Hamad**

15 year old - **Katie An**

16 year old - **Danielle Coughlin**



Thank you to all staff members for their assistance in running the carnival.

Mr J.Bullen



Volleyball Club

Volleyball club has kicked off for another year! It has been great to have new members join us from Year 9 and particularly exciting to see Year 7 students starting for the first time! They have been learning some basic skills in digging, setting and serving the past few weeks. This has been a great time for them to get to know their peers in various grades and to work cooperatively in a fun team sport.

If any student is still interested in learning to play and enjoy some recreational sport, you are welcome to join, no matter what your experience. Juniors meet to play on Tuesday afternoons from 2:40pm to 4:00pm and seniors train on Thursday mornings from 7:30am. The club runs throughout the year so please talk to Ms Poon in the Mathematics staffroom if you would like more information.

Ms Poon



Athletics Carnival

Our annual athletics carnival was held on Monday, 27 February. With excellent weather and an outstanding participation rate, the day was very successful.

The students were well-behaved and enthusiastically cheered on their housemates. The house spirit and passionate display of house colours and support from Year 12 students was remarkable.

A big thank you to all staff members for their assistance on the day, allowing the carnival to run smoothly and effectively. Thank you also to all students who contributed to make the day successful and a special thank you to those students who supported staff with coordination of the track and field events throughout the day.

All students should be pleased with their efforts and should be congratulated on their high level of participation and excellent representation. There were a large number of talented athletes on the day who will advance onto the Sydney South West Zone Athletics Carnival which will be held at the end of term 2.



The age champions on the day were:

Boys

12 Years	Mustapha Assaad
13 Years	Lakota Daniel
14 Years	Falo Cavu
15 Years	Kevin Kasembe
16 Years	Ahmed Ayad
17 Years	Thomas Kemp Brown

Girls

12 Years	Antonia Fosio
13 Years	Annie Leota
14 Years	Natalie Hamad
15 Years	Stephanie Baker
16 Years	Crystal McLean
17 Years	Taylah Bailey

House Champions; the first time in 10 Years- GLENN!!!!

Ms Gavric



The Run Beyond Project



While most of us were enjoying a well-earned break throughout the summer holidays, the boys from The Run Beyond Project were putting the final touches on their preparations for their goal race - The Cadbury Half Marathon in Hobart.

Having not participated in any running training prior to commencing the program in August, the boys always knew it would be a difficult challenge to prepare for the 21.1km event, but they demonstrated inspiring commitment which was rewarded with impressive progress.

The first training run of just 4km, left **Ehtesham Ghaffar, Mohamed Jama, Daniel Khalef** and **Eh Kwa Lar Sher**, all well and truly exhausted. Ever so gradually, however, the distances covered in training increased and the boys' ability to endure these distances improved.

Before too long, they were not only running, but racing in their first 5km event at Rhodes Parkrun, a free, community-based event held every Saturday morning. By November, their training had them ready to successfully complete their first 10km race at the Sydney Striders 10km event in the hilly Lane Cove National Park.

The program, however, isn't all about running. It uses running as a mechanism to teach participants about goal-setting, commitment and resilience; skills which are invaluable in all aspects of our lives. Throughout the course of the program, the boys demonstrated all of these skills as they applied them to their goal of completing the half-marathon and considered how they might be applied in a broader context.

By the time the boys toed the start line on 15 January, there was an air of confidence about them. They had given up many after-school, weekend and holiday hours to train diligently for this event and they knew that all the hard work had been done. The event itself was the longest they'd ever run, but their training stood them in good stead, and they all completed the race admirably; an achievement they will remember for a long time to come!

Immediately following the race, they enjoyed some well earned rest as they took in some of Tasmania's tourist attractions, including the Museum of New and Old Art (MONA), Mt Wellington, Bruny Island and the Tahune Airwalk.

Mr Criniti



Education
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*Click here for more
information about the
Tell Them From Me
student survey*

Work Experience 2016

During Week 8 all of Year 10 students went out to work experience. It was a great opportunity for students to exercise the Employment Related Skills "listed below" that we have been discussing in class and have included in our résumés.

- Communication
- Self-Management
- Learning
- Planning and organising
- Initiative and Enterprise
- Team Work
- Problem Solving
- Technology
- Cross-Cultural Understanding



A wide range of work was sought by our students. In the health field, students went to local pharmacists and veterinary clinics. Retail placements included specialty fashion shops, large chain supermarkets, department stores and a variety of small retail operators.

Childcare was another popular choice for both female and male students, this is an industry that is rapidly expanding and has good job prospects. Many of our students were accommodated at our local primary schools, it was good to see many

males interested in this field, again there is a need for more males to work in this area.

Thank you to all the students for keeping the good name of Chester Hill High School. The Year 10 teachers who supervised students during the week received many compliments from the employers, praising students' punctuality, enthusiasm and work ethic. Companies participating for the first time in this Work Experience Program have expressed keen interest to continue their involvement.



This successful week would not have transpired without the assistance and goodwill of all the employers and businesses that participated. Our sincere appreciation and thanks for supporting our students and the Department of Education's School To Work Initiative at Chester Hill High School.

Mrs Patrizi
Careers Adviser

Farewell Dillon

Dillon Barnett a Youth Worker from The Roundabout Youth Centre at Sefton has been working in partnership with Chester Hill High School for the last two years. It is with great sadness that we say goodbye to Dillon as he progresses in his career.

Dillon has run Job Club every Monday at our school. This initiative has supported our students who need additional assistance with transition into the workforce. His friendly demeanour and wealth of information has been invaluable to our students.

2016 saw the start of a new initiative the RYC Café in which ten Year 11 students received Barista training (all expenses covered), in turn they assisted in running the RYC Café every Monday at school and they also volunteered at the Youth Centre on Friday evenings during Skate Night. So successful was this initiative we are able to offer this opportunity to Year 11 in 2017.



On behalf of all the teachers and students that have worked with Dillon, we wish him every success for his future.

Mrs Patrizi
Careers Adviser

Fish Market Excursion

On Thursday, 23 February 2017, Year 10 Visual Arts students went on an excursion to the popular Sydney Fish Markets. The students represented the school diligently with exemplary behaviour and enthusiasm on the day.

Students produced detailed drawings of bustling scenes including fishing boats, an array of fresh seafood and clear views of the Anzac Bridge. The day concluded with Year 10 Visual Arts students visiting the nearby Pymont Park where they enjoyed a cool seabreeze and stunning views of the Sydney Harbour Bridge.

Ms Truong



Valentine's Day

On Tuesday 14 February the Cheso community spread the love and celebrated Valentine's Day. In celebration of the event the SRC, along with **Ms Smith** and **Ms Mateus**, ran a stall where they sold roses, teddy bears and balloons. Students and staff enthusiastically purchased gifts for their special ones. Roses were also delivered on behalf of secret admirers by the SRC Seniors adding to the fun of the day. Around \$300 was raised and will be shared between supporting Stewart House and the SRC's plans to add a water refill station to the school grounds.

Stewart House provides care for about 1800 children in need from NSW and the ACT, offering them a break from their normal circumstances such as family problems. Staff at the house help the children living there develop skills in self esteem, resilience and developing a healthy lifestyle. The money that we will be donating will help the organisation to continue providing important services such as eye care to help change children's lives for generations to come.

The water refill station will allow our students and staff to refill their water bottles with ease without having to buy extra bottles from the canteen. This will help our school become environmentally friendly and will encourage more of our students to recycle.

The day was also a perfect reminder that many of our students and staff are caring and loving to one another and also it reflected one of our core values "belong" with many students

receiving roses from their friends which made them feel they belonged to the school community. The main message from this fundraiser was that you don't have to be the most popular person in the school to receive some love and appreciation from friends. Some of our students took the time to think about those who weren't that popular or didn't have too many friends and showed their love and appreciation towards them.

Kim Huynh



Peer Support

The Peer Support Program is going really well and it is one of the most popular programs offered to our Year 7 students. This program helps our Year 7 students to settle into our school, improve their self esteem and to build positive relationships with their peers. The Peer Support sessions occur once a week and are led by our Year 11 Peer Support Leaders. Students enjoy various activities, games and workshops lead by our leaders. Well done to all Year 7 students and congratulations to our Peer Support Leaders who received certificates and badges at the Leadership Assembly.

Mr Htoo



Chester Hill High School Calendar of Events - Term 1 - 2017

Week	Day	Date	Event
7B	Wednesday	8.3.17	* Zone Swimming Carnival
8A	Monday	13.3.17	* Regional Swimming Carnival
	Wednesday	15.3.17	* YEAR 7 PARENT/TEACHER AFTERNOON (4.00pm - 5.30pm) <i>includes Assessment Policy Distribution and Naplan Information</i>
	Thursday	16.3.17	* Year 8 Water Awareness Clinic
	Friday	17.3.17	* Year 8 Water Awareness Clinic
9B	Wednesday	22.3.17	* NEWSLETTER AVAILABLE ONLINE - School's Website <i>www.chesterhillhighschool.com - click on news - then newsletters</i>
10A	Monday	27.3.17	* Year 12 Half-Yearly Examinations - Week 10 and Week 11
11B	Monday	3.4.17	* Year 12 Half-Yearly Examinations - Week 10 and Week 11
	Friday	7.4.17	* Last day of Term 1 – Friday 7.4.17 First Day Term 2 – Wednesday 26.4.17

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

REMINDERS

Uniform Shop: Tuesdays 8.30am to 11.30am - Hall Students Mon/Wed/Fri - Lunchtime - Hall

**** 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.

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