



The Figtree

THE JOURNAL OF HUNTERS HILL HIGH SCHOOL

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HUNTERS HILL HIGH IS A GREAT SCHOOL TO SHOW OFF

Congratulations to James Jelly (Year 10), Emily Melinz (Year 11), Jake Jamieson and Briar Blundell (Year 7) for promoting our school in the Department of Education and Communities' competition **THE GREAT SCHOOLS SHOW-OFF** and achieving **FIRST PLACE** in the Northern Sydney Region and **SECOND PLACE** in the State! Forty one schools entered in the Secondary Schools' division of the competition, so the result achieved by our students and school is monumental!

These students are the creators behind a 3 minute video promoting our school as a comprehensive, coeducational, 7-12 high school, focusing on our many academic, sporting, creative and extra-curricular achievements.

The video will be shown at our formal assembly in week 7 as well as at our 2012 Open Day. It also promotes our school to the wider learning community by being accessible on our school's web site.

It was a difficult task condensing all the great things about our school into only three minutes and I would like to personally thank James, Emily, Jake and Briar for their optimistic and wonderful feedback and focus during the making of the video.

CONGRATULATIONS! You are the faces of Hunters Hill High School and you make us very proud!

Ms Slavica,
English Department



DATES TO REMEMBER

13th August
P&C Trivia Night

15th August
P & C Meeting

16th August
Years 7, 8 and 9 Achievers' Morning Tea

27th August
P&C Working Bee

29th August
Legacy Day

30th August
Years 10, 11 and 12 Achievers' Morning Tea

31st August
Mid Term Assembly Leadership/Captain
Elections

7th September
Variety Night

12th - 16th September
Year 10 Exams

16th September
X Faktor Concert

19th September
P & C Meeting

19th - 23rd September
Year 11 Yearly Exams

22nd September
Year 12 Graduation

23rd September
Last Day - Term 3

10th October
Staff and students return - Term 4

13th October
HSC Written Exams begin

17th October
P & C Meeting

17th - 21st October
Year 7 Yearly Exams

24th - 28th October
Years 8 and 9 Yearly Exams

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Recently, in Washington DC at a Save our Schools March and Rally the following inspiring (and short) speeches were delivered:

1. The first was delivered by the actor Matt Damon, who is introduced to the podium by his mother, an educator. It can be found at - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HqOub-heGQc>
2. The second speech was delivered by one of America's finest contemporary thinkers and writers about Public Education in the United States of America, the historian Diane Ravitch. It can be found at - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HfcjQ-2Se58&feature=related>
3. The third is by the eminent American author, Jonathan Kozol. This speech can be found at - http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SI8ESi_XCPTO&feature=related

Although the immediate context is public school education in the United States of America, these inspiring speeches are worth viewing.

Public Education has a proud tradition and it is important that Hunters Hill High students make the most of the opportunities available to them within their public school.

With the conclusion of the Semester 1 Reporting Period, it's a great opportunity for students to focus and commit to their school work and aim for improved achievement this term and next. There are simple home and school routines that will assist students' achievement. I offer these suggestions for parents to consider and enforce to support their children's learning:

- Daily and regular home routines that include homework and study as well as limited on-line time for social networking. Nightly habits that ensure that uniforms are clean and pressed as well as equipment and diaries are in school bags in readiness for the next school day avoid oversights and added anxiety on school mornings.
- Attend school on time every day. Hunters Hill High School commences

at 8.45 am, so students must plan their travel accordingly. Roll call and assemblies are part of the school day where attendance is recorded, information about daily routines shared and the school and students' achievements celebrated.

- Encourage your children to engage with school life and meet their responsibilities within their school community. Developing as responsible and contributing citizens is as important as academic achievement. Healthy adolescents are those who are engaged and productive so students' involvement benefits the school community and students.

Take the time to dip into this newsletter and you will gather an understanding of the wide variety of opportunities that are offered to our students - your children. Apart from the opportunities to work with teachers to improve academically, there are numerous sporting, leadership and cultural opportunities available to students.

I really appreciate the partnership that our school enjoys with the parents within the Hunters Hill High community; the stronger and more positive this partnership, the better for all our students. Prior to each P & C meeting there is a short presentation by teachers about some aspect of life and learning at Hunters Hill High School. Another resource that the Secondary Principals' Council has encouraged Principals to share with their school communities is the [School A to Z](#) online school community which provides practical advice about homework, tips on learning, wellbeing, technology and resources to help parents and carers support their children's social, physical and mental development. [School A to Z](#) includes:

- Free mobile applications for iPad and smart phones that feature Maths and Spelling games.
- Face book and Twitter sites to allow parents to share experiences, tips and hints online
- Printable homework help sheets
- A-Z list of English, Maths and Technology
- Assignment starters on popular classroom topics
- Lunchbox recipes
- Podcasts, videos and articles on a broad range of topics

The concept was developed in response to parent concerns about not being able to confidently support their children's learning at home. As John Hattie, a current and well respected educational researcher, has found teachers are important to students' learning; however, the home and what students bring to school are also very important. Good luck with your challenging and rewarding parenting journey!

Whilst all teachers have the responsibility of supporting all students' learning, there are personnel and additional classes that operate within the school to assist students who may need more individualised attention. We have our counsellors: Geoff Glassborow and Elizabeth Shelley as well as our Support Teacher: Paul Brown who are able to 'coach' students to develop skills that are needed to negotiate the curriculum. Also, both the Maths and English Faculties ('Eat Your Words') run lunch time tutorials to assist students who may need additional help in those particular subjects.

A huge note of appreciation to our Year 12 teachers who are working tirelessly and with great dedication to support Year 12 students as they complete their HSC program. The last holidays were utilised by teachers to run tutorials in various subjects as well as provide workshops for the refinement of HSC Major Works. Students who availed themselves of these opportunities were well positioned for their Trial HSC as well as meeting the deadlines for their Major Works.

I have met with Year 12 students and outlined their commitments and responsibilities for the remaining weeks of their education. Parents of Year 12 students, please note the separate correspondence that was mailed earlier this term. If this important correspondence hasn't reached you, please contact the school and a copy will be sent to you.

Whilst I'm looking forward to celebrating those students who performed well in their Semester 1 Reports at our Achievers' Morning Teas over the next few weeks, it's disappointing that some students are not demonstrating the discipline and commitment required for academic success. Over recent weeks, the deputies and I have been meeting with parents and students to negotiate support plans for some of these students. There has been enormous teacher generosity and significant school resources directed to these programs; however, this support must be accompanied by students' improvements!

There have been some great achievements within our school community:

- Two Hunters Hill High parents: P&C President, Susan Just and Elizabeth Latimer-Hill will be presented with **North Sydney Community Awards** by The Hon. Joe Hockey MP Member for North Sydney on August 19. These prestigious awards are well deserved as both Susan and Elizabeth have **given** generously and selflessly to our school community over many years.
- Congratulations to Ms Iva Slavica and students: James Jelly, Emily Melinz, Briar Blundell and Jake Jamieson who were Northern Sydney Region winners and one of three state finalists in the **2011 Great Schools 'Show-off'**. This talented team will show the prize-winning film at this month's P&C Meeting and have already started planning their 2012 film.
- Congratulations to Mr Maskiell, Head Teacher Science, and his Year 10 students 'Brain Bee Scientists' who, last week, achieved a stunning 3rd in the State (and so close to 2nd place) behind Baulkham Hills High School (a selective school) and PLC Sydney. A brilliant result!!
- Congratulations to all our budding student 'journos' whose articles appear in this month's newsletter. My thanks for taking the time to share your experiences with the school community.
- Good luck to all Hunters Hill High students who are rehearsing for the Ryde Schools' Spectacular auditions and next month's Variety Night! I look forward to seeing you at this month's P&C Meeting on Monday August 15 at 7.30pm in the school library. I'm sure there will an update on the progress towards the completion of our Security Fence.

Judith M Felton

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Year 12

In the final weeks for Year 12, it is essential that students develop and work on regular study programs to use the remaining time

effectively. Teachers will be working hard in the remaining class time to ensure that syllabus outcomes are met and that the students have the opportunity to practise typical HSC questions to refine their examination techniques.

The school will be celebrating with our Year 12's at the Year 12 Graduation Ceremony at 10.00am on Thursday, 22nd September in the Pavilion. All Year 12 parents are invited to attend this important and uplifting, educational milestone.

During this time of celebration, it is critically important that families and the school endorse the messages of safety, respect and preparation to our Year 12 students. Destructive and dangerous 'muck-up' behaviour cannot be tolerated. We do not want exuberance to lead to dangerous activities that may result in injury or accidents.

All year 12 students will be required to formally 'sign-out'. This will be conducted immediately after the completion of the HSC examinations. This will be done on the morning of the Year 12 Formal, Monday, 14th November between 9.30am - 11.00am in the Movement Studio. All books will need to be returned and any outstanding fees paid at that time to achieve clearance.

Attendance and Reports

With the completion of the Semester 1 reporting cycle, it is timely to revisit attendance information that is supplied in reports.

- **PARTIAL ABSENCE** refers to any interruption in a student's attendance between 8.48am and 3.10pm. Typically late arrival to school, leaving early or truanting from a lesson form the bulk of all partial absences.
- **WHOLE DAY ABSENCE** refers to complete school days where a student is away from school.

Families are required to provide written explanation for any student absences. The school allows a two week window after an absence to receive a Doctor's Certificate or letter of explanation from parents. Students should bring the letter of explanation on the first day of return from an absence. These details are entered into the roll marking system.

- An **EXPLAINED ABSENCE** refers to any partial or whole day absence for which a suitable explanation has been provided.

- An UNEXPLAINED ABSENCE refers to any partial or whole day absence for which there has been no suitable explanation received.

M Murphy

HUNTERS HILL HIGH SCHOOL P&C REPORT

Welcome to Term 3 at HHHS. Best wishes to all Year 12 students who have recently completed their trial HSC exams.

Parents and teachers and all comers - please organise with our events committee to book your table for Trivia Night on Saturday 13 August. There are lots of free giveaways, a tremendous raffle, and wonderful prizes for the winning tables. The theme this year is "COLOUR" with bonus points on offer for the best dressed table. Full details are available on the school website. Trivia Night is a good opportunity to meet other people involved with the school. If you would like to have the events committee organise a spot for you on a table with others please contact Lyn or Lillian at hhhs.events@gmail.com.

The events committee will also be looking for volunteers to assist with our family BBQ on Variety Night. The P&C has run a BBQ prior to Variety Night over the last couple of years so that students and family can attend Variety Night without the rush to eat beforehand. Please contact the events committee and let them know if you can help out hhhs.events@gmail.com.

Thank you to all the parents who have supported the P&C and the school over the last few months in our endeavours to have the fence around the school completed. Over the last ten days a large number of parents have signed our petition to the Hunters Hill Council requesting that the fence be completed to the DEC standard at 2100 high. Our negotiations with Council and DEC to have the fence completed are ongoing but your support in signing the petition is a terrific indication of the strong feelings our parents have in ensuring the safety and security of the students and staff at Hunters Hill High. Thank you again.

Our environment committee has been extremely busy over the past few months clearing and replanting the garden beds around the Reiby Road garden. Thank you to parents who attended the two working bees. The next working bee is scheduled for Saturday 17 September. This is a great

opportunity for parents to help out if you have a couple of hours spare.

Congratulations to the members of Hunters Hill High Band on their winning Gold performance at the Yamaha Festival. Thank you to Jackie Fredericks and the team of parents who have been assisting with the band in 2011. Our award winning band will be featured in an article in the North Shore Times over the next couple of weeks. Thank you to Allan Griffiths for contacting the North Shore Times and organising the article.

Please make yourself welcome at the next P&C meeting of this term to be held on next Monday 15 August. We will be viewing a short presentation of the school's submission to "The Great School's Show-off" as well as discussing pertinent issues such as the fence and changes to the School Certificate. We commence at 7:30 pm in the library and hope to be finished by 9.30pm. See you there.

Susan Just
HHHS P & C President 2011

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Welcome to International Students

As it is the start of Term Three, it is once again time to welcome our new international students to Hunters Hill High School. After their initial orientation, where students met their Year Advisers, teachers and classmates, a Morning Tea was held on Tuesday 9th August so that the international students could also meet with other ongoing international students in the school.

Should any international student or their guardian require assistance during their time at the school, please contact the appropriate Year Adviser or Ms Nunn for welfare matters, and Ms Maroon, for clerical support.

ACHIEVERS' CAMP

Achievers' Camp is coming up. For new students and their parents, Achievers' Camp takes place mid Term 4 and is a recreational camp for the 'thinkers', 'triers' and 'doers' at Hunters Hill High School. Students are nominated by their teachers for their achievements during the year. Invitations will be sent home at the beginning of Term 4. This year the students will be spending 3 days at Vision Valley at Arcadia, partaking in all manner of recreational activities and generally having fun and socialising. Keep up the good work and reap the rewards.

Tracy Small Head Teacher CAPA

CAPA REPORT

Archibald Prize Review

In Term Two, Year 9 and 10 Visual Arts classes visited the Art Gallery of New South Wales to see the Archibald Prize. Most of us had never been there and it wasn't as we expected; a grand building filled with so many professional, creative and somewhat confusing paintings. You really had to think about it to figure out what many of the artists were expressing. The winner for 2011 was created by Ben Quilty who painted a portrait of Margaret Olley, the Australian painter (she passed away on 26th July, at the age of 88).

At first she declined the offer to be painted and yet it was this humility that Quilty found so appealing about her. He described her as an inspiration that was vigorously passionate about her art making. The pallet he used was based on bright and colourful colours which reflected her home and studio.

This was a marvellous painting though my favourite was created by Matt Doust called the "White Cocoon". The subject was Gemma Ward, the youngest model to be placed on the cover of VOGUE at the age of 16. The painting was simple yet elegant and brought out her features and emotions. The simplicity and dominant features constantly drew your eyes back to her, it was almost as though a ghost was staring back at you.

Jane Andrews
Year 9

Choir

The fabulous members of the choir have been meeting twice a week for rehearsals singing a variety of music from short part songs, to pop and musical theatre numbers. The students bring a great deal of joy and commitment to rehearsals and while still a small group, are making terrific progress, not to mention having great fun! As always, any new members are most welcome to attend rehearsals held Tuesday mornings at 8am and Friday lunchtimes in the CAPA Music Room. See you there!

Ms Scaysbrook
(Choir co-ordinator)

Regional Drama Camp 2011

In June 2011, three intrepid students from Hunters Hill High School; Sasha deValence, Zara Dobbie-Smitham (Yr 10) and Alaric Powe (Yr9) embarked on a bear hunt. We quickly discovered it was not a bear hunt, but a trip to the moon. Suddenly, it transformed into a terrifying morning with a bunch of Drama teachers missing coffees and hair dryers!

It must be Regional Drama Camp! Three days of intense dramatic workshops, meeting exuberant students from across Sydney's north and nights filled with watching professional actors improvise screamingly, funny scenes.

The first two days saw us attend specialised workshops, such as theatre styles, characterisation, physical theatre and script analysis. We were then divided into groups of unfamiliar people and given the task of producing a short performance to showcase for weary parents at the end of the camp. We approached the situation cautiously but quickly embraced it, much like a bear hunt; we didn't go under or over, we went straight through it. We worked through the frosty mornings, the diva tantrums and the last minute alterations.

The entire experience was invaluable and it allowed me to develop into a Drama student more willing to take risks and less concerned with getting it "right".

Sasha deValence (yr 10)

What a Sound!

On Wednesday 22nd June, all of Year 8 and elective Music students were invited to attend an interactive drumming experience called Salaka. The performer started off by playing a rhythm on a drum and singing traditional African songs. He told us that drums were used to communicate in Africa, how the drums were made and from what types of materials.

The workshop was interactive as every student who attended was given a drum to play. It was truly amazing when all the drums were being played at once. The sound could be heard clear across the school.

Thanks to Mr Minkov for organising the workshop. It was an amazing experience filled with excitement and joy.

Carragh Byrne-Smith - Year 9



State Band Camp

From the 16th to 21st of July, I went to Stanwell Tops for Junior State Band Camp. It was a camp for 273 kids from Years 5 to 8 to improve their music skills and learn to work together. I played flute and piccolo. We also did several exciting recreational activities including archery, survivor, giant swing, mission impossible and vertical cluster. Every night we had a concert for people who wanted to perform in front of the audience. These were enjoyable, as lots of different types of music were played.

Luckily, the weather was mostly dry for the first few days so we got to do our recreational activities. It started raining heavily on Wednesday, so the whole place was wet and muddy! On the last day we did a concert for our parents, playing in our six ensembles and singing two pieces together. It was heaps of fun, making new friends from all over NSW and playing music. I can't wait to go to Senior State Band Camp next year.

Siobhan Nash 8S

Senior State Drama Camp

On Sunday the 26th June, I and almost 100 other students from schools across NSW attended the 2011 State Drama Camp, run by the Performing Arts Unit. It was a great experience. It was very well run (I have to admit I was slightly surprised) and there we all had to chance to perform in and watch some fantastic theatre (including Chekov's "The Seagull" and Anthony Neilson's "Edward Gant's Amazing Feats of Loneliness").

The camp was three days long and over its course we chose five courses to participate in. Of the many fantastic options available I chose:

- Mask work (I think this was my favourite workshop)
- Movement (interesting)
- Circus Skills (fun)
- Costume design (informative and helpful)

And

- Accent and voice work - this focused on British and American accents, it was great fun and a great excuse for saying "jolly good old chap" whenever anyone asked a question.

On the last day of the camp we performed a group piece we had been working on over the three days. Every group created a piece based around a stimulus given to us on the first day of the camp. All the performances were good, really good actually when you consider we were working in large groups with only three

days to rehearse. I learnt and experienced a lot, some of which was just fun at the time and some of which I am sure will help me throughout the HSC and throughout life.

For anyone who is offered the chance to go to State Drama Camp in Year 11 I would highly recommend it. It was a unique and rewarding experience.

Jean Mackay Year 11

X Faktor Committee Meeting

On Wednesday 22nd June, I attended the second meeting of the Hunters Hill School's X Faktor with Genevieve Mooney (Yr 12) and Jake Jamieson (Yr 7).

Hunters Hill Council conducted a survey last year and from that, decided that there were not enough under 18's events in the area. The solution: X Faktor.

The X Faktor will be a talent evening involving four schools; Hunters Hill High School, St Joseph's, Riverside Girls and Marist Sisters. The night will be divided into two sections of Junior (7,8,9) and Senior (10,11,12) with three acts in each section from each school. The process of choosing acts from Hunters Hill High will be the auditions for Variety Night. This will be a hard process for Ms. Small and Ms. Haag as our students are extremely talented.

As soon as we were seated for the committee meeting, James (Head of the committee) made sure that the celebrity judges had been organised. The judges we had in mind were Cate Blanchett, John and Len from Justice Crew, Ashleigh Cummings from *Neighbours* and *Tomorrow when the War Began* and Brian McFadden.

We are hoping to start promoting with Face book event pages, flyers and posters in late July. Let's hope it's a success!

Keturah Sheen (Year 10).

Ryde Schools Spectacular Audition

Thursday 11th August sees the Ryde Schools Audition Panel once again visit Hunters Hill High School to audition our talented dancers from both the Boys' and Girls' Dance Groups. Les Toemoe (P and C Dance Coordinator) has worked tirelessly; sending emails, collecting costume fittings and generally organising everybody to ensure that the students are well prepared and that the audition runs smoothly.

We wish both groups the very best in the audition and keep our fingers crossed that

they make it to the impressive Opera House stage.

Year 7 and 8 Drama Ensembles

As the auditions for Variety Night creep closer, it is great to see the Drama Ensembles working so hard on their performance pieces. At this stage, it is so important that members attend the weekly rehearsals. If you are unable to attend, please notify your teacher. Congratulations to the following Year 8 students who have received the sequined sombrero and the highly sought after title 'Player of the Week':

Liam Martin
William Gray
Dakota Boyd
William Service
Joshua Taylor Derwin

Tracy Small - Head Teacher CAPA

ENGLISH

"EAT YOUR WORDS"

"Eat Your Words" is a new program run by the English Department for all Year 7 and 8 students who are enthusiastic about improving their literacy skills through a range of collaborative and fun activities. "Eat Your Words" is on every Thursday during lunch in room 206. Students are invited to bring their lunch and their friends!

Being literate is having the ability to read and write in order to successfully communicate with others. The program focuses on improving a range of skills including: **spelling, punctuation, grammar, vocabulary, comprehension, creative writing** and developing an overall understanding and enjoyment of the English language. The program is in full swing this term. All students welcome!

Hunters Hill High School Hosts Premier's Debating Challenge Senior Semi-final Debate

Our school had the privilege of hosting the semi-final debate for the Premier's Debating Challenge on Wednesday 20th July between Manly Selective High School and Macquarie Fields High School. The debate's topic was: ***the West should cease all military involvement in Libya***. As political as the topic was, it gave both teams an opportunity to express their team's line of argument in an extensive and diplomatic way. All team members spoke for the full nine minutes and their arguments delved into deeper territory, including human rights policies and the quest for humanity to help each other. The audience of Year 10 students learnt a thing

or two! The winning team was the affirmative Manly Selective High School.

I'd like to thank Jane Andrews and Obi Williams in Year 9 for their roles as Chairperson and Timekeeper.

Ms Slavica - English Department

International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS)

This year during Education Week we are participating in the ICAS for English on August 2nd. We have 23 enthusiastic students who have enrolled to compete for certificates ranging from participation to high distinction. This assessment is also conducted in over 20 countries in Asia, Africa, Europe, the Pacific and the USA.

We look forward eagerly to our students performing to a high level when results are distributed later this year.

Mr Brown

MATHS

The Australian Mathematics Competition 2011

The annual Australian Mathematics Competition (for the Westpac Awards) was held in the school hall on Thursday, 4th August. About 90 students from years 7 to 12 participated (competing against students from their school year in Australia, New Zealand, Brunei, Fiji, French Polynesia, Hong Kong, New Caledonia, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Singapore, Taiwan, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago), answering 30 questions in 75 minutes.

In the completion of the competition, students used and applied their knowledge of mathematics and/or their problem-solving skills, **without the aid of a calculator**. The questions tested a wide range of material and required many different strategies - a wonderful experience for those that enjoy Mathematics and are interested in testing and improving their ability in Mathematics and problem-solving.

My thanks go to Ms Kim, who coordinated the entries and the running of the competition. I look forward to the usual positive feedback from the competition when the results arrive at the end of this term.

Mathematics Tutoring at School

Students sometimes need extra help with their understanding of Mathematics, especially when they have fallen behind in their work, or have a test or examination for which they need to prepare. For this reason,

the Mathematics Faculty at Hunters Hill High School offers free tutoring at the school.

Tutoring used to take place only on Thursday lunchtimes in Room 402 (Ms Ieraci's room), but now it can be accessed on any day of the week. All of the Mathematics teachers are happy to give their free time to students who want to improve their skills in and knowledge of Mathematics.

To arrange for Mathematics tutoring at school, students need to arrange for a suitable time with their Mathematics teacher of choice, and just turn up!

Ms Maria Ieraci
Head Teacher, Mathematics

YEAR 7

With the half year mark well and truly behind us the year as whole appears to be progressing nicely.

All parents now should have received their child's report. I have spoken to many parents at the Teacher/Parent night; however, if you wish to discuss any matter in regard to your child's performance please do not hesitate to contact me at any time.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind all parents that if your child is talking to you about any form of bullying or harassment, whether it be verbal, physical or cyber based, please contact me so that we can manage and resolve the situation.

We have received some feedback from parents expressing concern especially with their boys. Please find following some ideas to help your son understand what it means to be a boy:

- Encourage one-on-one older male time
- Make sure he has access to other good men in his life
- Let him know you love him and boys in general
- Allow him to be excited about being a boy
- Make time to talk to him about things that matter to him

As boys often don't like face-to-face contact, use time in the car or doing something physical like walking or kicking the ball to chat. As men are doers, doing something will be less threatening to your boy and he will open up and chat.

(Maggie Hamilton "What's happening to our boys" pg 56")

Warren Pickles- Year 7 Advisor

YEAR 12

Almost Farewell to Year 12

It is a very busy time for our current Year Twelve students who have just completed their Trial HSC examinations and are now completing all course work prior to sitting their final examinations starting in October. On behalf of the entire school community, I would like to wish Year Twelve every success in their final days at Hunters Hill High School. On their behalf, I would also like to thank all the Year Twelve teachers for their ongoing commitment in helping the students over the past six years in numerous ways, not only teaching them but also providing considerable emotional support.

I look forward to Year Twelve showing their new-found maturity as they complete this last term and officially graduate on Thursday 22nd September. (Please note the changed date of the ceremony). There will be a number of farewell activities, culminating with the Formal on Monday 14th November, and I am confident that Year Twelve will enjoy these events in the appropriate manner.

Best wishes to all in Year Twelve. I know that you (figuratively) take a part of Hunters Hill High School with you into your futures.

Sue Nunn
Year Twelve Adviser





LIBRARY

This term has been very exciting and busy so far. **Random House Teen Video Book Competition** The competition is well under way. We would love to see as many students as possible having a go - the deadline is 30 September. We entered photographs of our display into a separate part of the competition and have just found out that we have won some new books for our library, a great boost to the collection and a pat on the back for us.

Photographs of Year 7 students making and filming their projects during library lessons have also been sent to Random House. They expressed an interest in seeing how their competition had inspired both the Library Staff and the students. A big thank you to all the students involved.

Click View

Students and teachers have been using a new facility in the library called Click View - it's been a great hit with everyone who has used it so far.

Non- Fiction Books

The non-fiction area is under reorganisation and should be finished soon. Apologies if you have had difficulty in finding something. Once this task has been completed it will be much easier to locate the correct resource helping students with their assignments and teachers with their classes held in the library. If you can't find what you are looking for, please ask one of the Library Team - we are here to help you.

Displays

As usual the library displays are popping up and changing. The highlight for August is the CBC's Book Week which is entitled "One World, Many Stories". Six authors have been shortlisted for the CBC Book of the Year Award and those books are available for borrowing. Come and have a look.

Science is our other focus - Crime Scenes and Forensic Science to be exact. Our display has plenty of information about forensics and we also have our very own crime scene to check out.

Next month the focus area will be Year 7 History.

Library Team.

HSIE

We're off to see the Harbour, the wonderful Harbour of Oz!

Waking up on the 3rd June you just knew it was going to be a brilliant day, for multiple reasons.

Number one being it was Friday, which meant it was the last day of the school week before we got to spend all of our **free time** on the weekend catching up all the homework we had accumulated during the week. **Yay for us!** And number two; we had our Geography excursion which really only meant one thing to us *at the time*, which was- no maths!

So off the whole 119 students went accompanied by our oh-so tolerant teachers, Ms Apostolou, Mr Heiler, Mr Wong, Mr Doran and last but not least Ms Krausz. We hiked up ninety-eight thousand four-hundred and twenty five inches of flat ground on our journey to the medium sized ferry which would then take us on our journey around (we were about to find) the fascinating Sydney Harbour.

We roamed far and wide as we took in all of our surrounds such as the Balmain region, Farm Cove, Pyrmont-Ultimo, Darling Harbour and Ballast Point among many others. We spent the whole day seeing historical changes come to life as well as the geographical problems and solutions we observed. We got a peep at the more residential areas of Sydney harbour, the small boxy government housing apartments and then across the harbour, where quaint terrace houses once stood were large expensive properties that had perfectly manicured gardens with pools of all shapes and sizes.

As we got closer to Sydney's city centre we got nearer to the more commercial part of the harbour. Large skyscrapers sat on the water's edge with colourful signs popping out from the top saying things like "Channel 10" in big blue and yellow letters. We also spent a fair bit of time watching the evolutionary changes made to the industrial areas. For example, Ballast point used to be used as an old oil storage facility but has now closed down due to more eco-friendly conditions being applied as well as buildings

for recreational activities being built in its stead.

It would be a lie to tell you that nobody got sea sick – but it's a boat and humans aren't exactly aquatic-type mammals so it was predictable that at least one of the whole 119 of us might have needed to go to the head of the boat to get a little fresh air. But all in all it was pretty amazing seeing how the harbour was formed, learning how it used to be two hundred years ago and what it might become in a hundred years' time.

I'm sure the whole of Year 10 would agree that despite it being *educational* it was an exciting and a truly fascinating day.

Amy and Emily



YEAR 9

YEAR 9 GIRLS – WILD WOMEN'S WARRIORS DAY

On Monday 1st August, Year 9 girls had a special welfare day where they worked through a number of self-awareness and health issues in the morning followed by a self-defence class in the afternoon.

The feedback from the girls was very positive. Most loved the cupcakes (specially made by Angela Buchanan), the bonding with each other, and particularly the kicking and punching in the self-defence class.



Some comments:

- "It was great to have people hear what you have to say."
- "Fun! I want to do it again." The best thing was "...when they were talking about feeling good about yourself."
- "You're your own protection."
- It was "...a heaps good bonding day!"



Thanks to Kym Carlson and the team from Kyds who ran the excellent workshops in the morning, providing valuable information and support for students, and to women's self-defence specialist, Penny Gulliver who effectively introduced the girls to some basic self-defence moves and strategies. Thanks also to Ms Edwina Hickey for her assistance on the day.

Sue Nunn
Welfare Support



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Hunters Hill High School

Term 3 – 2011



<i>Mth</i>	<i>Wk</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>
July	1 A	18 School Development Day	19 Students return	20 Fac Mtg Trial HSC	21	22
July	2 B	25	26	27 Staff Mtg Years 7 and 9 Parent/Teacher Evening Trial HSC	28 Science Exc -20 Yr 10 students	29
Aug	3 A	1	2	3 Fac Mtg EDUCATION WEEK	4 Mathematics Competition	5
Aug	4 B	8 Ski Trip	9 Ski Trip	10 Staff Mtg Ski Trip	11	12 13 P&C Trivia Night
Aug	5 A	15 P&C Meeting	16 Years 7, 8, 9 Achievers' Morning Tea	17 Fac Mtg	18	19 OH&S Mtg 8am
Aug	6 B	22	23	24 Staff Mtg	25 Year 11 Legal Studies Excursion	26 27 P&C Working Bee
Aug/ Sept	7 A	29 Legacy Day	30 Years 10, 11, 12 Achievers' Morning tea	31 Fac Mtg Mid-term Assembly Leadership / Capt Elections (CAPA/Eng/DP/YA)	1 Year 12 Biology Excursion	2
Sept	8 B	5	6	7 Staff Mtg VARIETY NIGHT	8	9
Sept	9 A	12	13	14 Fac Mtg Year 10 Yearly Exams	15	16 Year 11 Exams begin X Factor Concert (HH Council) Year 7 Vacc'ns
Sept	10 B	19 P&C Meeting	20	21 Staff Mtg Year 11 Yearly Exams	22	23 Last Day Term 3 Year 12 Graduation Assembly (Yr 12 DP/YA)