

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Now that Term 3 is well underway, there is serious focus centred on supporting Year 12 through their final weeks and preparing Year 11 for entry into a most significant year in their lives. The High Achievers' Morning Tea has celebrated excellence and dedication to academic performance across all year groups.

With the commencement of Term 3, I have also celebrated my first year anniversary at the helm of Chester Hill High School.



The year has passed so quickly that it feels like yesterday I was the new kid on the block. And yet Cheso is most definitely home now. I look forward to the years to come and seeing your children graduate prepared for the future.

One thing that has been weighing

heavily on the minds of our teachers and Senior Executive is the importance of Reports, Reporting and Parent Teacher Nights.

Much time is invested in compiling reports that accurately reflect your child's progress in order to facilitate improvements to their learning. We believe that maintaining high levels of parent awareness about student progress and promoting student accountability for their productivity is vital. No matter how much time passes, work ethic is key to success. No matter how much time passes, direct parent involvement, particularly during adolescence, is vital for student wellbeing and success.

While we understand that increasingly, parents have a

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multitude of demands on their time, nothing is more important than those occasions in the year when they are required to meet with us and oversee their child's learning and behaviour.

When half a year or a year passes and a report has not been picked up, students not only fail to progress, they regress. Students go backwards in their learning if parents do not supervise and monitor their learning at home.

Reports take hours to write and then edit. They are meant to be a mediating text for discussion between the school, parents and their children. Currently, my staff have asked me to review the format of our reports because they take so much time to compile and many are never seen. My staff have also expressed concern about how few parents attend Parent Teacher night, our Parent Forums and Information sessions.

It is difficult to justify to my staff why we should write detailed reports if our parent community do not value them. In order to determine the course of action we will take in relation to reports and our overall strategic directions for CHHS from 2018-2020, we will be engaging in community consultation. We would very much value your feedback so that we can improve our partnership for the benefit of our student community.

In the coming weeks, we will communicate with our community about how you can provide feedback in relation to planning to address core matters within the school. One of these feedback opportunities will be about the customer service we provide and involves completing an online survey. Parents can access this survey via email. If we do not have your email, register it with the office so we can send you the link. Another way to provide feedback is by attending our Parent Forum in the library. In Term 3, it will be held in Week 5. We look forward to your responses.

Ms Z Dabaja

Principal

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THINK INC

UNSW Aspire offered eight students from Years 11 and 12 an opportunity, funded by the UNSW Science Faculty, to attend the Think Inc. event 'Neil deGrasse Tyson: A Cosmic Perspective' at the newly renovated International Convention Centre at Darling Harbour.

The keynote speaker was the famous New York author, TV personality and astrophysicist Dr Neil deGrasse Tyson. Osher Günsberg (from the reality television show The Bachelor), hosted the event. Students met with UNSW organisers and select students from 6 other schools.

Back stage, students took part in a mini science workshop that also involved question preparation for a meet and greet with Dr Neil deGrasse Tyson. Questions were prepared and three students were chosen to gain insight from one of the great minds of our time. **Danial Raeen Najad** was one of the lucky few selected and represented Cheso proudly. Dr Neil deGrasse Tyson entered into the small backstage room with an eruption of applause after eager anticipation by staff and students. Danial conversed briefly and gained valuable insight for all those listening about the challenges needed to pursue goals and achieve big aspirations.

Students then joined the 4000 audience members awaiting his arrival in the main auditorium. His view of the world and its challenges were delivered through scientific fact, humour and a desire for meaningful and critical learning by everyone in the world. It truly was an experience that was out of this world!

Mr Trovato



PYJAMA DAY

Friday, 28 July saw students exchanging their uniforms for pyjamas and onesies in a fun-filled attempt to raise funds for a worthwhile cause. Those who dressed up made a gold coin donation, contributing to the Pyjama Foundation, assisting kids in foster care.

Altogether, \$466 was raised. Well done Cheso!

It was also a great photo opportunity for our participating students. Check out more of our photos here!

Ms A Smith



AFRICAN DRUMMING

Year 8 students participated in an African Drumming workshop on Tuesday, 25 July. The students had a great time and were able to play the African drums. They were also taught African rhythms and singing patterns. It was a very interactive concert and there were smiles on everyone's faces. All of the teachers supervising also participated in the show, including **Ms Mateus** and **Ms Dabaja**.

We will definitely have the workshop back at Cheso and intent to include Year 7 in the future.

Ms Arnold



THE RUN BEYOND PROJECT

Wednesday, 26 July saw the commencement of this year's Run Beyond Project program at Cheso, which involves five Year 10 students embarking on a journey which see them running a gruelling half-marathon in Hobart in January, 2018.

Along the way, they'll learn some invaluable life-skills, including goal-setting, commitment and resilience. They'll be equipped with the skills necessary to apply these not only to help them complete their goal race, but to help them beyond running, in all aspects of their lives.

Best wishes to **Ngor Akuen, Ahmad Aldale Mousa, Hamid Asghari, Usama Bin Walayat, Hoang Tran** as they commence their travels along this challenging road.

Mr Criniti



VOLLEYBALL CUP

On Friday 4 August, two teams from the Volleyball Club participated in the State Volleyball NSW schools cup. The Open Boys team played extremely competitive matches against James Meehan High, Sydney Boys High and a composite Baulkham Hills High team to finish 2nd on the day.

The under 16s made their tournament debut with a gutsy first match win against Rooty Hill High. However, they met with teams that had more experience than them and were knocked out in a close quarter final against Plumpton High. Congratulations to all the boys on their performance, behaviour and sportsmanship throughout the day.

Ms Poon



Get fit & have fun at Little Athletics!

REGISTRATION DAY

EVERLEY PARK ATHLETICS FIELD

1 BOUNDARY ROAD, SEFTON

- SUNDAY 20TH OF AUGUST 2017

- SUNDAY 27TH OF AUGUST 2017

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

JULIE PLUNKETT 0412634377

ASPIRE EXCURSION

Sara Ak Beek, Shahd Alburgif, Aisha Adra and Sedra Almgharbel, along with girls from Auburn High School had a great day at UNSW during the buzz of the first week of the uni semester. They attended workshops and found their way around campus - Race Around the World style. Students reported positive interactions with the uni students as they asked for help and were encouraged by panel discussions with Aspire members who are also current students at the uni. The girls were buzzing after the experience and excited by the possibilities for future study.

Ms A Smith



REFUGEE WEEK

The SRC got behind Refugee Week in Term 2 by creating a canvas displaying the 2017 slogan "With Courage Let Us all Combine". This is a line for the Australian National Anthem that reflects a desire for Australia to be an open and welcoming society that includes refugees. It is also a recognition that it takes courage to be a refugee. Visitors from the community who attended Flag Day as well as teachers and students were encouraged to sign the canvas to show their support for refugees in our school community.

SRC also created a tree for Harmony Day that tells the story of the many backgrounds of our student body in keeping with Mem Fox's new book I Am Australian Too.

Ms A Smith



ABORIGINAL DANCE GROUP

Our Aboriginal students represented Cheso with pride as they performed at Blaxcell St Public School and Lansvale Public School during the recent NAIDOC week celebrations. They not only entertained the primary students, but also taught them about Aboriginal cultures and traditions.

Ms K. Thwaites



YEAR 10 CONNECT PROGRAM

Five Year 10 Cheso students were invited to participate in ASPIRE Connect. This event was a three-day academic enrichment event which took place from 27-29 June. The event aimed to show students the connection between subjects taken at school, courses studied at university and the possible career opportunities that can open up from gaining a degree.

Students chose a subject area in which they were interested and participated in a range of on-campus faculty workshops in that area. These included looking at environmental and social issues through gene development, solving legal issues, visiting exhibitions, developing creative works of art, designing towers and testing their physical limits in the exercise lab.

Students spent a day visiting workplaces and organisations such as the Australian Film, Television and Radio School (AFTRS), the Reserve Bank of Australia, the City of Sydney, Google, NSW Parliament House, the Opera House, the Children's Cancer Institute, who all generously opened their doors for behind the scenes tours.

Students were able to interact with staff who spoke about their own careers and shared their journey to university and beyond. Students were able to hear that everyone's experience is different and the pathways to university don't always go in a straight line.

Back on campus the following day, students were given more information about university, scholarships, entry schemes and study skills.

To bid everyone farewell, students were invited to participate in a performance by "Sound Your Voice". Students composed their own lyrics and were combined to make a short song that was performed by 130 students. Students walked away with a graduation token from the University of NSW.

Rawah El Samman



LINKS TO LEARNING

16 Year 10 Girls completed the Links to Learning program on Wednesday, 28 June, facilitated by Jenni and Tinousi, Youth Advisors from MTC Australia.

Over 16 weeks, the girls engaged in inspirational and collaborative workshops that provided them with learning opportunities aimed at improving their education, employment and life skills. Individualised plans were also developed collaboratively with students to identify goals and strategies for their transition from Links to Learning projects to their base school.

The program also included group workshops addressing the topics below and also included individual support sessions to support students' individual needs.

Topics covered included:

- Goal Setting
- Self-Esteem and Resilience
- Anger Management
- Team Building Skills
- Communication Skills
- Work Ready Skills
- Healthy Relationships including consent
- Rights and Responsibilities

The girls celebrated the end of the program and were issued with certificates of participation.

Rawah El Samman

Transition Adviser



CHESTER HILL HIGH SCHOOL

DECISION TIME

YEAR 8

**STUDENTS AND PARENTS
TO SELECT SUBJECTS**

When: Monday 21 August 2017
Time: 4.00pm - 5.00pm
Where: School Hall - Miller Rd Entrance

DECISION TIME

**YEAR 10 & YEAR 11 BRIDGING
STUDENTS AND PARENTS**

TO SELECT SUBJECTS

When: Monday 21 August 2017
Time: 5.30pm - 6.45pm
Where: School Hall - Miller Rd Entrance

INTERPRETERS

FACULTY DISPLAYS

REFRESHMENTS



Chester Hill High School Calendar of Events - Term 3 - 2017



1A	Monday	17.7.17	* School Development Day
	Friday	21.7.17	* State Cross Country
2B	Thursday	27.7.17	* Mathematics Competition
3A	Tuesday	1.8.17	* Regional Athletics - Campbelltown Athletics Centre
	Wednesday	2.8.17	* Regional Athletics - Campbelltown Athletics Centre
	Friday	4.8.17	* High Achievers' Morning Tea Years 7-12 (9.30am)
4B	Monday	7.8.17	* Year 12 – Trial HSC Examinations to 18/8
	Wednesday	9.8.17	* NEWSLETTER AVAILABLE ONLINE www.chesterhillhighschool.com - click on news - then newsletters
5A	Monday	14.8.17	* Year 12 – Trial HSC Examinations continue to 18/8
	Wednesday	16.8.17	* COMMUNITY FORUM MEETING (6.00pm)
6B	Monday	21.8.17	* DECISION TIME (Yrs 8, 10, 11 Bridging Subject Selection) (Year 8 - 4.00pm-5.00pm) (Year 10 & 11 Bridging 5.30pm-6.45pm)
	Wednesday	23.8.17	* Year Meetings
	Thursday	24.8.17	* Year Meetings
7A	Tuesday	29.8.17	* YEAR 10 FORMAL INTERVIEW DAY - Parents/Students (1.00pm+) (selected students and appointments)
8B	Monday	4.9.17	* NAPLAN Online Trial-Years 7 and 9
	Wednesday	6.9.17	* Year Meetings
	Thursday	7.9.17	* Year Meetings
			* State Athletics
	Friday	8.9.17	* State Athletics
9A	Monday	11.9.17	* YEAR 11 PRELIMINARY EXAMS commence
	Wednesday	13.9.17	* NEWSLETTER AVAILABLE ONLINE www.chesterhillhighschool.com - click on news - then newsletters
10B	Monday	18.9.17	* YEAR 11 PRELIMINARY EXAMS continue to 22/9
	Thursday	21.9.17	* YEAR 12 FAREWELL ASSEMBLY – Hall (10.00am – 11.00am)

Last Day Term 3 – Friday 22.9.17 First Day Term 4 – Monday 9.10.17
Please Note: Dates/Times correct at time of publication

Uniform Shop (School Hall): Term 3
Mon, Wed, Fri - 1.00pm to 1.30pm Tues 8.30am to 11.30am