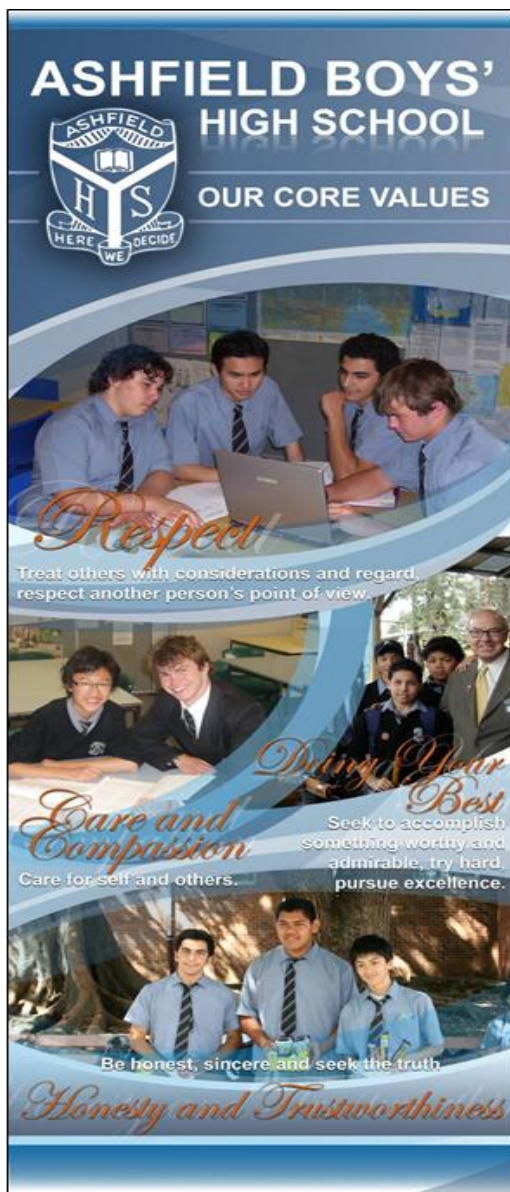


Ashfield Boys High School Community News

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 – September 2014 Issue 3

Principal's Report

In the last newsletter, Ashfield Boys High Schools' much-respected Principal, Mrs Daisy Kokkalis, wrote her farewells to all in our school community as she embarked on a well-deserved retirement.

Since then the merit selection process to appoint a new Principal has been completed and Mr Dwayne Hopwood successfully gained promotion to the position of Principal. Mr Hopwood will commence in this new role in Week 3 of next Term. I'm sure you will join with staff and students to congratulate Mr Hopwood on his appointment and welcome him warmly to Ashfield Boys High School.

Throughout Term 3 Ms Henry and I have shared the role of relieving Principal. Ms Finigan and Ms Small have relieved in Deputy Principals' positions and both Ms Henry and I would like to thank them for their hard work and support throughout this very busy Term.

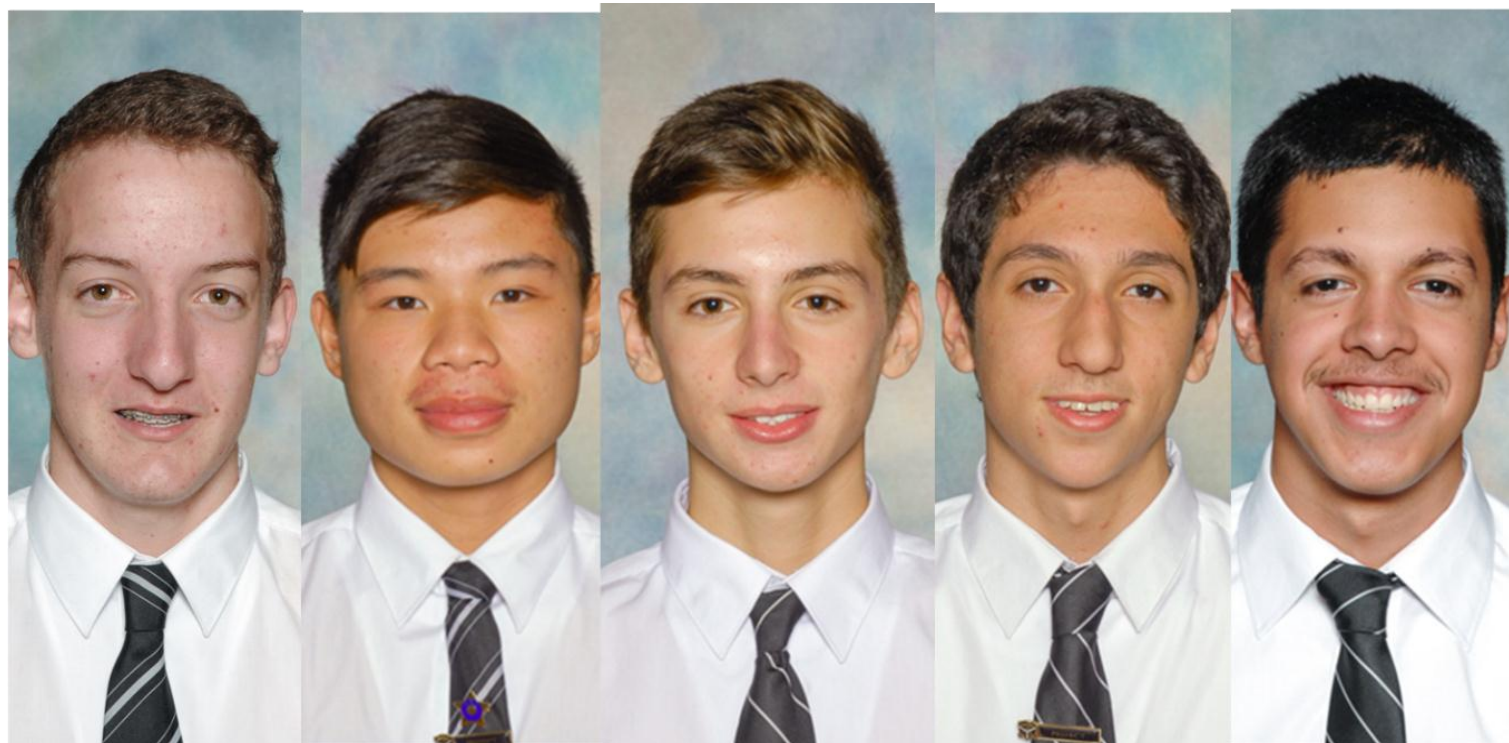
Year 11 students are currently completing their final Preliminary examinations and will commence Higher School Certificate course work at the beginning of next Term.

Year 12 students, by now, have received their results from the Trial HSC Examinations and their school years are rapidly drawing to a close. Year 12 will be farewelled at their Graduation Ceremony on Thursday 18th September.

The Higher School Certificate Examinations commence Term 4 Week 2 and we wish them all the best in these Examinations and for the life-journeys on which they are embarking.

Jennifer Byrne – Relieving Principal

2014 School Captain Candidates



Darcy Batterham-Love
Darcy has been in the SRC for several years and a prefect for the last 12 months and has represented the school at various outside events including ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day over the last few years. He has written and presented speeches at these events and at various assemblies. He is an active volunteer.

Steven Huynh
Steven has been a member of the SRC for several years and has performed the role of prefect this last year. He has experience in leadership through his role in Scouts Australia. He is an active volunteer.

Maxi Janiszewski
Maxi has been in the SRC and has performed the role of a prefect this last year. He has represented the school at various outside events including ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day. He has undertaken volunteering both within and outside of school and has been involved in many in-school events including the debating team.

Khaled Stanbouli
Khaled has been in the SRC and has performed the role of prefect this last year. He has been instrumental in submitting (and having approved) proposals for events and activities by the SRC and has been involved in many school activities. He has performed many volunteering roles.

Juan Vega
Juan is new to the school. His submitted resume outlines his past experiences in other schools hosting various school events and as a member of the Student Executive Council at his boarding school.

School Captain Elections 2014/15

After our exciting School Captain Elections, the staff and students have voted. Their voices have been heard and we are pleased to announce that Ashfield Boys High School's Captain for 2014/15 is Khaled Stanbouli, the Vice-captain for 2014/15 is Darcy Batterham-Love and our three other candidates, Maxi Janiszewski, Juan Vega and Steven Huynh have accepted positions as Prefects. What a team!

We are also pleased to announce that Mark Kamara and Manson Fang have also accepted positions as Year 11 Prefects.

The new senior leadership team is responsible for supporting and leading our Student Action Teams with their first big role being the 2014 ABHS White Ribbon campaign. Good luck to the team and we look forward to good things from you.

Creative and Performing Arts News

Years 11 and 12 Entertainment students

NIDA Staging Workshop & Lighting Training Workshop

Years 11 and 12 Entertainment students attended an exciting workshop at NIDA (National Institute of Dramatic Arts- Kensington) early in Term 3, where they learned from and worked with industry expert John Grimau at NIDA's playhouse theatre in a specially tailored staging workshop. The boys learned about and worked with staging items and hand tools and collaborated to build a basic stage set with a wall and portal. They practised the correct ways to unload, handle and transport stage set and erect and operate staging elements within a real theatre environment. At the conclusion of the 3 hour workshop the boys participated in an interesting question and answer session where they learned much about the experiences of a Head mechanist in the theatre industry through Grimau's amusing anecdotes. Finally, the boys were taken on a backstage tour of NIDA where they gained special access to technical workshops such as those of costume design, props design and set construction, as well as touring the various theatres and rehearsal rooms in the building. All boys reported that the day was both exciting and educational and that they felt a great sense of achievement at having worked together in the set building task.

Year 11 Entertainment Boys also participated in a 2 hour in-school lighting workshop where they were trained by Julian Lacey, a representative from "lightsoundsprojects", in how to operate the advanced lighting system that we have access to in our school hall. The training was conducted in the performance space, and consisted both of theory discussions and practical, hands-on experience at lighting design for each of the students. The students said that they thoroughly enjoyed the practical training and found the workshop highly interesting.

Both workshop experiences have provided our Entertainment students with expert training and access to practical tools in some of the areas of competency required for their Certificate III VET studies.



HSC Drama

Our hard-working Year 12 Drama students are now able to breathe a sigh of relief, having completed 60% of their HSC examination in this subject. The students completed their HSC performance Examinations on Tuesday 19th August, and also showcased their work prior to this date at a special HSC Drama evening in the Performance Space on Thursday 14th August. The students impressed their audience with a diverse array of performance styles through presenting original and interpreted pieces of theatre individually and in groups. Two students completed costume and promotional design projects and these have been submitted to the Board of Studies. Our Years 11 and 12 Entertainment students supported the performance evening through taking on technical roles such as lighting, staging, filming and ushering. The Creative and Performing Arts Faculty would like to congratulate these boys on their excellent performances and project work, and wish them all the best for the rest of their examinations and beyond.

Ensemble Evening and BBQ

On Thursday 31st July 2014, parents and students attended an evening for a showcase of the current pieces of music studied this term in Concert Band and Stage Band at Ashfield Boys High School. Stage Band began the program with their performance of *Chameleon* and *Happy* which included a number of improvised solos by the students.

Our past Year 12 student, Nathan Parks, tutors a number of keen students in saxophone every Thursday and conducted the group of junior saxophonists who performed for the first time. These included Year 8 students Vincent Sham, Jovan Tan, Gordon Luong and Shaffan Shahid.

For the conclusion of the music program, Concert Band performed three pieces; *Eye of the Tiger*, *I Want You Back* and *Forget You*. The evening concluded with a BBQ and thanks to Mrs Small for her wonderful help on the evening.

It was a fantastic opportunity for parents and Music staff to liaise with one another and discuss the progress of all students this year. Well done to all the students involved.

Mr N Dixon and Miss D Tzodouris



THE ARTS UNIT'S BOYS VOCAL WORKSHOP

Students from our school's Vocal Group attended a Boys Vocal Workshop on Tuesday 26th August 2014 at the Department of Education Penrith District Office. The workshop was hosted by the Arts Unit as an initiative to promote vocal training for boys from Department schools.

This workshop was targeted for students from upper primary to secondary years and provided the opportunity for the boys to learn five pieces of music under the direction of Peter Lehner. These pieces were *Happy*, *Imagine*, *Solid Rock*, *Mad World* and *Roli-hla-hla-Mandela*.

It was an enjoyable day for all participating students and staff and more photos can be accessed through The Arts Unit's Facebook page.

Miss D Tzodouris



Senior State Music Camp took place in the second last week of term. It was held at the Narrabeen Sport and Recreation Camp. 240 students attended from public schools all over New South Wales.

The cabins were OK and they had a TV, so we could watch the World Cup when we woke up.

There were some fun activities like high ropes and some other fun games as well.

The instructors were very helpful and friendly. One of my old primary school conductors was there.

It was fun to play different instruments that I hadn't played, like the chimes.

The food was good, but the students did have to help with the cleaning up.

On three of the nights, they had camp concerts where students showed off their talents. I was part of the percussion ensemble and we performed one night and I enjoyed watching what the composition group had done as well.

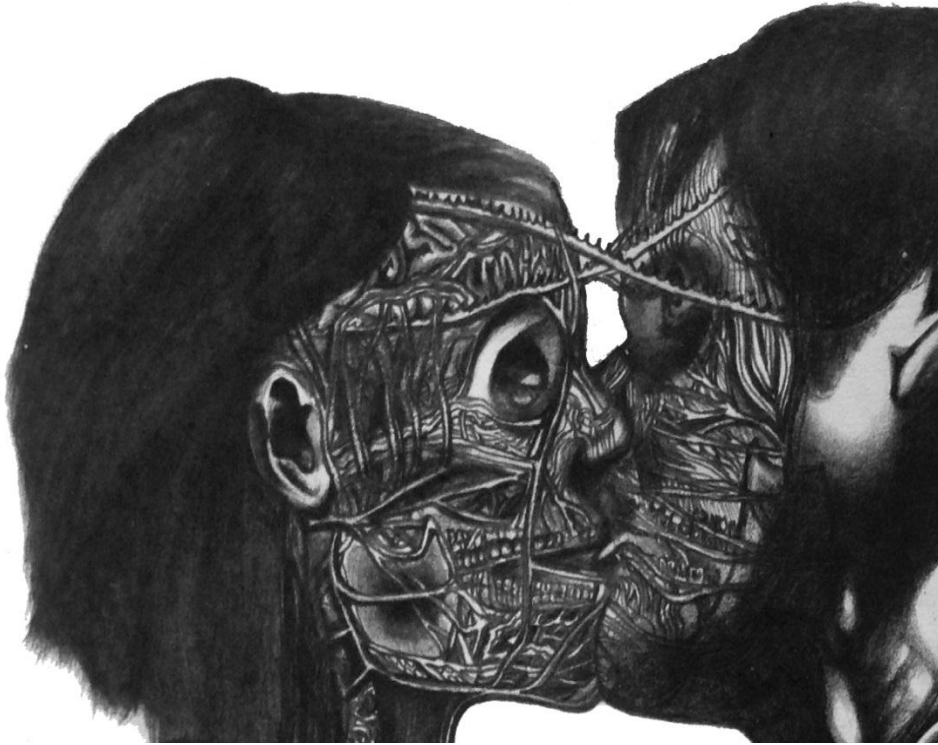
At the end of camp, there was a concert for the parents and all the students either participated in the camp item. In this item, I was part of the choir.

I would recommend this camp to students who want to play different instruments and meet new people from all over New South Wales.

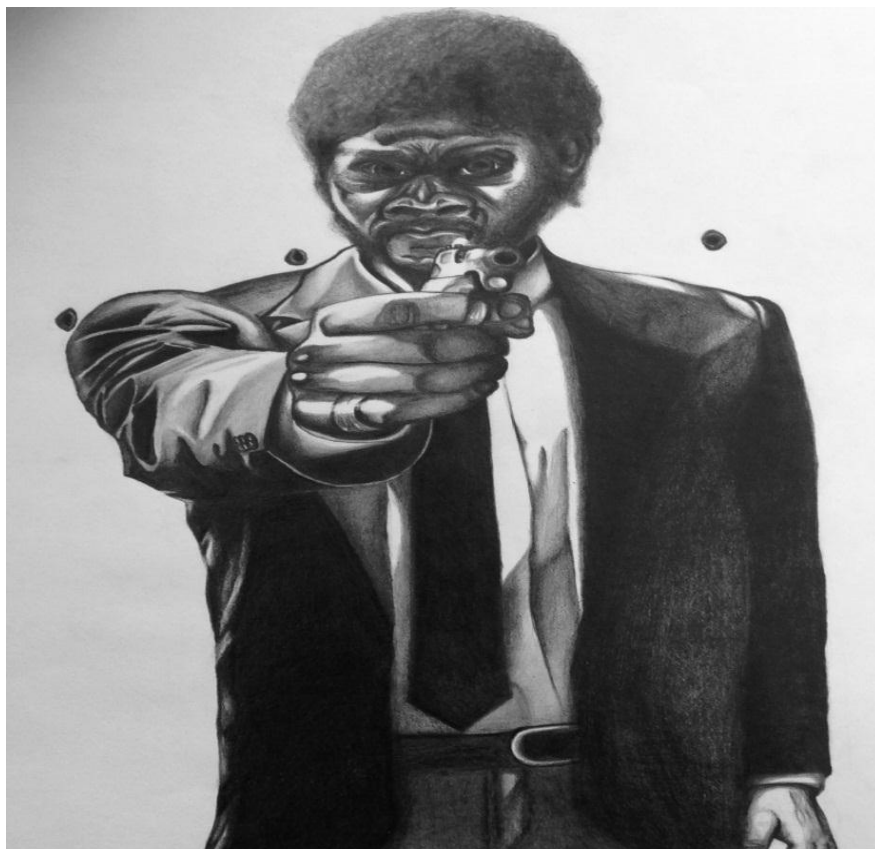
George Brooks - Year 8

Visual Arts

Our Year 12 Visual Arts class has completed their HSC Body of Work. These students have worked on their Major Project for the past year, combining artistic skill and technique with meaningful content and ideas. These wonderful works from our Year 12 cohort were presented for exhibition on Monday 25th August between 3.30 and 6.00pm in the School Library.



Jeffrey Choi





Sangwook Choo

White Ribbon Day is a significant event within our School community. The premise of White Ribbon Day is 'Men against Violence towards Women'. Ashfield Boys High School has a proud tradition of supporting various events around White Ribbon Day. Every year, students from Years 7-9 enter the Ashfield Council Arts Competition, in which the winning entries have their works printed on coffee cups and coasters within the Ashfield Community. This year, we have submitted 8 fantastic entries which showcase the student talents and sensitivity towards this idea.



Robert Dimaano- Yr 8

Mathematics

Luna Park was a really fun day! It was packed with excitement, thrills and much more. The day couldn't have been better; the weather was good and the rides enjoyable. My group all waited in line for our first ride, the tango train. Unfortunately, we had to wait for around 30 minutes as there was maintenance work on the ride, but it was all worth the wait! We also maintained the good image of our school by helping carry stuff for some elderly people. I really enjoyed the day and I thank the Maths staff for organising the day.

Jordan, Valanti, Kaison, Ahmed – Year 8

I had a great time at Luna Park and would like to go again! – Marco Hasna

I really enjoyed the day and I thank the Maths staff for organising it. – Ahmad Farhart

At the end of the day I missed Luna Park already because it was such fun. – Valanti Kondilis

Luna Park was fun because the rides were fun and scary – Stevan Pekar

Luna Park was a fun and exciting place that had a lot of fun rides. – Bowen Foreman



Year 8 Laneways Project



Over the last few weeks we have been working on a new program set by the council. This project is giving students like me a chance to give our view on the community and how to fix it. Last month the General Manager of Ashfield Council paid us a visit. We were introduced to the new program and given a tight 3 week deadline to give our thoughts to improve a certain laneway in Ashfield.

As the first week went by, we were assigned our lane. My class 8 Stellar was given Drakes Lane. In classes, we worked on ways to improve the lane. These included: lights, sport and leisure activities, illusions and murals. After some decision making, we were split into smaller groups and paid a visit to the lane off Hercules Street. It wasn't that inviting, with barely any excitement or reason to stay so we decided to improve this in two ways. First to embrace the council's multiculturalism and diversity and secondly giving students a place to have fun.

Over the next few weeks we faced numerous challenges and battled over who has the authority or whose ideas were the best but we got it together and put up successful ideas as a group. Two groups from each class were selected to present at Ashfield Town Hall on Friday 8th August after they presented their proposal in front of their classes.

Friday came and we walked down to the Town Hall to present our proposals in front of the Mayor and other special Council guests. Some of us were nervous but it was a good learning curve and a good experience. After some early refreshments, the groups presented and some groups entertained and gave a few laughs while others presented formally which was great to see the calibre of everyone in my Year. We received feedback from the Council members and we hope that some of our ideas can be seen around the Ashfield community.

Overall the three weeks were great, everyone gained a little bit during that time, whether it was public speaking, teamwork or confidence. It was a great experience and we all had a great time to be allowed to speak up to the community.

Jordan Nicolopoulos Yr8



8 NEBULA News

Team Nebula has been busy preparing for the *Kids Teaching Kids* workshop to be held on 12th September 2014 at Ashfield Boys High School involving students from selected Primary Schools. This student-led workshop will give opportunity for our students to share their expertise to other kids about healthy environment.

Recently, George Vaitsas, ABHS 2013, visited us and gave a short talk to 8 Nebula about his experience doing a project. George was involved in the *Educating beyond the Classroom* project funded by the Australian Government Quality Teaching Program (AGQTP) in 2009 with our academic partner from University of Sydney, Susan Groundwater-Smith.

George is currently doing a Business degree at Macquarie University and is a health enthusiast.



George shared his experience working in a team and how to resolve conflict in a group.



George with Ahmad Farhat,
Simon Ju, Kenneth Ngo and
Bowen Foreman

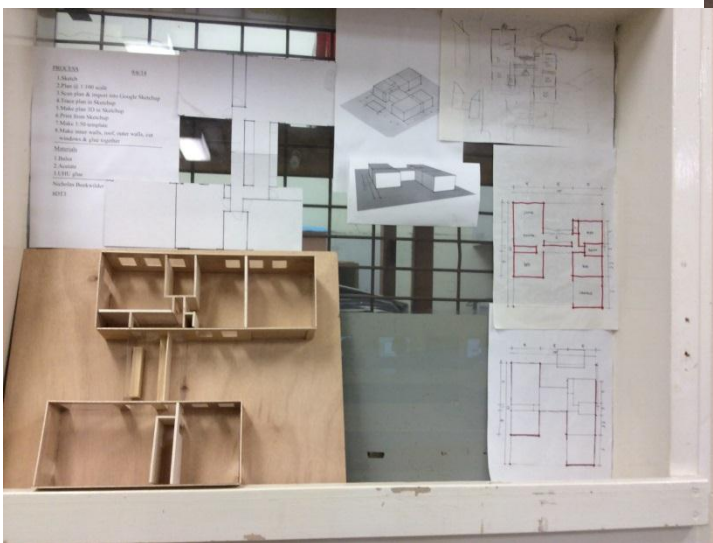
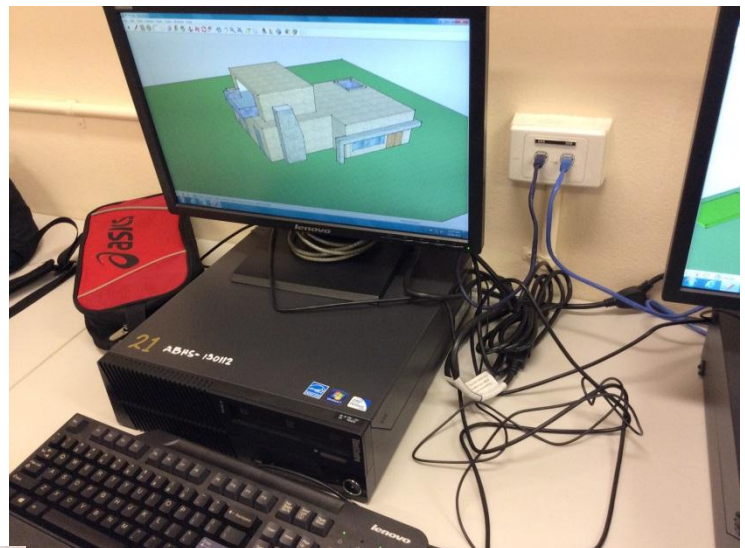


Students' Achievement in Mandatory Technology

Years 7 and 8 Technology mandatory students recently completed a unit on Graphics. They created some amazing pieces of work. Students had to experiment with different designing, sketching and modelling. The students excelled themselves with their work and produced some outstanding 3D models.

Our young future architects had shown huge potential and capability in designing and making models of innovative and environmentally friendly house, park, and sports ground. Congratulations to all of students for their creative ideas and production of excellent models.

These students in future can exceed their potential in Engineering Studies in Year 11 and Year 12. The TAS Faculty is now offering Engineering Studies for both Stages 5 and 6.



ASHFIELD BOYS RECOGNISED AT REGIONAL VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AWARDS

Ashfield Boys High School excelled at the recent Vocational Education Awards held at Revesby Workers Club on the evening of 18th August.

The awards recognised student, teacher and school achievement across the VET frameworks in the Ultimo region which spreads from the Eastern Suburbs right through to South West Sydney as far as Picton.

The Ashfield students recognised were:

- Ben Jennings** – finalist in Entertainment
- Weicong Li** – finalist in Construction
- Yunfei Liu** – finalist in Hospitality
- Zhi Peng Han** – winner in Metals and Engineering

Zhi Peng Han was successful in being named the Region's Metal and Engineering Student of the Year. The award was presented by Director, Rod Meagher. Zhi Peng acknowledged the work of his teacher Mr Leo Alevizos as well as the support he received from his workplace provider Gilbert Toyota in Lidcombe. He has achieved a range of competencies which will allow him to pursue further training and employment opportunities in the Metals and Engineering Industry.

Ben, Weicong and Yunfei', named as finalists in their individual frameworks, also praised the work of their teachers, Simone Museth, Grant Jones and Saramae Belle-Page. The skills they have learnt in their courses will go a long way to enhancing their career opportunities as well as allowing them to gain higher levels of qualifications in their chosen industries.



The night also recognised the work of Ashfield Construction teacher Grant Jones. Grant was one of four finalists in the VET Teacher of the Year Award, narrowly missing out on the top prize. Grant has dedicated his time and extensive industry skills and knowledge to allow Constructions students to successfully complete competencies leading to a Certificate II in Construction.

Year 9 Community Passion Project

Congratulations to Hamad Jaber, James Clarke, Luke Manners-Coe, Nahuel Prieto of Year 9. The BBQ day was a big success. The boys worked hard and sold nearly every last sausage. Nothing went to waste though as the remaining sausages were donated to the Breakfast Club. The Sydney Kings player Tom Garlepp arrived to give a workshop for the boys. The students learnt a lot of new basketball tips and skills.

Students involved in the Charity Basketball and BBQ day were this morning given certificates of recognition for their generous donation made to the Exodus Foundation. Reverend Bill Crewes was on hand to congratulate the boys in having a vision for the Passion Project and seeing it through to the end. The money donated to the Exodus Foundation by the Ashfield students will be going towards the restaurant/kitchen to feed the Homeless.

Welfare News

The *Eyecare Program* that came to ABHS two years ago will be here again late this term. 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. Please get your son/guardian to bring his form back in to Ms Jane as soon as possible.

The *Links to Learning Program*, involving eight Year 10 students, wound up in July with a graduation ceremony at The Marrickville Youth Resource Centre. The boys presented a short film in which they spoke about their enjoyment of the program and of what they learned or achieved, which included skills building, work skills, CV creation and teamwork amongst other things.

The Power of Sleep Workshop was held at the school in June. Students from all years learned about the importance of sleep on physical and mental health. Students had to measure their own sleep and analyse their patterns. They were also guided how to improve their sleep in order to achieve maximum results. Hopefully students will act on the advice that was given!

Students who have been at school each day of term qualify for the 100% Attendance Award, worth two Merit Awards. These are handed out at Year Meetings. They are a useful way of building up enough Merit Awards to earn a spot on the Reward Excursion at the end of the year.

Learning Support News

The learning and Support team is set to have another busy term this year. We will be running a social skills program for Year 7 students that will focus on promoting self-esteem, active listening and developing social skills including conversation skills and basic interaction. The Peer Reading program continues to have great success with 7 Maui and this term will see another Year 8 Peer Reading group develop. Our Learning Support Officers continue to provide on class support and recommendations for differentiated learning styles for both teachers and students.

Our team is also busy planning the transition of students from primary school to high school and from Junior school to Senior studies. Provisions have also been put in place for our HSC students in Term 4. Students and parents are reminded to take the opportunity to receive special provisions help for assessment tasks and exams if their child has an appropriate diagnosis from their doctor. Please call the Learning Support Department if you would like further information on this.

2014 Rugby Union Report

2003 was the last time that an Ashfield Boys High School Rugby Team was top of the tree in the Northwest Metropolitan Zone. On 23rd July, our star-studded under 15's team set out to change the history books.

On a sunny winter's day at TG Milner Oval at Marsfield, our boys were set to play Randwick Boys' High School, the only team to topple the Ashfield U15's over the course of the season. The two teams had met previously twice throughout the regular fixtures of the year. These two fiercely competitive games resulted in a 10-all draw and a narrow victory to the Randwick boys. Prior to kick off, the boys seemed calm and ready for the clash. Their coach was slightly more uneasy! The game started in tense circumstances, as the referee insisted both teams were to play under the ruling of contested scrums, a rule that neither team had experienced before. Never the less, it was the boys from the Inner-West that seemed to rise to the challenge and dominated the early proceedings at the breakdown and scrum. Early dominance was rewarded with a try to wide running forward Zion Epiha, the conversion struck the upright but was waved away for a 5-0 lead to Ashfield. The remaining 20 minutes of the first half resulted in Randwick's domination as Ashfield struggled to clear the ball from their own half and Randwick capitalised as they crossed for two tries in the right hand corner, one was brilliantly converted from the sideline. At half time, the score was 12-8 after a late penalty was converted from beside the uprights by Ashfield fly-half and captain Ta-Uteau Taufu. The boys were reminded of the team structures and employed the coach's suggestions perfectly racing in three quick tries in the first 10 minutes of the second half to break the Grand Final wide open and leave the hearts of Randwick in tatters.

Tries to Takunda Jokwiro, Caleb Couper and a 60 metre break-away effort to injured centre Reginald Alofipo, were symbolic of the desire the Ashfield boys had and the will to win they were displaying. Taufu's goal kicking, which throughout the season had been tested was faultless in the final as he struck goals from both touch lines consecutively to further extend the lead. The final 15 minutes of the match were played out with a few highlights. Daniel Cardoso set out on two line breaks down the left touchline, but the bulk of the damage was

done as the boys in black held their line intact for the entire second half for a comprehensive 29 to 12 victory. As the final whistle was blown, our Ashfield boys broke one of the longest running premierships droughts in school boys rugby union and forever have written their names into the history books.

It should also be mentioned that Ashfield Opens Rugby Union team were Semi-Finalists finishing 3rd at the end of the regular season, going down in the Semi to eventual Runners-up, Epping. Congratulations to those boys and their coach Mr Chatwin.

Congratulations to the entire squad: Zion Epiha, Maylee Semu, Isaac Vati, Racheed Zeidan, Amini Taukolo, Adam Prasad, Takunda Jokwiro, Samuel Semisi, Joao Goncalves, Ta'Uteau Taufu, Daniel Cardoso, Ahmed Lababidi, Reginald Alofipo, Caleb Couper, Arisento Bou-Sleiman, Caleb Micallef, Charlie Bezett, Riley Desai, Rowan Jenney, Tyson Brown, Pineaha Houla-Tyson.

Coach - Mr W Tyler



Ashfield Boys High School Science Club

Science Club has had a fantastic time so far. We have had a Skype session with ABC Science's Dr Karl Kruszelnicki where students were able to discuss questions with him over video conference. He also signed and donated six of his books to our school library.

We have been visited by the CUDOS Laser science group from Sydney University. Who helped us send audio communication between two headsets using laser beams. We have been visited by Dr Greg Sutherland from the School of Medical Science at Sydney University to discuss how the brain functions and will be bringing in a variety of different mammal skulls to discuss comparative anatomy; what the shape of the body can reveal about an animal.

We have been visited by Dr Tanya Little from the Boden Institute of Obesity, Nutrition, Exercise and Eating Disorders at Sydney University, who ran taste tests looking at how genetics affects the way we perceive the tastiness of our food. We also had a trip to the University of Sydney's Physics Faculty, where an interactive tour was run, watching superconductor levitate over a magnetic ring and magnets falling slowly through tubes of copper.

We also elected students to the positions of president, secretary and treasurer, to assist with a more student-centred approach to the club.

Overall, a fun and exciting time!

**Steve McKenzie, Science Club
Coordinator**

