



The

Figtree

THE JOURNAL OF HUNTERS HILL HIGH SCHOOL

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September 2013

DATES TO REMEMBER

| | |
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| 12 – 19 September Year 11 Yearly Exams | 13 November Top of the Hill |
| 14 September P & C Working Bee | 14 – 19 November Year 10 Exams |
| 16 September P & C Meeting | 18 November P & C Meeting |
| 20 September Year 12 Graduation Assembly | 20 – 22 November Achievers' Camp |
| 20 September Last Day of Term 3 | 25 – 27 November Crossroads / All My Own Work |
| 8 October Term 4 Resumes – Staff and Students Return | 29 November Years 7 & 9 Vaccinations |
| 14 October – 6 November HSC Examinations | 4 December Year 6 Orientation Day |
| 21 October P & C Meeting | 6 December Sports Presentation Day |
| 28 October – 1 November Years 7 & 8 Assessment Week | 11 December Presentation Day |
| 4 November – 8 November Year 9 Assessment Week | 13 December Year 10 Special Assembly |
| 9 November Working Bee | 18 December Last day of Term 4 - Students |
| 11 November Top of the Hill | 19-20 December School Development Days - Staff |

New Students to Hunters Hill High School

We would like to extend a warm welcome to the following students who have joined the Hunters Hill High School community:

| | | | |
|-----------------|---|-----------------------|---|
| Emily Blair | 8 | Olivia Higgs | 9 |
| Charlie Teirney | 9 | Jemma Lang-Macpherson | 7 |

From The Principal

Welcome to our second and final *Figtree* for Term 3. As always, my thanks to all who have contributed so much and so positively to our school community this term; furthermore, my thanks to those who have taken the time and effort to communicate their activities in our newsletters.

This week, the school community will farewell Year 12, 2013. On Thursday, there will be informal activities on Friday, the school will host a formal farewell assembly for our whole school community including Year 12 and their families. At this assembly, we will farewell and celebrate Year 12 and their parents. Our 2014 School Captains will be announced at this assembly.

This is a significant time for Year 12 students who have been such a positive and integral part of our school community – most for their six years of secondary education. Whilst this moment is a significant time, it is also an emotional time. I urge all Year 12 parents to provide strong and wise guidance to their children over the coming days; sadly, heightened emotions can lead to impulsive and ill-advised actions that have unfortunate, sometimes tragic consequences. Please be aware of where your children are, what they are doing and with whom.

In my recent correspondence to Year 12 parents as well as at our meetings with Year 12 students, Deputy Principal, Michael Murphy and I have communicated clearly and unequivocally the school's values, the standard of behaviour expected of all HHHS' students and the consequences of breaches of this standard. If students adhere to the values of their families and their school and these behavioural standards, this time will be one that is enjoyed by all. The outstanding young people within Year 12 deserve to leave an equally outstanding legacy; hopefully, the unthinking behaviour of a few won't mar this legacy!

In recent weeks, our school community has had the opportunity to savour outstanding student talent; firstly, at MADD Night and last week at our Annual Variety Night. MADD Night, which showcases Year 12 Major Works, has become a great tradition within our school community and this year it seemed better than ever! Whilst students, their families and teachers enjoyed the high standard of Year 12 Major Works and performances, the Year 12 barbecue, the chocolate fundraiser as well as the many Year 12 students who were present to support their peers added to the evening's great atmosphere.

Each year, Variety Night is a great and sentimental favourite within the school calendar and Variety Night 2013 was no exception! The range and depth of student talent on stage and backstage as well as the formidable teacher and student team that ensures Variety Night is staged each year is commendable. The event is always strongly supported by families, students and their friends – how wonderful to see so many of 2012 Year 12 amongst the audience!

Whilst Year 12 students have completed their Trial Exams and Assessment schedule, their public exams are fast approaching. Year 11 students have commenced their Preliminary Year Exams and commence their HSC program at the beginning of Term 4. Year 7 to 10 students should note their assessment and exam schedules and focus their attention on effective preparation for these important tests.

Very recently, I was advised that, due to an error, the release of the 2013 Year 7 and 9 NAPLAN results has been delayed until next term. Upon their arrival, in a timely manner, Hunters Hill High staff will organise distribution to parents.

Congratulations to our Year 9 Rock Band Everlong who were invited to perform at Ryde East Family Fun Day on Saturday. Talented musicians and great ambassadors for Hunters Hill High School.

On Thursday, September 5, 2013 upon the invitation of Lane Cove Public School Principal Gemma Ackroyd, I was delighted to spend a morning at Lane Cove Public School. The occasion was the Lane Cove Public School 2013 Art Exhibition and Kindergarten to Year 6 student work was on display. And what a display of talent! Within the school's Visual Arts program, each grade explored a different theme and focused upon a particular medium. My thanks to Gemma for the invitation and my congratulations to Lane Cove Public School students for a great exhibition.

Coincidentally, Hunters Hill High School students under the guidance of their PD/H/PE teacher were recent and significant contributors to Lane Cove Public School. Our students showed wonderful skills and considerable maturity when managing the Lane Cove Public School Athletics Carnival. Well done Hunters Hill High School students and Mr Habouchi.

This week, together with a team of Hunters Hill High School's teachers, I will work with Lane Cove West Public School and Gladesville Public School Principals and teachers to develop Stepping Stones: a Year 6 into Year 7 Transition Program for Year 6 parents. Whilst Hunters Hill High School has developed a very comprehensive and effective Transition Program for students progressing to Year 7, a need has been identified to do more to support parents. To this end, Judy Doherty, Principal of Lane Cove West Public School, Judi Partland, Principal of Gladesville Public school and I wrote a successful submission to plan for and fund a Parent Breakfast and Workshop. This workshop will be held early next term and will be a great opportunity to introduce our 2014 Year 7 Advisor, Elena Goulousis, so watch out for the time and date which we'll advertise very soon.

Sakuna Pho, the new Hunters Hill Public School Principal enjoyed some Hunters Hill High School hospitality when he visited recently. Sakuna was very keen to hear the Hunters Hill High School story – which, of course, I was equally keen to share as well as commit to Hunters Hill High School Community of Schools' program. Of course, Term 4 features quite a few events in this program including Primary Schools' Band Workshop, Top of the Hill and our Orientation Day!

My congratulations to all Hunters Hill High School students who received an invitation to attend 2013 Achievers' Camp. A unique and well established tradition, Achievers' Camp is held each year for Year 7 to Year 11 students who have been recognised by their teachers as "thinkers", "triers" and "doers". Students who attend have been recognised by their teachers as good school citizens who contribute positively and comprehensively to their school community. These students are consistently civil, co-operative and courteous; they show leadership, consideration and respect for their teachers, their peers and their school community as they negotiate their school days. Well done to those who have been recognised in 2013 and my encouragement and best wishes to all who have Achievers' Camp 2014 as a goal!

My thanks and acknowledgement to the P & C Fundraising Committee who, with great determination, organised a very successful raffle. The funds will be directed towards the refurbishment of our courts. Of course, this success was dependent upon the support of students, their families and staff who sold so many tickets. Well done to all.

Over the school year, our beautiful and challenging school grounds have benefited from Neil Hopkins, and his team. These contributions are really valued and remind of just how lucky we are to enjoy our magnificent site.

Whilst I will see many parents at this week's Graduation Assembly, I hope you can make it to this month's P & C Meeting at 7.30 pm in the school library.

**Until next Figtree,
J M Felton**

P & C Report

Thank you to all the talented students who performed in Variety night on Wednesday, 4 September 2013. It was very entertaining and enjoyed by all.

Thank you also to the P & C Events Committee who ran the BBQ for Variety night.

We are all very grateful to the P & C Events Committee for organising and running the Mega Raffle Fund Raiser. An amazing amount of \$7,700 was raised towards refurbishing the multi-purpose sports

courts on the waterfront. This will benefit all of our children, future students at the school and the community.

A reminder that the Environment Committee has scheduled the next working bee in our beautiful school grounds this Saturday 14 September 2013 from 1pm to 4pm. We will be weeding and planting at the bottom of Reiby Rd (down the hill from the main gate). Any gardening tools will be useful. This is a great opportunity for parents to help out if you have an hour or two to spare.

Please make yourself welcome at the next P & C meeting to be held on Monday 16 September 2013 in the school library at 7.30 pm. This is a great opportunity to hear the Principal's report, meet other parents and be involved. We will be discussing allocating funds for the refurbishment of the multi – purpose sports courts. See you there.

Deborah Slack
HHHS P & C President 2013

Variety Night

Hunters Hill High School's annual Variety Night is the perfect way to showcase the many talents of the students at our school. Hunters Hill High School takes great pride in on our high standard and variety of talent. Variety Night is something that the whole school looks forward to every year and after the night is over everyone looks forward to the next one. This year Ms Brierty, Ms Ingles and Ms Goulousis put in the hard work to bring it together.



Variety Night 'twenty thirteen' kicked off with a bang! The school hall was packed to the rafters with friends and family keen to experience what we had to offer. We had some great performances. Some of the highlights were, Samantha Warren and Nadia Akbar with a fabulous dance *'Everything's turning to White'*, *Obern and the Beaches* with an explosive performance and *'Everlong'* changed it up with a talented brass horn trio performance trio: Caitlin Nash, Charlotte Wiltshire and Huon Kirkman. These were just some of the fabulous acts. The night was hosted by, Diana Morgan, Sasha Sakha and Thomas Shoebridge of Year 12, and ended with a surprising flash mob comprised of most of the Year 12 cohort. Overall the night was a huge success and fun for all. A big thanks to all the people who not only performed but were behind the curtains and working on the BBQ; we couldn't have done it without the support of the Hunters Hill High School parents and community. Looking forward to next year!



Jake Jamieson and Stephen Fredricks



Music.Art.Drama.Design Night

M.A.D.D. Night was a huge success with HSC students from **Music** and **Drama** performing their major works alongside the *Gallery of Final Works* created by the talented students from the following courses: **Visual Art**, **Industrial Technology: Furniture Production** and **Design & Technology**.

As the audience entered our school hall they were met by the striking beauty of our students' artworks. The Design and Technology craftsmanship was remarkable as many of our visitors lusted over the handsomely crafted furniture.



Alana Toemoe, our CAPA Captain, hosted the night before proceeding to grace us with her stunning voice. Gemma Lipman played a haunting flute solo and Robbie Dixon used the Wah pedal to pay tribute to the one and only Jimmy Hendrix. The Individual Performances showcased at the beginning of the night stunned and confronted the audience whilst asking them to consider the human condition. The Group Performances presented us with insights into the political structure of Australia and 'The Lords' creation of planet earth in turn and an analysis of human afflictions such as insomnia and fear. It was great to be able to use the newly purchased wireless microphones that were donated to the school by the 2012 Year 12 cohort to assist these drama performances on the night.



A heartfelt thank you to the HSC teachers: Mr Ken Oh, Mr Anthony Wilson, Mr Peter Minkov, Ms Anne Wong and Ms Elena Goulousis for their patience and dedication to their students over the past two years.

A significant **'thank you'** to all of the families and friends of our Year 12 students who have supported and encouraged these young adults through their busy year. Thank you for not complaining about hearing the same song over and over and over again. Thank you for purchasing wood, paint, varnish, canvas and spending hours reading over essays. Thank you for going over lines and giving up your lounge rooms for rehearsal. Finally, thank you for all the other things you have done out of love and support for our HSC students this year.

We hope you enjoyed M.A.D.D. night.

Ms Pelay Ingles
Relieving Head Teacher CAPA



CAPA Faculty

YEAR 12 HSC DRAMA PERFORMANCES

Congratulations to all our Year 12 Drama Performers, you should be so proud of what you all achieved over the past year. The Drama HSC performances were completed on August 20th and 21st. All of our students did a great job and should be incredibly proud of their efforts. The group and individual performances alike stunned the audience and showcased all of our students' dramatic ability and commitment to the art. Well done to Ms Goulousis for her immeasurable efforts in the preparation and lead up to this event!

YEAR 7 ENSEMBLE

The Year 7 Ensemble has been working hard and having heaps of fun over the past term! They created a piece about the lives of students and teachers that was performed at Variety Night with the help of their drama teacher, Ms Simpson.

VARIETY NIGHT

Variety Night 2013 delivered a spectacular display of the creativity of Hunters Hill High School. Ms Julia Brierty did an amazing job as she worked tirelessly to achieve perfection on the night. With the Rock Band pumping out tunes, Lauren Byrne singing Bruno Mars's 'When I was your Man' and the Year 7 Drama Ensemble teaching their teachers what not to do, among many other talented acts, it was a night to remember.

HUNTERS HILL HIGH SCHOOL CONCERT BAND WINS BRONZE!

The School Band Festival is open to all school wind, brass and big bands from across the planet. Over 230 bands and in excess of 6500 students perform at this event each year. Hunters Hill High's own School Concert Band was recently involved in this highly inspirational event on the school music calendar and deserved all of the applause that they received.



Our Hunters Hill High School Concert Band has been rehearsing regularly under the knowledgeable leadership of their Band Instructor Ms Alex Silver and the ever organised Mrs Jackie Fredericks. Congratulations to all members of the band on the big effort you all put in at the festival. All students' looked fantastic in their white & navy band uniform and sounded great in their performance. The band achieved an excellent result, considering the difficulty of the music they were playing; being awarded a Bronze trophy. Well done!

HUNTERS HILL HIGH SCHOOL JAZZ DANCE GROUP AT RYDE EISTEDDFOD.

The Hunters Hill High School Jazz group put on a brilliant performance at the Ryde Eisteddfod on Saturday 31st August at Ryde Secondary College. The group received a very positive and encouraging report from the judges in this very large and competitive section. As you can see from the photo, the combination of dancers, costume and choreography made for a stunning performance.

They have been working really hard all year with their dance instructor Kamilla, and have also impressed the Variety Night audience, along with the Contemporary and Hip Hop group. Congratulations!



HSIE Faculty

SPEAKING OF HISTORY:

A special congratulations to Charlotte Wiltshire of Year 7 who, with her OUTSTANDING History Interest Project, has inspired Mr Skinner, Mrs Buchanan and myself.

Charlotte submitted her research from the History Nerds Challenge at our most recent meeting in Week 7. Rather than the usual poster or power point, Charlotte brought in a box that she and her dad had found under the house whilst cleaning for the local council pick-up.

The box belonged to her great grandfather and contained a variety of interesting artefacts that spoke of a time gone by. Joel Robertson and Patrick Bennet, also in Year 7, helped in our analysis of these artefacts and in the development of theories as to their use and purpose.

Our informal nerd meeting had struck so near to the very heart of contemporary historiography, that I had to temporarily suspend proceedings and run down to tell Mrs Buchanan (Head Teacher History) what had just happened. I brought her, and her whole Year 12 Ancient History class - preparing for their HSC, back to the meeting and showed them the work Miss Wiltshire had presented. With her work, Charlotte provoked a deep discussion within the group which displayed critical thinking regarding the value of historical artefacts, the legitimacy of oral history, the history of the “other”, and the very nature and purpose of history itself.



This theoretical discussion gave those senior students ‘food for thought’ as they approach their final examination, presented an opportunity for junior students to actively engage with seniors in a meaningful and educational context and truly inspired the dusty old history teachers who were present.

And all of this was stimulated by one very dedicated, passionate, talented junior history student... Charlotte Wiltshire, take a bow!

Mr Anthony Sharman (History Nerd)
HSIE Teacher

Science Faculty

Our Year 12 Science students have completed their Trial Higher School Examination and are preparing for their impending Higher School Certificate.

RESULTS FROM TRIAL HSC EXAMINATION (FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD)

Biology- Gemma Lipman, Morgan Marshall, Gemma Assenheim.

Chemistry- Gemma Lipman, Rebecca Hwang, Navin Zabeti

Physics- Morgan Marshall, Rebecca Hwang, Tim Pawlak.

Congratulations to all students on the success your hard work has produced. Keep yourself challenged to reach your goals.

KICKSTART EXCURSION TO UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY

On 25th June 2013, the Year 12 Physics class participated in the University of Sydney's Kickstart Program. This program allowed the students to carry out experiments and demonstrations of concepts that are otherwise difficult to carry out in the classroom.

We experimented with superconductors, semi-conductors, radioactive isotopes and Wilsons Cloud Chamber. The students found the day highly informative and clearly enjoyed themselves.

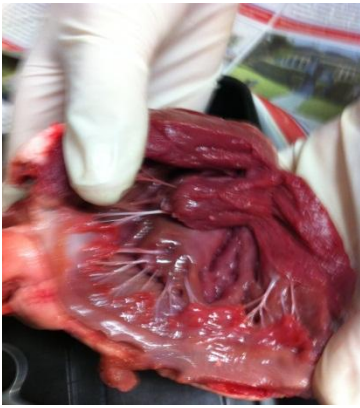
The Science faculty would like to take this opportunity to say goodbye to all the Year 12 Science students. We wish you the best of luck for your upcoming HSC Examination. We know all your hard work (and sleepless nights) will be worth it!

Year 11 are in the process of completing their topics for their yearly examination starting on Thursday of Week 9. Year 11 Biology and Chemistry students have recently completed their final Practical Assessment Task.



Recently five of our Year 10 & 11 students, **Andrew Gray, Hugh Mackay, Liam Martin, Cameron Durrant and Domenico Restuccia** participated in the Olympiad Examination for Physics, Chemistry and Biology. Congratulations to all these students who put their time and effort into this challenging examination. We are awaiting the results.

The father of one of our Year 8 students, **Mr Andrew Lawrence**, supplied us with ox hearts, brains and eyes for dissection, all free of cost. This gave our science students the unique first hand life experience with dissection. Year 8's carried out heart dissections, Year 10's carried out brain dissections and Year 11's carried out eye dissections. The Science Faculty would like to thank **Mr Lawrence** for his generosity which provided our students with this unique opportunity.



Year 7's completed an enjoyable project about the different types of rocks that surround us. Some of the projects showed the outstanding efforts made by our students.



Ms Annie Johnson
Science Teacher

International Students Morning Tea

It is wonderful to see how multicultural HHHS is becoming. On Tuesday, 10th September, we had a celebratory morning tea as we welcomed new international students and farewelled others.

Some Year 12 students, like the rest of their cohort are about to finish their formal lessons, as they prepare to sit the HSC. Other younger students have only been at the school for a term or two as they undertake a cultural exchange.

Aside from enjoying all the food, including Ms Austin's chocolate mousse cake, Ms Simpson's fairy bread and the lamingtons sourced by Ms Talbot, there was a great hubbub of noise indicating how many new friends have been made since students have arrived at the school.

To all the students who are leaving Hunters Hill High School, I wish you good luck in the future, on behalf of the school community.

Ms Nunn
International Student Co-ordinator.



Environmental Committee

TREE PLANTING INITIATIVE

On Friday 16th August 2013, Year 8 students were invited by Hunters Hill Council to plant trees at Riversdale Reserve in Gladesville. It was a beautiful sunny day and students of 8N planted over 140 trees in the area; a very impressive task done in such a short period of time. The students were shown step by step procedures for planting the native trees. Jacqui Vollmer from Hunters Hill Council was very appreciative of the job done. I think the students were very tired at the end of the day but were very satisfied by the experience. Thank you to Hunters Hill Council and Year 8 students for all your efforts.

Ms Kathy Apostolou
Teacher



Hunters Hill High School

Term 4 – 2013



| <i>Mth</i> | <i>Wk</i> | <i>Mon</i> | <i>Tue</i> | <i>Wed</i> | <i>Thu</i> | <i>Fri</i> |
|---------------------|-----------------|---|--------------------------------------|---|---|---|
| Oct | 1 A | 7 Labour day | 8 Staff and Students Return | 9 | 10 | 11 Sat: 12 th P & C Working Bee |
| Oct | 2 B | 14 HSC Commences *** | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| Oct | 3 A | 21 P&C Meeting | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| Oct/ Nov | 4 B | 28 ← ← | 29 | 30 Yr7 Assess Week Yr 8 Assess Week | 3 → → | 1 → → |
| Nov | 5 A | 4 ← | 5 | 6 Yr 9 Assess Week | 7 | 8 OH&S Meeting → Sat: 9th P & C Working Bee |
| Nov | 6 B | 11 TOP OF THE HILL Remembrance Day | 12 | 13 TOP OF THE HILL | 14 Yr 10 exams (commence after recess) | 15 Yr 10 Exams |
| Nov | 7 A | 18 P&C Meeting Yr 10 Exams | 19 Yr 10 Exams | 20 Achievers' Camp | 21 Achievers' Camp | 22 Achievers' Camp |
| Nov | 8 B | 25 Crossroads/ All My Own Work | 26 Crossroads/ All My Own Work | 27 Crossroads/ All My Own Work | 28 Year 10 exam feedback | 29 Yr 10 exam feedback Yrs 7 & 9 vaccinations |
| Dec | 9 A | 2 Peer Support Training | 3 Peer Support Training | 4 Yr 6 Orientation | 5 | 6 Sports Presentation Day |
| Dec | 10 B | 9 | 10 | 11 PRESENTATION DAY | 12 | 13 Yr 10 Special assembly |
| Dec | 11 A | 16 | 17 | 18 Last day for students | 19 School Development Day | 20 Last Day Term 4 School Development Day |