

Parent Newsletter

Hurlstone Agricultural High School

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2014 Issue 4 Term 1 - Week 8

21 March 2014

CALENDAR

Term 1

Week 9

Monday 24th Mar - Day 1

Yr 7 English Task 1 Assessment

Yr 9 English Task 1 Assessment

9M History Task 1 Assessment

9R History Task 1 Assessment

9I History Task 1 Assessment

9E Geography Task 1 Assessment

9N Geography Task 1 Assessment

Yr 10 Australian History Task 1 Ass.

Yr 10 PDHPE Task 1 Assessment

Yr 11 English Extension 1 Unit Task 1 Ass.

Tuesday 25th Mar - Day 2

Yr 7 English Task 1 Assessment

Yr 9 English Task 1 Assessment

8DA11 Visual Arts Task 1 Assessment

8DA12 Visual Arts Task 1 Assessment

Yr 9 English Task 1 Assessment

9O Geography Task 1 Assessment

Yr 10 Japanese Task 3 Assessment

Yr 11 Modern History Task 1 Assessment

Wednesday 26th Mar - Day 3a

Yr 7 English Task 1 Assessment

Yr 9 Industrial Technology Task 1 Ass.

Musical Rehearsal

Thursday 27th Mar - Day 4

Yr 7 English Task 1 Assessment

8RY7 Visual Arts Task 1 Assessment

Yr 10 Japanese Task 3 Assessment

Yr 7, 11 & 12

Parent Teacher Meet & Greet

Friday 28th Mar - Day 5

Yr 7 English Task 1 Assessment

8DA13 Visual Arts Task 1 Assessment

8DA14 Visual Arts Task 1 Assessment

Yr 11 Engineering Studies Task 1 Ass.

Yr 11 English Extension 1 Unit Task 1 Ass.



Inspiration, Aspiration, Preparation and Perspiration

Looking at the calendar for the remainder of Term One the thing that stands out is the number of assessments and examinations which are hovering within the last four weeks of term. As students navigate their way through this month they need to keep four concepts underpinning their actions.

A Year 12 student recently asked me how to remain focused on study and I answered that the way that I do it is to not focus on the minutiae of the now but to see beyond that to the broader and more important outcome. For example, I don't focus on the paperwork but on the resources that it may garner for the development of the school and its students. I have always tried to encourage students to find something to inspire them to action in their studies. This should not be short sighted and myopic like a mark or a rank but should be substantial, lifelong and transcendent. Inspiration should be something that will make the hard work of now meaningful, purposeful and enduring. Inspiration can take many forms. It could be to emulate a respected person, to share in an experience such as university or travelling to another country, or it could be to fulfil a desire to practice a profession which will help others. Whatever it is, a target for oneself which is bigger and broader than the tasks at hand helps to alleviate the tedium and the stress and gives a sense of gestalt to our actions.

It is paramount that students also aspire to achieve personal goals throughout this time. It is just as important that these goals do not take the form of marks but manifest themselves as milestones of self-improvement or further understanding. A mark is simply an indicator of improvement or knowledge enhancement and is not a goal in itself. Academic aspirations need to be richer and deeper than simply marks. If students want the assessment tasks to mean anything they need to aspire to understand the knowledge itself and to push themselves for personal success. It is in this way that all students, including those who are fulfilling the criteria to the maximum, can continue to grow and develop as learners. If you aspire to a mark you can always fall short (sometimes for reasons out of your control), if you aspire to self-development and fulfilling your potential you will always be successful – even if what you learn is what not to do.

However big the ideas one subscribes to it is necessary to plan and prepare if they are to reach fruition. This does not mean just slavishly completing tasks ad nauseum, though practice is part of any good plan. Preparation includes, plotting study times, performing tasks, reading feedback, altering perceptions and ensuring that you are mentally ready for the task at hand. To ensure that all of these things are possible there needs to be a sensible approach to school-work and awareness that learning does not just take place within the confines of a classroom. Students need to maintain a balanced lifestyle. Study should be an important part of their life, not its entirety.

Continued over page...

CALENDAR

Term 1

Week 10

Monday 31st Mar - Day 6

8I & 8A Japanese Task 2 Assessment

8RY5 & 8RY7 Visual Arts Task 1 Assess.

Yr 12 Half Yearly Exams

Tuesday 1 Apr - Day 1

7I & 7Y Music Task 1 Assessment

Yr 10 History Task 1 Assessment

Yr 11 English Extension 1 Unit

Task 1 Assessment

Yr 11 Earth & Environmental Science

Task 2 Assessment

Yr 12 Half Yearly Exams

Wednesday 2 Apr - Day 2

Yr 7A Music Task 1 Assessment

Musical Rehearsal

Yr 12 Half Yearly Exams

Thursday 3 Apr - Day 3

7D & 7R Music Task 1 Assessment

7R Geography Task 1 Assessment

Yr 8 English Task 2 Assessment

8D Japanese Excursion

8Y Music Task 1 Assessment

Yr 11 English Extension 1 Unit

Task 1 Assessment

Yr 11 Chemistry Task 2 Assessment

Yr 12 Half Yearly Exams

Friday 4 Apr - Day 4

7D, 7A 7I & 7Y Geography Task 1 Ass.

Yr 8 English Task 2 Assessment

8D Japanese Task 2 Assessment

8I Music Task 1 Assessment

Yr 10 Industrial Technology (Engineering)

Task 1 Assessment

Yr 11 Music 1 Task 1 Assessment

Yr 12 Half Yearly Exams

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE Continued

When all is said and done success requires perspiration. In the assessment task or the examination students need to work. They have to harness both the ideas which drive them and the skills taught at school to achieve to the best of their ability. Time is one of the most valuable commodities we have. If students have a definite reason for study and then plan effectively the time in the task may be used to exhibit their true skills and potential. Students need to be sure that each second is used wisely and with purpose in order to display, and develop, their true aptitude.

Finally it is important to note that all four of these elements have one thing in common. They all include the word 'ration'. In some ways this is the most significant thing about them because you cannot truly reach your potential without having a modicum of all four. The student who works exceedingly hard with no meaningful purpose will be as likely to be as unfulfilled as the student who has pie in the sky ideas with no work ethic. To realise their full potential students need to apportion their energies between idealistic dreams, realistic goals, pragmatic plans and adroit execution.

[Please note, before anyone complains, I am aware that the root suffix of the four words is -ation (indicating an action, process, state, condition or result) and not -ration, I just decided to take a little poetic licence.]

Daryl Currie , Principal

FROM THE DEPUTIES' DESKS

Parent – Teacher Meet and Greet

On Thursday 27 March 2014, Hurlstone will be hosting two meet and greet sessions for our parents and guardians of year 7, year 11 and year 12 students. We are changing the dates and format of our parent teacher evenings so that the staff can provide parents and guardians information on how students are performing as well as how they can improve their learning and understanding prior to the half year examinations.

Year 7 Parents and Guardians – Edmondson Hall – 4 PM to 5 PM

Parents will be addressed by school staff in Edmondson Hall outlining student progress this term as well as providing information on how parents can assist their children in leading and supporting their education in a selective school. There will be an opportunity to meet with year 7 teaching staff at the conclusion of the presentation.

Year 11 and 12 Parents and Guardians – Edmondson Hall – 5:30 PM to 7 PM

Parents are invited to meet the teaching staff in Edmondson Hall. Parents and guardians will be able to talk about their child's progress and how they can improve their learning and understanding in each subject. The meetings with staff should be kept to 5 minutes in length.

Any parent wishing to discuss their child's progress in detail should contact the school to arrange an appointment with their child's teacher.

Meet and Greet nights for year 8, year 9 and year 10 will be held in Term 2

Parents can help their child by having regular and meaningful conversations with them, by setting high aspirations and demonstrating and talking about their interest in learning at home and at school. Taking an active role in your child's progress, both academically and socially will have a positive influence on their progress and development. Ensuring your child has enough sleep, a nutritious diet and plenty of physical activity will also aid in their success.

CALENDAR

Term 1

Week 11

Monday 7 Apr - Day 5

Yr 8 English Task 2 Assessment

8D, 8R & 8A Music Task 1 Assessment

Yr 11 Music 1 Task 1 Assessment

Yr 11 English Extension 1 Unit Task 1 Ass.

Yr 11 Photography Task 2 Assessment

Yr 12 Half Yearly Exams

Tuesday 8 Apr - Day 6

Yr 8 English Task 2 Assessment

Yr 11 Physics Task 2 Assessment

Yr 12 Half Yearly Exams

Wednesday 9 Apr - Day 1b

Yr 8 English Task 2 Assessment

Yr 10 Industrial Technology (Multimedia/
Photography) Task 1 Assessment

Yr 12 LOTE Examination

Yr 12 Half Yearly Exams

Musical Rehearsal

Thursday 10 Apr - Day 2

Yr 8 English Task 2 Assessment

8R Japanese Excursion

Yr 9 Information & Software Technology
Task 1 Assessment

Yr 12 Half Yearly Exams

Friday 11 Apr - Day 3

Anzac Day Service

Yr 8 English Task 2 Assessment

Yr 9 Information & Software Technology
Task 1 Assessment

Yr 9 Industrial Technology Task 1 Ass.

Yr 10 Information & Software Technology
Task 1 Assessment

Yr 11 English Extension 1 Unit Task 1 Ass.

Yr 12 Half Yearly Exams

Last Day of Term 1

Term 2

Monday 28th April

Staff Development Day

Tuesday 29th April

Athletics Carnival

Wednesday 30th April - 4a

Normal lessons resume

FROM THE DEPUTIES' DESKS Continued

Year 7 Vaccinations & Year 9 boys Vaccinations

A message to parents/guardians of Year 7 students and Year 9 boys. Please ensure vaccination forms are returned to Mr Wenban before the 7th April.

NEWS

Music News

Congratulations to the musicians who performed in Music Night on Wednesday 19th March. This successful showcase included HSC music students presenting from their HSC performance program, the year 11 and year 10 music classes performing student arrangements of popular songs, Pops Orchestra presenting a Haydn Symphony, the cast of Leader of the Pack singing Going to the Chapel, small ensembles and the year 9 rock band.

Our thanks are extended to the sound and lighting team for their efforts on the night.

The Musical cast will be involved in a workshop with Patricia Amphlett, professional singer and tutor, and Ken Buckley, director, on Tuesday 25th March. This is an exciting opportunity for students to work with professionals in the musical field.

The school musical, Leader of the Pack will be presented for three nights only from June 12-14. Tickets will be available from May. Keep reading this space. We may require assistance in the procurement of stage props.

Leader of the Pack

Rehearsals are underway for Leader of the Pack. The young cast is keen and the rehearsals have been highly productive. This show will be very entertaining and energetic. Set in the 1960s and featuring many classic songs, this show outlines the life of Ellie Greenwich (River Deep Mountain High, Da Doo Ron Ron) through song. Performances will be from June 12-14 in the Edmondson Hall. Tickets will be available from May.

Day School Payments

Day School Invoices payments can be made online from our website. Visit www.hurlstone.com.au and click on the 'Pay Online' button on the left. Pay Online Instructions can be found under the 'Download' button.

Uniform Shop - Winter Uniforms

Students must wear their winter uniforms during terms 2 and 3. For years 10, 11, and 12 blazers are a compulsory part of their winter uniform and must be worn to and from school and whenever representing the school.

THE UNIFORM SHOP WILL BE OPEN FOR THE SALE OF WINTER UNIFORMS ON SATURDAY 26 APRIL 2014 FROM 10AM - 1PM

Multicultural Food Stall

Friday, 28th March is our Multicultural Food Stall from 9am-1pm under the COLA. The organisers are seeking donations of cooked food from different cultures and volunteers from parents to help manage the stall on the day. See attached flyer.

Medical Information

Student medical forms (pink) and an update of details form (green) has been posted home. Please complete and return these form by **Friday 4th April 2014**.

Multicultural Foodstall

**Organised by International Club, HAHS
Attention Parents & Students!**

Fancy the Tastes & Flavours of the World!!!!

The Multicultural Food Stall is Here!!

When: Friday, 28 March 2014

Time: 9am - 1pm

Where: COLA

The organisers are seeking donations of cooked food from different cultures and volunteers from parents to help manage the stall on the day.

For further information please contact us:

Event Zhu 0403646386

Lisa Corado 0433204229

Fill your pockets with lots of cash.....

To fill your tummies!!

