



PICNIC POINT HIGH SCHOOL

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Principal
 Mr Wolly Negroh
 B Ed, Dip Teach

NOVEMBER 2015

PIC-NEWS

53 years of Quality Education

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Year 12 have just completed their HSC examinations and we wish them all the very best whilst they anxiously wait for their results.

The Year 12 dinner, Year 12 graduation ceremony and Prefect Induction were an outstanding success. Congratulations to Mrs Bray, Mr Sassine, Mrs Davila and the hard working office staff for these events.



A huge and sincere thank you to our Year 12 teachers that selflessly gave up their time for our students before, during and after the recent school holidays to improve student preparation for the HSC examinations. Teachers at PPHS make students and their learning a number one priority. This is one of the school's greatest successes.

This term we welcomed students from Panania Public, Revesby South, Picnic Point and Padstow Heights public schools who participated in the school's Transition program. Students have enjoyed visiting our school and participating in the programs and lessons offered by the school. Students have been given a small taste of what it is like to be in a high school setting.

At the last P&C meeting a decision was made to provide significant funding to support the redevelopment of the school library including an upgrade to resources. The money raised over many years by the school's very active P&C that work tirelessly to improve the teaching and learning opportunities for staff and students is very appreciative. We are extremely grateful and acknowledge their generous effort, making PPHS an even better place to teach and learn.

In 2016, NSW public schools will receive a base allocation for staff professional learning and funding for each student using a new methodology. Schools will continue to receive equity loadings for socio-economic background,

Aboriginal background, English language proficiency and low level adjustment for disability. Eligible schools will also continue to receive a location allocation in 2016 to address the additional costs faced by NSW public schools that are geographically remote or isolated. Our school has been advised that we will receive \$144 811 RAM equity funding to support our students with additional learning needs in 2016. We will continue to work with our school community to determine the best ways to use these resources to support student learning.

Vocational Education

Staying on in Year 11 and 12 is not just for students planning to go to university. Students are able to study Vocational education (VET) courses which include school-based apprenticeships, traineeships and workplace learning in their pattern of studies. VET courses can contribute to a HSC and university entry. Students are encouraged to choose subjects that they will enjoy and are most likely to succeed in.

The best plan is one that keeps future options open. For more information please look at the following link.

<http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/planning-for-the-future/vocational-education-at-school>

Congratulations to Paramraj Singh Randhawa who was recently awarded a 2015 Minister's Award for Excellence in Student Achievement Community Languages Schools.

The school presentation day will be held at Revesby Workers Club on Friday 11 September starting at 12.30. On this day all students will receive their semester two school reports.

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DEPUTY'S REPORT-MRS SHERRY

As the HSC Examinations draw to a close, I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the staff at Picnic Point High School to congratulate the Year 12 cohort on the extremely mature way they conducted themselves over the last few weeks of their formal schooling, during graduation and throughout the examinations. All students have done their school and their family proud and are wished all the best in their results and into their futures. This Friday is be the official sign out day with all students returning borrowed resources, laptops, paying fees and collecting their references. A big thank you and congratulations goes to Mrs Bray and Mr Sassine who organised the many activities for the Year 12 students and their families including Big Day Out, Parent Dinner, student references and the formal.



Year 10 students will be completing two weeks of work experience from Monday 23rd November until Friday 4th December. Mr Eaton has been working tirelessly with students to organise students' placement and the paperwork associated with the process. After work experience all students must return to school to complete a compulsory program of study during Week 10. This program must be completed before any student can commence studies in Year 11. The process of allocation of classes for Year 10 into Year 11 2016 has been completed and students will be given their final pattern of study shortly. Students and families are reminded that classes for 2016 are very full and there is no room for movement.



Year 8 students will receive their elective subjects for 2016-2017 in the coming weeks. Of course not all students could get their first and second choice and this is why the process of ensuring that students had their priority of subjects correct was crucial and both parents and students signed the form to confirm it had been discussed. As you are aware the extreme popularity of PPHS as a result of our high standards, extra-curricular programs and academic success ensures that each of our year groups operates at near capacity. Therefore, the majority of elective subjects are full and changes are unlikely to be possible.



DEPUTY'S REPORT-MR SCHOMBERG

Year 11 / 12

Our Year 11 students have made the transition into Year 12 without a great deal of angst. The assessment tasks are now being completed with most subjects requiring their first assessment task to be submitted in the next few weeks. I have emphasised before but will emphasise again that family holidays should not be organized during school terms. A family holiday is not an acceptable reason for a misadventure appeal in a HSC Assessment Task. Students have been told that there will no variations to their curriculum pattern until next year and only after all assessment tasks have been completed. Students who still have outstanding N Award letters **MUST** complete these tasks before they can progress into the Year 12 year next year.

Year 7 & 9

We are moving closer to the finalization of assessment tasks for the year. I have been very pleased with the performance of year 7 students and the improvement that many students have made this year. Year 9 marks have almost been finalized and I will be completing the review of Year 9 performance in the next couple of weeks. The students will be provided with their information before the end of term so that they can have some time to reflect on their individual performance this year. This will then form the basis of their personalized education plans for next year.

School Uniform

At this time of the year as children have grown and worn out different parts of their uniform, especially shoes, parents are often looking at purchasing new items like school shoes and sports shoes. I would just like to draw everyone's attention to the school web site where the uniform requirements are clearly outlined with colour photographs showing the acceptable uniform. **If you are unsure of what shoes to purchase, I encourage you to view the images below, this information is also found on the school's web site.**

ACCEPTABLE SHOES

CORRECT SHOES				

UNACCEPTABLE SHOES

INCORRECT SHOES				

ACCEPTABLE SPORTS SHOES

CORRECT SHOES				

UNACCEPTABLE SPORTS SHOES

INCORRECT SHOES				



What's On - Term 4

Wed	4/11	Last Day HSC Exams
Fri	6/11	Year 12 Sign Out Day
Wed	11/11	Year 7 High Achievers Morning Tea
Mon	16/11	Formal Assembly Week P&C Meeting
Tue	17/11	Year 10 High Achievers Morning Tea
Wed	18/11	Year 9 High Achievers Morning Tea
Mon	23/11	Year 10 Work Experience (2 Weeks)
Wed	25/11	Year 8 High Achievers Morning Tea Year 7 Immunisation (Third Dose)
Wed	2/12	Year 6 Orientation Day Last Issue of PIC-News for 2015
Thu	3/12	Orientation Day for Year 7 2016
Fri	4/12	Rewards Day
Fri	11/12	Presentation Day
Wed	16/12	Last Day of Term 4 for Students



Michel's Revesby Student of the Month September 2015

	NAME	REASON FOR THE AWARD
7	Maddison Metselaar	For exemplary behaviour and conduct.
8	Jesse McLachlan	For his improved attitude and application towards his studies.
9	Elle Seeto	For enthusiastic participation in all areas of her schooling.
10	Pamela Papacharalambous	For her enthusiastic participation in the Student Leadership Program and her willingness to support new students at Picnic Point High School.
11	Caitlyn Smith	For her excellent work in IT Multimedia.



Michel's Revesby Student of the Month October 2015

	NAME	REASON FOR THE AWARD
7	Riley Meredith	For excellent academic effort and behaviour.
8	Vanessa Vasquez	For her motivation and initiative in class.
9	Riley Binnington	For excellent work in science and overall commitment to his studies in all subjects.
10	Emma Atkins	For her diligent effort and positive attitude in Science.
11	Jessica Dostal	For her highly motivated attitude towards her IT timber work.

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- ✓ 21 Day Metabolism Accelerating meal plan - NO DIETING! (\$100 value)
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- ✓ Before and after assessment so you can measure the results (\$100 value)
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NEWS

NSW SCHOOL VACCINATION PROGRAM 2015

NSW Health offers all school students free vaccinations recommended by the National Health and Medical Research Council [NHMRC]. These vaccines are important and protect students through to adulthood.

Year 7 Vaccination Information

The final day of vaccinations for Year 7 will be held on **Wednesday, November 25** (Week 8). Year 7 students will complete the HPV vaccination course and the Varicella vaccination.

On the day of the Vaccination, it is important that your child eats a healthy breakfast and brings a bottle of water to school.

25 November 2015	Human Papillomavirus (HPV) – third dose Varicella [chickenpox] – 1 dose. A catch up for students who have not had the Chickenpox or the vaccination.
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If you have any questions about the Immunisation program, please contact Ms Karavias on 9772 1700 during school hours or the Immunisation Unit, Public Health on 9515 9420.

Immunisation Co-ordinator
Ms Karavias



GLOBAL DIGNITY DAY

Dignity: (n) the state or quality of being worthy of honour and/or respect

On Friday 23 October, two year 10 students were given the opportunity to visit NSW Parliament House to celebrate Global Dignity Day. The day opened with a brilliant address from The Honourable Michael Kirby, the longest serving justice on the High Court of Australia. He spoke about some of the cases he had witnessed, as well as some of his personal experiences dealing with the concept of dignity. This was an excellent once in a lifetime experience and we are so fortunate to have heard such brilliant insight into the concepts Justice Kirby raised.

We were then split into smaller groups to discuss our personal experiences. This was an excellent way to discover what fellow Year 10 students from around Sydney had experienced and the day concluded with all groups coming back together to share some more stories.

We would like to thank Ms Marquis for giving us this opportunity to participate in Global Dignity Day and we are very honoured to represent the school at such an important conference.

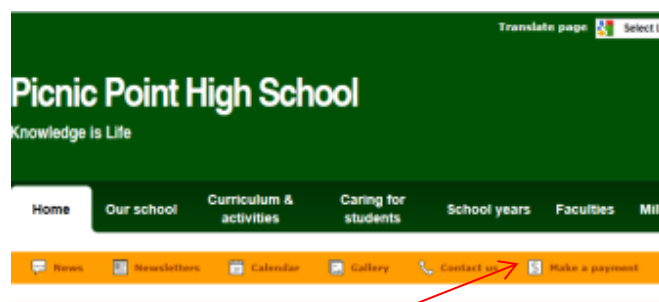
Annalise Summers and Daniel Papagianopoulos,
Year 10



PARENT ONLINE PAYMENTS (POP)

If you have not yet used the new Parent Online Payments system (POP), you are able to make online payments to the school with Visa or MasterCard credit or debit cards.

On the Picnic Point High School website there is now a "Make a payment" tab.



By selecting this link you will be taken to a secure Westpac payment page. From the initial Westpac QuickWeb page payers will complete the necessary details, some of which are mandatory (**marked with an ***), before confirming the payment details and completing the payment. A receipt can be printed from the payment page and/or be emailed to the payer. Further details and an attached parent/carer instruction booklet was emailed out at the beginning of term. Should you need to refer to this it can be found under Previous Correspondence on the website under Our School, Newsletters and Notes, View Newsletters & Notes.



ACADEMIC ORDER OF MERIT

The following students have been ranked in the top 50 in their year group. An asterisk (*) beside their name indicates a top twenty rank. Students who have made a significant academic improvement have also been listed. All of these students are to be congratulated on their outstanding academic achievement.

YEAR 11

TOP 50

Cameron Blight*, Elle Bogar*, Liam Bow, Chloe Burgess, Tahlia Burke, Brandon Cook, Chelsea Cook*, Alana Cox, Luke Dilonardo*, Eryn Dimopoulos, Jessica Dostal*, Mitchell Driver, Daniel Eata, Brittany Ebbs, Christopher Fartek, Georgia Gale*, Elly Georgiou*, Thomas Grozdanovski, Lilly Hassett*, Feros Homaisi, Sruti Janakiraman, Hannan Kahla-Dunn, Emily Kannedy, Amber Langdon, Stella Lee, Serena Lloyd*, Antonia Mangos*, Alison Martyn*, Hamish McGeoch, Shaylie McWilliams, Hayley Millar*, Daniel Morris*, Nicholas Morris, Hayden Nitis, Lauren O'shea, Eric Panayi, Emma Peake*, Ellie Pieters*, Maddison Pike, Taylah Probert, Hayley Riley*, Heidi Seeto, Cameron Single, Caitlyn Smith, Louise Stace, Tara Stimpson, Joshua Sullivan, Theodore Totsis*, Zoe Ward Brown*, Annie Zhai*

Significant Academic Improvement

Cameron Blight, Alana Cox, Jessica Dostal, Mitchell Driver, Tarek Ahmad, Brandon Cook, Jasmin Cvijanovic, Alexis Freitas, John Herlihy, Ian Johnstone, Monique Larkin, Thomas Lovegrove, Tara-Leigh Macintyre, Lauren O'shea, Maddison Pike

YEAR 12

TOP 50

Danica Anderson*, Nathan Arfanis, Holly Atherton*, Manisha Banga, Teaghan Bartley*, Ronja Blixt, Madeleine Buckley, Isabella Bull*, Timothy Carroll, Lauren Cogo*, Toni Cooper, Kate Cremasco*, Laura Cuddy, Naryna Dawes*, Taylor Dawson, Kristen Dick*, Tara Edmiston*, Billy El-Debel, Jacob Farrow, Emma Godbier, Liam Greenwood, Marah Grice, Tahnya Haddad, Michelle Harradine*, Isaac Heslop*, Michael Howe, Tayla Kelly*, Kyla King*, Joshua Kleckin, Sarah Knebusch, Daniel Kotsapas*, Sarah Lepre, Sarah Little*, Ilhana Ljukovac, Siahn Locklee*, Sarah Lord, Merna Malek, Shelby McCaw, Samantha Micheletto-Harte, Katrina Mihalopoulos, Kathleen Nguyen*, Angalene Pavlovic, Kathryn Ricciardone, Matthew Roberts*, Danika Robinson*, Josie Strachan, Daniella Tesoriero*, Kira Vanags*, Jayden Zangari*, Lenae Zmoda

Significant Academic Improvement

Lachlan Ashe, Ronja Blixt, Laura Cuddy, Naryna Dawes, Rory Fenton, Ethan Grant, Marah Grice, Merna Malek, Timothy Mavropodis, Brayden Miller, Holly Nettleton, Natalie Spiteri, Liam Stokehill, Sophie Ventouris



MESSAGE FROM THE P & C



Next P&C Meeting

All are welcome to come along to the last P&C meeting for the year on **Monday 16th November at 7:00pm**. The agenda will feature a parent workshop to gather ideas on what can be covered in the 2016 Year 7 Meet the Teachers event for parents.

Earn and Learn

The P&C were very excited to work with the school to purchase items using our Woolworths Earn & Learn points. At the end of the campaign we had logged over 20,000 stickers which is a great achievement considering it is the first year the school has participated.

Some of the items purchased were musical instruments and guitar tuners for the music department, probability equipment for the maths department, digital microscopes and geology study equipment for the science department and stationery for the history department. Thank you to everyone who sent stickers in. Next year we are hoping to do it bigger and better!

The P&C would like to extend a big thank you to the ladies in the office for assisting in the collection of the stickers.

Year 7 packs

Each year the P&C calls for volunteers to help put together the Year 7 packs. The date has been set for Friday, 27 November 2015 from 9am in the school hall.

We are looking for people to help us put together these packs. If you would like to volunteer your help please contact Carol Wilde on 0412 142 268.

P&C Approves Donation for Library Changes

At the October meeting Mr Rawlings, Head Teacher Teaching and Learning, presented an investment proposal to the P&C to enhance the Library to build a creative learning environment and support the schools 3 year plan in towards 21st century learning.

The changes proposed include a new fit-out for 2 new rooms on the mezzanine level, new chrome books and new furniture and much more.

The P&C approved \$60,000.00 donation to sponsor the proposed changes. The school is aiming to have the changes completed in time for Term 1 2016.

Canteen Volunteer Thank You Dinner

The P&C run the Canteen and each year we would like to take the opportunity to thank the volunteers for their continued support throughout the year by hosting a "Thank You" dinner.

This year the dinner will be held on Tuesday 8th of December, please RSVP by contacting the Canteen before 20th November 2015.

Elizabeth Grueninger
P&C President



PROGRAMS

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

On August 5, 6 and 7, 60 students from the Student Leadership program attended the annual Leadership Camp at Stanwell Tops. It was an action packed 3 days, full of great opportunities to work with different students to develop our leadership skills.



We completed lots of outdoor activities (e.g. Giants, Elves and Wizards, orienteering combined with challenges, abseiling) that helped us learn how to achieve goals and communicate well with each other. We worked on our leadership skills during the theory lessons too – we learnt that it's ok to fail because failure always presents new opportunities.



During the first theory lesson, we were introduced to our big group project for the last day of camp – we were all going to become a camp instructor! This meant we had to run an entire outdoor activity all by ourselves – collect the equipment, do the safety briefing and supervise everyone completing the activity [like rock climbing, high ropes or giant swing]. It was scary to be in charge of everything, but it was great how everyone worked together to make sure each activity was a success.



Other topics we learnt about were confidence and passing on our leadership legacy – how we help others to become great leaders. We had heaps of fun at the annual Trivia and Games Night and Lip Synch Battles were definitely the highlight. Mr Schomberg created an awesome alien trivia round and Ms Stavros helped us heaps during the activities.



At the last staff meeting of Term 3, around 20 leadership camp students were asked to organise an activity and talk about our experiences at leadership camp. Students were individually put with a group of teachers and followed a brief script that we had to elaborate on about our experiences and challenges at camp.

At the end of our explanation of camp we gave the teachers an opportunity to ask us any questions they wanted to know so they could have a better understanding of this annual camp – we really liked being able to show the teachers what we learn at camp.



We then asked the teachers to complete one of the activities that we had to do at camp – using your imagination to create a story. This seemed to bring out some interesting art skills, which ranged from amazing [art teachers] to....not so amazing! The teachers then enjoyed viewing each other's stories while eating the delicious snacks provided by the students [which were a surprise for the teachers, but very welcomed!]

All in all, we were able to successfully inform the teachers of what goes on at Leadership Camp and provided them with an insight of what the students enjoy learning about and even answered their questions on the Leadership Program. Thanks to all the teachers who enjoyed our presentation!

By Annalise Summers, Aliah Walton and Jessica Setter
Year 10



STUDENT LEADERSHIP STAFF PRESENTATION



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EXPERIENCE A NEW CULTURE, MAKE NEW FRIENDS AND LEARN A NEW LANGUAGE AT HOME

In January students from over 25 countries around the world, will be arriving in Australia to study at local high schools for 3 - 10 months.

Opportunities exist for families to act as a host family, in a volunteer capacity. Hosting can be on a temporary, short or long term basis. Host families help provide international students with the chance to study and experience life in Australia. This is a great way to learn about another country and culture, establish a lifelong link to a family in another country and contribute to international goodwill.

If your family can offer a friendly, supportive and caring home environment, contact us today.

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www.studentexchange.org.au/host-a-student

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FACULTY REPORTS

ENGLISH

Welcome Back Miss Minos

The English Faculty would like to welcome back our Head Teacher, Miss Minos. She is jumping straight into the deep end of the school year and we wish her all the best.

We hope that you enjoyed your break and are very excited about your return.

Year 8 English Project Based Learning Presentation

In Term 3, 8I participated in a Project Based Learning activity in which they were placed in teams and designed an advertising campaign based on saying 'No!' to bottled water. At the end of Term 3 they welcomed Ms Stavros as a special guest judge to experience all the advertising campaigns and pick a winner. It was difficult to pick a winner because all groups presented original and interesting campaign.

The winning team, 'JHAM', consisting of Mika Tupai, Jeremy Graham, Hayley Baytieh and Alana Wood, performed an enthralling presentation which included a song, a chant, fabulous public speaking skills and two great posters.

A special mention must to go Patrick Assaf who was an accomplished, entertaining and exciting host.



Each group has written a short explanation of their time together and their favourite parts of the project.



Team JHAM

Hi, this is our group JHAM. J is for Jeremy, H is for Hayley, A is for Alana and M is for Mike. We preached about how bottled water is bad for the environment. We sang and we chanted about why you should get rid of bottled water.

Some positives of our group are that we always communicated no matter what, we always listened to each other and we had fun while participating in Project Based Learning (known as PBL). We also learned a lot throughout Term 3 as a group and individually.



The Bullets

Our group The Bullets have learned a lot throughout Term 3. Our group comprised of Houston, Amelia, Jack and Mohammad. Our Ad campaign focuses on the effects of buying bottled water. We focus on the negative impacts of buying it and the positive impacts of using tap water. We have learned about the topic we studied and about group learning.

Positive of learning about this include learning about group learning for future work and jobs. We also improved our writing skills and being able to communicate with one another. It has positively affected our entirety of Term 3 and for that we say thank you to Ms Hespe-Poulos.



Potato Incorporated

We strongly believe that 8I students have been having a blast at our Term 3 Project Based Learning (PBL). We learnt about how bottled water is bad for us and our environment. We have been trying to work to our full potential and sharing tasks equally. Overall, we learnt that 'bottled water equals environmental slaughter' (which was our slogan).

Some positives of our group are that we always listen to each other's comments. We hope to do more group work as it has helped the students in the class to join forces and work together as one. Thank you Ms Hespe-Poulos and 81 students for supporting us - Thomas, Aidan, Ellie and Ranvir.



M7+1MFDD

Daniel: Our ad campaign had many skills involved with team work and that bottled water is just pollution packed into a small bottle.

Dean: Our campaign had great suggestions and ideas about bottled water. Our group worked together and we want to keep our skills in mind for the rest of our years at school and forever.

Hussan: Our campaign was challenging in stages of time, but we got through the challenges to present our campaign.

Megan: The most positive part was the creative thinking from the group. We used all the different tones and colours to join together to create an interesting campaign on bottled water.



Go Hard or Go Home

In English our teacher introduced us to a new way to learn. This new way to learn was called Project Based Learning (PBL). This is when you work in groups to complete a project. Our group included Jasmine Keremelevski, Erin McFadden, Lachlan Scott and Dion Arfanis. We had to create an ad campaign to present to the class on the topic: We shouldn't buy bottled water.

We had a few weeks to work as a team. We had to listen, communicate, be respectful and remember there's no 'I' in team to produce a poster. So we read articles about why we shouldn't buy bottled water, then we collected the information and used it for our presentation.

Some positives of our group are the work as a team, we listen to each other's ideas, everyone has a say, no one disrespects each other, we show good communication skills and we produced an amazing poster and speech.



A Prop By Any Other Name... 7O and 10G Performing Shakespeare

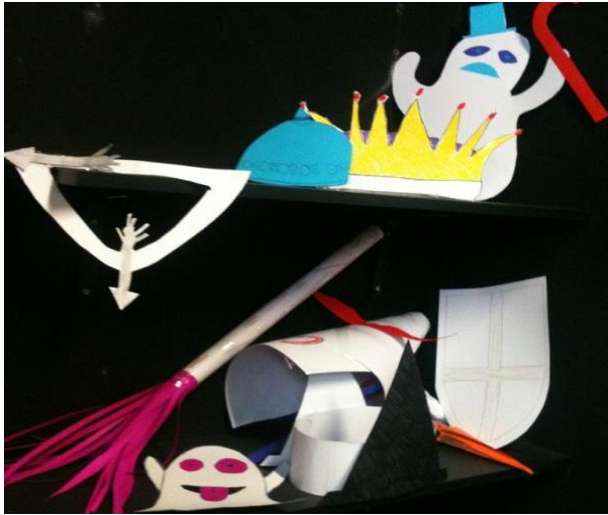
Congratulations to 7O and 10G for their excellent prop design in preparation for performing Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Macbeth*.

7O researched their characters and developed their bright and bold props to reflect their magical and romantic characters in the popular Comedy. A flurry of masks and wands, crowns and wings have been painstakingly crafted for the performance.



Props designed by: (Top shelf, left to right) Jake Lightfoot, Mitchell Carroll, Deamma Taganesia, Georgia Piniros and Loren Smith (Bottom shelf, left to right) Andrew Lyall, Blake Harris, Lily Genford, Sarah Tran-Nguyen and Zac Butler.

In contrast, 10G researched the elements of Tragedy and produced a series of stark and dark props to reflect the harsh world of *Macbeth*. Ghoulish figures, witch paraphernalia, weaponry, shields, crowns and helmets have been meticulously made.



Props designed by: (Top Shelf, left to right) Matthew Pikora, Nathan Simmons, Ethan Bowmaker and Aaron Stevenson (Bottom shelf, left to right) Nada El-Debel, Olivia Webster, Lauren Thirkell, George Palacio, Jake Tabone and Hank Nguyen.

All students committed to their research, design and execution. They are commended for their enthusiasm and should be acknowledged for their excellent speaking skills when they presented their props to the class for discussion and use in our productions.

English Competition Results

For the English Competition, over one million student entries are accepted from over 6,300 schools in Australia and New Zealand annually.

In addition, students from over 20 countries including Hong Kong, India, Malaysia, Singapore, South Africa and the USA participate in the English ICAS Competition each year.

We would like congratulate the following students who have been awarded a certificate as follows:

YR 9 Genevieve Webber (Credit) Matthew Blight (Credit) Nathan Bates (Distinction)

YR 8 Phillip Au (Credit) Kristen Jones (Credit) Jasmine Zande (Credit) Tim Warren (Credit)



Hamlet Excursion

Congratulations to all Advanced English students for their prompt return of their payments and permission notes for Hamlet at the Riverside Theatre in Parramatta on Monday, 16 November.

To go, or not to go, was never a question!



English Reminders

As the end of the year is approaching we are reminding students to return all of their books. You can return them to your English teacher or directly to the Faculty.

Look under and over,
Look high and look low!
You may even find some
You've forgotten, you know.



English would like to thank you in advance for double checking and returning all texts as soon as possible.

**Regards
The English Faculty**



HISTORY

The History of Pirates in Year 9 Elective History

Throughout the year, Year 9 students have relished the opportunity to study a range of unique and interesting topics in Elective History.

According to Hayley Macdonald "I like that in Elective History, we study enjoyable and interesting topics including Law and Order, the History of Medicine, Pirates and the Civil Rights Movement in the USA." Some of these topics are also studied thematically from Ancient times to the present.

Jessica Luth put it this way; "I love how Elective History covers topics that range from Ancient to Modern. It keeps it interesting and clearly shows changes and developments over time."

Elective students have also been given the opportunity to develop informed historical opinions on some controversial topics; "In every new topic our class has controversial discussions about the topic, Elective History lets us voice our opinions on past events and gives us the opportunity to analyse and discuss situations of historical importance." Rachel Stace.

Recently, our Year 9 Elective History students have examined the role of pirates in various time periods throughout history. This study has included an in-depth analysis of historical stereotypes and an examination of fact versus fiction. During this lesson, students created their own origami pirate ships out of coloured paper and straws.

They demonstrated their knowledge of both historical fact and fiction in their unique creations.



Cameron Walsh and Nathan Linabury folding the base for their Pirate ships.



Kaila Jocelyn and her impressive Pirate ship.



Lachlan Andrews displaying his unique Pirate ship complete with cannons and a plank.

Mr Poolman
History Teacher



LOTE

Year 12

We would like to congratulate our Year 12 students who completed their HSC Continuers Japanese Examination on Monday, October 19. Well done to Nathan, Madeleine, Mathew and Sarah for all your hard work over the past two years!

Year 7, 9 and 10

Our Year 7, 9 and 10 students have now completed their Yearly Examinations for Japanese. Results have been very encouraging and students should be congratulated on their efforts to achieve their best during this examination period. Students are encouraged to maintain this high standard for the remainder of the year.

Year 8

Year 8 students have now completed their final assessment, a persuasive writing task, reflecting on the ethical use of nuclear weapons and the bombing of Hiroshima during World War 2. For the rest of the term, students will complete activities based around the culture of Japan, including a study of Japanese 'manga' comic books and Japanese 'anime' movies.

Open High School

We would also like to congratulate Alex Paglialonga [Year 11] who is studying Italian Continuers through the Open High School. He has maintained an outstanding level of achievement this year and is currently placed third in the course – well done Alex!

Japanese Excursion – Year 9: Nihongo Tanken Centre

On Monday, November 23, the Year 9 Japanese class and Mrs Morris will attend the Nihongo Tanken Centre. All students are looking forward to the excursion and are excited about completing many activities to assist with their language learning.

Ms Marquis, Mrs Morris and Mr Pirie
あつくなってよかった！またね！



SCIENCE

The Science faculty have been busy developing engaging projects embedded in our curriculum to assist our junior students to become creative and critical 21st century thinkers.

YEAR 7 has begun the Science of Toys topic, involving many fun experiments relating to the forces and motion that affect our daily lives. Students have started to make swings, parachutes, rockets, hovercraft as well as investigating the magical world of static electricity using the exciting and always shocking Van der Graff generator.



7G Hovercraft

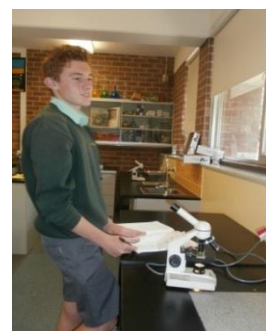


It is timely to remind our year 7 students to begin collecting milk and soft drink bottle lids to be used in their electric car project car later in the term.

YEAR 8 is embarking on another brand new topic where they will explore Marine Science. Students will build on and extend their existing knowledge of ecosystems, reactions and forces. An incursion was organised with a visiting expert on aquatic ecosystem health from Western Sydney University. Students participated in a variety of activities such as a survey of Morgan's Creek behind the Science block to provide a first-hand glimpse of the state of our local waterways.



YEAR 9 budding Crime Scene Investigators are honing their detective skills in the Forensic Science topic. They will need these skills if they are to develop their own crime scene for others to solve. More traditional forensic techniques such as fingerprinting and fibre analysis in addition to the more modern molecular techniques of DNA fingerprinting and (fake) blood splatter will be studied by the students. Hopefully there will be some more observant students in Year 9.



Year 9 Forensic scientists looking at hair fibres under the microscope

Many **YEAR 10** students will be learning to drive soon and the Top Gear topic currently being studied will help them make meaning of the equipment they will be responsible for operating. Newton's laws of motion, car safety, speed, acceleration and deceleration both slow and fast... CRASHES.... are all concepts that students will become familiar with from a scientific standpoint. Students will begin to appreciate how an understanding of the fundamental forces in the universe have helped to keep them safe with airbags, crumple zones and seatbelts.

Students will be given the opportunity to showcase their skills in an engineering challenge towards the end of the term.

Our Senior Scientists, Biologists, Chemists and Physicists are busy engaging with the HSC course. While it seems a long way off, the HSC examination really does sneak up. Senior courses are not just about dissecting brains or mixing chemicals or exploring magnetism. Making a commitment now will pay dividends in the future and students who have just received their Success One Booklets can begin the process of preparing for their examinations.



Year 12 Chemistry students discussing an experiment



Year 12 Biology students performing nervous system reaction experiments



MATHEMATICS

Term 4 commenced with plenty of revision and examinations for all years 7-10.

All written exams have been completed and now the focus turns to students undergoing on-line testing at the end of term. It is imperative that students do not switch off their commitment to learning under the assumption that all tasks and reports have been completed.

Students can be assessed with continuation leading into Stage 4 for years 7 & 8 and Stage 5 for Years 9 & 10.

Mr Dannaoui

Year 11 General 2

It's a game of skills, knowledge, competition and teamwork. Students in Miss Chen's Year 11 General 2 class participated in the quiz showdown of the year, Algebra Jeopardy! 4 teams, playing head to head, were attempting to be crowned champions where only one team can prevail.

When their Algebra skills were put to the test, the competition began... They had to work as a team, solve problems, use logic reasoning and one by one take down the opposing teams by solving a variety of algebra problems.

Ms Chen



PDHPE

The PDHPE HSC exam has come and gone and feedback from our Year 12 students was that it was hard but fair. We wish them well for their results and hope they enjoy a well-earned break now they have completed all of their exams.

The PDHPE faculty are currently finalising assessment for the year. Students who have not submitted assignments or book work for marking will obviously be at a disadvantage when the final marks are calculated. If anyone has outstanding work that needs marking it should be submitted immediately.

Our Year 11 Sport Coaching group once again attended Picnic Point Primary School to do a coaching session in conjunction with the NRL. Once again the students performed brilliantly and were a credit to the school and their teacher, Ms Finn in both the way they conducted the coaching session and the maturity they showed in dealing with the primary school students. We hope this will be an ongoing relationship as it enables our students to accrue some of the compulsory coaching hours they require as part of the course whilst also providing an excellent link with one of our feeder schools. Well done to all involved.

Mr Millican
HT PDHPE



TAS

YEAR 9 – TEXTILES TECHNOLOGY

Students have just finished their cushion covers. These are just a few to showcase what great work we are doing in Textiles.

Mrs Thompson and Mrs Wardrop



YEAR 10 – TEXTILES TECHNOLOGY

DRESS A GIRL AROUND THE WORLD

We have just completed making dresses that will be distributed to less fortunate girls in the Philippines in time for Christmas. The class thoroughly enjoyed this project. They have taken great pride in their work knowing that they are making a dress for a little girl that most likely has never owned a dress before.

A big thank you to parents who donated fabric. Also, a thank you to Mrs Wardrop for assisting with this program. We will continue to support this program next year. If you would like to know more about DRESS A GIRL... please check out the website below or like the facebook page. Alternatively, contact Mrs Thompson. We would be appreciative of any donations of fabric or money to contribute towards postage.

Mrs Thompson



www.dressagirlaustralia.com.au

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SUPPORT UNIT

SAILING – ONE MORE TIME!

Students from Support Unit gained another opportunity to learn how to sail. On Monday 19 October our students attended a day of sailing on Sydney Harbour. We were welcomed by the team from 'Sailors with disABILITIES', who volunteer to teach students the craft of sailing. Our students experienced a great day of sailing, with weather any sailor would wish for – sunny and windy. We are very proud of our students who showed a great amount of skill and good behavior. Congratulations to all for making it such a success.



STUDENTS MAKING THEIR FIRST STEPS INTO ACTING

"Acting is not about being someone different. It's finding the similarity in what is apparently different, and then finding myself in there."
— Meryl Streep

Students from Support Unit have been invited to participate in acting tuitions at the Horizon Theatre from Wiley Park, Lakemba. Our students have been taking part in tutorials conducted by Maddy Siabacu, the Artistic Director of the Horizon Theatre Company and her co-workers. Our goal is to produce a movie that shows different ways of saying 'hi' to promote social inclusion. This video will be viewed at the Say Hi day on Friday 20 November.



Mrs Bray



YEAR ADVISER REPORTS

YEAR 9 REPORT

Year 9 has been great not only through the term but throughout the year. Year 9 this year was the first year we got to participate in elective subjects. Many chose subjects they would be interested in whilst some chose subjects they thought might be a bit easy and got a bit of a shock! Our assessments are nearly all over. The year is now more familiar with each other and we hopefully by now should know each other's names! It doesn't matter what marks we got in our tests this year, because our life isn't going to be based on just numbers and marks. It's what we make of it and what we decide to do with it!

With all the assessments finished, most people received passport stickers or an even greater prize; a merit award for coming top 1, 2 and 3 in the class. All passport stickers and merits have been handed in and hopefully many Year 9 students will get invited to the upcoming rewards day at Wet n' wild! Another great thing that happened to the year was that 60 students were chosen to be part of the peer support program for the up and coming Year 7s of PPHS. Everyone that got chosen will be a fantastic leader and a great example for the year 7s. Year 9 has gone through a tough year and survived all the hard exams and other tasks but of course the year wouldn't survive without the help of our year advisers; Mr Smith and Ms Gourlay.

Overall, the year has been great all together. We survived another year at high school! Bring on year 10 in 2016!

Mr Smith

YEAR 10 REPORT

All Year 10 students are in the process of completing their Yearly Examinations and final assessment tasks. It is fantastic to see so many students reaching their potential in all subjects. I look forward to reading Year 10 reports in the coming weeks.

Our last junior formal assembly will take place in Week 6. Any students wishing to be chairperson at this Formal Assembly or perform are encouraged to see myself or Ms Kourouche. Congratulations to Gabrielle Imparato – Student of the Month: July; Emma Gilbert – Student of the Month: August and Pamela Papacharalambous – Student of the Month: September.

As the end of the year quickly approaches, Year 10 students will be busily completing Mock Interviews, Work Experience and the Alternate Program. We trust these educational opportunities will be beneficial as students move from junior to senior high school. The planning of Year 11, 2016 Camp is also in full swing, students must return their permission note and pay the initial deposit as soon as possible. If there are any concerns or questions about the Year 11 Camp, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Annually, the Bankstown Youth Awards celebrate the achievements of young people in the Bankstown local government area. This year, Christine Nguyen, Emily Reynolds, Georgia Anderson and Tommy Lang were nominated for their achievements. Congratulations to Emily Reynolds – Finalist [Creative and Performing Arts]; Christine Nguyen – Finalist [Academic Achievement] and Georgia Anderson – Finalist [Sporting Achievement]. The Bankstown Youth Award Ceremony was held on Thursday, October 15 at Bankstown Library and Knowledge Centre.



Students must remember to bring a 'Notification of Absence' cream form to school if they are away from school for any reason. If students are sick for more than two days or miss an assessment task, a medical certificate is also required. All absent days must be accompanied by an explanation. Students going on leave must complete the 'Application for Extended Leave – Travel' form, available from the school office. This form must be submitted to the office well in advance, so that the leave can be approved before the leave period commences.

Ms Morris





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SPORT REPORT

We have now begun our last season of sport for 2015. This sport season will take us to the end of the year. Enough students picked a Grade Sport to fill 17 teams. This is the most Grade teams we have had at any one time in the Bankstown Zone competition with teams in Oz Tag, Soccer and Basketball. We wish our teams all the best for the remainder of the competition.

We also welcome a new Recreational Venue to our school. 25 students now attend the gym at Padstow on a Tuesday afternoon, and we thank Plus Fitness Padstow for allowing us to use their facilities.

Some students still have some sport payments outstanding. Can we ask that if payments have not been made that they are deposited with the front office.

Our students continue with knockouts and trials for various sports.

Ms Worthington and Mrs Wolstencroft



PPHS CRICKET REPORT

The Open Boys and Girls cricket seasons have commenced in earnest with both teams having strong wins in their opening games.

The Boys played a decent Moorebank side and racked up 248 off 40 overs after being 3-48. A sensational 118 from Mitchell Edmunds with quality shots to all parts of the ground was well supported by John Rorison's 55 to give us a great total to defend.

Moorebank started poorly and were soon 9-80 before the 2 best batsmen combined batting at the tail to put on 80 before they were dismissed for 160. 4 wickets to Hayden Probert had them in trouble early then a couple to Josh Sullivan and finished off by Nathan Linabury.

The boys play Fairfield and if they win are up against our traditional rivals East Hills Boys.

The Girls have a new look side with the inclusion this year of some very good Year 7 players. We had a forfeit against Bankstown Girls and then drew East Hills Girls in Rd 2. After winning the toss we scored 6-147 with Angie Genford top scoring with an excellent 47. She was well supported by Rachel Iveli (15 retired) and Hanan Narvel with 13.


Our new look bowling attack is awesome. Angie and Hanan had East Hills in all sorts of trouble. Angie with 1-4 off 6 overs and Hanan with 4-2 off 6 overs were fantastic. Nearly all the other girls had a bowl with Jamie Pollock 1-6 off 6 overs a standout as was Melinda Iveli and Miriama Potter bowled excellent line and length in her first game of proper cricket.

With a bit of practice and work on their catching the girls could have a very successful season. They play Leumeah in Rd 3 which will be a challenge but I am sure they are up for it.

Good luck to both teams.

**Mr Millican
HT PDHPE**





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EXTRA-CURRICULAR

PRIMARY SCHOOL VISITS

Over the past week the year 7 teachers selected around 20 year 7 students to go around to the local primary schools and talk about our experiences at Picnic Point High. Most students were eager to come to high school, but some were very nervous about the homework, assignments, and of course the types of foods in the canteen.



Mr Dannoui and Ms Ng kindly drove the Year 7 speakers to 6 primary schools, Revesby South, Panania, Panania North, Padstow Park, Padstow Heights and Picnic Point! All students from the different schools had different thoughts and questions about our great school. Of course, we had no difficulty answering their inquiries.



At the primary schools we visited many familiar faces and spoke and answered questions about Picnic Point High. We shared what our amazing school has to offer. We answered lots of the student's questions about detention, the sports you do in year 7, what subjects you learn and how much homework and assignments you receive. We year 7's were nervous to talk in front of our old school mates. We made sure to address all the necessary information about high school and all the future years to come.



All of the Year 7 speakers did an excellent job at explaining the experience of the transition from primary school to high school. We are more than happy to welcome our soon to-be year 7's into our school next year.



Written by Imogen Green, Adam Zidan and Dylan Bennett



YEAR 6 TRANSITION PROGRAM

During weeks 4, 5 and 6 students from Panania Public, Revesby South, Picnic Point and Padstow Heights public schools are participating in the Transition program.

Students have been enjoying visiting our school and participating in the activities in their "Island" booklets guided by teachers from PPHS. After discovering the many blocks and rooms at our school, the students completed a water filtration challenge. Along the way they have been given a glimpse of what it is like to be in a high school setting.



Year 6 Students from Panania PS completing the water filtration challenge



Year 6 Students from Padstow Heights PS completing the water filtration challenge.

Stay tuned for more developments in transition program the next edition of Pic News.

Mrs Brown, Ms Kourouche and Mr McManus



EVENING OF DANCE

On Tuesday, 1 September, Picnic Point CAPA department showcased dance works for family, friends and the local community, to celebrate the hard work of the Dance students in 2015.

Over 50 talented students presented class works in the styles of Jazz, Contemporary and Musical Theatre in both group and solo acts. Audience members were entertained with students from Years 9, 10, 11 and HSC Elective classes, as well as Dance Sport, all doing a fantastic job in their performances. Students who regularly undertake extra-curricular dance studies including Junior Company, Senior Company and Jazz Showgroup performed wonderfully to showcase their hard work and dedication to the Dance programs at Picnic Point High School.

Year 12 HSC students were featured through the display of individual core composition solo pieces throughout the program. Their hard work and dedication to their projects was enjoyed and celebrated by all audience members. Thank you to those students who dedicated their time in composing such fantastic dance works on stage, your hard work was appreciated by all.

All dance students showed a true sense of community by working collaboratively with teachers on make-up, stage rehearsing, performing as well as holding themselves to high behavioural standards from the rehearsals to the performance night.

I want to thank the CAPA staff who helped provide their time with the Evening of Dance on the ticket stall, rehearsal practices, interval, tea/coffee/cake stall on the night, additionally the outside hours of planning and implementing music, lights and sound to bring about the final showcase presentation.

We would also like to thank the parents and members of the school community who supported the students by attending their performance. Lastly, thank you to the Year 11 VET Entertainment students for being such a great technical crew – operating wonderful sound and lighting throughout the performance.

Evening of Dance 2015 was a wonderful and successful evening showcasing great talents whilst having lots of fun in celebrating the Arts at Picnic Point High School.

Miss Mulley & Miss Chisholm



Senior Company – “Hold”



Year 10 Elective Dance – “Legally Blonde”



Year 12 Elective Dance – “The Letter”



Year 11 Elective Dance – “Hanging Tree”



HALLOWEEN DISCO

On 30 November, Ms Bray’s and Ms Negroh’s classes went to Carolyn Chisholm School for an end-of-year barbeque and disco.

The students dressed up in their scariest Halloween costumes and socialised with Special Education students from across the area. The students behaved impeccably and were a credit to Picnic Point High.

Ms Myles



YEAR 12 GRADUATION 2015





