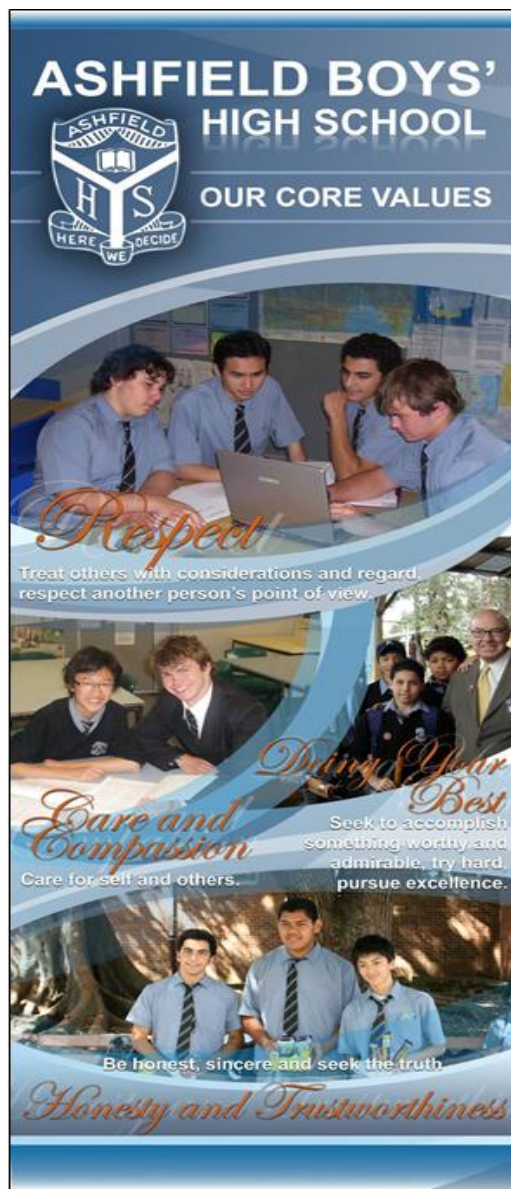


Ashfield Boys High School Community News

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



Parent Newsletter – June 2014 Issue 2

Principal's Report

After 14 wonderful years at Ashfield Boys High the time has come for me to say goodbye.

Over the last 37 years I have worked in many schools and enjoyed all my experiences but I must say Ashfield Boys High has been the best.

Where does one begin? There are so many wonderful memories. The boys have been amazing and they are a credit to their parents and teachers. The many memories which I will treasure include the wonderful Higher School Certificate results that the students achieved over the years and, as a result, went on to achieve great things at university. Their interests, just to mention a few, ranged from Finance, Commerce, Engineering, Medicine, Pharmacy, Architecture, Law, Neuroscience, Forensic Science, Nursing, Police and, of course, Teaching. In the sport arena they received Blues and represented their school at the highest level, be it in swimming, rugby, cricket, soccer, athletics or cross country.

They entered Debates and Public Speaking competitions giving schools like Sydney Boys High, Sydney Technical High and Fort Street a run for their money.

They won awards at University NSW Scientia Challenge program, Mathematics and Science ESSA Competitions, Reading Challenge Program, Writing Competitions, Tournament of the Minds and Chess Tournaments.

They represented their school at Schools Spectacular on numerous occasions, at the Opera House and at many Band

Concerts. As well, their Higher School Certificate major works have been selected for Onstage, Art Express and InDesign.

Then there were the famous History Days, which now have become a tradition in our school. One student even managed to write a book, with a model game he produced and sent off to Buckingham Palace. You can imagine the excitement on our faces when the Queen sent a reply thanking him.

Student Leadership

I strongly believe that all students should have a voice and should feel free to express their ideas and passion to projects through their leadership body and realise that all things are possible and can happen if they want them to.

Some of their initiatives which gave me wonderful experiences and memories at the school level include:-

Ashfest, plays, concerts, school Discos, the bike rack, and most importantly the wonderful work they did either through volunteering their time or raising money for the many Charities. Most importantly they are ambassadors for White Ribbon Foundation. I will always treasure Programs such as: Master Chef, murals, Harmony Days, and Reading and Tutoring Programs.

Externally, they represented their school at the New South Wales Student Representative Council and Deputy Director General for a Day Program.

What makes them special is that they are very caring, tolerant, generous, and supportive to each other. They are always willing to give of their time and to help each other or their teachers.

The Principal may be the leader but no leader can exist and make change if they do not have the support, commitment, passion, integrity and loyalty of the Senior Executive, Head Teachers, Staff and SASS. I was so privileged to have this.

My standards were set very high and as a result I demanded and expected the best from all my staff. They not only rose to the challenge but went beyond taking risks with their teaching. They engaged in diverse conversations, implemented programs which gave the boys the extra edge in their learning while at the same time continually evaluating and reflecting on their practice to ensure they were the forerunners in boys' education.

All these achievements would not have been possible if it was not for the generosity of my wonderful staff who always gave freely of their time and worked with me side by side. They have been a great team to work with. They are the best without exception. I have always had the pleasure of working with outstanding committed people. I know I leave the school in very capable hands.

I also would like to thank my P&C who have always been a wonderful group of parents to work with. This has been evident in the endless hours they have given in raising funds, sitting on panels, organising events and speaking at special school evenings.

Finally thank you to all my parents; without you and your sons we would not have the wonderful school that we have.

Public education has been my life and passion and regardless of my position, be it teacher, executive or Principal I have loved every day and will miss it very much.

I take with me the many, many experiences and memories but nothing is more important than the knowledge that we are making a difference for our boys.

Thank you, one and all for everything you have given to our school which I love and keep up the outstanding work. God Bless you all.

Daisy Kokkalis



Deputy Principal's Report – Linda Henry

Passion: *a strong feeling of enthusiasm or excitement for something....*

Year 9 Passion Project- Project Based Learning

This term our Year 9 boys have had the opportunity to take some ownership of their learning. Their timetable has been altered 1-2 days per weeks for the last 4 weeks of term and they have been working on a "Passion Project."



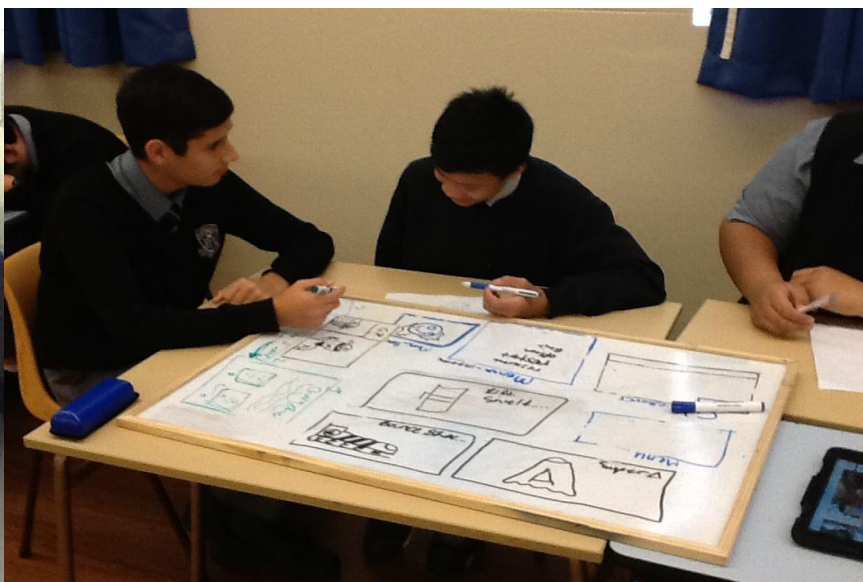
The boys were asked to form teams with either their friends or with others who shared the same passion for a topic such as Community Graffiti. Teams had to formulate their own 'driving question' and then incorporate literacy, numeracy, technology, budgeting, timelines and critical thinking skills into the development of their project. Teams were also asked to ensure they include a community perspective within their project

These boys are the first to use our new bank of 60 ipads and have rapidly developed their technology skills using these devices. Apps such as Trello (project management tool), iMovie, Popplet (mind maps), survey boy and presentation apps such as show me, explain everything and Prezi are also being used for presentations

To support this project based learning, staff have also been undertaking ipad training before school one day per week.

It has been a rewarding experience for the boys and their facilitators. Many teams have worked out that taking ownership of their learning requires significant planning, collaboration, cooperation and evaluation. Current projects include improving the school environment, school uniform, gaming as part of the school curriculum, sport and community fundraising.

We are looking forward to the Passion Project Team presentations at the end of this term. A big thank you to all the students who have displayed such passion about their passion, to the staff who have guided their projects and to our technical support staff Sam and Tony who have encountered a huge learning curve with the initial use of en masse ipads in the school.



Too sick for school? As the cold weather hits, so do the winter bugs. It's often hard to know whether to send your child to school or let them stay home to recover, especially when that means an adult cancelling work.

For safety's sake, if your child seems unwell you should always keep them home from school and seek medical advice. School A to Z and the NSW Health have created an at-a-glance chart to help answer your questions about common childhood illness and how long sick kids need to miss school. Find it by typing this link into your web browser www.bit.ly/1hytn2E

Consultation on strengthening the provision of public secondary education in the inner Sydney area

The Inner City Schools Working Party consultation on strengthening the provision of public secondary education in the inner Sydney area is hearing that many parents and teachers are making use of the Kitchen Table Discussion Guide to hold their own conversations and to provide input to this important project. The Kitchen Table Discussion Guide can be downloaded from the website at www.dec.nsw.gov.au

The online discussion forum continues to operate and can also be accessed via the Department's website on www.dec.nsw.edu.au

For additional information

Go to the website, www.dec.nsw.edu.au and click on the community consultation tab

- Contact events@straight-talk.com.au or
- Phone 9797 8004 and ask to talk to a member of the Straight Talk team.

The consultation period is from 16 May - 27 June 2014.

Uniform

Winter has finally arrived and it's time to check if your son has winter pants and jumper/ jacket that fit appropriately. Our winter uniform consists of grey school trousers, the appropriate coloured shirt and school tie. Black school jumper or a plain black jacket/sloppy joe and black leather shoes for WH&S requirements.

See the school website for information about Uniform Shop opening times. If you are having difficulty with providing uniform for your son, please contact the school.

Welfare News

Peer Support has been running during the semester with Years 7 and 10 being involved. This has allowed the new Year 7 students to participate in lessons run by the Year 10's. They have been focusing on such things as our school values, making new friendships, getting along with others and bullying and how it affects people. The Year 10 boys took on their leadership roles with enthusiasm and generally found it a positive and rewarding experience.

Vaccinations are being held throughout the year with Year 7 boys receiving HPV, dTPa and Varicella. Year 9 students are also receiving the HPV injections. This will take place over three different dates. In August, students who have not had the MMR vaccination (mumps, measles and rubella) will also have the chance to have this free of charge if they have a Medicare number. Most children growing up in Australia have had this vaccination at the ages of one and four, but students who did not receive it then or who were born overseas, may not have received this immunisation. Forms will be handed out in the near future.

Eyecare Program will again be taking place in Term 3 this year. The program was last held in 2012, where out of the 245 students that were seen, about 20% of the students required glasses or an update in prescription.

An optometrist will again be onsite during school hours to provide students with a comprehensive eye examination. This will be done by appointment only. Each attendance will receive an individual report regarding the eye health and a prescription will be provided if glasses are required. Please note that this service does not sell glasses and the prescription can be taken to any optometry store.

The program's aim is to detect visual problems that may interfere with a student's learning abilities and subsequently hinder their academic potential. A significant number of students have visual problems that go undetected. The main visual issues that go undetected are **inadequate focusing** and **eye teaming abilities** that could lead to symptoms such as poor concentration, fatigue, headaches and unwillingness to read.

This eye health service is available to local students and is covered by Medicare Australia. The form below is to be completed by the parent or guardian. Students will then receive their appointment letters in roll call class, which will specify the dates and times of their appointments. The eye examination typically takes 20 minutes.

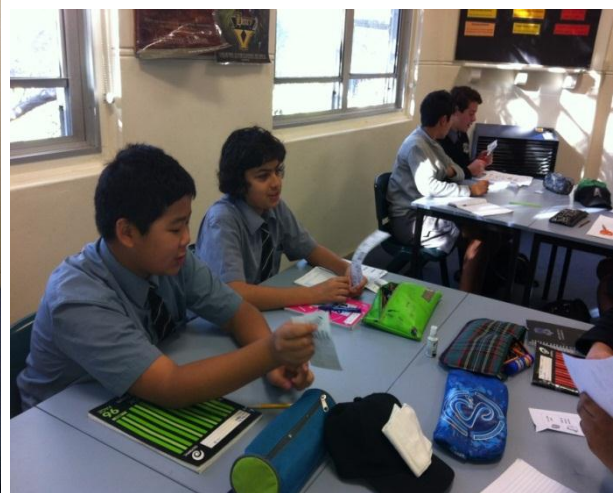
7 Barbados Team Project

In Year 7, team Barbados is doing a class project concerning the world to make it a better place. This project was organised by 7B team teachers Ms Yoon, Ms Osborn, Ms Fitzgibbon and Ms Smit.

Our project started with an activity classifying needs and wants. Ms Osborn and Ms Fitzgibbon assigned us into groups of 4 and 5 and we were asked to pick 16 items from a catalogue we needed in order to survive in space. Then our limits were reduced to 8, then 4 items. It was very interesting to realise that we have many more things than what we actually need and take for granted and that we should value these. For our homework, we were to write down the things that someone or I had done that was nice, for instance saying hi to your friends.

In our second lesson, Ms Smit gave us a worksheet to write down what we would do in the weekend to represent our values of Care and Compassion, Fair go, Freedom, Honesty and Trustworthiness, Integrity, Respect, Responsibility and Perseverance. Then in Ms Osborn's class we had to present to the class what we had done over the weekend to represent these values. Team Barbados had great fun participating in this project and we look forward to more!

Eric Phuong, Ben Huynh and Seohyeong Lim



Literacy in Science Support Program

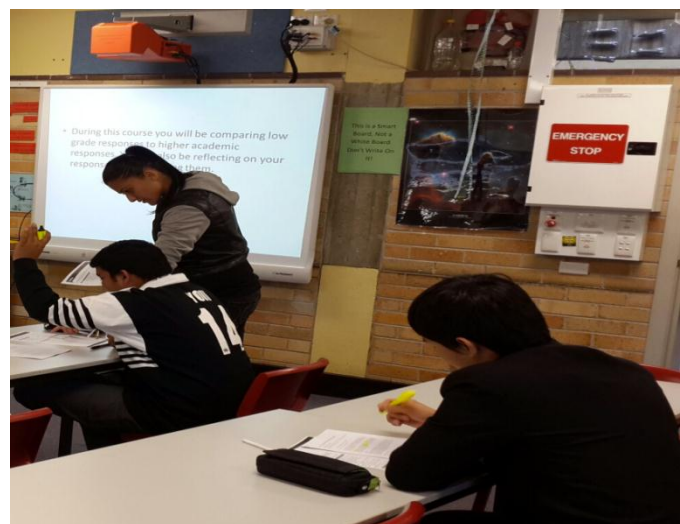
An after school HSC support program which focuses on literacy in Science is currently being run by experienced Science teachers on Tuesdays, fortnightly from 3.15pm-4.15pm.

This program is free of charge, and run within the science classrooms providing extra tutorial support for students who want to extend their comprehension and writing skills for the HSC.

The first few sessions run were really successful and rigorous support was provided to each student. The sessions focus on identifying students' needs enabling them to achieve their goals for the HSC. Each session is modified to cater to what each student wants to achieve.

This program provides a great academic advantage for students of Ashfield Boys High School and it is a program that is rarely run elsewhere.

Students are encouraged to give this program a try and realise the benefit it could offer them for their Science subjects in the HSC.



Creative and Performing Arts News

Although it has only been a nine week term, it has been very busy and productive in the Creative and Performing Arts Faculty. Here are some of our achievements from Term 2:

- At the beginning of the term we welcomed Mr Noel Dixon to our faculty. Mr Dixon is an experienced Music teacher who previously taught at Ashfield Boys High School. He was successful at interview for the Head Teacher Administration position and is an appreciated addition to the Music staff. Mr Dixon has taken on the reins of the school's concert and stage bands and is keen to see the bands grow, improve and build their repertoire. If any student is keen to be involved, whether they are beginners or experienced musicians, it is imperative that they contact Mr Dixon and experience the wonderful opportunities that being part of a musical ensemble brings.
- Ms Museth has been busy building her skills and training to take over the running of the VET Entertainment course. This has required her to complete assigned tasks and training courses including two weeks at the National Institute of the Dramatic Arts (NIDA). It has been very challenging for her juggling work commitments with the study routine, but she has enjoyed the challenge and looks forward to sharing her new found knowledge with the students enrolled in this course.
- Congratulations to Ms Tzodouris who has led the vocal group and Year 12 Music student; James Bridges to perform at the Reconciliation Event hosted by Ashfield Council. The Vocal Group has also successfully auditioned again for the Annual Schools Spectacular. These wonderful opportunities to perform are an excellent advertisement for the Performing Arts programs at Ashfield Boys High School and to promote the school generally. It also

enhances the skills of those students involved and allows them to build their performing confidence.

- It was a pleasure for me to work with the Year 9 Drama class, Mr Radojevic and Mr Longhurst to produce a film that will be used extensively to promote the school and assist in transitioning Year 6 students so that they feel comfortable as they start their schooling at Ashfield Boys' High School. The Year 9 students; Miles Anderson, James Clarke, Jonah Dassaklis, Ethan St De Jeur, Pineaha Houia-tyson, Cody Jaikiew, Jared Lyons and Max Moussa are to be congratulated on their willingness to be involved in the program and their professionalism in all areas of the production.
- Two Drama excursions have taken place this term. It is imperative that elective Drama students have the opportunity to see live productions and experience all facets of the theatre. Years 11 and 12 students were fortunate to be involved in a workshop about 'The Removalists'; a senior text for the Drama HSC course at the New Theatre at Newtown. Years 9 and 10 were part of the audience at a production called 'The Stones' at the Darling Harbour Quarter Theatre.
- Ashfield Council is promoting an Anzac Art and Film competition. All students are invited to get involved. More information can be obtained from me or Ms Jovicic or Mr Fasan. Students wishing to nominate works will need to fill out an application form. There are cash prizes up for grabs, with a first prize of \$500. You have to be in it to win it.
- Congratulations to Ben Jennings who has been selected as a winner of the Vocational Education and Training Awards for Public Schools NSW. Ben has shown exemplary ability and effort in his studies of and work placement for the VET Entertainment course. Ben, his family and Ms Museth will attend a special awards evening on the 18th August to proudly watch Ben receive this award.

Tracy Small

Head Teacher Creative and Performing Arts

Ashfield Boys High School Vocal Group

Reconciliation Week Event

On Friday, 30th May 2014, the schools' vocal group were invited to perform at the Reconciliation Week Event hosted by Ashfield Council.

The vocal group sang the Australian National Anthem including a verse in the Indigenous Dharug dialect after the acknowledgment of Country during the day's proceedings.

Distinguished guests included Councillor Lucille McKenna OAM (Mayor of Ashfield), The Hon Linda Burney MP (Member of the Legislative Assembly, Member for Canterbury, Deputy Leader of the Opposition, Shadow Minister for Family and Community Services, Shadow Minister for Early Childhood Education, Shadow Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, and Shadow), local Police Force, Council Members, students and staff from St Vincent's Catholic Primary and Ashfield Boys High School as well as community members and residents.

Other performances included poetry reciting from Ashfield Boys High School students, students singing from St Vincent's Catholic Primary School and cultural dances and storytelling by local indigenous artists.

The conclusion of the day's proceedings was a performance by Year 12 student, James Bridges, who sang a John Legend piece, "If You're Out There".

Schools Spectacular 2014 – "This is Australia"

Seven students from the school's vocal group together with Miss Tzodouris have been accepted to perform as part of the combined choir at the Schools Spectacular 2014 event. Schools Spectacular is an annual event hosted by the NSW Arts Unit as part of the NSW Education and Communities Public Schools which showcases the talents of 3500 students from all areas of creative and performing arts.

All staff and students involved will be attending rehearsals throughout October and November. Schools Spectacular concert will be held on **Friday 28 and Saturday 29 November 2014 at the Qantas Credit Union Arena, formally known as the Sydney Entertainment Centre**. Tickets can be purchased online or through participating schools. You can however, watch the live performances which are aired on television as well.

Dimitra Tzdouris



'The Stones' and my thoughts on the performance

I am sure that I can speak for my peers when I say that this was a truly brilliant play. It succeeded in keeping the interest of the audience throughout the whole play with effective use of comedic elements and more serious elements. The play was masterfully put together with a very large focus put on how few props they used and how they changed them into different things. All the sound effects were done by either voice or guitar and yet still managed to capture the sound of a courtroom, a pub or a highway. The quick character changes were well done and gave the performance a very quick pace.

The plot was relevant and taught a lesson and I would suggest this play to any boy of my age looking to go to the theatre.

Jonah Dassaklis – Year 9 Drama

The Removalists

On Wednesday 7th May, the Year 12 Drama class went to Newtown to attend a workshop featuring 'The Removalist'. Upon arriving at Newtown via train, we walked to the New Theatre, a small, humble studio-esque theatre with some interesting décor.

When the workshop began, there was a member of a cast, each for every role in 'The Removalist', and an acting stage director. They weren't in any sort of costume so to speak, but the clothing they wore somehow matched their roles naturally without effort. It may have been due to how they acted even without the set or costume, as if they belonged in that scene. Every movement was purposeful and it was hard not to notice little movements that kept the character going; the posture of Constable Ross, where his arms were folded behind his back as he was tiptoeing on the spot, and the old-Australian-clerk kind of vibe that the person who was playing Simmonds exuded really helped to define the two. This was the same for the other actors in their own little ways of acting.

They also prompted us that this was a rehearsed reading and was there to help us understand and question the play. The workshop went on playing out some key scenes, such as the scene when Ross and Simmonds's characters are first introduced and continued to inform us little bits and pieces of information regarding the play.

The workshop reinforced things that we had learned in class and reminded us of key scenes and characters to assist us in preparation for the exams.

Sang Wook Choo –Year 12 Drama

Social Science News

On Wednesday 14th May the Year 12 Economics class attended a seminar at the Reserve Bank of Australia in Martin Place. In the seminar we learnt about the responsibilities and objectives of the Reserve Bank, and how it plays a major impact on our economy. We also learnt how the Reserve Bank operates. We learnt how Australian bank notes are manufactured and recycled – it is a really long process. We also found out that coat hangers are made by recycled bank notes- which is really interesting. The highlight of the trip was definitely when we learnt how to differ real bank notes from feigned bank notes. It was a hands on activity in which we played around with our notes to figure out its respective uniqueness and determine its legitimacy. At the conclusion of the seminar we had a guided tour through the RBA's money and currency museum. The museum portrays the history of the Australian currency and also highlights many other major currencies around the world. To summarise it all up it was an amazing experience, in which we gained a lot of knowledge which we will hopefully implement in our HSC. On behalf of the class I would like to thank Ms Skelton for organising this significant trip for us.



TAS Faculty News

The TAS faculty had a very good year and there were some great results for last year's HSC students in the subjects of Construction, Hospitality and Industrial Technology Timber products. This was due to the efforts of the teachers in the Technology and Applied Studies (TAS) Faculty. Thanks must go to Mrs SaraMae Belle-Page, Mr Grant Jones and Mr Alan Latham for their efforts and their professionalism for properly preparing their students for the HSC. It is hoped that the students in Year 12, from last year's cohort have attained their goals. Best wishes to all students.

Special thanks must go to Mrs Belle-Page and Mr Jones for successfully completing the VET Hospitality and Construction Upgrades, respectively, over the last three terms. This process involved a large amount of extra work on top of their normal load, in order to obtain currency and continue teaching VET subjects at Ashfield Boys High School. Furthermore, Mrs Belle-Page organised and catered for many functions at the school, most of which were in the evening. These included catering for the school production last year and for the Year 7 Open Night this year. This involved Year 11 and Year 12 Hospitality students and for those parents that did attend, I'm sure you found the catering to be exceptional and of industry standard.

The faculty is again offering a large array of subjects in 2014. Courses for Stage 6 will include Construction, Hospitality, IT-Wood and Metal and Engineering. For Stage 5 the students will be studying IT-Wood and Electronics, as well as and Food Technology and Engineering.

I would like to introduce our new member of staff. We welcome Mr Kamal Mahmud to the TAS faculty. Mr Mahmud is a qualified engineer and as a result we will be able to offer Engineering Studies to students in Year 11 next year and then continuing into year 12 for the 2016 HSC. Mr Mahmud replaced Mr Alan Latham who had been at this school for well over twenty years. We wish Mr Latham all the best with his well-earned retirement.

Thank you to all staff, students and parents for your on-going support.

Leo Alevizos

Head Teacher TAS.

Learning Support

This term has been very productive with ongoing Literacy programs in the junior years. Results are showing that the boys are making great improvements in their reading and comprehension. Our Speech Therapist has also been working with several boys on language development. The Transition Program for Year 11s has now moved to workshops and individual mentoring to provide ongoing support through the senior years. We are continuing to support students in class and in small groups.

The Learning Support Team



Figure 1 ABHS Students hosting afternoon tea

Collaboration with Local Schools – Senior Prefect Afternoon Tea

On a warm May Friday afternoon, the senior prefects of ABHS held an afternoon tea for the prefects of other local schools. The afternoon tea was well attended by students from Fort Street High, Tempe High, Strathfield Girls, Burwood Girls, Canterbury Girls and Newtown School of Performing Arts to name but a few.

Our students were consummate hosts. They developed ice-breaking games, they set up welcoming parties and thought about how to have everyone feel welcome and participate. Before long, all the students were busy interacting and discussing different things.

The afternoon was a great success with inter-school relationships being forged and discussions of the role of prefects within each school. Overall, the role of the prefect in most of the schools was to build student wellbeing and it was in their execution that it differed. The afternoon finished with promises of getting together again to share ideas.

One of the important lessons shared on that afternoon, was that no matter how small the gesture, we each have an important role to play in the quality of the lives of our students.

We hope to host many more of these afternoon teas in the future.



Figure 2 Yusef Dawre with NSW Minister for Education Adrian Piccoli and other students

Student Wellbeing Forum – Yusef Dawre to Parliament House

On Wednesday 28 May 2014, our School Captain, Yusef Dawre attended the Student Wellbeing Forum at Parliament House. Yusef was one of 20 selected in the State and one of 4 within the Region to attend this forum held by the NSW Department of Education and Communities.

The purpose of the forum was to develop programs to assist in Student Wellbeing. Participants discussed what works and what doesn't. They came up with strategies and spoke about behaviour in schools. The discussions and ideas of the day will be used to implement new strategies and policies within schools throughout 2015.

Yusef said that the experience was a "once in a lifetime" and he really enjoyed being a part of this journey. Yusef wanted to express his gratitude to ABHS and the staff at the NSW Department of Education and Communities for allowing him to be part of this great event

Altitude Day - Extraordinary Personal Growth and Leadership Development for Year 9

A keen group of Year 9 Student representatives attended an inspiring workshop – Altitude Day at North Sydney Convention Centre on Friday 6th June 2014. It was a huge success. The day included some very encouraging speeches by three significant people with extraordinary life stories. (Barnaby Howarth, Rowie McEvoy and Jordan O'Reilly). Their lives and experiences, some not too fortunate, unfolded to motivate young individuals toward their dreams, unlock potential and empower young leaders.



Year 9 Students (Murali Chinnappa, Dylan Koroivatu, Elvin Poon, Barnaby Howarth (The first speaker, a stroke survivor and AFL footballer) Pranuajan Pathmendra, Pathik Shah and Joshua Kim.

R El-Rakshy

Student Teacher Experiences at Ashfield Boys High School

I have been lucky enough to complete my first professional experience for my Masters of Teaching at Ashfield Boys throughout May in the school's science faculty.

After 18 months of theory at university, the opportunity to start in the classroom was exciting and the support I received from the faculty and the school made for a rewarding experience.

My own schooling took place on the NSW South Coast in a co-ed school so I was thrilled at the chance to teach a range of classes at an inner west boys' school. I found the school culture amongst both the students and the staff to be welcoming and supportive, creating an environment highly conducive to learning.

With the rollout of the new national curriculum, I was fortunate to take a Year 8 class transitioning across from the old syllabus and a Year 9 class who are starting the new program this year as well as a preliminary Biology class preparing for the HSC next year.

The science faculty have an exciting and rigorous program across each of the stages that I was able to work through as well as bringing ideas and methods that I have learnt and developed at Uni. The open and friendly nature of the school culture enabled me to work collaboratively with the students, developing models and experiments to test ideas and concepts that we discussed in the classroom.

For my first experience, I could not have dreamed of better students and wish you all the best in your future study!

Gene Keski-Nummi (Science Student Teacher)

I am infinitely grateful for the experience of undergoing my second practicum at Ashfield Boys High and I wish it did not have to end! Ashfield Boys High has provided me with so many experiences over the past five weeks; I thought I should highlight the best five...

5 X 5 = ASHFIELD BOYS HIGH.

1. Ashfield Boys High has a true sense of collegiality.

It does not matter what department you are from, each and every staff member is caring and considerate. There is a true sense of community within the school and it was lovely to feel appreciated and welcomed at all times.

2. Your boys are not just boys.

The five weeks I have spent teaching Ashfield Boys has provided me with the opportunity to connect with them. Although the boys are privileged to have great teachers, great teachers are also privileged to educate great boys. These boys have humour, respect, diligence and wit that will see them far in life. I wish them all the very best and will miss their charm.

3. Brotherhood.

Whether it is was in my drama classroom, on the playground or on the footy field, Ashfield Boys continually demonstrated the true meaning of teamwork. This sets apart Ashfield Boys from other schools, as the true meaning of brotherhood was noted from the beginning and was continually demonstrated over the five weeks spent here. Individuals can achieve great things; however, when people work together they create magic, and magic is what I saw.

4. The Arts

Sir Ken Robinson said it himself and Ashfield has yet again proved that "creativity is key". My experience at Ashfield indicated that using arts processes to teach academic subjects improved student understanding, content and behaviour. Ashfield boys have tremendous musical, acting and artistic talents and I feel very privileged to have been able to witness and enhance these skills.

5. Tracy Small.

Working alongside Tracy Small has been the most rewarding experience of all. Tracy's commitment to her field is truly inspirational and the strategies and experience she possesses are remarkable. Whilst Tracy's focus shifts to other aspects of school life at various times, she remains strongly committed and connected to the Ashfield boys and the passion that makes her soul sing (drama). As such, I endeavour to model her teaching and am very appreciative of the opportunities she has provided me. I will miss her dearly.

This experience has enhanced and truly confirmed my love and passion for education.

Thank you again and my best to all.

Bridget Mazzella (Drama Student Teacher)

Measles, Mumps and Rubella High School-based Catch-up Vaccination Program 2014

Many teenagers and young adults are catching measles, especially while travelling abroad or from someone who has brought the disease into Australia from overseas.

Who is at increased risk?

Teenagers and young adults are at higher risk of measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) because many of them missed one or both of their routine MMR vaccinations as infants and/or the second dose of MMR vaccine was not included on the National Immunisation Schedule during their childhood.

Up to 2 in 5 students are not fully vaccinated against measles, mumps and rubella (MMR). Teenagers and young adults are also likely to travel for schoolies or other holidays to countries where measles is more common, including Thailand, the Philippines and Bali.

NSW Health has identified a need to offer a high school-based catch-up MMR vaccination program in a number of selected NSW high schools.

What can you do?

Our school has been identified as possibly having a high number of students who have not received MMR vaccination. Two doses of MMR vaccine provide life-long immunity. The local Public Health Unit will be offering one dose of free MMR vaccine to students in Years 7-12 starting in the 2014 3rd term. Parent Information Kits will be sent home soon and parents should:

- read the information provided

- check your child's vaccination records

- complete the consent form if you would like your child to be vaccinated and return the signed consent form to school

Parents can check your child's immunisations in their Blue Book or ask your GP. If parents are unsure or unable to find their child's records, it is safe for your child to receive another dose of MMR vaccine.

After vaccination, a Record of Vaccination will be given to children and parents should inform your GP that MMR vaccine has been given. If this is the child's first dose of MMR vaccine, you should contact the GP to arrange for your child to receive a second dose of free MMR vaccine in 4 weeks' time.

What is measles?

Measles is a very infectious virus that is spread by coughing and sneezing and causes fever, cough and a rash. Measles is often a severe disease that has complications such as middle ear infection, lung infection, and diarrhoea. Measles infection during pregnancy can cause in miscarriage and premature delivery. Brain inflammation can result in permanent brain damage.

What is mumps?

Mumps is an infectious disease causing swollen neck glands and fever. One in five male teenagers/adults with mumps develops inflammation of the testes. In females, mumps infection in the first three months of pregnancy may cause miscarriage. Mumps can sometimes cause fertility problems, permanent deafness and brain inflammation.

What is rubella?

Rubella, also known as German Measles, is an infectious disease causing rash, fever and swollen glands. A number of patients develop bruising or bleeding and many develop brain inflammation. Infection in the first three months of pregnancy will result in nine out of 10 babies having a major congenital abnormality, such as deafness, blindness or heart defects.

Why is vaccination important?

MMR vaccine is safe and has been used for over twenty years. Any link between MMR vaccine and autism or other health conditions has been disproven by many studies and experts.

Ashfield Boys' P&C Trivia Night Fundraiser 2014

Saturday 30th August 7pm – Hall

Come along for a night of fun, test your wit and win great prizes

Adults \$20 School Students \$10 Uni Students \$15

BYO Food and drinks

Lucky Door Prizes, Blind Auction, Lucky Dips

Book a table of friends, family, class parents or join a table!

Contact: Debbie McInnes at debbie@dmcpr.com.au or phone 9568 6262

Max 10 people per table

Complimentary Coffee, Tea and Cake

The poster features a silhouette of a soldier in a wide-brimmed hat and a woman in a headscarf against a sunset background. The text is white and yellow, providing details about the art competition.

Honour & Sacrifice
ANZAC Art Competition for Young People

Are you creative?
Aged between 12 -24?

Create an artwork or short film exploring
Sacrifices made by Australians in war,
conflict and peacemaking.

- ¥ FIRST PRIZE \$500
- ¥ SECOND PRIZE \$300
- ¥ THIRD PRIZE \$200

Your artwork must explore the role played by women, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, migrants or the impact of returning home on the troops.

Entries close Friday 3 October 2014. Conditions apply.
For more info phone Tel: (02) 9716 1800 or email info@ashfield.nsw.gov.au.

This project is run by Ashfield Council with generous support from NSW Government.



ANZAC Youth Art
Competition



Ashfield Council

Hunter Valley Hunter Valley Hunter Valley
**The Tom Farrell Institute for the Environment
Presents...**

Electric Bikes Workshops
come and try Demos Segways
Hunter Valley EV FEST 2014

**16-17
August**



**Come see, touch and try!
The future of transportation is here**

FREE ENTRY
Gates Open 10am-4pm

- Loads of great exhibitors**
- Come and try an electric bike**
- Sunday EV Prize Competition and Demos**



FREE ENTRY
Newcastle Kart Raceway
Cameron Park Drive
Cameron Park

www.hunterevfestival.net

