

Parent Newsletter

Hurlstone Agricultural High School

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2013 Issue 15 Term 4- Week 7

Friday 22 November 2013

UPCOMING EVENTS

Term 4

Week 8

Monday 25th Nov - Day 1

Yr 9 Collaroy Camp
Yr 12 Agricultural Task I

Tuesday 26th Nov - Day 2

Yr 9 Collaroy Camp
Yr 10 Jamberoo Excursion

Wednesday 27th Nov - Day 3b

Yr 9 Collaroy Camp
Yr 11 Seminars

Thursday 28th Nov - Day 4

PASS Surf Safety Day - Nth Wollongong
Yr 12 Maths & General Maths Task I
Science Hall Incursion

Friday 29th Nov - Day 5

PASS Surf Safety Day - Nth Wollongong
Young Leaders Day
- Sydney Convention Centre

Week 9

Monday 2nd Dec - Day 6

Yr 12 Maths Ext 1 Task I
Yr 12 English Advanced, Standard Task I

Tuesday 3rd Dec - Day 1

Yr 12 Chem Task I
Yr 12 Ancient History Assessment Task

Wednesday 4th Dec - Day 2a

Yr 11 HSC Geography Fieldwork

Thursday 5th Dec - Day 3

Yr 12 Maths Ext 2 Task I
Yr 12 Bio Task I

Friday 6th Dec - Day 4

Multi Cultural Day



Hurlstone Agricultural High School has been awarded an Order of Australia Medal for Community Service. This is the first time a school has been awarded the medal. The outstanding service demonstrated by eight year 12 students Jay Kajale, Kathy Quach, Brendon Kim, Hillary Nguyen, Christina Wu, Dalena Pangna, Virginia Kong and Julia Kho illustrated the collective power of individuals in raising over \$50,000 for charity. The seven students and Mrs Kannan, mother of Jay Kajale, who was in Singapore,

attended Government House last Wednesday to receive the award presented by her Excellency Governor Marie Bashir. Congratulations to these students who have left an incredible legacy of achievement.



Ten schools competed in the Janene Best Memorial Debating Competition held at Hurlstone 14 November. The standard set by the year 8 debaters visiting from Penrith, Normanhurst BHS, Hornsby GHS, Sydney GHS, North Sydney GHS, Macquarie Fields, St George GHS, Sefton HS, Smith's Hill and Hurlstone was extremely high. While Hornsby GHS were the overall winners and Sydney GHS runners up, our students can be very proud of their efforts.

Seven educators from Hong Kong visited recently to learn about Hurlstone. Head Teacher English, Ann Young, and Head Teacher Teaching and Learning, Joanne Twomey, spoke to the group about their research: the benefits of the explicit teaching of the *explanation* text type on the engagement and attainment of year 8 LBOTE students. The teachers and educators were very interested in the diverse operations of the school and we shared a pleasant afternoon tea while swapping email addresses before they departed.

Congratulations to boarder captain Gabby Sherring who has been chosen to attend the generation 2050: Project Feed the World student conference at the University of New England 1-4 December.





Construction of new hand rails and gates in addition to repaired windows and shutters in the shearing shed have made Hurlstone WH&S ready for the shearing course to be run this week. 120 sheep are soon to lose their warm coats as nine students from Braidwood, Oakhill, Menai, Bede Polding and Hurlstone attend the week long shearing course. Hurlstonians Isaac Jones, Jack Bush and Sarah Nesbitt will buddy with Braidwood students staying in the boarding school for the duration of the course. The students will gain a recognised accreditation through TAFE, thanks to the skilled TAFE instructor.

In the remaining weeks, I look forward to the outcomes of Australian Business Week, feedback from primary school visits, reading and signing 8-11 reports, the boarder parent AGM and P&C meetings 23 November, Performing Arts Evening 2 December, Boarding Orientation 3 Dec, Transition Day and parent luncheon 4 December, Advisory Board meeting 12 December and Presentation Day 13 December.

Kerrie Wratten

ONLINE PAYMENTS - Please note due to end of School Financial Year, online payments will be temporarily unavailable from Friday, 15th November, until rollover is completed, early December.

Parents are able to make online payments to the school for **Day School** amounts owing for students, via a secure payment page hosted by Westpac. Payments can be made using either a Visa or MasterCard credit or debit card. The payment page is accessed from the front page of the schools website by selecting the 'Pay Online' button on the left, under Quick Links.

Items that can be paid include voluntary school contributions, subject contributions, excursions, sales to students and creative and practical arts activities (these include band, drama and dance). There is also a category called Other this is to cover items not covered in the previous headings, Other can be used to make a complete payment of a school invoice.

Instructions can be found on our website under quick links, downloads at www.hurlstone.com.au

EVENTS

Musical 2014

Hurlstone Agricultural High School has secured the rights to "Leader of the Pack" for 2014. "Leader of the Pack" is the story of Ellie Greenwich, a songwriter of the 1960s - 80s. It follows her life as she begins writing as a teenager, her partnership with Jeff Barry and her emergence as an independent songwriter in the 1980s. Ellie was responsible for such massive hits as Da Doo Ron Ron Ron, Chapel of Love and the Tina Turner great, River Deep, Mountain High. The performance dates for "Leader of the Pack" are from June 12-14, 2014. Auditions for cast will be occurring in weeks 6 and 7 this term. An edmodo site will be setup for students to gain audition resources. Students are to register interest through darren.payne@det.nsw.edu.au

Performing Arts Presentation Night

To acknowledge the efforts and achievement of students, Performing Arts Presentation Night will be showcased on Monday December 2 in John Edmondson Hall with doors closing at 7pm. Entry is free. The presentation night and showcase includes performances from dancers, rock bands, ensembles and solo performers. Make this night free to recognise the extraordinary talents of our students.

Sculpture in the Vineyards

Sculpture in the Vineyards is an annual exhibition of large scale outdoor sculptures held at Wollombi, in the Hunter Valley. It is a free public exhibition, featuring over 100 artworks by established and emerging artists. From the second of November until the first of December, five vineyards and Wollombi village will be transformed into a spectacular series of Sculpture Parks.

Hurlstone made two submissions and we were thrilled to have both accepted into the Sculpture in the Vineyards exhibition this year. There is no specific school category, so the Hurlstone artworks sit amongst those of practising artists. *Presence* is an artwork where life-like figures float eerily amongst the branches of a willow tree. An interactive version of The Mad Hatter's Tea Party from Alice in Wonderland is also included in the event.

The Year 10 Elective Visual Arts class produced *Presence*. Students from Years 7 to 11 volunteered to be involved in the production of the *Mad Hatter's Tea Party*. The students slipcast, trimmed, decorated and glazed teapots. They also constructed and painted the life sized Mad Hatter and his chair. Students came to school during the school holidays to work on the project, as well as devoting lunchtimes and some class time to create the amazing artworks.

The Visual Arts department would like to acknowledge and thank Mr Payne and the Maintenance Staff for their valuable contributions to the project. Blackwattle Pottery Supplies at Ingleburn generously donated some materials and valuable technical support for the Project.

Visit Sculpture in the Vineyards website for details of the location of vineyards featuring the exhibition. The website also has a catalogue of all artworks in the exhibition.

www.sculptureinthevineyards.com.au

If you are interested in voting for the people's choice award go to Sculpture in the Vineyards Facebook page and 'like' your favourite artwork.



Sculpture in the Vineyards



Group 5 Sheep and Fleece Judging Finals

Wednesday 13th November at St Gregory's College, Campbelltown

Hurlstone's team: Sarah Nesbitt, Jamie Whybrow, Scott Essam, Ethan Anderson, Polly Donoghoe, Sarah Ludington, Anna Paton, Tiarna Scerri, Callum Pull and Michael Webb.

Merino Fleece Judging

Students were required to judge four merino fleeces, evaluating them on their yield, consistency and evenness of crimp, amongst other factors. Students presented their written judgements and calculations and were also evaluated on the way they handled the fleeces. The top students in the intermediate division were also required to orally present their reasons to the judge. Scott Essam, Sarah Nesbitt and Jamie Whybrow were all selected to present in the oral class. Jamie Whybrow finished 3rd in a highly competitive field, and is now the reserve for the Group 5 team to compete at Sydney Royal in 2014.

Meat Breeds Sheep

Students had to evaluate a class of four Corriedale ewes, judging them on their skeletal structure, fat coverage and overall conformation. Students were also judged on how they examined and handled the sheep during the judging. Jamie Whybrow and Scott Essam were selected to speak in the Intermediate division and Polly Donoghoe achieved 2nd place in the junior section.

Merino Sheep

Students were required to judge a group of Merino Ewes, evaluating their wool quality, consistency and overall conformation. Students were also judged on their skill in handling the animals and the way in which they evaluated the sheep's wool and structure. Scott Essam, Sarah Nesbitt and Jamie Whybrow were all selected to present in the oral class of the intermediate section. Sarah Nesbitt placed 3rd in the intermediate section and Sarah Ludington placed 2nd in the junior division.



Polly Donoghoe and Callum Pull judging Merino fleeces.



Michael Webb evaluating Merino fleeces.



The judge delivering his decisions on the fleeces.



Sarah Nesbitt and Jamie Whybrow with their prize ribbons.



Jamie Whybrow and Sarah Nesbitt with the judges and the other prize winners from St Gregory's College.