

Parent Newsletter

Hurlstone Agricultural High School

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2013 Issue 8 - Term 2 - Week 8

Friday 21st June

UPCOMING EVENTS

TERM 2—WEEK 9

Monday 24 June

HAHS Band Tour
Zone Athletics Carnival
Year 12 Modern History Task
Year 11 English Advanced Task
Year 11 English Standard Task
Year 11 Japanese Task
Year 10 Drama Task

Tuesday 25 June

HAHS Band Tour
Zone Athletics Carnival
Science & Engineering Challenge
Year 12 Modern History Task
Year 11 English Advanced Task
Year 11 English Standard Task
Year 11 Mathematics 2 Unit Task
Year 11 Mathematics General Task
Year 11 Mathematics Extension 1 Task

Wednesday 26 June

HAHS Band Tour
Rural Youth Dinner
Year 12 Modern History Task
Year 11 English Advanced Task
Year 11 English Standard Task
Year 10 Science Task
Year 10 Drama Task

Thursday 27 June

Parent Teacher Evening
Year 12 English Advanced Task
Year 12 English Standard Task
Year 12 PD/H/PE Task
Year 11 English Advanced Task
Year 11 English Standard Task
Year 11 PD/H/PE Task
Year 10 Drama Task

Friday 28 June

Last Day of Term
Boarders Return Home
Prefect Induction Ceremony
Year 11 English Advanced Task
Year 11 English Standard Task
Year 9 PD/H/PE Task
Year 8 PD/H/PE Task
Year 7 PD/H/PE Task

TERM 3—WEEK 1

Monday 15 July

School Development Day
Boarders Return After 3:00pm

Tuesday 16 July

All Classes Resume
Year 12 Chemistry Task
Year 11 Physics Task

Thursday 18 July

Year 12 Senior Science Task
Year 8 English Task
Year 7 English Task

Friday 19 July

Formal Assembly
Japanese Language Centre Excursion
Year 11 English Extension 1 Task
Year 10 Japanese Task



The Teaching and Learning Committee met with academic mentor Dr Gill Forster last week. Under the leadership of Head Teacher, Teaching and Learning Ms Jo Twomey, team members Mr Hall Yates, Mrs Roxanne West, Ms Rebecca Ross and Mrs Sandra Gutesa will plan direction and strategies to support teachers in delivering quality teaching in the twenty-first century. The work of the team will lead innovation in the implementation of the new Australian Curriculum. We are at a crucial moment if we are going to realise the conditions required for successful learners to develop their capacity to

learn. Successful learners will need to be creative, innovative, resourceful and enterprising; successful learners will also need to use their initiative, plan activities independently, collaborate and work in teams.

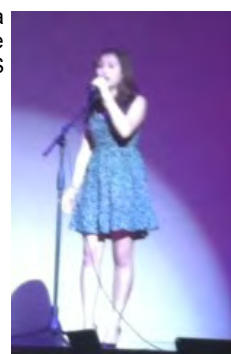
Both subject selection evenings were well attended by parents last week. Head Teacher Teaching and Learning Jo Twomey organised the well structured evenings to guide student and parent choice around subject selection for students moving into Years 9 and 11 in 2014. The meticulous organisation combined with the attendance of knowledgeable course representatives were greatly appreciated by parents.



Under the supervision of Deputy Principal Nick Wenban, Careers Adviser Therese Ejsak and teacher Samir Seblani, 55 prefects travelled to the Toukley Recreation Centre for a three day leadership camp this week. Voting for the day school senior leadership team will take place during the camp. For day school prefects the process began with Mrs Ejsak, Mrs Hewett and myself reviewing numerous prefect applications. Boarding school voting occurred last week. We look forward to the Prefect Induction 9:30am Friday 28 June at Edmondson Hall.



It is great to see the media reporting stories of HAHS student success. This week's *The Land* newspaper has published a detailed article on Laura Nesbitt's achievements and her pursuit of a career in agriculture. Well done also to Christina Wu responsible for bringing the Lion's Club of Ingleburn Youth of the Year Quest trophy to HAHS where it will reside for the next twelve months. Congratulations also to Amanda Ramos on reaching the final round of auditions for the Schools' Spectacular Featured Artists - the first HAHS student to reach this level.



Promotion of HAHS continued last weekend with Head Teacher Secondary Studies, Mr Craig Butler, pictured below, and Enterprise Development Manager Danielle Krix travelling to Griffith to attend the Boarding Schools' Expo. While numbers at the Expo were relatively low across the weekend, there was a certain interest shown in Hurlstone. HAHS will have a presence at the Mudgee Farm Expo 11-13 July and I look forward to travelling to the Tamworth Expo with Deputy Principal Boarding, Christine Castle on 25-27 July. We believe attendance at these events is an investment in expanding boarder numbers for the school's future.

Visiting practising teachers are always welcomed and strongly supported at HAHS. Natalie Baljak, a Science practising teacher recently shared her positive impressions of the school and students. Natalie, pictured below centre, was extremely grateful to have been given an opportunity to work with our gifted students in Science and spoke highly of the supportive staff with whom she had worked. Mr Andy Wilson, PD/H/PE teacher below right, also praised the efforts of two PD/H/PE prac students, Christina Puglisi and Sheridan Worthington, who brought high levels of



enthusiasm and energy to the faculty.

This week: staff members Jo Twomey, Sue Pritchard and I will speak with visiting educators from Thailand Wednesday 19 June; the first meeting of the Roy Watts Rd Committee 2:00pm Thursday 20 June; the Gentlemen's Convention lunch time Friday 21 June; and the eagerly awaited school musical production *Guys & Dolls* 7:00pm Thursday - Saturday evenings.

Next week: The school orchestra departs Sunday morning 23 June for a tour of the Cooma – Jindabyne region; evaluation of the students' Factor Performance Award submissions; a Teacher Leader program workshop on interview techniques for interested staff from 2:45pm Wednesday 26 June; the Rural Youth Dinner 6:00pm Wednesday 26 June, Ingleburn RSL; Parent –Teacher night from 3:30pm Thursday 27 June and Prefect Induction 9:30am Friday 28 June. I look forward to reporting on these and other events in the next newsletter.

Kerrie Wratten



Some of the Girls Group on the Year 11 Outdoor Recreation Camp

UNIFORM SHOP

The Uniform Shop will be closed on Tuesdays during Term 3.
Trading hours on Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays are as normal.

Hurlstone Agricultural High School Presents

GUYS

Venue - John
Edmondson
Hall

Dolls

AND

**THEATRE WORLD
AWARD
'BEST ACT'**

*Ticket prices -
Adult \$15,
Student \$10,
Family \$45*

Dates - 20
June, 21
June, 22
June -
7pm

**LAURENCE OLIVIER AWARD
'OUTSTANDING MUSICAL'**



**EVENING STANDARD
AWARD
'BEST DIRECTOR'**

**Being a major success
story on Broadway**

**Guys and Dolls is an incredible musical which
was premiered first in the 1950's and is still
an outstanding performance for all ages.**

LEAVE THIS DATE OPEN IN YOUR DIARY. The 2013 Hurlstone production of Guys and Dolls will be presented from June 20 – 22. Tickets will be on sale for cast and crew from May 27 and for the general public from May 31. Tickets cost \$15 for adults, \$10 for children and \$45 for family tickets. Payment is to be made to the Registrar's Office and the receipt is to be presented to Ms Keegan in the Cottage for seating allocation.

MUSIC NEWS—GUYS AND DOLLS

It's finally arrived..... the day you have been waiting for....Guys and Dolls, a Hurlstonian Production, consisting of a cast of 50 and accompanied by a 40-piece orchestra. Come and enjoy the magical experience. Thursday 20 – Saturday 22 June, commencing at 7pm. Tickets are \$10 for student/concession, \$15 for adults and \$45 for family. Tickets are available at the door.

COUNTRY FAIR PARENT HELPERS

The Country Fair Committee is still after parents to help with activities and preparation for the Country Fair, to be held on Saturday 31st August. This is an exciting day, where farm activities, rides, novelties and food all come together to help raise money for the school. As a parent, if you feel that you can give some of your time on the day, or assist with the organisation of the event, please contact Phil Wall on the email address below. It doesn't matter what your skills or expertise are, we can use you!!

Phil Wall phillip.wall@anz.com

YEAR 11 PE OUTDOOR RECREATION CAMP



The Year 11 PD/H/PE class have recently returned from their 3 day trek through the Budawang Ranges inland from Ulladulla on the NSW South Coast. The boys and girls went on separate camps. The boys camp (staffed by Mr Wilson Snr and Mr Hughes) had fine but windy weather where as the girls camp (staffed by Mr Wilson Snr, Miss Cody and Mr Pitt – recently retired Science Head Teacher) encountered wind and rain with both groups having to negotiate kilometres of muddy track conditions. Students had to be fully self sufficient, carrying all they needed to survive for 3 days in a large back pack. Accommodation was in caves with a view of the sky, meals were prepared on small fuel stoves, transport was by feet (sometimes knees and hands) over about 40km of rough terrain including rain forest, creeks, swamps, boulders and rock faces. Navigation was difficult at the end of a long day's trekking as dark descended and head torches were used to follow the track and find the night's camp site. One of the major goals was to climb the 'Castle' – a large and imposing mountain topped by large cliff faces broken by crevasses and dislodged boulders. Both groups were successful in getting most of their members to the top of the difficult climb with many students being pushed to their limits (discovering new limits). Students had thoroughly prepared for the adventure during class in the weeks leading up to the

camp. This included learning navigation, bush survival, food preparation, first aid and equipment selection. The students now have a greater understanding of what they are capable of and how far they can push themselves as well as the importance of teamwork and trust. They have a deeper appreciation for outdoor recreation, the Australian bush and for all the comforts of home that are so often taken for granted.



**Scenes from the
Year 11 Outdoor
Recreation Camp**

HURLSTONE CANTEEN- IT IS A SMALL WORLD!

Well, who has not been to the HAHS canteen yet? Who has not foraged into his/her pockets to find that lost dollar or 50 cents to get a TNT or a fruit bomb on a hot summer day?

Today, we put the spotlight on our school canteen and more particularly on the hard working dedicated team running it. The canteen not only helps to keep our kids fuelled up during the day but it also provides important financial support to the P&C. As one of the P&C sub committees, the canteen's profits go back into the P&C coffers and ultimately back to the kids!

Our canteen manager, Ruta, knows what is involved running this little world ... she has kindly answered some of our questions:

Q: How long have you been HAHS canteen manager?

A: This is my 15th year! I started in February 1998; the job was advertised and I started as paid staff in the position of Manager.

Q: Anything funny you remember about your career at the Canteen?

A: Yes, one day, I opened the door and found a little marsupial inside shivering in the dead of winter.

Q: Any highlights?

A: Yes, seeing previous students come back as Trainee Teachers ... Also having students come back to get some food because they have missed the goodies on the menu - they now appreciate how reasonable our prices are

Q: Our canteen is a relatively small place, with a number of hot cooking items; how many can be working in the canteen to help you at any one time?

A: Realistically two mums and at lunch time, we can have up to 3 students to help serve the food - anymore and it gets too hectic!

Q: What is the best moment of your day?

A: End of lunch - knowing that our happy customers have all been fed.

Q: What do you do to relax after a hard day at work?

A: I might have a read in bed, do some cross stitch or cross-words and water the garden or knit.

Kids, now that you know more about this hard working lady behind the counter, go say hi! And may be a "Thank You" ... She is not alone – Helen and Lucy are the two other ladies you will see at the canteen. Both ladies had kids in the school before and from mum volunteers have now clocked in a few years as paid staff. They were just happy to stay because it fitted in their busy mother's schedule. This little team is not alone ... they need our HAHS volunteer mums' helping hands to keep the canteen running. Behind the scenes, this small world cannot run without Debbie, the Treasurer, paying wages and adding the dollars, Aarti, our Secretary to take the minutes of our meetings and Corinne, the Convenor to liaise with the P&C and the school.

More than ever, we want this small world to run smoothly, this is why we are making an appeal to you - Kids (to talk to your parents) and to you, parents of HAHS community to come out and help. We need fresh blood – mums, dads, grand-mas and grand-dads – we want you in our ranks you can get as involved as you want to be - 3 hours of your day - making sandwiches and buttering bread rolls ... is not much but it is heaps for us. Who knows? What started as a volunteer job can land you a job working school hours with us!!

Contact: Ruta (Canteen Manager) on 0414-428-321 or Corinne (Canteen Convenor) on 0411-042-630

Corinne Jacquin/Sneddon—Canteen Convenor



Prepared for future in ag

By NICK HEYDON

YEAR 12 student Laura Nesbitt has her eyes firmly set on an agricultural career and wants more young people like her to pursue what she considers to be an exciting and important field of study.

Laura has been attending Hurlstone Agricultural High School for the past 18 months, before that she went to school back home in Cooma.

She said the decision to attend Hurlstone was based on her desire to pursue agriculture as a career path, as the school offered a very good agricultural program.

She said her desire goes back to a young age, and she had long wanted to become a rural vet.

"I'm planning on doing Veterinary Science at Charles Sturt University when I graduate," she said.

As part of her agricultural pursuits, Laura has been active on the show circuit, including beef and dairy shows across NSW.

"I've been lucky enough to qualify for zone finals at Sydney Royal for State judging and parading," she said. "I was also involved in the Unischools Steer Competition for the first time last year, where I was champion senior parader."

Among some of her other achievements was her involvement with the Camden Show, where this year she was named one of 10 finalists for the junior rural ambassador.

Laura hails from Cooma, where her family has a mixed farming operation on their property "Curragindi".

Growing up on the farm played an important role in her decision to



Hurlstone Agricultural High School Year 12 student, Laura Nesbitt, Cooma, has long wanted to pursue a career in agriculture.

study agriculture, and she hoped to practice in a rural area one day, maybe even back home in Cooma.

Despite keeping busy enough with her school studies and involvement in shows, Laura has done work experience at a local veterinary practice in Cooma during her school holidays since she was in Year 10.

She said she liked the mix of domestic and rural veterinary practice the work experience offered.

Laura was keen for more young people like her to become involved in

agricultural pursuits, believing agriculture itself was extremely important.

"I think there are plenty of other young people out there who want to get involved in agriculture," she said.

She said she had a number of friends, many of whom are involved in the agriculture youth team, who have a clear idea of where they are heading with their career plans for agriculture.

The future is exciting for Laura, as

she completes her final year of school this year and looks forward to tertiary education.

There is still plenty more on in the year to keep her busy including a wool industry course at Dubbo TAFE in August.

Laura was also declared a winner of the 2013 South Western Sydney Region Vocational Education and Training (VET) Awards for Primary Industry.

She will receive her award at a ceremony, also in August.

Making News

Nursing awards: The Western NSW Local Health District is calling on local residents to nominate outstanding nurses and midwives in the NSW Health Excellence in Nursing and Midwifery Awards.

The inaugural awards recognise and celebrate the significant contribution of the more than 47,500 nurses and midwives that care for patients across NSW.

According to NSW chief nursing and midwifery officer Susan Pearce, nurses and midwives were an integral part of health care in Australia.

"Nurses and midwives are the very heart of our health care system; providing medical care, emotional support and companionship for those people at their most vulnerable," she said.

"We are encouraging community members, patients and colleagues to throw their support behind these unsung heroes and provide them with the opportunity to have their fantastic work celebrated and recognised publicly."

The awards were established earlier this year by NSW Health Minister Jillian Skinner in celebration of International Nurses' and Midwives' Day.

Nominations close Monday July 1, 2013. Visit www.nursingmidwiferyawards.health.nsw.gov.au

Regional community awards:

The NSW/ACT Regional Achievement and Community Awards program nominations for 2013 are now open.

The awards are focused on small to medium size businesses, organisations involved in promoting the community through events and tourism, individuals providing leadership and initiative and community groups enhancing the social, economic, commercial and environmental prosperity of their region.

Eight categories recognising the achievements of individuals and community groups within their respective communities will share in a prize pool of \$40,000. Nominations close August 2, 2013.

Visit www.awardsaustralia.com

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The Land's report on Laura Nesbitt's achievements

ANNUAL COUNTRY FAIR



When: Saturday 31st August, 2013

Time: 9am to 4pm

...work hard...have fun...make friends...support our school

Our Parents & Citizens Association is committed to promoting the interests of the school by raising funds to provide quality education facilities and equipment for teachers and students.

The annual Country Fair is organised by the P & C, through its sub-committee to raise funds. As well as being a major fundraiser, the annual Country Fair is also a day for all students and their families as well as the local community to have a great day out and enjoy the facilities of the school.

Getting involved is a great opportunity to make new friends, work as a team and contribute to your child's school and it would be appreciated if you could help out by volunteering your time and / or by making a donation.

Some ways you can help

- Volunteering to help on the day (set up, serving, cooking, pack up, etc)
- Donation of goods for the Auction or Raffle (small electrical items, wine, chocolates, cosmetics, gardening items, vouchers, giftcards.....etc)
- Donation of goods for the White Elephant Stall (second hand goods)
- Donation of books, CDs and DVDs
- Donation of cakes, slices, biscuits for sale at the cake stall on the day
- Donation of new or pre loved clothing (washed and ironed)
- Buy or sell raffle tickets
- Monetary donation

Should you have any enquiries, you can contact the 2013 Country Fair Co-ordinators via email Mark Latham mwlmw61@yahoo.com.au or Michael Dumlao macrodat@ozemail.com.au.

Alternatively, please complete the form below and return it to the school office marked "Country Fair Committee." You can also reply to hahscountryfair@gmail.com

Thanking you in anticipation of your support.



Yes, I'd love to help!

TO: HURLSTONE COUNTRY FAIR 2013 COMMITTEE

Yes, I'd love to help!

Please tick as needed

☐ I can volunteer on the day. My preferred times are:

☐ I'd like to donate goods for the Auction or Raffle

☐ I will donate goods for the White Elephant Stall (second hand goods)

☐ I will donate cakes / slices / biscuits / sweets

☐ I will donate books, CDs and DVDs

☐ I will donate pre loved clothing (washed and ironed)

☐ I will buy / sell raffle tickets

☐ I'd like to make a monetary donation

Your Name (*please print clearly*)

Child's name Child's Year

Contact details: Telephone Mobile

Email address

If you have other ways you'd like to help, please write them below

.....
.....
.....

Thank you so much for returning your form. We'll be in touch soon!