

Principal's Report

Term One has been an exceptionally busy start to 2017. Once Term Two commences, our school community will be almost half way through the year. Time certainly passes with a blink of an eye and it is only the purpose and productivity that fills our days that allows us to feel a sense of reassurance and contentment.

One of the prime goals this year is to promote much more active parent participation in overseeing and supporting students along their learning journey. We have amazing teachers and amazing students who are engaged in exciting teaching and learning activities on a daily basis. Both short term and long term projects across Key Learning Areas are extremely exciting for students who embrace their full time responsibility of learning as the key to future success.

However, not all students embrace responsibility, time management and the abundance of resources and opportunities made available to them in the same way in order

to maximize their progress and success. This is where the partnership between home and school becomes vital. I thank each and every one of the parents who attended our information sessions and workshops early in Term One in order to gain a better understanding about the courses their students were



undertaking and how they could facilitate a more productive working environment at home. So many of these parents continued to contact me and meet with us about their child's progress and this has ensured that their children have remained focused and that any issues have been addressed quickly. These are how the best partnerships work- through ongoing high levels of communication and agreed actions where each stakeholder meets their responsibilities. I encourage all parents to attend our Parent-Teacher Information Evening in Term Two and any additional Information evenings designed to prepare for student transitions into new subjects, courses and extracurricular activities. Our students are provided a lot of guidance and assistance to complete their tasks whether they are in Year 7 or in Year 12. There is no reason why your child should ever fail to complete a task unless there were specific reasons that hindered them physically. Assessment tasks are accessible through the Assessment Hub on our school website. Teachers are contactable via email and Edmodo. The Homework Centre is open three days per week after school with teachers employed to be present and support. Teachers

across all KLAs run lunch time sessions and after school tutorials for students and classes who need it. Appointments are encouraged between teachers and students and parents and teachers to ensure that high levels of communication, information and guidance are provided. Please take advantage of all that we have to offer.

The school community's cohesive and professional appearance has been enhanced with the minor adjustments to our uniform policy. I met a number of parents during the implementation period and valued the interactions with them. There is a consensus that the students look fantastic. The school is in the process of purchasing Blazers so that our future senior students have access to a more corporate dimension to their appearance, particularly for those who represent the school regularly at functions and events. All our uniforms are sold at absolute cost price. Whatever we pay for them from our supplier is what we charge you. Students have been reminded consistently during Term One that the school tracksuit jacket is for Tuesday only as it is the sports uniform. The Soft Shell Jacket, School Jumper and School Cardigan are items that address warmth during the winter months. Please make sure that your child has the relevant uniform items for the change in weather. Parents are reminded that there is assistance available for families who require it. If you have a financial concern, please make an appointment to see me so that we can determine if we can assist you.

Sadly, we have had to farewell two much loved members of staff who are relocating to other schools.

Ms Codie Kivilcim has been a valued member of the English faculty for many years and it is with a heavy heart that we see her leave our team. I know that Year 12 will miss her and appreciate all her efforts as a Year Adviser, in addition to her wonderful teaching and fantastic management of the school's Debating and Public Speaking program. We wish her the very best in her future endeavours.

Ms Pamela Gideon has also been a valued member of our school and is much loved by staff and students. Despite not being a permanent member of our staff she embraced our school and its community, contributing to many whole school programs and activities beyond her faculty. Her passion for teaching and student wellbeing made her an asset to our Welfare Team. We wish her the very best in her future endeavours also.

I find myself lacking in my report when I consider all the wonderful activities and experiences that our teachers have organized and facilitated for the students in this past term, with the Helmsmann Project and the STEM Bootcamp as two examples. You cannot put a value on the real impact of these opportunities but they are most certainly a reflection of the rich and diverse experiences that open doors and possibilities if they are embraced the way they should be.

Ms Z Dabaja

Principal

IEC Report

On 11 March, the IEC celebrated its 39th birthday. With the influx of new enrolments that arrived throughout the term, the IEC reached 238 students – the highest number ever in the IEC's 39 year history. The front office staff and SLSOs worked around the clock to ensure the new students were settled and in their new classes as soon as possible. With thanks to the teachers at the IEC, all students were able to participate in a range of different activities and programs, all of which developed their language proficiency.

In week 6, the IEC accompanied the high school to the annual Athletics Carnival. Students participated in a wide range of activities including running, javelin, long jump and high jump. **Steven Nguyen** from 6.1 participated in several races and placed third in the 400m. He explained that "it was glorious to run against others and show my skills and abilities!" The eager participation of the IEC students and their good behaviour made the teachers very proud.

The common test was held in week 7 this term and allowed the students to demonstrate how much they had learnt from the visual literacy unit. **Phuong Duy Nguyen** topped the English Common Test, achieving a score of 80%. He commented that his success was a direct result of his love for the subject. 'If you concentrate in class and apply yourself, you can achieve your goals,' Phuong Duy wisely said.

Thanks to the hard work of **Ms Li**, two police liaison officers from the Bankstown Police Department delivered a very informative session to the stage 6 students. They covered a range of topics including culpable driving and internet safety. **Hawraa Abbas**, a student from 6.1, was enlightened by the police talk saying it was great to find out about the rights people are entitled to here in Australia – 'As new citizens, it is essential that we are aware of the services available to us and how the police protect us in society.'

This term, the IEC was invited to participate in a program called Apart and A Part with the organisation Together for Humanity. The invitation was open to 12 schools and Chester Hill IEC was



write a proposal to make the transition for new arrivals easier. The group then presented their proposals to the other schools and important members of the community at Parliament House in the Sydney CBD. The students from the IEC represented the school with pride, spoke with confidence and demonstrated true modesty. **Aournilla** and **Noorzia** of 61 agreed that the program taught them so much. "It was a fantastic opportunity and I will remember it for a long time to come," said Noorzia. **Mr Ocampo**

TANKEN CENTRE EXCURSION

On 24 March, Year 10 students studying Japanese went to the Tanken Centre. The Tanken Centre offers an insight to Japanese culture, especially traditional Japanese housing. We competed in various exciting and challenging Japanese activities which helped us practice our Japanese oral skills and consolidate our knowledge from the past five terms.



During lunch, **Ms. Li** also brought in an assortment of Japanese snacks for us to enjoy. We even brought sushi and Japanese snacks because we were so excited. It was a big picnic and the food was devoured very quickly.

At the end of the day, we came back to school tired but filled with memories that will be impossible to forget.

Brian Phung (10XJ)



the only IEC to participate. The program required a group of eight students to identify an issue pertinent to new arrivals and

BULLYING - NO WAY!

On Friday, 17 March, Chester Hill High School successfully participated in the "National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence" where students learnt how to take a stand and respond to bullying.



Throughout the day, our SRC representatives announced statistics about the numerous victims who experience bullying every day of their lives and what we could do as a community to be aware of their experiences, and the severe impacts faced. Stickers were also provided to our Cheso students to show our acknowledgement and dedication to respect within our school to fully support the national "Bullying – No way!" event.

Ms A Smith

ONE MILLION STARS

In further recognition to our key anti-bullying event, Chester Hill High School also participated in a challenge called the "One Million Stars to End Violence" where students take a stand against violence through the symbolic act of weaving a Samoan-inspired star. Our school has committed to weaving 200 stars to join the nationwide movement. Students are encouraged to join **Ms Smith** who is teaching our students to weave the stars during lunch time in the library.



It is also a way of having fun and building new skills! The 200 stars are displayed in the library as a visual reminder of our stance against violence. The stars will then be sent to Brisbane to contribute to a massive public art installation at the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games.

Come along and get involved by surprising us with your weaving skills and show how many you can make as a safe, respectful learner who belongs at Cheso.

Ms A Smith

CRYSTAL CITIES

Students had the opportunity to see a live band on Thursday, 23 March. Crystal Cities, an up and coming Australian band, came to Cheso to play a gig at lunchtime. Students enjoyed the concert and were able to grab a signed poster at the end.

Ms Arnold



HARMONY DAY AT CHESO

What is the day about?

Harmony Day, which was held on 21 March in Australia, celebrates the diversity of the many people from countries all over the globe who call Australia home. The day coincided with the United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination which promotes equal rights and treatment of people no matter where they come from or what their backgrounds are.

The main message of the event was 'Everyone Belongs' which encourages people to celebrate our rich cultural diversity and create a sense of belonging for every person in their school, community or workplace. Orange is the traditional colour



for the event as it symbolises social communication, mutual conversations, freedom of ideas and mutual respect.

Facts and figures about Australia's multiculturalism

According to the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS):

- around 45 per cent of Australians were born overseas or have at least one parent who was
- we identify with 300 ancestries
- since 1945, more than 7.5 million people migrated to Australia
- 85% of Australians believe that multiculturalism is good for Australia
- apart from English, the most common languages spoken



in Australia are Mandarin, Italian, Arabic, Cantonese, Greek, Vietnamese, Tagalog/Filipino, Spanish and Hindi

- more than 60 Indigenous languages are spoken in Australia.

How did Cheso get involved?

Cheso got into the spirit of Harmony Day with a video message from our wonderful SRC, filmed by **Mr Criniti** which can be seen on our Facebook page. In addition, some of our SRC members and their families, as well as teachers and staff put their time and effort into baking and icing yummy cupcakes for the day.

Before the event, the SRC, along with **Ms Smith, Ms Sharma** and **Ms Atkins**, helped ice the cupcakes in orange. Students were encouraged to buy a cupcake for someone else as a gesture to show they belonged at Cheso. This was embraced enthusiastically by the students. During the day, SRC students made announcements about the importance of cultural diversity and played inspiring songs that helped spread the message of belonging such as the 2014 hit Brave by Sara Bareilles. Overall the SRC raised a total of \$495 which will be going towards the school's water refill station.

Year 7 students were also privileged to be entertained and educated by well known Indigenous comedian, **Sean Choolburra**, who used humour to share the message of acceptance of diversity.

What was the main message of the day?

The main message of the day was that we need to understand and accept cultural diversity in our nation as there are over 150 nationalities that live and call Australia home. The day was also for us to have a chance to celebrate the rich cultural diversity at CHESO. The day was a valuable reminder to



students of our school values of 'Being a Safe, Respectful Learner who Belongs'. This means we need to include people who are different and of different backgrounds in many of our day to day activities such as games, sport and class lessons. This valuable message will be reinforced in our annual Flag Day celebrations in June where students celebrate diversity by showcasing their traditional dance and costumes.

Kim Huynh

WIN A GO-PRO WITH THE YOUTH ACTION SURVEY!



Let's challenge the stereotype of young people in the Greater Western Sydney. If you want to have your voice heard, take this 3 minute survey at surveymonkey.com/r/youthws. You will go in the running to win a GoPro, or 1 of 3 gift cards worth \$100 each! Responses will be published in a report that will be sent to every local politician in Western Sydney. To amplify your voices, Youth Action will also create a local mural to visualise the key themes of what you say. Responses will remain anonymous.

Ms Smith



Let's challenge stereotypes about young people in Western Sydney.



TELL US...

WHAT MAKES YOU SMILE ABOUT WHERE YOU LIVE?

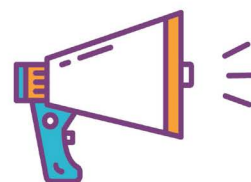
Take the online survey now:
www.surveymonkey.com/r/youthws

BOYS KNOCKOUT BASKETBALL

The boys did extremely well at the knockout basketball tournament this year, making it to the second round for the first time in many years. In round one the boys had a resounding win against Strathfield South High School, playing extremely well as a team and representing the school in exemplary fashion. **Sebastian** and **Javier Lopez** put up big numbers on the fast break and **Andy Cam** was money from long-range late in the game. Solid defensive efforts from **Duke Nguyen** and **Thomas Kemp Brown** kept our opponents' score in single digits. The whole team contributed and kept the energy and intensity going until the final buzzer.

In the second round we came up against a very strong team in Sir Joseph Banks High School. It was a very competitive game with Chester Hill taking the lead early in the first half. There

You could win a GoPro!



were never more than a few points in it and unfortunately when the referee blew for full time the score was 30-26 for Sir Joseph Banks. All the boys dug deep and played well. Javier Lopez top scored with 12 points. The boys should be very proud of their efforts and the way they represented the school.

Mr Wallington



VOLLEYBALL

On 22 March, the Open Boys Knockout Volleyball team played their first round match against Canley Vale High School. After a difficult defeat last year in the first round, the team had spent the last twelve months preparing for this second chance to move further in the competition. They have attended at least one early morning training session every week for a year and have practised through countless recesses and lunch breaks.



The game was held at Bankstown Sports Centre. **Daison Dam, Raphael Frias, Jordan Ha, Kent Khuat, Wilson Le, Jaydon Luc, Steven Nguyen, Kenny Tong, Anthony Tran** and Captain **Daniel Tjen** showed amazing improvement in their skills and teamwork to pull off a convincing three sets to none win. Most valuable player goes to setter Jordan Ha for making the plays possible for his team.



Best of luck to the boys in the second round!

Ms Poon

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT AND VOLUNTEERING INITIATIVE

Chester Hill High School in Partnership with Roundabout Youth Centre, Sefton.

On Wednesday, 15 March, Year 11 students attended the CBD College in Sydney to complete the Barista and Food Handling Course. As a part of this initiative the students will apply their newly learnt skills at the weekly Skate Nights at RYC on Friday evenings which are well attended by many of our families.

The students will also apply their skills here at school when we open the Coffee Club next term. Their services will be offered to senior students and staff.

We thank Bankstown Canterbury Council for funding this Youth Employment Initiative and to RYC for offering this vocational learning to our students.



Mrs Patrizi

Careers Adviser

HOMEWORK HELP

Homework Help operates after school on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

This is a great opportunity for students to get extra help from their teachers with homework and assessments. A number of teachers across a variety of subject areas including ESL and Learning Support are available during this time. Many thanks to the SRC who have taken the initiative of ensuring healthy snacks are available to help students concentrate. Permission notes are required to attend.

Bismellah Rezaie

EARTH HOUR 2017

On Friday, 24 March, Chester Hill High School participated in the Earth Hour awareness campaign. Earth Hour is an event where people all around the world turn off electricity to help our environment for one hour. The day is designed to build awareness of our use of power and our contribution to climate change. While we don't have a famous landmark to turn off to draw attention to the cause, we at CHESO turned off our lights at school for the whole of period 1. During this time students were shown a short video on climate change created by The Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF) to learn about protecting the future of our planet. Check it out at <http://www.earthhour.org.au/documentary-2017/>

Christina Martinovic in year 9

THE HELMSMAN PROJECT

The Helmsman Project has been working closely with Chester Hill High School since 2014. It is an intensive, engaging program that challenges participants and promotes hope, self-regulation and resilience, as well as developing teamwork and leadership skills.

For its first three years, the program did this using sailing as a mechanism. Students would work with mentors to develop these skills, and apply them aboard a boat, as they worked together to successfully sail the high seas (and other assorted waterways).

This year, The Helmsman Project has taken a different tack (pun intended). It's promoting the same skills, but using hiking as a mechanism through which this is achieved.

On 27 and 28 March, **Ahmed Alhasan, Mostafa Alkinany, Mohamad El Dada, Kevin Kasembe, Lam Nhan, Sebastian Ramsey** and **Ali Trad**, along with several Cumberland High

School students, travelled to the Outward Bound Centre on the banks of the mighty Murrumbidgee River, just south of Canberra for their 2 day orientation to the outdoors.

Here, numerous essential skills for roughing it in the great outdoors were acquired, including bivouac setup, camp cooking, and gear selection, amongst others.

With the weather adding another element of challenge, the boys also learnt how to remain safe outdoors in a thunderstorm!

It was encouraging to see boys from the two schools rising to these challenges, and interacting positively and productively to, develop the teamwork skills which will be required for the successful completion of the next challenge - a 5 day hike in term 2. More of that in the next newsletter.

Finally, thanks must go to bus driver extraordinaire **Mr Rosewall**, for driving us to and from the venue. **Mr Criniti**



LIBRARY REPORT

Our Library is looking pretty 'schmick' with some of our library monitors creating a custom-made MANGA sign which now sits proudly at the start of our 'Great Wall of Manga.' Our love of getting lost in the latest Manga series has, in recent weeks, taken a back seat to assessment tasks with all year groups



8am and students can expect a quieter working environment with easier access to both computer terminals and study spaces.

Students are able to print their assessments out (5 cents for black and white and 30 cents for colour) and, using their ID cards or giving us their first and last name, can top up their printing accounts at the borrowing desk. We also have assessment cover sheets available to fill out and staple to the front of your tasks ahead of time.

Ms Campbell



Chester Hill High School

Calendar of Events Term 2 - 2017



Week	Day	Date	Event
1A	Monday	24.4.17	* SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT DAY
	Tuesday	25.4.17	* ANZAC DAY HOLIDAY
	Wednesday	26.4.17	* Students return to school
			* ANZAC Day Assembly
	Friday	28.4.17	* Year 7 History Excursion - Powerhouse Museum
2B	Friday	5.5.17	* SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY - all students (Recess +)
			* 'Cheso the Voice' - auditions Pds 1-2
3A	Monday	8.5.17	* YEAR 11 EXAMS Preliminary Half Yearly Assess Period Commences
			* Year 10 Mathematics Half-Yearly Exam
	Tuesday	9.5.17	* NAPLAN 9/5 - 11/5
	Wednesday	10.5.17	* NAPLAN 9/5 - 11/5
	Thursday	11.5.17	* NAPLAN 9/5 - 11/5
4B	Monday	15.5.17	* YEAR 11 EXAMS Preliminary Half Yearly Assess Period Continues
	Wednesday	17.5.17	* NEWSLETTER AVAILABLE ONLINE <i>www.chesterhillhighschool.com - click on news - then newsletters</i>
5A	Monday	22.5.17	* Year 10 Mock Interview Day
	Wednesday	24.5.17	* Year Meetings
			* COMMUNITY FORUM MEETING (6.00pm) (All parents welcome)
	Thursday	25.5.17	* Year Meetings
6B	Monday	29.5.17	* 'Cheso the Voice' Finals (Lunch and Pd 5)
			* Year 12 Parent/Teacher Meeting 4.00pm - 5.30pm
7A	Thursday	8.6.17	* Year Meetings
8B	Monday	12.6.17	* PUBLIC HOLIDAY - Queen's Birthday
	Thursday	15.6.17	* Regional Cross Country
9A	Wednesday	21.6.17	* NEWSLETTER AVAILABLE ONLINE <i>www.chesterhillhighschool.com - click on news - then newsletters</i>
	Thursday	22.6.17	* MULTICULTURAL FLAG CEREMONY - (9.45am and 12.45pm)
	Friday	23.6.17	* MULTICULTURAL FLAG CEREMONY - (11.15am tickets ONLY)
10B	Wednesday	28.6.17	* ZONE ATHLETICS
			* PARENT/TEACHER NIGHT YEARS 7-11 (4.00pm to 7.30pm)
	Thursday	29.6.17	* ZONE ATHLETICS
	Friday	30.6.17	* Last day of Term 2
UNIFORM SHOP - School Hall Monday, Wednesday, Friday - 1.00pm to 1.30pm Tuesday - 8.30am to 11.30am			