



Kirrawee High News

21 HUNTER ST. KIRRAWEE 2232 PH: 9521 2099 FAX: 9545 1547 WEB ADDRESS:
www.kirrawee-h.schools.nsw.edu.au EMAIL: kirrawee-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

30 September 2009

Principal's Report

Higher School Certificate

On behalf of the Kirrawee High school community I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our students undertaking the 2009 HSC a successful outcome from their studies. With many students producing outstanding results, across all subject areas in the recently completed Trial HSC, we are now expecting some outstanding HSC results.

While the end of formal schooling is in sight for these students the pressure is now really building with the start next term of the HSC examinations and post school choices that students will be compelled to make. Encourage them to speak to their teachers about their future and the pressure of the HSC. Mrs. Matthews and Mr. Olovich have particular expertise in advising young people about options post school and are great resources for the students.

If you have a daughter or son about to sit the HSC it is timely to remind them that applying for as many options as possible is good advice. Whether it is for a scholarship, university, TAFE, apprenticeship, traineeship, private provider or a job they should plan a fallback position just in case things in the HSC do not proceed exactly as expected. If students receive multiple offers they are then in a position to choose the best option.

Talking to your daughter or son about setting their sights high is also good advice as many students often underestimate their ability. Helping them develop future work and lifestyle goals will give them the confidence to aim high.

Year 9 Laptops

We expect to distribute to our Year 9 students their new laptops from the beginning of Week 2 Term 4. They will be rolled out over a three day period with each laptop taking about an hour to be commissioned.

There will be an information evening for parents/carers on Wednesday, 30 September at 7.30 pm in the auditorium and I would encourage all Year 9 parents/carers to attend. The Laptop User Charters to be signed will be issued on the evening and parents/carers can choose to hand back a signed Charter on the night. You should note that students will not be issued with a laptop if we do not have a signed copy of the Laptop User Charter.

Our teaching staff have spent many hours of their own time in professional learning activities relating to technology over recent weeks. Moodle training is proving very popular and many faculties will have material available on the Moodle website which students will be able to access.

We are also planning parent/carer activities to be held in a variety of forums to help keep you up to date with understanding the use of the new technologies at the school and the ways you can assist your daughter or son's learning

New Leaving Age for Students

Since 1943 it has been compulsory for students in NSW to attend school until the age of 15. Under new state government legislation which comes in to operation from the beginning of next year the following changes will apply:

1. From 2010, all NSW students must complete Year 10.
2. After Year 10 and until the age of 17 students must be:
 - a. in school, or registered for home schooling OR
 - b. in approved education or training OR
 - c. in full-time, paid employment (average 25 hours/week) OR
 - d. in a combination of these
3. This applies to students who complete Year 10 in 2009 and to all subsequent years.

You can find out more information at www.schools.nsw.edu.au

To all students and their families I wish you a safe and happy spring break.

Bob Hollywood
Principal

Outstanding Achievements

- Michaela Bassford from Year 10 was the winner of the Sutherland Shire Bi-Centennial Public Speaking Completion – Senior Division for 2009.
- Blake Riosa from Year 11 won an award in the Learning Resource Category in the DET Centre for Learning Innovations Competition. He was one of four out of five hundred entrants who won a \$4000 software prize for the school.
- Jaiman Stack was selected as the NSWCHS Swimming Captain at the Australian Championships.
- The Year 10 Debating Team (Jodie Cooper, Michaela Bassford, Christopher Fox, Briarne Jance and Hannah Robinson) were the winners in the Sydney Region Debating Competition.

Year 11 and Their Pattern of Studies for the HSC

As Term 3 progresses, thought needs to be given to each student's projected pattern of studies for the final HSC qualification. Each student will be faced with different choices, depending on the pattern of studies they have followed in the Preliminary course. There are three points that do apply to every student.

- You must "satisfactorily complete" 12 units of the preliminary course before you can begin the HSC course. This means that even if you intend to drop a course at the end of Term 3 you must satisfactorily complete all its preliminary assessment items and work requirements.
- You must study a minimum of 10 units in Year 12 to qualify for the HSC. Some students, because of extension studies (see below), may do more. Some students may choose to continue with all 12 of their preliminary units. Past experience shows that more than 12 units are best avoided, as such a heavy load in the final year of schooling is counter-productive.
- It is not possible to pick up, for the HSC stage, a 2 Unit subject which has not been studied in the preliminary stage.

Varying Choices

- Students who are studying English (Extension 1), Maths (Extension 1), any Language (Continuers), Music (2Unit) or History (Ancient or Modern) may pick up an extra Extension Course in that subject (the relevant teachers will tell you about these courses during Term 3).
- Students who are studying Photography or Visual Design should note that these courses end with the completion of the preliminary stage.
- If a student is currently studying two of these one-unit subjects, it may mean that they have no scope to drop another subject.

Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (formerly UAI) or not?

In addition to the award of the HSC, you must decide if you wish to qualify for an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR). It is not compulsory to do so, though the majority of students do. This may affect your choice of subjects for

the HSC stage. All Board Developed courses count towards the calculation of an ATAR (this includes all extension courses). Some courses are called Category B courses. At Kirrawee these are **Construction and Hospitality**. Whilst a student can study more than one of these courses to qualify for the HSC, only two units of Category B courses can be counted when calculating the ATAR. Therefore, if you are intending to do 10 units of study and this includes two Category B courses, you will qualify for the HSC but the ATAR will only include one of your Category B course results.

More information on the Higher School Certificate is available from the Board of Studies website: (www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au) or from the Universities Admissions Centre (www.uac.edu.au)

Mr P Myers, DP Curriculum and Mr S Dixon, HSC Coordinator

Maths Matters

Earlier this term the Mathematics faculty sent older text books to a newly set up high school in Katoke, (Tanzania). Along with these texts a number of ex library and History books was also sent. These books will help the school with much needed resources.

Next term parents will be receiving reports for their children in Years 7 to 10. For Mathematics there are two sections:

1. Report mark : this is a mark based on the performance of the student within each group

For Year 7 (the class)
For Year 8 (the three levels)
For Years 9 and 10 (the course i.e. 5.1, 5.2 or 5.3)
2. Overall Grade: this is based on the student's performance measured against the outcomes for the whole ability range within each year.

School Newsletters – via email

As part of ongoing improvements, it is planned to introduce the sending of the school newsletter by email.

It will start with the next newsletter in September. The benefits of supplying the newsletter via email are a large cost saving to the school, a better copy with colour photographs (that may be downloaded and printed) and a more environmentally appropriate form.

In order for this to happen, current email contacts are required. **To ensure that your email address is correct could you please email the school at**

kirrawee-h.admin@det.nsw.edu.au

Please include the full names and roll classes of all your children in the body of the email.

Thank you.

LEARNING TO DRIVE? PREPARING FOR YOUR DRIVING TEST?

FRIENDLY AND PATIENT TUITION AND FLEXIBLE HOURS
SO YOU CAN LEARN WHEN IT SUITS YOU.

\$5 DISCOUNT ON FIRST LESSON FOR KIRRAWEE HIGH STUDENTS WHEN YOU MENTION THIS AD.
AUTOMATIC ONLY.

CALL ANTHONY ON 0409 531 016



Uniform Shop News

Our Annual Sales Night will be held on Tuesday 17 November, 2009 from 3.00 – 7.00pm in the School Hall. All suppliers of our school uniform will be present so it is a great opportunity to purchase uniforms. Discount are offered on this night.

The Uniform Shop has a large range of second hand uniform, at very reasonable prices, for sale on Thursday 8.15 – 9.15 am. Donations are always welcome.

Thank you.



Digital Education Revolution – NSW (DER) Laptop Program

The educational landscape in NSW will present many new and exciting opportunities over the next few years for high schools with the most immediate being the Digital Education Revolution – NSW.

As part of the DER – NSW we will provide a laptop computer to every current Year 9 student at the beginning of next term. Students may keep the laptop if they complete Year 12. Students who leave school or move out of the government school system must return their laptops.

As a condition of ownership, the Department of Education and Training require parents/carers and students to sign a Laptop User Charter prior to issue of the laptop. Students will not be issued with a laptop until this has been completed and returned to the school.

On Wednesday, 30 September at 7.30pm in the auditorium our school will provide information to parents of all Year 9 students regarding requirements, ownership, damage or loss of laptops, laptop care and acceptable computer and internet use. It is strongly recommended that students and a parent/carer be in attendance at this meeting to receive and sign the Laptop User Charter.

Technology Support for Parents

As mentioned in the earlier article about the DER, technology has become an important part of all teaching and learning in schools.

There are many quality and informative websites out there to help parents support their child through their schooling. Some of the better ones from the Department of Education and Training and the Board of Studies that parents might like to visit are listed below:



www.schools.nsw.edu.au/click



<http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/news/>



<http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/>

Safety Around The School

As everyone is aware, the entrance to the school car park is next to the wombat crossing. This poses great safety issues if parents drive into the car park to drop students off and then exit via the same entrance whilst staff are driving in. This is an accident waiting to happen with cars stopped at the crossing, students crossing and cars entering and exiting the car park.

Please do not drive into the school car park. Let students off in the street and let them walk into the school grounds.

Also, arrange to meet students down the street from the school in the afternoon. Six buses arrive to pick up students from the front of the school in Hunter Street at 3 pm. Please do not park on the school side of Hunter Street between Kirk Crescent and Duneba Road in the afternoon as this restricts bus entry and thus affect the safety of our students.

Dates to Remember:

Wednesday 30 September	7.00pm DER Laptop Year 9 Parent Information Evening
Thursday 1 October	9.30am SRC Induction
Friday 2 October	9.30am Year 12 Graduation Ceremony
Monday 2 November	7.30pm P & C Meeting
Wednesday 17 November	3.00 -7.00pm Uniform Selling night in the Hall

Dance News

A big thank you to all the dancers, parents and friends who help support the Kirrawee Dance Department at our Annual Dance Showcase Evening which was held on the 8th September. The evening proved to be a big success and would not have run so well without your help and support. Thank You.

Congratulations to the Junior Dance Ensemble and Troupe who performed at the Winter Charity Dance Festival at Woollooware High School. The girl's behaviour was exceptional and they all danced beautifully. Special congratulations to the Junior Dance Ensemble who placed 1st with their piece 'Bedtime Stories.'

Also congratulations to the Senior, Intermediate and Junior Dance Companies who represented Kirrawee High School at the State Dance Festival at the Seymour Centre on the 16 – 19th September.

The students did a fantastic job performing with excellent commitment and focus and received excellent comments on how beautiful they all performed. Congratulations and well done!

Kirrawee High also has 14 students who are members of the State Dance Ensembles and Companies who also performed beautifully at the State Dance Festival.

Carla Cherrie
Dance Teacher

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy 2009

In May 2009 our Year 7 and Year 9 students completed National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) tests. All students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 in all government and non-government schools participated in the tests. This program assessed the literacy and numeracy learning of students in all Australian schools.

In New South Wales the NAPLAN tests have replaced the Basic Skills Tests (BST), English Language and Literacy Assessment (ELLA) and Secondary Numeracy Assessment Program (SNAP). Results of the tests provide important information to schools about what each student can do, and will be used to support teaching and learning programs.

Last week the results were sent home with students. Each report indicates the child's level of achievement against the national minimum standard.

Parents who have not received the results should check with their child in the first instance and then contact their child's year adviser if they still haven't received the results.

A report on the school's performance in the tests will be contained in the Annual School Report published at the end of Term 1 in 2010.

To facilitate access to NAPLAN information for parents of NSW school students, a new website

www.naplanforparentsnsw.com.au

has been developed. In addition to general information about NAPLAN, this website contains documents to assist parents in understanding the student report and the NAPLAN reporting scales. Parents are also invited to provide feedback on NAPLAN reporting by completing an online survey.

The Higher School Certificate

All of our Year 12 students have now completed their Trial HSC examination. Our final task is to prepare them for their Higher School Certificate examinations that begin on Tuesday, 20 October.

Parents can greatly assist their child by monitoring their preparations ensuring that students are balancing their lifestyle and that they come to the examination at the right time on the right days. By now all students should have accessed the BOS website using their own PIN and downloaded a personalised exam timetable. A full timetable is available from the following web address:

http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/events/pdf_doc/hsc-timetable-booklet-09.pdf

During the examinations, if a student suffers from an illness or misadventure, parents should contact the Deputy Principal, Mr Myers immediately.

A reminder to all parents that we will be holding our Graduation Ceremony for Year 12 students on 2 October at 9.30am. All parents and family are invited to attend the ceremony.

Attendance Monitoring

The school is looking at implementing a notification of student absence system. To enable this, we need up to date parent mobile phone numbers. Parents of students in Years 9, 10 and 11 should have received a letter to update contact information, particularly mobile phone numbers. We believe our records for Year 7 and 8 students should be correct, but if you have changed your mobile phone number please send the new details to the school.

As well as closely monitoring attendance and keeping parents informed when students are not at school, the new system will save time for parents, who will be able to reply with a reason for absence, and school administration staff.

Mr Houldin

Uniform

Many students are wearing incorrect school shoes – ones that do not conform to OHS guidelines. Black lace-up leather shoes that enclose the instep are the only acceptable ones. Canvas shoes and slip on shoes are not suitable. Students are not allowed to participate in practical classes if their footwear is unacceptable.

Students are to wear full school uniform to school and then change into PE uniform and then change back at the end of the PE lesson.

Important Public Transport Information

- There will be timetable changes affecting all lines throughout the CityRail network on October 11.
- As a result, many bus timetables will also change to facilitate connections with CityRail services...
- In some areas bus routes will also change.

You can now view the new CityRail timetables and other information about the changes at 131500.com.au. New bus timetables will also be available from this website in the near future.

Make sure you check your journey before the end of Term 3 as the new timetables will start during the October school holidays

Year 12 Careers Information

Students completing their HSC are now left with the task of entering post school options in employment or further education and training. A number of services and events are still available to assist students in their decision making.

Firstly at school they can consult with the Careers Adviser who can point them in directions up until the end of the school year. During the summer holidays they are able to speak with advisers via telephone. Contact details will be mailed to all students.

Universities will also have open days around this time so students can seek last minute information as to suitable courses. Anyone interested in TAFE courses needs to attend

their enrolment dates early in the new year (contact the appropriate campus for exact times) or submit application forms for some courses by October 31st 2009.

For those intending on entering full or part-time employment they can contact employers directly or register with Centrelink on 132850, who can then relay students to local job network providers.

Lastly, the school needs to conduct (early next year) a destination survey of all Year 12 – HSC 2008 students to find out what ex pupils have chosen in terms of courses of study and jobs. This provides statistics to enable the government to analyze and plan for the future. It would be appreciated if all ex students could call the school or the Careers Adviser and let us know the details of your post school activities.

Good luck.

John Olovich
(Careers Adviser)

Careers News

Southern Sydney Volunteer Expo 2009

Thursday 22nd October, 2009 11.00 – 5.00pm at Hurstville Entertainment Centre.

A variety of organisations brought together for one day under one roof, discover the key to successful volunteering by matching an opportunity with your talents. It's what the Southern Sydney Volunteer Expo is all about. There will be information stalls, refreshments, entertainment and free entry.

www.volunteerexpo.com.au

Ph: 8558 4000

Career and Youth Services Expo

A free parent and teenager information evening will be held on Wednesday 29th October, 2009 from 3.00 – 7.00pm at Gymea Trade Union Club, The Kingsway, Gymea.

Come and meet service providers face to face, take home useful information, ask questions and discuss options for your teenagers. Over 40 different services will be represented including: TAFE and private training providers, Youth Pathways, local youth services, employers and employment services, Centrelink, Careers Advisers, School Counsellors, health services and many more!

Please register by Friday 16 October, 2009 to Diana Lang on 9531 3975

or email: daina.lang@sutherlandben.org.au

Online registrations are available at

www.sutherlandben.org.au

CHS Athletics

Three relay teams and 12 individual students competed at the CHS Athletics Championships. The following are the Top 8 finishers:

- Lauren Parsons: 3rd 3000m, 2nd 1500m, 2nd 800m
- Michaela Davies: 3rd 1500m, 2nd 800m
- Nicola Keane: 4th 400m, 8th 200m.
- Kate Beattie: 5th High Jump
- Christie Picken: 6th High Jump
- Lace Temana: 4th 800m
- Michael Northey: 5th 90m Hurdles
- Jacqui Guy, Maddison Schmid, Nicola Keane, Anica Waddell 7th 4 X 100m Relay

Special mention to Lucinda Wessells who made it to CHS all 6 years she was at High School.

All Schools Athletics Knockout

Kirrawee competed in the U/15 Division with 15 other schools, finishing 11th to PLC. The Top 2 Schools qualify for the Australian All Schools.

The best individual performances were Nicola Keane 1st in the 400m, Toni Anderson 1st in the High Jump and Kate Beattie 3rd in the High Jump. Both girls equaled or bettered their previous personal best jumps, as did Bree Hermann running in the 1500m.

Team members were Nicola Keane, Maddison Schmid, Bree Hermann, Rebecca Riggs, Lace Temana, Toni Anderson, Kate Beattie and Christie Picken.

Thanks also to the parents who came along and supported at both carnivals.

Derek Hulme
Sports Coordinator

Sutherland Shire High Schools Oztag Challenge

At the recent Sutherland Shire High Schools Oztag Challenge, Kirrawee High School was the Champion School for the third year in a row.

- The Years 9/10 Girls came first with a win in the final against Endeavour Sports High School. Jacqui guy scored a try in golden point.
- The Years 7/8 Girls came first with a winning 3 – 2 in the final against Heathcote. Charlotte Williamson scored all three tries in the final.
- The Years 9/10 Boys came third.

- The Years 7/8 Boys came second after losing the final 5-4 in golden point.

Congratulations

- Lauren Trigg, Jake Beckinsale, Luke and Matt Williams successfully competed at the Australian Junior Cycling Road Championships last weekend in Canberra. Both Lauren and Jack were members of the NSW team.

Helensburgh/Stanwell Park Nipper & Senior Registration Dates 2009:

Saturday 12th September 2009 (8am - 12noon)*

Near Pizzarama, Walker St Helensburgh

Saturday 19th September 2009 (10am-1pm) at

Helensburgh/Stanwell Park Surf Club,

Beach Rd, Stanwell Park

Sunday 18th October 2009 (8:45am onwards) Pool Swim,

Helensburgh Memorial Pool (attendance counted)

Sunday 25th October 2009 (8:45am) First Pointscore at

Helensburgh/Stanwell Park Surf Club

Any enquiries, please contact

Daniel Robberds on 0422 475 003 or visit the club website at

www.stanwellparksurfclub.com

Boys Baseball

The boy's baseball team achieved the best results ever in the state competition. After playing local schools and winning, including defeating Endeavour Sports High School, the team progressed into the quarter finals. They had a convincing win over Crestwood High 13 to 1 who were a previous state champion team.

On Tuesday 15th September, the team took the drive to Frenchs Forest to play Davidson High in the state semi-final. The boys led for the first 5 innings. Unfortunately in the last innings, a few aspects went against us and Davidson High ran out winners. Thank you to Mrs Dodd who arranged the new uniforms for the team.

Congratulations to the following team members for their outstanding performance this year to be placed third in the state.

Brock Dodd, Rhys Mort, Andrew Gray, Sam Withers, Jarrad Moon, Bryce Lincoln, Sean Davey, Blake Malone, Ryan Willis, Trent Leitch, Ryan Gannon, Coen Simmons-Smith, Corey Willis, Adam Sullivan and Kai Sakakibara

Clive Houldin