

Parent Newsletter

Hurlstone Agricultural High School

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2013 Issue 7 - Term 2 - Week 4

Friday 25th May

UPCOMING EVENTS

TERM 2—WEEK 5

Monday 27 May

Year 7 & 9 Half-Yearly Exams
Year 11 Crossroads Camp
English Extension Camp
Year 8 Agriculture Task

Tuesday 28 May

Year 7 & 9 Half-Yearly Exams
Year 11 Crossroads Camp
English Extension Camp
Year 12 Mathematics 2U Task
Year 12 Mathematics General Task
Year 9 Japanese Task
Year 8 Agriculture Task

Wednesday 29 May

Year 7 & 9 Half-Yearly Exams
Year 11 Crossroads Camp
Rehearsal—School Musical
Year 10 Japanese Task
Year 8 Agriculture Task

Thursday 30 May

Year 7 & 9 Half-Yearly Exams
Year 10 Japanese Excursion
Year 12 English Extension 1 Task
Year 12 English Advanced Task
Year 12 Mathematics Extension 2 Task
Year 11 Studies of Religion Task
Year 8 Agriculture Task

Friday 31 May

Year 7 & 9 Half-Yearly Exams
Year 9 & 10 Debating
Year 8 Agriculture Task
Year 8 Technology Mandatory Task

TERM 2—WEEK 6

Monday 3 June

Year 12 Mathematics Extension 1 Task

Tuesday 4 June

School Photo Day
Finance Committee Meeting
Year 11 Legal Studies Task
Year 11 Physics Task

Wednesday 5 June

Year 11 PE Outdoor Recreation Camp
AFL Gala Day
Rehearsal—School Musical
Year 10 Science Task
Year 9 Science Task
Year 8 Science Task
Year 7 Science Task

Thursday 6 June

Year 11 PE Outdoor Recreation Camp
Year 9 2014 Subject Selection Night
Year 12 Agriculture Task
Year 7 Technology Mandatory Task

Friday 7 June

Closed Weekend—Boarder Students Travel Home

Year 11 PE Outdoor Recreation Camp
Biggest Morning Tea
Year 9 Japanese Excursion
Year 12 Economics Task
Year 10 Japanese Task

TERM 2—WEEK 7

Monday 10 June

Public Holiday
Boarder Students Arrive After 3:00pm

Tuesday 11 June

Classes Resume



Deputy Principal Boarding, Mrs Christine Castle, and Head Teacher Secondary Studies, Mr Craig Butler, reported a successful trip to the Dubbo Expo recently. Attendance at the expo provided an opportunity to promote the school to the regional community and connect with past students and families. We are intent on increasing the boarding school student numbers. I look forward to the HAHS presence at



Griffith 15 June and Tamworth 27 July.

Our focus is always on the promotion of quality teaching and learning in the school. We look toward engaging with an academic partner to support teachers in national curriculum design and delivery for gifted students. This twelve month partnership will incorporate access to an academic mentor who will engage with whole staff, individual faculties and individuals using a range of technology mediums. This professional collaboration aims to yield the outcomes of valuable action research findings which will guide and inform our pedagogical practice.

I thoroughly enjoy visiting classrooms to observe student engagement in their learning. Recently, I visited a senior engineering class and was impressed with the demonstration of student autonomy in their learning. I congratulate Mr Zijad Haracic in his approach to establishing inspiring learning conditions for our senior engineering students. Students engaged



in designing the wings of aircraft were developing twenty-first century learning skills including creativity, collaboration, real world problem solving and team work. Past student, Michael Aspinall, a commercial pilot plans to visit the class, bringing another dimension of twenty-first century learning, that of, an authentic audience for the students.

Students continue to achieve beyond the classroom. Our students keenly and regularly apply for a vast array of scholarships, awards, opportunities such as expressions of interest to shadow the Director-General for a day, national science schools and numerous leadership programs. I encourage students to be alert and on the look out for these unique and rewarding opportunities. To this end, we congratulate Laura Nesbitt, on her nomination for the 2013 Regional VET Student Award for Primary Industries. Laura has been asked to attend the South Western Sydney Region Vocational Education and Training Awards Evening at Liverpool Catholic Club on Monday 12 August. Laura was also interviewed at District Office a couple of weeks ago as a nominee for the State Training Awards but has not heard of the outcome of this interview as yet. Best of luck Laura! Also, Rohini Singh was selected as the HAHS 2013 Youth Ambassador. Rohini will compete against other south western Sydney school representatives for the Regional Student Ambassador award which will be announced at the end of the year. Both students are pictured on the next page.



Congratulations also to the peer mediation group, the seven Year 10 students pictured below performed a role play at a recent school assembly illustrating the key skills of conflict resolution. The sole function of the group aims to resolve minor disputes and conflicts amongst students; another proactive student initiative at the school.

Core student leadership groups are competing for the Factor Performance Award. The groups are currently developing project proposals which aim to benefit the school community. The winning team will participate in factor performance training in collaboration, conflict resolution and teamwork delivered by past student Michael Aspinall.



A trial program to support student well-being will commence in the boarding school and be implemented school wide later in the year. Adopting a positive psychology approach, various topics such as mindfulness, sleep hygiene, guided breathing, muscular relaxation and visualisation, healthy bodies, healthy eating and positive self image will be taught.

Sadly, I report the recent passing of past student Norman James Kershaw (HAHS from 1927-28) who celebrated his 100th birthday in March this year. Our deepest sympathies go to his family.

Thanks to all parents who attended the Boarder Council, Country Fair and P&C meetings last Saturday; a long but very productive day. I am deeply appreciative of the efforts of our parent groups. As a result, we can look forward to continued improvement in the boarding and day schools and a sensational Country Fair and Open Day on 31 August. We hope to see you there.

Kerrie Wratten

Hurlstone Agricultural High School Presents

GUYS

Dolls

Venue - John
Edmondson
Hall

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.

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.

MUSIC NEWS

On Monday June 3, the Music Faculty will be presenting Music Night, 2013 in John Edmonson Hall, commencing at 7 pm sharp. The concert features the musical talents of HSC, Year 11 and Year 10 students. It will showcase rising stars in our school from Year 8. A dress rehearsal of this concert will be presented to Year 7 and 8 students in periods 5 and 6. The cost for the evening performance is gold coin entry.

A MESSAGE FROM THE YEAR 9 YEAR ADVISORS

Welcome back to Term 2, especially for all students who have examinations this month.

Year 9 Camp. I would like to thank all those parents who managed to return camp forms at the end of last term. We have had a few inquiries as to why the forms were required to be returned so early. The forms were required so that a spread sheet could be created showing students who:

- Are strong/average/poor and non-swimmers
- Have special needs (there are many in this category which includes medications, allergies etc)
- Have recent injuries
- Have illnesses and other medical conditions
- Require special diets

We also require personal and doctors' contact numbers for emergencies.

As you can see this involves a lot of work to sort through the forms of 150 students and collate this information.

If any details change, eg contact information, medications for your child, etc, you need to let us know as soon as possible so that we can update the information that you have provided to us.

There are as usual a few students who for various reasons have not returned forms. We will be interviewing these students after the exams.

Remember that the camp is **compulsory** and that **all** students are expected to attend. There will be **no formal classes** for students during the camp. If there are family reasons as to why you are not attending and you are seeking leave from school, a form must be collected from the front office, filled in and returned. Only the Principal can grant permission for leave.

Exams. Year 9 exams will be from Monday 27th May through to Friday 31st May. There will be two exams for Year 9 each day. Detailed exam timetables will be issued to students shortly. All students will have an exam timetable at least one week prior to the commencement of the exam period. All exam and assessment periods are printed in the Year 9 assessment booklets that were issued to all students during Term 1. If you have lost this booklet you are to see Mr Mulligan in his office. The exam periods are also printed in the student diaries.

All students should have received exam notifications from each of their subjects. Please make sure that you bring the right equipment to each of your exams. Borrowing will not be allowed during exams.

Exam Preparation. By now it is expected that students have settled into a solid program of study and revision for the upcoming exams. This means that set school homework needs to be completed first, followed by individual revision and study. Do not attempt to study an individual subject or topic for too long, no more than 30 minutes at a time, then have a break. Each student should have a timetable of study in their study area at home or in the boarding school on their desk. If you are having issues with study, visit the following website www.studyskillshandbook.com.au and discover what you can do to improve the way you organise yourself, manage your time and revise for exams. The user name is : forhurlstoneonly and the password is: 88results.

Parents. We are still receiving phone calls from parents concerning student's progress. The procedure for contacting teachers at the school is as follows:

If you are enquiring about a specific **subject** you need to contact the **subject teacher not the year coordinators**. The specific subject teachers may be contacted in either one of two ways:

- By writing in your child's diary your concerns and asking your child to show their diary to the subject teacher. The subject teacher will then either write a return comment in the diary or they may ask that you contact them by other means.
- By ringing the switchboard at the school during school hours and leaving your details. The office staff will then send an internal email to the subject teacher who will then contact you.
- Please do not ask to speak to the teacher directly as they will probably be on class. There will be ample opportunity to speak to your child's teacher during teacher-parent interviews at the end of this term.

If it is a **welfare issue** (bullying) you are to contact the year coordinators by ringing the switchboard and leaving your contact details. We will then be able to contact you as soon as possible

Regards,

Mr Greg McAlpin and Ms Erin Blake

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

"All you need to know about the ATAR"

presented by Professor Jacqui Ramagge
from the University of Wollongong.

"A **free** information
session for parents who have
children in years **10, 11 or 12** on the
ATAR & scaling & subject selection
choices for the final school years"

Monday 3rd June 6pm - 7:30pm
Narellan Library, Iron Bark room
Cnr Queen & Elyard Street, Narellan

To register

go to www.macarthurparents.com.au
OR call Amber from MWLP
on **4625 1863**

find out...

- * What is an ATAR
- * How is the ATAR calculated
- * What can we predict
- * How are ATAR cut-offs set

University of Wollongong

Student Representatives
Will also be present to answer
questions on UOW course
enquiries



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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

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.....
.....

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