

Ashfield Boys High School Community News

Time for you and your child

Find us at: 117 Liverpool Rd, Ashfield 2131
Tel: 9798 6620 Fax: 9716 8004
Email: ashfieldbo-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

September 23rd
2010



Year 12 poets receive national recognition

Congratulations to Zihao Wang, Andrew Kook, Mike Wang and Kai Wang in Year 12 ESL who recently gained runner-up in the Schools Award of the Dorothea Mackellar Poetry Award. This award is given to schools that have a high overall standard of poetry entries. The prize consists of a set of books, a hand-crafted trophy and \$750. This annual competition is named in honour of Dorothea Mackellar, who wrote *I Love a Sunburnt Country*.

According to the competition website, "The aim of the ... Awards is to capture the imagination of school students in Australia, and inspire them with a passion for poetry. It is a unique national project, giving Australia's young people a voice and an opportunity to strive for excellence in literature."

This is a special achievement for our ESL students and an indication of their highly developed English skills as well as their creativity. The theme of the Awards this year was *I can hear music*. Below are two of the entries:

I can hear music

So, mi, fa, mi
What is that sound?
It is music.
In the forest, it blows
sweeps through the green palms
strong dark ribs, and in
harmony with the songs from
the sky

In the river, it flows
vibrates
cohering with the waves
and surrounding the colourful fish
It submerges into the light blue
makes the whole world drop-of-pin-recognisable.
Suddenly, it jumps out with the creatures
like a burst blossom

It is carried by the wind
spread by the stream and
sinks into everyone's thoughts.
What is that sound?
Seemingly miles away
seeming just beside us
caressing our cheeks
like a lover's touch -
it is the music of nature.

by Mike Wang



The poetic foursome

Kai Wang, Mike Wang, Zihao Wang and Andrew Kook

I hear music

Yes I know
The sound that stops me in my tracks
This song that captivates my ears
That melody that brings waves of memories
Riding on my heart, it flows

Like a surprise encounter with a long lost friend
This sadness in my heart is welcome
Versions of you return without you
But I'm fine
Because it was a different me

Because of my love
Even if time goes by
Inside my memories
A shining you and my stupid self
Live on together

Because of my life
I'm thankful for you
I loved you

Like a sign of return
You become as lonely as I am
Where are you?
Are you standing still unable to move... like me?

Yes I know
The memories flow through my ears
With this music
I reply with the song
To hear the melody of memories

by Andrew Kook

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

As I am writing this report I am madly preparing to take the band to China with Mr Dixon and Mat Parker. There will be more about this trip and photos when we return.

The History Day event, going back to the 80s, what a wonderful way it was for students to study the past. An excellent job Mr Radojevic. Congratulations to the team of teachers who were involved across many faculties. For them it was a long time ago. They were not even born yet! It was great watching the re enactment because it brought back those days for me. My children were young, Ninja Turtles, Cabbage Patch dolls the "in" toys. The women's movement had taken off. Feminism, Germaine Greer. Mobile phones were the size of house bricks. The list goes on. If History Day comes around next year then we will be inviting our parents to join in the fun. The boys and staff had a great time.

More great news 4 ESL students were runners up in the Dorothy Mackellar Poetry competition. This is a prestigious event and could not have gone to a better group of boys. Ms Couani did a wonderful job in coaching the students.

Soon Year 12 will be leaving us. They have been a great group of boys. We wish them well with the Higher School Certificate and know that each boy will achieve their best and find their niche in the world. All Year 12 and their parents attended the presentation day Assembly on Thursday 23rd September at 6.30pm in the school Hall.



MAGPIE SPORTS CLUB
40 HAMPTON ST
CROYDON PARK

JEWELLERY, CUSTOMISED
SHOE, CANDLES, SOAPS,
CAKES, BISCUITS, PLANTS,
COLLECTABLES AND LOTS
MORE

LAST SUNDAY OF EACH
MONTH

ROCHELLE POLLEY 0402009758
ARETI KAROUNIS 0403289999

It is that busy time of the year, Year 10 students have selected their courses for year 11 next year. From this information and also the elective courses that year 8 going into year 9 have chosen, as well as year 7 enrolments our new timetable will be established for 2011.

Year 11 students have just completed their exams and we wish them well with their results. Year 9 have completed their enrichment topics and their results will be finalised by the end of this term. Have a safe holiday and hope to see you all at our next P&C meeting on the 18th October.

D. Kokkalis

Receive the Newsletter electronically

Parents have the opportunity to receive the Newsletter by email.

The electronic version is in pdf.

There are many benefits to this option, among which are:

- you get all the photographs in colour;
- you are being environmentally responsible by saving paper;
- The school saves on the cost of printing - money which can then be used for other things in the school;
- You are also able to highlight, cut and paste and save the pieces important to you.

To take up the option, simply contact the school with your preferred email address and name of your son.

School Community Directory

Parents and Old Boys are very important to us all for ongoing support.

To reward that support back, we are proposing a School Community Directory.

It will take a form similar to a mini Yellow Pages.

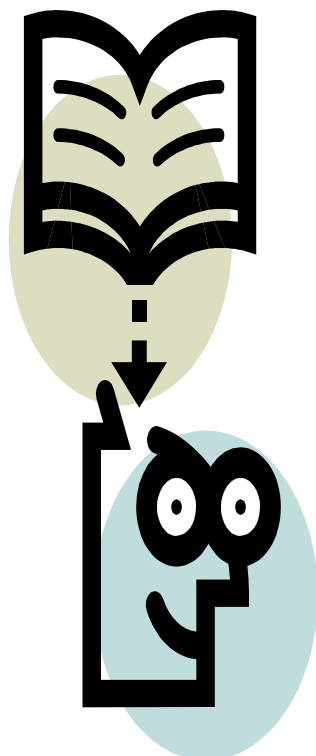
Parents who wish to make use of this will be able to advertise their business or service in alphabetical categories.

To take advantage of this opportunity, complete the form which accompanies this Newsletter with the relevant details.

We are not suggesting that you don't use your regular businesses, BUT if you are looking for an Electrician, or Motor Mechanic, or Accountant, or Solicitor, consider using one of the existing parents of the School.

There will be no charge for this.

Homework assistance available



HOMEWORK CENTRE IN THE LIBRARY

**MONDAY TO FRIDAY
7:30 TO 8:30 (Mornings)
MISS BROWN**

**MONDAY AND TUESDAY
3:10 UNTIL 4:10
(Afternoons)
MISS GORTON**

**COME ALONG AND GET SOME HELP WITH
AN ASSIGNMENT OR JUST A PLACE TO
WORK AND ACCESS INFORMATION**

PICKLES
SCHOOLWEAR SPECIALISTS SINCE 1976. MANUFACTURING & RETAIL



**Your
Uniform shop**

PICKLES NEWS WHAT'S NEW?

"New" jackets have arrived.

Size 10-16 \$65.00

Size 18-30 \$68.00

"New" Track pants have arrived sizes 10-XXXL \$39.50

Clearance of Last Season's Stock until sold out

Track pants all sizes \$25.00

Track tops all sizes \$35.00

Baseball Jackets \$45.00 all sizes

**OPEN EVERY MONDAY 8.00AM – 9.00AM & EVERY TUESDAY 10.00AM – 11.00AM
DURING TERM**

OR PLACE YOUR ORDER ONLINE AT www.youruniformshop.com.au

OR PHONE US ON: (02) 9905 2711 to place your order over the phone.

Welfare Report

Achievement

These students have been added to the list of students receiving an Award of Excellence or Principal's Award:



Congratulations to these students!

A reminder that Certificates of Excellence should be handed to Ms Fitzgibbon in order to be entered onto the Reward Excursion list. The excursion takes place later in Term 4.

Peer Support Leader Training

Training will take place in Term Four for Year 9 students who would like to be Peer Support leaders in 2011. I will be asking students to nominate themselves for this at the start of Term Four. It will involve one day of training. Students will not miss vital work in subjects as many of their peers will also be in the training sessions.

Students who ask to join this training program must have the following qualities:

- Leadership skills or a willingness to develop leadership skills
- A good groupwork ethic
- A commitment to helping others
- Good attendance and punctuality

Support Sessions

These have continued to take place this term for those students with lateness or absence issues. Make sure documentation is handed in to Ms Jane as soon as possible after an absence or lateness.

Margot Fitzgibbon

Head Teacher Welfare

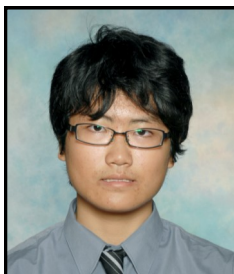
Principal's Award



Oscar Dewling

Yr 7

Award of Excellence



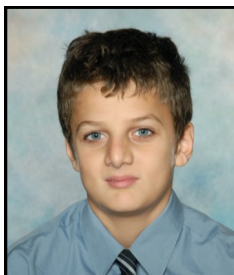
Jeffrey Choi

Yr 8



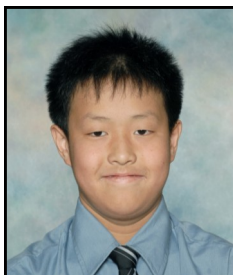
Mert Aytugrul

Yr 8



Oliver Younis

Yr 7



Andy Yee

Yr 7

**SCHOOL RESUMES FOR
TERM 4 2010**

**FOR STAFF
and
STUDENTS**

**Monday
October 11th, 2010**

Creative and Performing Arts highlights

Term Three is always a busy time in the Creative and Performing Arts departments, with the external HSC exams for the practical components of each Course taking place.

'100'

Week Ten, Term Two saw Ashfield Boys HS put on three performances of its first ever whole school play production in collaboration with Canterbury girls HS. The play '100', which deals with the complex and thought-provoking themes of death, eternity, truth and relationships was performed with maturity and conviction by a talented cast of Year 9-12 students from both schools. They were supported by a strong and dedicated technical crew of students and directed by Drama teacher Simone Museth. Audiences on all three nights praised the work of all students involved in the production, which involved over four months of preparation, and claimed that they were witness to a highly entertaining and professional production.

CAST: Joseph Dela Torre, Zack Reid, Dan Collins, Kamokoh Bah, Chloe Smith, Gemi Nguyen, Lulu Lucas, Kimberley De Visser, Rosie Schofield

CREW: Sam O'Sullivan, Joshua Schnerring, Camilla Paredes, Madeline Gill, Paige Lane, Jennifer Goodwin

HSC DRAMA

Seven HSC Drama students were very busy working on refining their Group Performances and Individual Projects in preparation to be examined by external HSC markers in Week Seven, Term Three. A 'Senior Drama Performance Night' was staged in the ABHS Performance Space on Thursday 19th August at 7pm. This night showcased both the Group and Individual Projects/Performances, and also featured Year 11 students performing their Individual Performance pieces.

SCHOOL CERTIFICATE DRAMA

On Monday 6th September at 7pm Years Nine and Ten Drama performed their Playbuilding performances, which they had been working on in class. That took place in the ABHS Hall.

MUSIC

Recently Year Twelve students were examined externally on the performance component for their HSC. Good luck to these boys who had been rehearsing hard for this exam. The "exam" held in Week 8 contributes to their overall result. While the performances were well received, the actual result won't be known until December when the results from the written component of the exam are added.

In Week 3 we farewelled the Year 12 boys from Band by having an afternoon BBQ. We thanked them for their commitment and efforts in Band, and for their excellent leadership over the years also. The boys are Riley Barlow, Paul Funaki, James Wang (the nicer one), Laurance Busuttil, Vincent Vaughn, Alex Rios and Peter Stathakis. That same week the Year 11 boys performed at the Wests Ashfield Community Awards Ceremony. As was to be expected, they were well received by an appreciative audience.

On Sunday 1st August the Stage Band performed at the Opera House as a part of the Regional Music Festival. We were the Final Item of the evening. The boys performed extremely well.

Also, there are a number of students in Years 7-11 involved in the Vocal group who will be performing in the annual Schools Spectacular in early November. These students have been involved in rehearsals and will be performing at the Entertainment Centre soon. These students are Jaya Samuel-Chelowski, Rohan Buddhipala, Saia Ngata, Elisi Mahe, Francis Mila, Isi Taufa, William Funaki, Charlie Kupu, Daniel Prescott, Villiami Mila, Moses Tanaki and Alfred Fifita.

Last week the ABHS Band's tour of China began when the boys flew out, accompanied by Band Master Mr. Dixon, Mrs. Kokkalis and a number of parents. The ten day performing tour in a number of venues is shaping up to be a big one! The tour would not have been possible without the very generous support of Wests Ashfield who provided a substantial donation and we are very grateful for that support. A full report will appear in the next Newsletter.

VISUAL ARTS

The major projects for Visual Arts will be sent to be examined later this Term. The boys are busily finishing off their major works. Also, students in the junior years are busily helping Ms Jovicic to finish off the toilet-door murals that will be hung in the boys' toilets. Some of these murals will be on display at the Drama performance evenings later this term.

Mrs Lane

Editor's Note

While we don't advocate or condone people lurking around the boys' toilets, you should take an opportunity to view the murals which have been created as part of a program to reduce the graffiti in the area.

Feature article

Ashfield boys go back to the Eighties

In 2009 Ashfield Boys' High School won the Minister's History Week School's Award by taking the school back to the 1970's for the day. The school has now thrown down the challenge in 2010 with a whole day devoted to the 1980's. Ashfield Boys' High School embraced History Week on September 10 with a series of activities culminating in the full day 1980's celebration which is directly linked to Year 10's decade study for Stage 5 History – People Power and Politics in the Post -War Period.

The boys were invited to take a trip back in time with an address by the Head Teacher for History Marcel Radojevic, who was the Vice Captain of Ashfield Boys' High School in 1981. Lights were then dimmed, the stage lit and a lounge room from the 1980's decorated with massive Beta VCR, huge remote control (with attached cord of course), album covers from the 1980's and a variety of appliances from the decade that the boys were invited to bring in.



The drama segment was then used to introduce a video of news events from the 1980's that was produced by the History Department. It was then back to the lounge room and before long the assembly was treated to a riotous phone mobile phone conversation between father and son (son on oversized mobile with an Opera House backdrop struggling to maintain reception). The conversation ends with the son introducing a selection of celebrities from the 1980's filing in from the rear of the hall including Dame Edna Everidge, Crocodile Dundee, Peter Garret, Joan Collins and a



host of others.

A burn the bra speech and act out by Joan Collins (Principal Daisy Kokkalis) was well received by the boys and the action then returned to the 1980's lounge room with an impatient father keen to watch



Wide World of Sports. A medley of sporting action footage from the 1980's prepared by the History Department was then shown. It ended with a piece of pre recorded video shot at school with the Year 10 Elective History Class explaining the importance of the winged keel on Australia II and the need for secrecy.

With appropriate context set the footage of Australia winning the America's Cup was then shown and as Australia II crossed the line a giant sized model of the yacht with concealed keel was carried into the hall by Year 10 boys and led by Alan Bond bulging with excess money. To great fanfare the keel was then revealed and a Year 10 student in koala suit and dressed in scuba gear emerged.



As the assembly reached a crescendo an announcement was made to the effect that PM Bob Hawke had just arrived at the assembly. An announcement was made that live footage is now being screened. The boys were then treated to some footage that was secretly filmed days before of 'Bob Hawke's' arrival. Shots of the back of the head of a grey haired staff member emerging from another staff member's Mercedes Benz had many of the boys convinced that the

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(Continued from page 6)

ex Prime Minister was about to arrive. With precise timing the boys' eyes were guided from screen to the back of the hall and a role play of Bob Hawke arriving with wife Hazel proceeded and all filmed with makeshift cameras made by students in the Year 10 Elective History Class. A chant of "Hawkie, Hawkie" led by Year 10 History Classes built a mood of great anticipation.

A rousing speech by Bob Hawke concluded with the Prime Minister leading a mass dance to 1980's music concluded the assembly.

For the middle periods of the day Years 7, 8 and 9 went to normal lessons with staff encouraged to teach lessons with a 1980's touch. Year 10 students then congregated in the hall and were informed that the five classes would compete against each other in a series of challenges of equal value and the prize would be a pizza party at school. The first challenge was based on identifying teacher photos from the 1980's and then this was followed by a 1980's trivia quiz.

The boys were then filed on to the oval where a series of activities occurred simultaneously. In the centre of the oval a take off of the Coolangatta Gold Iron Man Competition from the 1980's (renamed the Ashfield Gold) involved a series of physical challenges all designed and supervised by the Physical Education Faculty. On the perimeters of Ashfield Gold a Narrative Challenge was underway where three representatives from each of the five classes raced over a fixed distance to start a narrative on the subject "My Adventure in the 1980's". After 10 minutes a gun would go off



and the boys would sprint back to tag the next boy who would then race to continue the narrative. The process was repeated for a third time and this boy then had to provide the resolution to the narrative and then sprint back to the finish line. The English Faculty coordinated the activity and judged the best narrative.

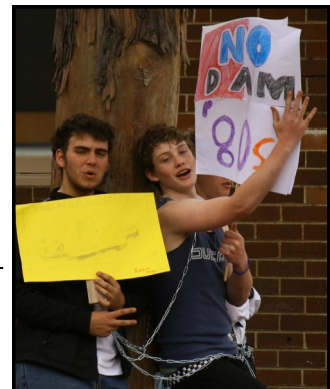
On another section of the oval "Portrait Posers" was underway. With very similar rules to the "Narrative Challenge" students/teachers appropriately attired in 1980's dress posed for sketching. Students then raced over a fixed distance began sketching for 10 minutes and raced back to tag the next student after the gun went off. Three students from each of the five classes participated in this challenge.



On yet another part of the oval, "Rubic's Revenge" was underway. With identical rules and the same timing students race to a Math's station that was coordinated by the Math's Faculty to solve a range of Math's puzzles including the Rubic Cube which was so popular in the 1980's.

With all these activities occurring at the same time close to 70 students were involved and the remainder was invited to cheer with the loudest class rewarded with points towards the pizza party. This activity concluded at lunch time.

After lunch the junior school assembled in the quadrangle and once seated was treated to a rousing speech by the environmentalist Bob Brown on the contentious Franklin Dam construction. His speech was then followed by environmentalists marching from the rear of the assembly towards a tree on the quadrangle which had Year 10 students chained to the trunk. Simultaneously a group of loggers marched with plac-



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ards from the side of the assembly towards the tree. The planned face off was then broken with a 1982 Holden Ute (courtesy of a staff member) entering the fray with



Year 10 students carrying chain saws in the back. Chain saw noises were then played over the PA system and the demonstration was broken up with the commencement of a Rock Concert (MTV style) headed by the Midnight Oil track, 'Dead Heart', with a staff member delivering a brilliant Peter Garrett impersonation.



What followed was a concert with a variety of music performances involving staff and students. The school band, consisting of students from Year 7 through to Year 12 then performed *Thriller* by Michael Jackson (1982) and followed that up with a rendition of Wham!'s *Wake Me Up Before You Go* (1984), with vocals provided by one of our Year 12 students.



A rock band consisting of members of both students and teachers, dressed in a range of 1980's musical styles ranging from Glam Metal to New Wave then took the stage to blast out a number of rock, heavy metal and pub rock songs from the 1980's. The songs performed were *For Whom The Bell Tolls* (Metallica, 1984), *Breaking The Law* (Judas Priest, 1980), *Smokin' In The Boys' Room* (Motley Crue, 1985), *Back In Black* (AC/DC, 1980), *Run To Paradise* (Choirboys, 1987) and concluded with *I Love Rock 'n' Roll* (Joan Jett and the Blackhearts, 1981). The students reacted enthusiastically

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to the music being played and the manner in which it was performed.



A fashion parade was staged following this to allow both students and teachers who had dressed up for the day to show off their efforts. There were a range of styles displayed but the winner was a Year 10 student who had dressed up as Slash, the guitarist from the band Guns 'N' Roses.



The afternoon concluded with a performance by a member of the Mathematics staff, who took to the stage dressed up as Boy George, performing a convincing version of Culture Club's *Do You Really Want To Hurt Me* (1982). The students showed great enthusiasm for this performance.



Overall, it was a hugely successful day that was enjoyed by students and staff and it provided a great learning experience for all. History Day and the preparation and planning for the day, was especially beneficial to students of Stage 5 History as students were absorbed in the decade which helped their understanding of key social, political and culture aspects of the period. It is these experiences which the students will hold special for many years to come.

Traffic and Parking Infringements around school

It is essential for the safety and well-being of our boys that parents/guardians take extra care in school zones and comply with the road rules. A number of parents use the turning space between the school and the Wests Ashfield Club to drop off and pick up students. While there is no problem with the parking laws, please remember to watch for other traffic and students on bicycles exiting the school undercover parking area. It is also important to watch for pedestrians at the Liverpool Road traffic lights.

Pedestrians, especially smaller children, do not always look for traffic.

The message should be clear, school zones and offences exist to protect our kids and by disobeying these rules parents are putting their own kids at risk.

For further information or to report offenders, please contact :
Constable Winn
Youth Liaison Officer
Ashfield Police Station
14 Victoria Street, Ashfield NSW 2131
ph (02) 9797 4099
fax (02) 9797 4011
email winn1jan@police.nsw.gov.au



ASHFIELD BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL

BANNED ITEMS

The following items are NOT to be brought to school:

- Large textas
- Spray cans, particularly spray deodorants (allergy risk)
- Mobile phones
- CD players, Discmans, Electronic games, MP3 players, iPods or any other personal sound systems
- Large sums of money

If any Mobile phones, CD players, Discmans, electronic games are brought to school and used inappropriately and disrupt learning they will be confiscated and returned at a later date.

DANGEROUS ITEMS

- Fireworks
- Knives, including craft knives and toys as well as actual knives
- Weapons of any kind, including toy guns, pellets, replica weapons
- Drugs – legal and illegal; substances passed off as drugs
- Sharp objects; laser pointers
- Inappropriate readings, writings or drawings, downloading of inappropriate or censored material from the internet

Students found in possession of dangerous items may be suspended.

The items will be confiscated and will be referred to the police.

The Department of School Education expects schools to take very seriously any situation where students or staff feel they are unsafe or where the learning of other students is disrupted. Schools must involve the Police if a student brings a knife or other weapon to school (including toys and replicas) or an illegal substance (this includes passing a substance off as an illegal substance).



Ashfield Boys High School

Voicemail/Extension Number

As of Tuesday, 29 June 2010

If you wish to discuss a matter or make a comment in regard to your son/ward's learning please contact the school and ask to speak to the relevant subject head teacher or his Year Adviser.

Or, if you wish to leave a **message** for the relevant *subject* head teacher or his Year Adviser, you can do so by phoning the school number and selecting the teacher's voicemail extension.

Subject	Head Teacher	Voicemail Extension Number only for the purposes of leaving a message
Absences (eg: sick, late)	School Assistant	106
Administration/Languages	Terry McCusker(Rel)	214
Careers Adviser	Les Carrington	108
Counsellor	David Payne	107
English /ESL	Louise Finigan	201
History/Teaching & Learning	Marcel Radojevic	217
Human Society and Its Environment (HSIE)	Chris Zaczek	248
Mathematics/Computing	Maria Thomas	227
Science	Rod Conder	240
Sport Organiser	Les Carrington	108
TAS, PD/H/PE, Hospitality & IA	Bruce Johnston	255
Welfare & Creative Arts	Margot Fitzgibbon	132

Year Advisers

Year	Teacher	Voicemail Extension Number – only for the purposes of leaving a message
7	Roland Tenefrancia	234
8	Nicole Pool (Rel)	204
9	Shirley Prescott	205
10	James Chatwin	218
11	John Longhurst	219
12	Mitza Zimaras	252

Instructions for leaving a message on voicemail:

1. Dial the whole school number either 9798 6620 or 9798 5520.
2. Wait until you hear the message "You have reached ..." then dial the relevant voicemail extension number.
3. Leave your message after the tone.
4. Hang up when finished.



Beating Exam Stress

Early next Term, Year 12 students around Australia will start sitting their final year exams. Here are some tips, not for studying, but for coping with all the other baggage that exam time brings.

Feed your brain

Be especially careful choosing what to eat before an exam. Fuelling yourself with sugar and caffeine may sound like a good idea, until you come down from your high halfway through the exam and are suddenly unable to concentrate.

Likewise, it's probably not a good idea to gorge yourself prior to entering the exam room – chances are you'll feel bloated and a little bit sleepy. Instead, keep yourself well fed with regular, balanced meals and healthy snacks. Don't forget your bottle of water – especially to keep away those nasty headaches.

And don't ever, EVER skip breakfast.

Get physical

Another important part of keeping healthy is to make sure you don't coop yourself up indoors all day. Even if you have a lot of studying to do, occasional physical exercise – even if it is just going for a walk outside every now and then – is a good way to unwind and quite necessary to keep sane. Getting some sunlight (and some Vitamin D) is important for your health and wellbeing too.

Hermit or social animal?

So, should you stop taking calls, delete your Internet messaging programs and shut yourself off from your friends? Or should you keep in contact to alleviate the boredom and keep in touch with reality? If you're on top of your studies, you might find yourself with more free time than you were anticipating. Everyone's different, so you'll have to find a healthy balance between socialising and study that works for you. It's also important to not immediately throw your nose back on the grindstone after a big exam – reward yourself with some time off!

Rest and relaxation

The typical Year 12 student should be getting around eight hours' sleep a night. You need to walk into that exam room feeling rested and awake, not exhausted and worn out. Pulling all-nighters and staying awake for 31 hours is not the way to go about it. Also, make sure you go to bed at a reasonable hour – disrupting your sleep cycle or messing with your circadian rhythms will be bad news for your powers of concentration.

You basically need to know when enough is enough. Take breaks and some time to relax – though be wary of the brain-numbing powers of television! Try reading a book or listening to music instead.

It's not the end of the world

Calm down! It's not the end of the world, even if you don't get the marks you planned for. If you're freaking out too much over the exams, chances are you'll be stressed out in the exam room, which is anything but productive.

Remember, for students in New South Wales, the HSC Advice Line will be available from Saturday 11 October to Thursday 6 November. You can call 13 11 12 (just not from your mobile phone).

Sourced from http://www.careerfaqs.com.au/studentcentre001_survival_guide.asp#

What's maths got to do with it?

One of the main questions that students ask in mathematics is what does this have to do with the real world. There are millions of unexpected and useful ways that maths is used everyday. This last term there have been two major events that everyone knows about: The World Cup and the Federal Election. Both of these events are strongly influenced by mathematics in many ways. Following are a couple of articles showing how mathematicians have thought about them.

World Cup maths

The World Cup Finals is the largest football tournament in the world. Every four years, 32 teams compete to see which country is the best at playing association football (soccer).

Millions of people watch each game. But does the best team always win?

Mathematicians Dr Geoff Freeman, from the University of Warwick and Dr Gerald Skinner from NASA decided to investigate. They used mathematical objects called 'Poisson distributions' to simulate two teams playing against each other, and allowed them to do calculations using different skill levels of teams.



The study found that the better team did not always win. In games where there were low scores the more skilled team still lost over 1/3 of the games. In high-scoring games, this figure was a little lower.

Applying the results to the 2006 World Cup results, the mathematicians found that even if the best team made it to the final 16, they still only had a 30% chance of winning the cup. After further analysis of the results, the researchers concluded that often the winners of the World Cup were not the best (most skilled) team in the competition.

The researchers suggested that to make the competition fairer, they could make the goal bigger to increase scoring. More goals means more games with big margins, and that would mean that the better team would win more often.

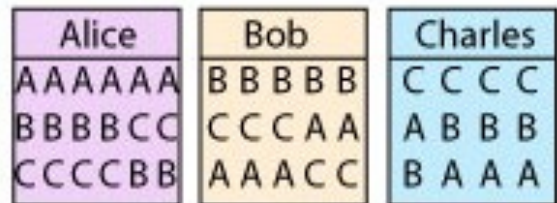
Other researchers have suggested increasing the number of games in the tournament, so the luck evens out over time. But many people think that the World Cup is much more exciting when everyone has a chance to win.

Voting in the Federal Election – Preferential Voting

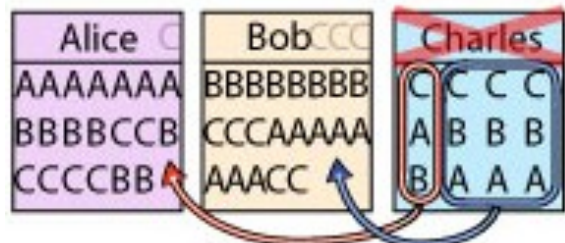
In many countries, the system is very simple. Each voter gets one vote. After all the votes have been cast, they are counted and the person with the most votes wins the seat.

In Australia, we have a more complicated (and fairer) system, called preferential voting. With preferential voting, a voter ranks every single candidate, from the best to the worst, by numbering them 1, 2, 3 and so on, on the ballot paper. When the votes are counted, each candidate gets the votes that they were ranked first on.

If one candidate has more than half the votes, they are definitely the most popular person and so they are elected. If not, then the least popular person (the one with the least votes) is eliminated and the ballot papers are redistributed. In the diagram, at right, no-one has more than half the vote, so Charles (the least popular candidate) is eliminated.



Each vote is now given to the person ranked second on Charles's voting form as follows. Now Alice has 7 votes and Bob has 8 votes. Bob has more than 50% of the votes and has also taken into consideration what the people that voted for Charles wanted.



If there still isn't a candidate with more than half the votes, then the next most unpopular person will be eliminated. These votes are given to the next ranked person on each voting form. This process of eliminating the least popular person and giving out their votes continues until one candidate has more than half of all the votes. Once a person has more than half the votes, they cannot be beaten, so they are declared the winner.

The Australian system of preferential voting is much more complicated than other forms of voting, but it makes sure that the best candidate wins. This way, a little bit of maths makes sure that we get the best possible government.



These quirky and interesting mathematical miscellany have been brought to you by Maths by Email produced by the CSIRO in partnership with the Australian Mathematical Sciences Institute.

The Breakfast Club

The breakfast club is growing in popularity and its new home, at the back of the common-room with the entrance from the back of the hall, has provided us with a space that we can look after.

With that in mind I would like to thank 3 Year 12 students, who have tirelessly helped set up and pack down breakfast club for me this year. They are Graeme Ireland, Kianu Dalton and Lawrence Busuttill.

Thank you gentlemen, for your commitment to breakfast club and your service which mostly went unnoticed by your fellow students to support the welfare of ABHS community.

I would also like to thank Dean Stamenkovic (yr 9) and Andrew Lau (yr 7) for their commitment to helping breakfast club for Term 3. They have taken over from the Year 12 students and have made changes to help the breakfast club to be more inclusive to others.

Thank you
Kind regards

Miss Gorton

Community Liaison Youth Worker

Premiers Student Volunteer Program for Years 9 and 10

What is it about? It is a DET program where our students can accrue volunteer service hours and receive a certificate to place in their CV's for both Job readiness and also for scholarships for future study.

Most large organizations are now realizing the benefit of taking on young people who are actively involved in the community. We are putting our students at a disadvantage if we do not encourage growth and ownership in this area.

If you are doing a Duke of Edinburgh, your service hours will also count towards these awards. The awards are Bronze for 20hrs of service, Silver for 40hrs of service, Gold for 60hrs of service and Diamond for 80hrs of service to the community.

This service can be a group activity or an individual endeavour.

Some opportunities might be surf life saving , rural fire service, peer mentoring , tutoring, assisting students from a local primary school or school for students with special needs.

Could all those students, who originally signed up as interested please see Miss Gorton in her office so they can get started on accruing their hours.

New participants are always welcome.

Volunteers Needed

Those who want to join in the group planting of the greenway at Cadigal Reserve in Summer Hill (Access from Grosvenor Crescent)

Time: 10 am to 1 pm

Landcare supervisor: Sue Stevens

Wear: Long trousers, long sleeved shirt, hat and enclosed shoes.

Kind regards

Miss Gorton

Community Liaison Youth Worker

THE GREAT BOOK SWAP!

A community service achievement Year 7 Pythagoras

Congratulations all of Year 7 on the Great Book Swap! The day went incredibly well! We all had fun and we raised around \$250! The raffle will happen Wednesday the 15th of September to win a book voucher. All of us enjoyed the Great Book Swap and all the money is going to Isolated Aboriginal communities to help buy literacy resources! Every cent! The barbeque was really popular. We'd just like to thank all the teachers and year 7's who helped raise the money by buying food and swapping books.

By Anthony Johansen-Barr and Kalan Beatty.



Annual Chess championship an intense spectator sport



SPORTS UPDATE

☺ **Summer Grade Sport** season is well under-way, with teams competing in Baseball, Basketball, Cricket, Futsal, Oztag, Tennis and Volleyball.

In addition we have a number of Recreational pursuits for the boys to participate in. As well as the standard ones, like Basketball, Touch Football and Table Tennis, this season we have added Mind Games. Essentially Board games, it is an opportunity for students who do not wish to be involved in a contact sport. Some traditional games like Chess, but we have also introduced the new version of Monopoly - players take on the role of property developer and town planner - and Mah Jong. It should be noted that our Mah Jong games are strictly for fun not involving gambling.

☺ The **Under 15 Basketballers** continue on their winning way with victories over Pittwater, Homebush and North Sydney. They are placed in the top 16 schools in NSW and are now through to the Inter-Regional stages. Their next game will be early in Term 4 against the South Coast Champions and looks like being an away game. A win there will see them into the State quarter-finals at Terrigal.

☺ We are participating in the **Coles Sports for Schools program**. Anytime you shop at Coles before October 31st, remember to ask for your vouchers at the checkout. Send your vouchers with your son who will be able to add them to the collection. Each point we collect can go towards "purchasing" sports equipment. If you are standing at the checkout and the person in front of you doesn't want their vouchers, ask if you can have them. Ask your neighbours and friends who don't have school children. Ask your relatives. We also have friends in the community. One Coffee shop owner who gets his daily supplies from Coles is saving his vouchers for us. If you have a shop, consider it. Or ask your local shop owner.

☺ At the recent **NSW CHS Athletics Championships**, Adika Njemanze was crowned State Champion with a win in the Long Jump and a 3rd in the Long Jump. Well done!

☺ And finally we are considering some **new sports** for Term 4. These include a version of LaCrosse, Ultimate Frisbee and Olympic class Weight Lifting. None require previous experience and will be taught by qualified coaches

from the various State organisations. The cost will be around \$5 each week with an additional \$5 for the weightlifting Bus. Speak with your son about these as they will need to make a 6 week commitment when they return next term. Enjoy the break and cheer the West Tigers!

Les Carrington
Sports Coordinator

ASHFIELD BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL
OUR CORE VALUES

Respect
Treat others with considerations and regard, respect another person's point of view.

Doing Your Best
Seek to accomplish something worthy and admirable, try hard, pursue excellence.

Care and Compassion
Care for self and others.

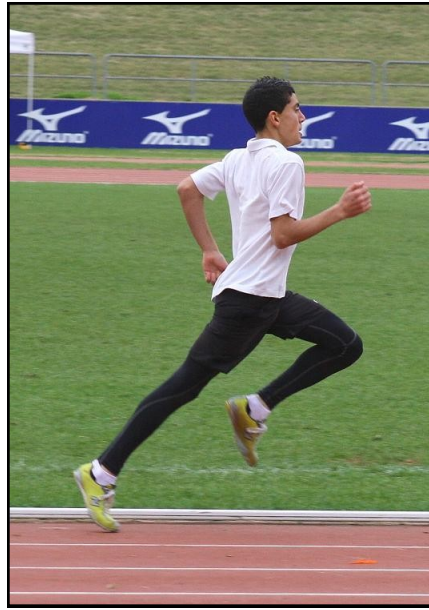
Honesty and Trustworthiness
Be honest, sincere and seek the truth

The poster features a blue background with a white border. At the top is the school crest and the text 'ASHFIELD BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL' and 'OUR CORE VALUES'. Below this are four sections, each with a photograph of students and a core value. The first section shows four boys looking at a laptop with the value 'Respect'. The second shows a group of boys and a teacher with the value 'Doing Your Best'. The third shows two boys at a desk with the value 'Care and Compassion'. The fourth shows three boys standing together with the value 'Honesty and Trustworthiness'.

Annual North v South action



Athletics stars of tomorrow





Deadly Kids Awards 2010

Congratulations to James Bridges, 8 Guevarra, who was Ashfield Boys' High School recipient of the Deadly Kids Award 2010. He attended a ceremony on Friday 21st September at Carriage Works in Redfern with his family. James received the award for his strong academic performance and school participation and leadership and was congratulated by the Regional Director Dr Phil Lambert and Olympic swimmer, and supporter of the awards, Ian Thorpe.

James Bridges with his mother, Janelle,
at the Awards Ceremony last week



Abbie's babble

- ☺ The Band are currently travelling through China performing at various locations. The ten day trip, which departed last weekend, was made possible with very generous support from the Wests Ashfield Leagues Club. This support is greatly appreciated because without it there are many boys who would not have been able to contemplate participating in the trip. A big THANK YOU to Wests CEO Andy Timms and the Board of Management.
- ☺ In the lead up to the trip the Band had a number of opportunities to polish their skills and impress audiences around the area. One such opportunity was the annual Wests Community Service Awards Day. All who attended were impressed by the quality of performance. Always looking for a chance some of the boys delivered an impromptu set following the awards while attendees enjoyed the luncheon. So much so that the boys had to be prised from the stage to go home. Well Done!
- ☺ Without naming anyone, I am really concerned about our Maths classes and what they are being taught. Or more to the point who is teaching them. One Maths teacher, who will remain anonymous, looked at the Year 9 Maths Competition and said, "Well there must be a formula for that BUT I don't know what it is."
- ☺ And while on Maths, Mrs. Thomas had a seniors moment during the Year 10 History Day assembly. As part of the segment on Australia II and the winged keel, a film explaining the science behind it showed a formula titled, Thomas' theorem. Mrs Thomas was overheard to say, "I wonder who Thomas is?" She did later realise that it was referring to her because all the other theories were named after other teachers. Good One!
- ☺ Year 12 have now completed their studies and all that remains is for them to sit their HSC exams. Some have a head start. Visual Arts, Industrial Technology, Drama and Music have all presented the first part of their HSC assessment—the Major Works. Judging by the level of effort and the creativity evident we have some very talented students in our midst. We wish them all the very best in their exams and their future endeavours.
- ☺ The Annual Trivia Night was a great success. With quizmaster Zaczek in command there were always going to be some really trivial questions asked and he didn't disappoint. With a special auction of signed memorabilia by AC/DC guitarist and ABHS Old Boy, Angus Young, the night produced just under \$5,000.
- ☺ 7 Fibonacci have just completed a project on Ashfield Park, looking at the past present and

future of the historic area. The presentation took the form of a series of news broadcasts, featuring interviews with various "personalities and experts". It was certainly a thought provoking message as we often take the things around us for granted. Perhaps if we don't act now there won't be a park for the future generations to enjoy.

- ☺ Some Year 10 parents have expressed a concern about Work Experience. I have it on good authority that Work experience is not dead, just undergoing a facelift. Boys are still welcome to be part of the program. The only change is that it will no longer occur as a compulsory program after the School Certificate. Indeed, there are some students who have been involved in the program already and continue to do so. All that needs to happen is for the boys to speak with Mr. Carrington to negotiate a time and place. As for the period after the School Certificate exams in November - students will be undertaking studies to prepare them for the Senior School in 2011.
- ☺ Year 11 recently travelled to Narrabeen for the annual Camp and judging by the smiles, it was a very good experience for them. However, judging by the size of some of the bags, they still have a long way to go working out what they need for three days. For some it seemed like they were going for three WEEKS!



Always on the lookout for a good story!

Bye for now,

Abbie

