

Parent Newsletter

Hurlstone Agricultural High School

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2013 Issue 6 - Term 2 - Week 2

Friday 10th May

UPCOMING EVENTS

TERM 2—WEEK 3

Monday 13 May

Year 11 Visual Arts Task

Year 10 Visual Arts Task

Tuesday 14 May

NAPLAN

Wednesday 15 May

NAPLAN

Rehearsal—School Musical

Year 7 Visual Arts Task

Thursday 16 May

NAPLAN

Year 12 English Extension 1 Task

Year 11 Visual Design Task

Year 7 Visual Arts Task

Friday 17 May

Year 8 & 10 Half-Yearly Exams

Boarding School Expo—Dubbo

Year 7 Visual Arts Task

Saturday 18 May

Boarding School Expo—Dubbo

MUNA Excursion

Sunday 19 May

MUNA Excursion

TERM 2—WEEK 4

Monday 20 May

Year 8 & 10 Half-Yearly Exams

Year 7 Visual Arts Task

Tuesday 21 May

School Athletics Carnival

Wednesday 22 May

Year 8 & 10 Half-Yearly Exams

Rehearsal—School Musical

Big Science Competition

Year 7 Visual Arts Task

Thursday 23 May

Year 8 & 10 Half-Yearly Exams

Big Science Competition

Zone Cross Country

Year 12 English Extension 1 Task

Friday 24 May

Year 8 & 10 Half-Yearly Exams

Big Science Competition

Year 12 Legal Studies Task

Year 11 Physics Task

Saturday 25 May

Boarder Parent Welfare Group Meeting

Country Fair Meeting

P&C Meeting



Welcome back to Term 2. I have great pleasure in welcoming and introducing our new Deputy Principal Boarding, Mrs Christine Castle. Prior to her appointment at Hurlstone, Mrs Castle was Head Teacher TAS at St. George Girls' High School and some years previous to that worked at Hurlstone in the boarding school. Mrs Castle is delighted to be returning the school. Our new Deputy Principal brings outstanding teaching experience, expertise in curriculum development and integration of technology in effective classroom practice and excellent educational leadership. Already

improvements have been implemented in the boarding school, reflecting her genuine commitment to, amongst other things, improved communication and work processes. Welcome Mrs Castle!

The main focus of the two school development days this term was preparation for the national curriculum. A variety of video conferences were made available to support staff in planning and embedding differentiated strategies for all learners in addition to meeting the specific needs of English, Science, Mathematics and History learning areas. ESL/Multicultural consultant Patricia Paring presented on a selection of language or cultural considerations that affect EAL/D (English as an additional language/dialect) students. Patricia also shared strategies to support EAL/D students access the learning in content descriptions. A big thank you to staff who organised the day including Jo Twomey and Melissa Schultz, pictured below left, who presented an engaging session on collaboration. Further, the school administration staff, pictured below right, spent some time analysing SECO, the new school electronic ordering system.

I was delighted to attend the Public Education Foundation Scholarship Ceremony last week at the Sydney Town Hall. On the night, Year 11 student Janeda Ong, pictured below, received the Finance and Energy Exchange (FEX) Group Scholarship which supports public school students interested in economics and finance. The scholarship provides financial support, an internship for a week at the FEX Group offices in Sydney and a tour of the FEX Market site. Also on the night, Edward Trang was



the proud recipient of the Medich Foundation's Elizabeth H. Blackburn Western Sydney Scholarship which encourages Western Sydney students in Year 11 to pursue a career in a medical field and provides financial and other support. More great news ... further congratulations to Edward Trang and Neil Jain, below right, who have been accepted into the International Science School program this June-July at the University of Sydney.

As we prepare for a busy term ahead, please check the web site for the latest news on events at Hurlstone. On Saturday 25 May three important meetings will take place at school: Boarder Parent, Country Fair and P&C. Please check the school calendar on the web site for times and locations of these meetings.

Kerrie Wratten





**HURLSTONE AGRICULTURAL HIGH SCHOOL
P & C ASSOCIATION**



AGENDA

HAHS P & C - General Meeting, Saturday 25th May 2013, 2:00pm Clark House

1. Welcome - parents
- new Deputy Principal (Boarding) - Christine Castle
2. Apologies.
3. Presentation from 2013 School Prefects
4. Confirm Minutes of Previous Meeting of the 12th March, 2013.
5. Business Arising from Previous Minutes/Meeting.
6. Correspondence in and out.
7. Reports:
 - a. Principal's Report – include an update on school contributions
 - b. P&C Treasurer's Report
 - c. Sub-committees
 - Canteen
 - Uniform shop
 - International Club
 - Country fair
 - Ensemble/band
 - Working Bee
8. General Business.
 - Nomination of 3 delegates to attend the annual Federation P&C conference, 26, 27 & 28 July 2013, Bankstown Sports Club.
Any suggested Agenda item for the Federation P&C AGM/conference?
 - Over 40 boxes of old C5 & B4 size envelopes from the HAHS P&C Gleanings publication in the school admin store room – what to do, suggestions?
 - 5 Marquees and 5 Trestle tables to be purchased for each of the next 2-3 years for Country Fair
 - P&C Honour Board – way of thanking and promoting P&C by the school
 - Communication Strategy – via mobile phone text messages
 - Nomination of 2 parent representatives on each of the new school committee
 - i. Roy Watts Rd School traffic - including pickup and drop off zone
 - ii. School swimming pool
 - Classroom air-conditioning review
 - Student bus travel safety review
 - Suggestion for Agenda items for next meeting
9. Date of next meeting - Tuesday 18 June 7:30pm
10. Reminder of the Country Fair meeting - Tuesday 18 June 6:30pm.
11. Close of meeting

SCHOOL PHOTO DAY

Photo Day for students will be held on Tuesday 4th June. Order envelopes will be distributed shortly and students need to bring these on the day. Please be aware that orders can be paid online BUT the envelope still has to be submitted with the receipt details to the photographers.

All students are expected to be well groomed and be wearing their FULL school winter uniform. For seniors this includes blazers and for juniors a school woollen jumper.

Please contact Mrs Yelena Vercoe if you have further questions.

SUBJECT EXPERIENCE DAY

On 4th April, Year 11 students participated in the subject experience day. We took our Year 10 buddies to our classes, allowing them to experience the different subjects available. I took my buddy, Andy Huynh, to my Biology class. Throughout the lesson, he listened to my teacher, Mr Spies, and asked me many questions about the Biology syllabus and the level of effort expected of us in Year 11. I answered his questions and showed him all the work I had done in class this year. He was able to experience Biology and assess whether he would like to study it in his senior years. Overall, the day was a huge success and both of us had an enjoyable time.

Jenny Tran

SPORTS SHORTS



Soccer

The Open Boys Soccer team have done exceptionally well this year so far in the Sydney Southwest KO competition. From 36 teams, only 4 teams remain and the Hurlstone boys are one of those teams. The school has never reached this stage of the competition before. The boys are really excited to play in finals soccer and hopefully go on to be Champions!

Touch Football

Hurlstone Boys and Girls Open Touch teams had their most successful seasons in a long time this year. The Girls team made the Sydney South West quarter finals and the boys went down in the semi final to Eaglevale High, falling one game short of State qualification. Both teams played some fantastic touch throughout the tournament and displayed great dedication to training in the lead up. Well done! Coaches Wilson, Coombes & Yates are proud of your achievements.



Woolworths Earn and Learn

Hurlstone is participating in 2013 The Woolworths Earn & Learn program. This community program enables schools and early learning centers throughout Australia to earn educational resources simply through the school community shopping at Woolworths.

From Monday 8th April until Sunday 9th June 2013, when you shop at Woolworths you will be given a Woolworths Earn & Learn Point. There'll be one Woolworths Earn & Learn Point for every \$10 spent. Collect these Woolworths Earn & Learn Points and return the completed cards to the Hurlstone front office so that we will be able to redeem these for educational resources.

The Woolworths Earn & Learn program offers products to suit students of all ages. Schools and early learning centres can choose resources based on their unique needs, across every educational category possible, including Mathematics and English resources, science equipment, arts & crafts materials, sports gear and more.

And if we win we can have Jess Mauboy visit!!

NAPLAN 14, 15 & 16 MAY

The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. It has been an annual event for schools since 2008.

On Tuesday 14, Wednesday 15 and Thursday 16 May, students will take the 2013 NAPLAN tests.

NAPLAN assesses skills in literacy and numeracy that are developed over time, through the school curriculum.

NAPLAN is not a pass or fail type test, but rather shows how students are progressing in numeracy and literacy skills against national standards for all Australia children. It also provides valuable information that allows schools and governments to better target effort and support to help all students achieve their potential and acquire the basic skills to help them build successful and happy lives.

All students are expected to participate in the tests. Students with disability may qualify for reasonable adjustments that reflect the support normally provided to them in the classroom. Some students with very specific circumstances may be exempted from participating in the tests. For information about participation in NAPLAN, you can go to: <http://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/parent-carer-support.html>.

NAPLAN tests fundamental skills rather than specific content, and as such is not a test for which students can study or drill. The best way you can help your child prepare for NAPLAN is to let them know that NAPLAN is just one part of their school program, and to urge them to simply do the best they can on the day. The use of services by coaching providers is not recommended.

An individual student NAPLAN report will be issued by the school later this year. Parents can use this information to monitor how their child is progressing and to identify any areas of concern. Parents may also wish to use their child's results to discuss progress with teachers. More information is available at www.nap.edu.au.

MUSIC NEWS

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 from May 27.

Congratulations are extended to Go Mason Go who won the YouthRock Grand Final on Sunday 14th April. This is Go Mason Go's third year of participation in this competition which has included past winners, Silverchair and Short Stack. YouthRock requires participants to put together a 15 minute set of original music, and bands are judged on the music, their performance and presentation. The judges commented on the persistence and continued development of this young band. Congratulations are also extended to Broke who were runner-ups in the semi-final but did not play in the Grand Final. Amanda Ramos made it into the first live audition for the Talent Development Project.

FINAL ROYAL EASTER SHOW RESULTS

Sheep

Two black Suffolk sheep for the first time ever. They were paraded by Esther Chong, Matthew Gregory and Therese Dinh.

Dairy

SEMEX Youth Challenge

This has been running for 9 years. HAHS finished last for the first 7 years, 2nd last in 2012.

Teams of ten people aged under 25 years compete in all aspects of showing dairy cattle – parading, clipping and judging

This year the HAHS team of Year 8-10 students finished first!

- Clipping – Jamie Whybrow (team captain), Ben Essam, Sarah Ludington and Ethan Anderson
- Parading – Zoe Hall, Daniella Stewart and Polly Donoghoe
- Judging – David Webb, Scott Essam and Matthew Gregory

Students each received a blue ribbon, a jacket (specially imported from Canada) and the school received the Broad Ribbon.

Junior Paraders Competition

- Under 15 years – Zoe Hall 7th, Polly Donoghoe 10th
- 15-18 years – Jamie Whybrow 5th

Youth Classes

- Matt Gregory lead *Butter Midori* to 4th place in the 12-18 month heifer class

Ayrshire Section

- Heifer 6-8 months – *Lou Solax* 3rd – lead by Ethan Anderson
- Heifer 16-20 months – *Butter Midori* 3rd – lead by Daniella Stewart
- Heifer 20-24 months – *Kerrie Solax* 4th
- Pen of three females under 2 years – 3rd
- Pen of five females any age – 2nd
- Best Maintained Ayrshire Team (over 5 head) - winner

PLEASE NOTE
THE SCHOOL'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2012
IS AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD FROM
THE SCHOOL WEBSITE



National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy 2013 LETTER TO PARENTS

In May 2013 the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be completed by all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 in all government and non-government schools. NAPLAN has the support of all State and Territory Education Ministers and will assess the literacy and numeracy learning of students in all Australian schools.

The results of the tests will provide important information to schools about what each student can do, and will be used to support teaching and learning programs. Parents will receive a report indicating their child's level of achievement. Each student's level of achievement will be reported against the national minimum standard.

Background information (student name, gender, date of birth, language background and Aboriginality) will be collected as part of the National Assessment Program. This information is treated confidentially and held securely to ensure that every student's right to privacy is maintained.

The tests will be conducted across Australia for all students from 14–16 May 2013.

TUESDAY 14 MAY	WEDNESDAY 15 MAY	THURSDAY 16 MAY
Language conventions (Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation) Writing	Reading	Numeracy (Number, Algebra, function and pattern; Measurement, chance and data; and Space)

In the Numeracy tests students do not require any measuring tools such as rulers or protractors. In Years 7 and 9 there will be two Numeracy tests: one where a calculator is allowed and one where calculators are not to be used. For the calculator test, the student should use the calculator that they currently use at school.

Friday 17 May – A 'catch-up' day is scheduled for students who missed a test or were absent on a test day.

Students may be considered for exemption from the tests if:

- they are newly arrived in Australia (less than one year before the test) and with a language background other than English, or
- they have significant intellectual disability and/or significant co-existing conditions that severely limit their capacity to participate in the tests.

All other students are expected to participate in the tests. Disability adjustments that reflect the student's normal level of support in the classroom may be provided. Large print, braille and black and white versions of the tests are available for students with vision impairment.

Access to disability adjustments or exemption from the tests must be discussed with the school principal, and a parent or carer consent form must be signed. Students may be withdrawn from NAPLAN by their parent or carer. This is a matter for consideration by parents and carers in consultation with the principal. If you wish to withdraw your child from the tests, you must sign a parent/carers consent form. Consent forms are available at your child's school.

Please make an appointment with the school principal if you would like further information about your child's participation in NAPLAN.

Additional information about NAPLAN can be found at:
<http://www.nap.edu.au/naplan/parent-carer-support.html>

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 mwlmlw61@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."

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

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