

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

February 28th, 2009



Ashfield students among best in State

On Friday 13th February, Mrs. Kokkalis, accompanied by Chris Lim, Simon Kwan and Anna Couani attended the award ceremony held by the International Student Centre at the DET Head Office.

They were there to honour Long Nguyen, who performed with distinction at the 2008 HSC, despite only being a student in Australia for three years.

Long received two awards at the Ceremony. The first was for Academic Excellence by an International Student at the HSC. His second award was a recognition of the fact that, in achieving a UAI of 99.85, he was the First Place student of all International students in NSW. A further honour for Long was the award of a scholarship worth \$1000.

"This was a particularly remarkable achievement for Long who has only been in Australia for a short time and was placed 6th in the State for English as a Second Language (ESL)," said Mrs. Anna Couani, his ESL Teacher and International Students Coordinator at ABHS. "Long was good at his subjects of Mathematics and Sciences, but he was also a gifted and talented writer." Perhaps he will need to be a good communicator in his chosen field of Pharmacy.

Fellow classmate, Chris Lim, while not receiving an award at the ceremony, is also a gifted

writer and will be successful in whatever field he chooses, achieving a UAI of 97.30. He is currently undertaking studies in Physiotherapy at the University of Sydney.

At the same awards ceremony, current Year 12 student, Yu Meng, received an award for Student Service. Yu is one of the inaugural International Student representatives on the ABHS SRC, Student Representative Council, and a fine Public Speaker.



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

FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Just last week I had the pleasure to attend the ceremony for recognition by the Department of Education for outstanding academic achievement in the HSC. It was with great pleasure to see Long Huy Nguyen receive two awards. One for High academic achievement in the HSC (his UAI score was 99.85, an extraordinary result, considering he

has only been studying English for the last two years) and another for first place amongst all International Students who sat for the HSC in 2008.

At this ceremony a number of dignitaries from the executive of the Department inquired what my recipe was for the numerous wonderful results Ashfield Boys is currently experiencing. Of course I was flattered but my response is that I am privileged to work with a group of staff who are dedicated and committed to achieving the best learning outcomes for our boys. We set high expectations, high standards, the boys clearly know what the benchmarks are and what they need to do to achieve them. We continually evaluate and reflect on our practices and are not only up to date with the current research in boys education but we apply it.

To do all of this requires a strong partnership with our parents and our community. I am very grateful for the support that I receive not only from my parent body but from our community as well. Together we ensure that we have the resources available for our boys which will give them the opportunities to excel in their learning. With lots of praying and refinement I can assure you that Ashfield Boys High will continue to be one of the top boys high schools in New South Wales.

D. Kokkalis

Principal

Back to School- Don't forget your son's asthma!



Early February, just after school goes back, is the time of year when children are most likely to have a flare-up of their asthma, so it is important that parents keep an eye on their children's asthma, ensure they take their prescribed preventer medication regularly, and that they always carry their reliever medication with them. It is vital that asthma in children is properly managed in order to avoid asthma emergencies.

Symptoms in young children may include wheezing, persistent coughing or shortness of breath. If these symptoms do not respond to the child's reliever medication, or if reliever medication is needed every day, we are encouraging parents to take their children immediately to a doctor.

Parents also need to ensure that the school is fully aware he has asthma so the school can support his health needs.

Although asthma is mild in most children, it can be serious and even life-threatening if it is not properly managed, so it is important that anyone with asthma sees their doctor regularly and develops an asthma action plan so they know what to do when their symptoms worsen.

There is so much to think about when returning to school. It's often difficult to remember everything. Make sure it's not managing your son's asthma appropriately that you forget! Ensure that you see your GP for an update on your son's asthma and be sure to supply your school with an updated Asthma Action Plan. If parents have any questions, they should call the Asthma Information Line on 1800 645 130 or speak with their doctor.

T: **1800 645 130**

E: **ask@asthmansw.org.au**

Receive the Newsletter electronically

A number of parents have elected to receive the Newsletter by email 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.

If you haven't already done so but wish to take up the option, simply contact the School Office and they will supply you with the necessary Form.

School Community Directory

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

To reward that support back, we have begun the Community Directory.

You will find the first of this initiative included with this Newsletter.

Other 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, contact the School Office staff who will then provide you with the form to be completed with the relevant details OR ask your son to obtain a copy of the Form from the Office. 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.

Welfare Report

Reward Excursions

Last year ended with the most enjoyable part of the merit system-the Reward Excursion. Around 90 students chose to go to Jamberoo or to the Burwood Cinemas. Jamberoo proved to be worth the long bus trip, with students making use of the rides and activities. A barbeque was provided with lots of food and drink for everyone. Despite the weather, the day was enjoyed by all, including the bus driver, who had experienced Ashfield Boys on his buses in the past, but thought these boys were model students in comparison.

Ms Regan reported that for the students who did not attend Jamberoo, Burwood Cinema was the destination. The thirty students received chips, a drink and \$5 spending money. They had previously unanimously decided to see the blockbuster 'Australia', and sat mesmerised by the action, drama, romance and war aspects of the film. The boys decided the film had been given unfair media coverage, giving the film 4/5! After the movie, the food court was the destination. Most decided that \$4.95 value meal at Hungry Jacks was the best, but some went for sushi, kebabs and laksa. The boys represented the school with great pride and on leaving the cinema, a member of the public who had been in the audience, remarked that our boys were 'the best behaved young men she had encountered in a theatre'. Well done to those boys!

This year, many students will be motivated to gain merit certificates so that they can be rewarded at the end of this year. Gaining awards consistently is the key to earning a place on the Rewards Day excursions.

Peer Support

Year 7 students are taking part in peer support lessons in the second half of this term. Their Year 10 leaders were trained last year and had refresher meetings this year. They will learn about the systems of the school, core values such as groupwork, anti-bullying concepts and problem-solving.

Their leaders try to make it a fun experience while the younger students learn what our school is all about.



Attendance and lateness

We would like to see the excellent attendance rates of ABHS continue this year. Our attendance is one of the highest for a state high school.

To help our system, absence and lateness need to be accounted for by notes of explanation. The system is designed to make students more responsible for their actions and for their learning. Therefore,

- If your son is late or absent, he needs to bring a note or the late slip that he has been given as soon as possible
- If a student has three or more absences or lates in a month which have not been explained with a note, they must attend an after-school support session

If a student has a second support session, parent interviews are to be held

Margot Fitzgibbon

Peer Tutoring program

This Term, Year 11 students have kindly volunteered their time to buddy with our new Year 7 students for an exciting new reading program. Students will be reading together for one period each week, at various locations around the School.

This pilot program is designed to develop socially inclusive, supportive learning environments. It is anticipated that this program will foster positive peer relationships based on the notions of respect, responsibility, care, and cooperation amongst our students.



It is great to see our senior students becoming positive role models for our junior students and giving back to the school community.

Thank you to all the boys and teachers who are providing support to make this exciting new program possible. It is expected that this will be the beginning of a valuable addition to our school curriculum for years to come.

Ms. McInerney
STLA





Deputy's Report

Effective communication between school and parents or guardians is always important for the welfare and academic progress of students. Our school's motto is "Time for you and your child" and we don't merely pay lip service to our motto. Parents and guardians are always welcome at our school but there is a procedure that needs to be followed. If parents or guardians come to the school without an appointment, the Principal (Daisy Kokkalis) or the Deputy Principals (Gary Latty and Bruce Johnston) will make every effort to see you but unfortunately it is not always possible. Prior appointments may have been made with other parents or the Senior Executive staff may be in meetings. It is always preferable to ring the school first and talk to the Front Office Staff to make an appointment. However, please do not hesitate to come to the school if the matter is extremely urgent as someone will be available to see you.

If you are ringing the school during office hours, you may be able to speak directly to a Head Teacher or your son or ward's Year Adviser if they are not on class. However it is more than likely they will be teaching and you will have to leave a message. Procedures to be followed are found in this bulletin including the Voicemail extensions of the Head Teachers and Year Advisers. When leaving a mes-

sage say your son or ward's name clearly and their class; your name and the relationship to your son (eg mother, father, guardian etc) and your message. Make sure you give your phone number and say it slowly. Too often the phone number is said so fast that it is hard to distinguish and a clear communication avenue to you is lost.

G. Latty
Deputy Principal

New look "play" area for students

The area between the School Hall and the Primary School has recently undergone some changes.

Previously looking like something out of a war zone, the old basketball court was covered with broken asphalt and surrounded by a rickety wire net fence.

Thanks to some forward thinking by the Principal, the area has been redeveloped to create a "Passive Area" for use by students.

The area was first levelled, with all humps and dips removed. On top of that a synthetic grass covering was placed to create a cooler more inviting atmosphere.

To finish the appearance, new, modern, stylish black fencing has been erected around the area. All that remains is for seating and shade spaces to be installed

The Passive Area will be used by students as a quiet space for reading, talking, relaxing with friends.

As well as two handball courts, the giant chessmen, purchased last year by the SRC, are going to find a home.

Coming events

School Photos Friday, March 6th



All students should ensure that they have correct School Uniform and looking their best.

Homework & Tutoring Centre

If you need

- a place to catch-up on work,
- do your homework,
- research on the computer or
- get some help on an assignment.

The Library is open for you on Mondays & Tuesdays from 3:10 to 4:30.

Starting Monday 16th February and open all through term for the year.

Ms Gorton

Meet the teacher Part 1 — Ms. Louise Finigan

Ms. Finigan arrived at the start of the school year to take on the position of Head Teacher English, following the transfer of Ms. Gerber. Previously holding the position of Head Teacher Administration at Fort Street HS, Ms. Finigan graduated from the University of Sydney with a B.Education, specialising in English and History, but with her love of the study of English, she gradually moved away from History teaching to concentrate her efforts on the teaching of English. “I have always enjoyed English, and teaching literature,” she said. “I particularly enjoy the challenge of teaching English to boys because they have different learning styles and it is a challenge to develop their skills and lift their literacy.”



English is the only mandatory subject in the senior school, so it is sometimes a difficult thing for boys to appreciate the importance of a subject which is thrust upon them. However, the skills obtained from studying English can be transferred into so many other areas.

“With many of the HSC subjects requiring written essay responses it is important to get a good grasp of the skills,” she said.

“The difficulty is in convincing them that they are more than capable of success. They really have to believe in themselves. Some of my best students in the past have been boys and they have achieved strong HSC results,” she added.

“Good literacy skills are so important to open doors in adult life.”

English Faculty News

Since my arrival from Fort Street High I have been very impressed with Ashfield Boys'. I chose to come to the school because of the excellent reputation the school has in the community for the innovative programs focusing on the education of boys. I have taught in a number of schools, including over ten years in a boys' school but my beginning at Ashfield Boys' is the most enjoyable by far.

The results for 2008 School Certificate and Higher School Certificate in all courses in English were excellent and reflect the range and talent of students we have at Ashfield Boys'. In addition to this, the English staff must be congratulated on their work and dedication to the boys in their care to gain these great results.

This year will involve new directions and the development of programs. One of the features of 2009 will be the Inquiry Based Learning project led by Ms Prescott and supported by Professor Philip Cam from the University of New South Wales. This project focuses on the development of thinking and communication skills which are invaluable for successful learning.

Debating will be available again this year for boys who are interested. This will be led by Mr Chatwin and Ms O'Donnell who have been very successful in the past with debating teams. Please encourage your son to be involved in this experience. Information will be available as soon.

Finally, as head teacher English, if you need to contact me please do so through the school and I will be happy to discuss any issues. I look forward to a great year of learning in English at Ashfield Boys'.

Louise Finigan

Head Teacher - English

Meet the teacher Pt. 2 — Mr. Marcel Radojevic

Spend just 5 minutes with Mr. Radojevic and you come away believing that there is only one subject of importance — HISTORY.

Not surprising when you consider that the History department of the school is experiencing strong growth in numbers.

Newly appointed as Head Teacher of History, Mr. Radojevic has a passion for all forms of History, Modern, Ancient, and everything in between.

History tells us more about ourselves, who we are and where we're going. During this interview we spoke not so much about History as a subject, but rather History as a lifestyle.

"I sometimes feel like a time traveler. Not in the Dr. Who sense, because it is rather fanciful and scientific. I really like movies that are logical and play with time," he said.

He first became interested in History as a young boy when he did some research on the Titanic. "I was fascinated by the mystery of what had happened."

That gave rise to a desire to take up the sport of scuba diving because it gave him the opportunity to dive on shipwrecks. "I've done some diving around Sydney and along the south coast of NSW as well as in the Caribbean, but lately I haven't had much time for it," he added.

Like Ms. Finigan, Mr. Radojevic graduated from the University of Sydney with a B.Education specialising in English and History, but pursued the History side of things.

"What I would really like to achieve as Head Teacher is a strengthening of the History Faculty at ABHS as well as the benefits of the Learning Support Team, for which I also have a responsibility."

"You know that if you don't understand where you've come from, it is difficult to know where you are going. That has been one of the profound problems encountered by the Indigenous peoples and it something that I hope to address," he said.

And what of the old saying that those who don't learn from the mistakes of the past are doomed to repeat them?

"Sadly, that is still true today, you only have to look at our current politicians to appreciate the truth in that statement!"



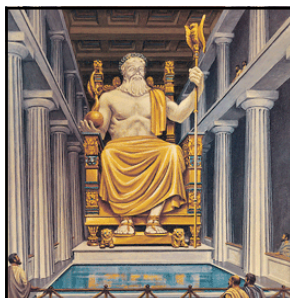
History Alive - Term One

History is up and running for 2009 and all staff and students are looking forward to an enthralling journey of discovery into our ancient and modern past. Stage 4 History (Year 7 and 8) students will be investigating how history is studied and better understand the concept of time. Students will delve into the world of Ancient Egypt through a virtual site study and learn about the incredible history of Ancient China.

Also in Term 1, Stage 5 History (Years 9 and 10) will be studying Australian History - 1900 to the present. The study of history provides the intellectual skills to enable students to critically analyze and interpret sources of evidence in order understand the past and the varying interpretations of historical events and issues. It is an opportunity for students to connect with their local area and empathise with the lifestyles of previous generations. A whole range of activities, workshops and incursions and excursions are planned for 2009.

This year we have two Year 9 Elective History classes and a Year 10 Elective History class.

The Year 9 classes will explore the Ancient World of Egypt, Greece, Rome and preserved human re-



mains. Just like detectives, Year 9 will uncover history, solve mysteries and learn to use evidence to understand the past. Students learn to sort information, decipher clues and priorities evidence from a range of sources.

Year 10 Elective History is investigating the modern world from Napoleon to the Battle of Britain to the JFK assassination and the Cuban Missile Crisis. Our source based inquiring will allow students to investigate history at a deeper level and better prepare students for senior history. Overall, the focus is on equipping students with a range of skills that are consistent with the syllabus, relevant to the needs of a changing world and enjoyable to acquire.

Finally, Ashfield Boys' High School's strong HSC results are set to continue with an enthusiastic cohort of senior Ancient and Modern classes for 2009-2010. All classes have started their commitment to senior study well and are already preparing for their initial history assessments for the year.

Marcel Radojevic

Head Teacher - History



Ashfield Boys' Community Directory

Helping each other

The businesses appearing here are owned or operated by parents of students at the school.
If you need one of these services you may consider using these businesses.

Business Name	Contact	Email	Address	Suburb	Phone
Human Resources & Industrial Relations					
A.P.D. HR Consulting	Tony Doyle	tonypdoyle@yahoo.com	43 Bareena St.,	Strathfield	8721 6604
Matrix Recruitment	Michael Starr	Michael@matrixrecruitment.biz	Suite 9/271 Military Rd	Cremorne	0424 977 011
Music					
AGA Music School	Agnes Rypel-Polkas	agnes2008@optusnet.com.au	2/183 Liverpool Rd	Ashfield	0404 041 965
Singing Tuition	Kathleen Connell	www.kathleenconnell.com.au	24 Canterton St	Hurlstone Park	9559 2676
Simply Music Piano Studio	Greta More	greta.more@gmail.com	67 Punchbowl Rd	Belfield	9742 1630
Electrical					
Battery Packs Plus	Steve Lipari	batpacplus@hotmail.com	Unit 4, 16-18 Hampstead Rd	Auburn	9737 8441
Building					
Cabinet Maker					
David Ford Cabinetry Design	David Ford		128 Duntroon St	Hurlstone Park	0425 212 507
Locksmith					
A.Abbott Locksmiths	Rochelle Polley	service@abbottlocks.com.au	228 Brighton Ave.,	Campsie	9787 3133

ASHFIELD BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL

The following items are NOT to be brought to school:

BANNED ITEMS

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).

Voicemail/Extension Number 2009

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
English /ESL	Louise Finigan	400
History / Teaching & Learning	Marcel Radojevic	307
Welfare	Margot Fitzgibbon	132
Mathematics/Computing	Maria Thomas	321
Science	Rod Conder	323
Human Society and Its Environment	James Anderson	330
Creative Arts	Margot Fitzgibbon	132
Technical Applied Science	Bruce Johnston	109
Sport / PD/H/PE	Andrew Collins (Relieving HT)	335
Administration/Languages	Diana Gershwin	120
Careers Adviser	Les Carrington	108
Counsellor	David Payne	107
Absences	School Assistant	106

Year Advisers

Year	Teacher	Voicemail Extension Number – only for the purposes of leaving a message
7	Terry McCusker	305
8	Dave Everingham	306
9	Andrew Collins	335
10	John Longhurst	366
11	Mitza Zimaras	338
12	James Chatwin	364

Instructions for leaving a message on voicemail:

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

UNIFORM SHOP OPENING TIMES

Please note the uniform shop operates on the school premises as "Your Uniform Shop" during the following times:

Monday
8am to 9am,
Tuesday
10am to 10.40am

YOUR UNIFORM SHOP 
THE ONE STOP ONLINE SCHOOL UNIFORM SHOP

NOTICE TO PARENTS

AS FROM MARCH 2009,
YOUR UNIFORM SHOP
WILL NOT BE ACCEPTING CHEQUES.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR QUERIES,
PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO PHONE OUR
OFFICE ON (02) 9905 2711.

WE APOLOGISE FOR ANY INCONVENIENCE
CAUSED.

THANKYOU FOR YOUR CO-OPERATION.

LOTE Report

I am delighted to report that there is an increased number of classes in Languages Other than English in 2009. In year 8, 8 Kipling will be studying Chinese with Ms Connie Wang while 8 Eliot, 8 Owen, 8 Shelley and 8 Byron will be studying Spanish with Mr Terry McCusker.

This year for the first time we have a Year 9 Spanish Elective class running. Mr McCusker reports that the students are very enthusiastic in their learning of the Spanish language and the culture of Spanish speaking countries. Keep up the good work!

The Stage 6 Chinese Background Speakers course is now so popular that we have 2 classes running in year 11 and year 12 under the guidance of Ms Wang. Our 2008 HSC results were outstanding with two Band 6 results and nine Band 5 results achieved out of a class of 16. I am very hopeful that this year's HSC class can equal or better these results.

On Friday 7th February, Ms Couani, the International Student Co-ordinator organised a morning tea to celebrate the Lunar New Year (the Year of the Ox for the Chinese community), to welcome new International Students and to give our International Students a chance to meet two of our outstanding HSC achievers of 2008, Long Nguyen and Chris Lim. Long and Chris were able to impart some sensible and valuable advice for success in learning.

The LOTE department is armed with excellent resources in the form of texts, workbooks, audiovisual and electronic media as well as experienced and enthusiastic teachers so I wish everyone involved successful and enjoyable learning in 2009.

Diana Gershwin

Head Teacher LOTE and Administration

Library news — feeding the mind

The library at ABHS has processed over 100 books this year. On the environment front, we have a 9 volume set from World Book, including practical information on choosing food and selecting consumables and durable goods for every room in the house.

Young author/artists will enjoy "Create your own graphic novel" and "Juicy Writing". Other art acquisitions are "Frida Kahlo: I Paint My Reality" and "Mixed Emulsions: Altered Art Techniques for Photographic Imagery".

Humanitarians are covered by the no-nonsense guide series which deals with fair trade, climate change, tourism, animal rights and human rights. Boys should be inspired by "We Are One People" by Barack Obama, a biography of Martin Luther King Jr or "Freedom Rides", a history of the US civil rights movement.

Science books include a series on cells including "Ultra-organised Cell Systems" and "Amazing DNA", and "The Complete Idiot's Guide to Forensics". "Maths and the Mona Lisa-The art and science of Leonardo da Vinci" makes "The Da Vinci Code" look like kindergarten.

Recent literary acquisitions include "Revisiting

Narnia", "Everything Shakespeare" and "A Corner of a Foreign Field: the illustrated poetry of the First World War" with photographs from the Daily Mail.

Boys often love graphic fiction, and we continue to develop this collection. Recent purchases include graphic versions of "Frankenstein", "Gulliver's Travels", "Dracula", "Journey to the Centre of the Earth" and some Shakespeare. Other graphic finds are versions of Greek, Chinese, English and Japanese myths.

The library now contains books in five non-English languages – Chinese, Vietnamese, Korean, Japanese and a Dinka dictionary.

Ms Mitchell
ABHS Librarian



School Uniform Committee Report

We at Ashfield Boys High School take great pride in the design and wearing of our school uniform. The positive comments and feedback we receive from the community, parents and most importantly our boys shows the great pride and respect we have for not only ourselves, but our school and community.

To maintain this high standard, the Ashfield Boys High School Uniform Committee has introduced some simple but necessary procedures to follow to ensure our learning community stays at the high standard that it is currently at. These rules follow the Occupational Health & Safety Guidelines set down by Workcover that must be followed in all NSW schools.

The two pictures attached to this article show the junior or middle school uniform (pictured at right) whilst the other picture shows the senior boys uniform (bottom right). These are the standards that we expect students at Ashfield Boys to maintain every day of their school life.



FAQ's about School Uniform Wearing at ABHS

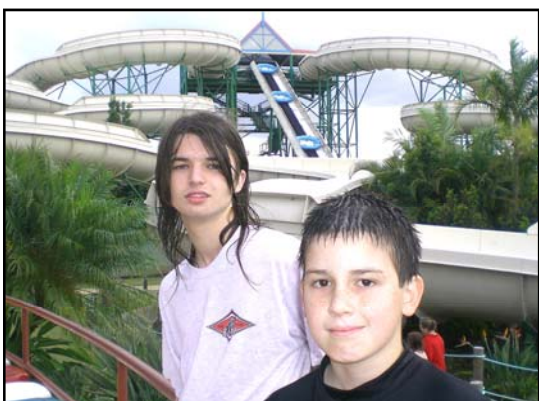
1. What does the school uniform look like? See the pictures attached. Black leather shoes, tie, grey pants and correct shirt are mandatory.
2. Where do I get my uniform from? There is a school uniform shop at school open Monday from 8am to 9am and Tuesday 10am to 11am.
3. Can I wear a cap at school? The answer is yes! We encourage students to adopt sun-protection behaviours. Provided it is the official school cap. All other non-school caps will be confiscated immediately.
4. What if I cannot wear my uniform? From time to time events occur that may stop a student from wearing their school uniform. In this case **a note must be brought by the student from their parent/caregiver** to school on the day they are not wearing their uniform. The note must be dated and signed.
5. If I fail to follow the school policy what will happen? Students will be given an after school detention for failing to follow these simple and fair procedures. Inappropriate uniform items will be confiscated.
6. What about my sports uniform? The correct and full sports uniform may on be worn on Wednesday. Senior students not doing sport must wear full school uniform
7. If I have PDHPE lesson can I wear my sports uniform to school that day? The answer is NO. Students must wear their normal school uniform and change into/out of the PE uniform only for those lessons that apply.
8. Can I change into sneakers at recess or lunch? The answer is NO. Black leather shoes must be worn at all times.
9. When will school uniform be checked? EVERY DAY! A teacher will visit every room and check every student to see that they are wearing the correct school uniform.

We thank all stakeholders for their support in maintaining the high standards that we have at Ashfield Boys High School.



Band on interstate tour

Late last year, the School Band went on tour to the Gold Coast, under the direction of Mr. Dixon and Ms. Galettis. Apart from performing concerts to appreciative school groups, the Band also had the opportunity to sample some of the sights like Movieworld. Here is a glimpse of what they did.



Swimming carnival highlights



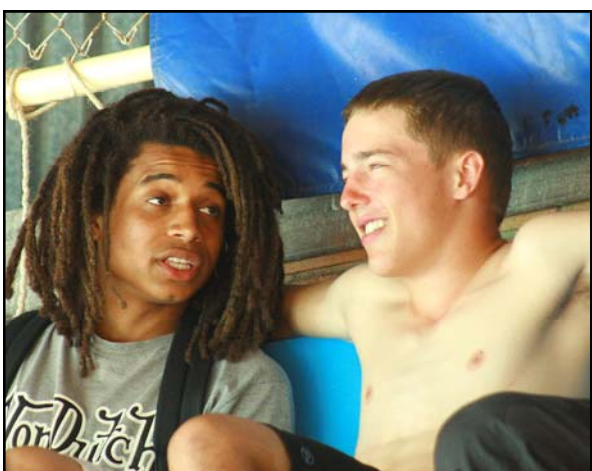
Record breakers

12 years		
100m Free	Dylan KURONUMA	1:43.67
14 years		
50m Free	Alex O'HARE	31.16
50m Back	Alex O'HARE	40.09
50m Breast	Alex O'HARE	36.57
100m Free	Alex O'HARE	1:10.00
15 years		
50m Back	Adam GEORGIU	40.64

Carnival Championship

328 Koorawatha
251 Warramunga
178 Darawal
89 Arabana





AGE CHAMPIONS

Age	Champion	Runner-up
12	Dylan KURONUMA (K)	Gerardo MACIP (A)
13	Albert HENG (W)	Andy LEE (W)
14	Alex O'HARE (K)	Nicholas CHARALAMBOUS (K)
15	Adam GEORGIU (D)	Luke STAIT (D)
16	Jung In LEE (K)	Phillip SZILAGYI (W)
17+	Daniil AHMADZAI (K)	Dayne GRECH (K)



Abbie's babble

Welcome back to the start of a new year as we move into the **Year of the Ox**.

Ox personalities are those who will shoulder the load, and move with a quiet determination towards their goal. They are usually very independent and self-reliant people but they reach their full potential when they are in a familiar and supportive environment, frequently volunteering to shoulder the burdens of those around them.

2009 has certainly started out needing people who are prepared to selflessly help others in need, as we have seen the devastation of the Victorian bushfires.

ABHS students recently held a mufti day to raise funds in excess of \$650 for the victims of the fires. But still more can be done.

ABHS students are helping in other ways. In coming weeks, senior students will be volunteering to donate blood for the ongoing treatment of the burns victims. A worthwhile and generous act with no material reward other than the knowledge that they are helping fellow Australians.

In other news:

- ☺ The new **Year 7** students seem to be fitting in well and getting on with the job of learning about ABHS and its systems. A big step from Primary school, but with all sorts of help. The Peer Tutoring program has started well. (see story p.3)
- ☺ **Year 10** recently travelled south to examine the sand dunes around Wanda Beach. From all accounts a very enjoyable and successful day.
- ☺ **Year 10 Commerce** have visited the Supreme Court, while **Year 11 Legal Studies** went to the Downing Centre as part of their courses. Reports on these excursions will appear in the next edition.
- ☺ I reported that long-serving member of the Science faculty, **Ms. Coolican** had received a promotion to Head Teacher Science at Belmore Boys HS. She took up the position earlier this term.
- ☺ Still on promotions. The departure of Mr Dassaklis to the Deputy's position at Tempe has seen **Ms. Fitz-**

gibbon appointed as the new Head Teacher Welfare. (see her first report on p.3)

- ☺ **Ms. Traill** has now left us on maternity leave and we wish her well.
- ☺ **Ms. Lane** will also soon leave us for maternity leave and we welcome Ms. Hobeck, who will keep the Drama boys moving along.
- ☺ **Ashfield Council** is setting up a Youth Committee to advise councillors on ways in which the young members of our community can be better served by Council facilities. As part of their ongoing commitment to the school, Ashfield Council recently donated funds of \$500 to support Ashfest.
- ☺ The **2009 Swimming Carnival**, held this year at Canterbury Pool, was a great day which saw an increasing number of boys having a go at the events. Indicative of that was Truthe- Miles, pictured, who went in every event. Even though he knew he wasn't going to win, he still competed. Well done!
- ☺ Still on the Carnival and it was a remarkable day in the pool for Alex O'Hare, breaking records in 4 events and 3 strokes. Outstanding!
- ☺ Summer Sport is coming to an end and a number of teams have been busy contesting semi-finals and finals in various sports. Full report next edition. It seems strange, given the warmer weather, but Winter sport starts in a few weeks, so it's time to clean those football boots, and start running again.



Always on the lookout for stories,
Bye for now,

Abbie



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