



ON THE IMPORTANCE OF READING AND WRITING

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT—Jane Ferris

Last year following NAPLAN results being issued to all students in Years 7 and 9, I reminded students of the importance of regular reading. Not only does reading ensure a gateway of lifetime recreational pleasure, it is an essential skill to succeed at school and beyond. For those that find reading a drag, students need to be determined and persistent in order to master this skill. Reading is the source of knowledge, deep understanding and comprehension, all of which is important if you are to achieve your best at school. It is through reading that vocabulary, grammar and writing skills are also developed.

It would seem as if this advice has been taken on board, as the NAPLAN 2013 results across the board in Year 9 reading show a marked improvement. I am also aware that the English faculty have been encouraging and monitoring wider reading with students. Continuing to focus on reading for a minimum of half an hour every day is of great value. Ms Ferguson in the library is available to recommend any titles that might be of interest to young adult readers.

Now it is time to put the same effort into writing. Although many students are to be congratulated on marked improvement in their writing scores in NAPLAN, there is definitely room for growth in writing for students in all years. Like reading, students have to show determination and persistence in developing this skill. It is a fundamental skill for success at school as it enables students to demonstrate their knowledge, understanding and ability. Working at this skill now in the junior school is essential to reach your potential in the Higher School Certificate. Attention to detail is also necessary when editing work. Although many students in the NAPLAN writing could demonstrate they understood the features of a persuasive text, they let themselves down in paragraphing, sentence structure and vocabulary.

Teachers are also very keen to assist students develop in writing and this is indeed a major priority at Pittwater High. I was thrilled when over 30 staff volunteered their time to stay back late after school for a three hour professional development session on ALARM: A Learning and Response Matrix. This is a structure to assist students to develop their written response and understanding at a higher level. It develops students' ability to critically evaluate in their writing. Although we are exploring many ways to support students, ultimately students have to take responsibility to put in the time and effort required.

The **numeracy results in NAPLAN** were excellent, especially in showing value added results for Year 9 students compared to when they were in Year 7. Congratulations to students and staff on these great results. To further support numeracy development in our students, the school is investing in Mathletics, an interactive on-line learning program – more details next newsletter.

Finally students in Years 7 and 9 were given their NAPLAN results on Monday, so if you haven't received it try checking out the bottom of the bag!

CALENDAR

Monday 14 October—Friday 8 November	HSC Examinations
Wednesday 16—Friday 18 October	Yr 9 Camp
Monday 21 October	Yr 7 Vaccination Day (HPV dose 3)/Hepatitis B (dose 2) Yr 9 Boys Vaccination Day (HPV dose 3) <div>All catch-ups will be done on this day as well</div>
Wednesday 23 October	P&C Meeting—7:30pm

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT—Renee Andrews

Welcome back to Term 4. The year certainly seems to have flown by.

Year 12 started their HSC exams yesterday with the first English paper. They will be in the hall until Friday 8 November; we wish them all the best as they complete 13 years of schooling. We ask that all students in the school act responsibly and are quietly when moving past the hall.

Year 11 have now moved into Year 12, and even moved to the Year 12 area on assembly! Teachers have indicated that they are settling into the rigours of HSC work with focus and determination to succeed. The information night held last week for students and parents emphasised the importance of regular school attendance, revision, planning and aiming for balance during this year.

Year 10 will be receiving their confirmation of electives and associated school contributions for 2014 during the next week. Parents please ask for the information that has been sent home with your child.

Year 9 are going to camp this week. This is an opportunity for students to get involved in a range of team building activities and experience-based learning activities. Thank you to all the staff attending for giving up their time to attend the camp for the three days, and the teachers at school who will cover classes to allow the camp to go ahead.

As Pittwater High is a uniform school it is important that all students wear the correct uniform every day. Thank you to those students who have returned to school in full school uniform including leather lace up school shoes, which are a WHS requirement in school. Some students however, are still wearing incorrect uniform, including knit shorts, a variety of coloured jumpers and canvas shoes. Uniform detentions are held at lunchtime for those students out of uniform without an explanatory note.

For all year groups this term is important for students to consolidate their learning in preparation for next year. This means attending school regularly, working on assessments consistently, revising work covered and asking teachers for feedback about how learning can be improved.

Ediary

All students have had access to the school's web based Ediary during term 3. We will be sending all parents an email over the next week linking you to the Ediary. Teachers will be adding work as they become accustomed to the workings of the electronic diary system over term 4. Students can add their own homework and reminder notes, by accessing the Ediary on their phone, laptop or other device.



The Next Pittwater High School
P&C Meeting
will be held on
Wednesday 23 October 2013
at 7.30pm in the
Teachers Common Room
on the first floor of the
Administration Building

Final School Vaccination Clinic for 2013

is
Monday 21st October 2013.



The vaccinations which are on offer at this visit are as follows:

Year 7 Girls Human Papillomavirus Vaccine (Dose 3)

Year 7 Boys Human Papillomavirus Vaccine (Dose 3)

Year 7 Girls and Boys Hepatitis B (Dose 2)

Year 9 Boys Human Papillomavirus Vaccine (Dose 3)

All catch-ups will be done on this date as well

MUSIC NEWS

TERM 4 WEEK 2

PERFORMANCE & MEETING DATES



Term 4 - Performances	Day	Time/ Place	Bands
19 October. Newport P S Fete	Saturday	12.10pm Newport Public School Full Band Uniform please.	Junior Stage Band
Term 4 – Meeting	Day	Time/ Place	
21 October 2013 Music Ensemble Committee Meeting	Monday	7.00pm - Pittwater RSL	Including Election of Office Bearers.

Senior Stage Band: Congratulations to our conductor John Pennings, the talented musicians of the Senior Stage Band and glorious singer Gemma L for their fantastic performance at the Manly Jazz Festival on the October Long Weekend. The band were thrilled to share the stage with special guest James Morrison and finished their 45 minute set with a marvelous performance of James' exciting composition "Sydney By Night".



Once again the Senior Stage Band did an excellent job of showcasing Pittwater High School's exceptional music program in this prestigious event.

Congratulations to Gemma L (Yr 11) and Georgina GH (Yr 9) for being accepted into the Australian Youth Orchestra (AYO) Young Symphonists Camp; Gemma has also been accepted into the AYO National Music Camp and Georgina is on 'reserve' for this Camp.

Gemma is also playing at the "Opera in the Vineyards" with The Metropolitan Orchestra at Wyndham Estate on Saturday, 19 October. David Hobson lead tenor, Guy Noble conducting - this should be a good evening's entertainment. Anyone interested in attending, please copy the following link into their browser:
http://premier.ticketek.com.au/shows/showNE.aspx?pp=QFACE&sh=OPERA WYN13#.Uj014NLjXIY&utm_source=Special+Opera+In+The+Vineyards+Deal&utm_campaign=MET+S4+First&utm_medium=email

Election of Office Bearers: 7.00pm, 21 October, Pittwater RSL. We would love as many parents as possible to come to this meeting, even if you are not intending to stand for any office.

CONTACTS:

President

(Valerie Mavridis: yurimavridis@gmail.com or 0416 444 303).

Secretary

Joanne Gwatkin-Williams: joanne@thevastdeep.com or 0437 408 801;

Treasurer

Rick Elliott: icycold@outlook.com or 0400 461 941;

Uniform

Geri Bergstein: geribergstein@hotmail.com or 0407 602 795;

Canteen

Kim Jeffreys: kimjefferys@optusnet.com.au or 0422 002 519.

Ensemble parents:

Concert: Elizabeth Gardner elizgard@tpg.com.au or 0414 704 812;

Symphonic: Anne Connors bcmcycles@bigpond.com or 0415 255 498;

Symphony Orchestra: Joanne Gwatkin-Williams (above);

Strings: Grace Marshall grace.marshall@ioof.com.au or 0408 811 066;

Junior Stage: Julie Rodgers jl.rodgers@bigpond.com or 0438 635 048.

Senior Stage: Allison Meadows meadows2@inet.net.au or 0412 564 674.

DUKE OF EDINBURGH STUDENTS EARN GOLD



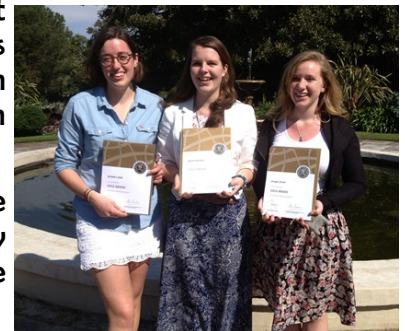
Susan L, Imogen S and Sasha S were presented with their Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award by Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir, Governor of New South Wales at Government House on Wednesday 18 September 2013.

This has been the culmination of 3 years of dedication starting with their Bronze award in year 9, Silver in year 10 and Gold in year 11. Susan, Imogen and Sasha are now studying at University and will have this very valuable and

highly recognised award as recognition of their achievements for the rest of their lives.

The Gold Dukes Award has five components. Physical recreation, skill and volunteering, each must be pursued for 12 months. Two expeditions of 4 days and 3 nights must be completed as well as a residential component of 5 days. This residential could include working on an EarthWatch expedition in Victoria or Washpool National Park NSW, working in a game park in Kenya or assisting at an HSC study camp.

Two very proud PHS Dukes Coordinators, Garry Oughtred and Jodie Austen were also presented to the Governor General, Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir who thanked them for their contribution to the Dukes program over many years.



Garry Oughtred and Jodie Austen
PHS Duke of Edinburgh's Award Coordinators.

DRAMA NEWS

Congratulations to all performers involved in Dance Drama Night, held on 10 October in the Performance Space.



Everyone was impressed by the quality and finesse of all performances and thoroughly enjoyed the entertainment.

BRAVO to all performers and a huge thank you to all the students who contributed willingly to make the night such a tremendous success.

YEAR 11 HOSPITALITY UPDATE

As part of the Hospitality course, all students are required to complete 35 hours of work placement in a commercial kitchen each year. This is **different to work experience**, as these hours spent working in industry count towards achieving competencies for the course as well as enabling the students to gain invaluable experience working alongside qualified chefs and their staff.

The students often report how tired they are after each day, with some students starting at 6am and others starting at 3pm and finishing at 10pm. It is very different to their days at school. I am always so pleased to hear how enthusiastic and well mannered our students are while on work placement. As I travel around and visit as many as I can during the week, I see the opportunities they have been exposed to working in some excellent restaurants such as Aqua Dining, Quay, Garfish and Pilu to name a few and also the challenges some of them face working on their feet all day. Welcome to the real world!!

Congratulations to all the students for their willingness to learn, perseverance and positive reports that they achieved during their time on work placement this year.

Mrs T Lagois; Hospitality Teacher



CAREERS

YEAR 12:

EAS, (Educational Access Scheme) forms for any disadvantage suffered during the HSC year can give you extra ATAR points, see me for more details. FORMS ARE DUE IN NOW

YEAR 11 : (new Year 12)

TAFE students: Year 11 students planning to continue their TAFE course in 2014 will need to complete a new 'Expression of Interest', (EOI) form and return to me ASAP.

YEAR 10:

Careers Lessons are in HSIE classes this term; we will be looking at interview skills, investigating post-school options and finalising portfolios.

Some students will be undertaking WORK EXPERIENCE too, remember the documentation MUST be in 2 weeks before the Work Experience week! Time is running out, only weeks 3, 4 and 5 of this term are available for Work Experience!

Don't forget to send me some photos?



Meret at Flowerpower Nursery

NOTE: Year 10 students who chose a TAFE subject as part of their subject selection for Preliminary/HSC will also need to complete an EOI form and return to me ASAP!

YEARS 10,11 and 12: STUDENTS:

Please log onto "**My High School Careers**" website. PHS subscribes to this website which advertises current careers events.

To log in: use "**parent**" or "**student**" then password "**mhs2013**".
You can also register for email alerts! The "Calendar" is great info!

For more general careers information, look at our Careers website by checking out www.careersworks.com, (the password was emailed earlier to students and parents but please email me if you don't have it).

LANDSCAPING APPRENTICESHIP:

Ring Stuart Murray on 0418 979 059

SUSSAN and SPORTSGIRL:

Summer holiday jobs for year 12 (3 month contracts)
see website(s) for details and applications

WORK HEALTH SAFETY (WHS)

Safety is everyone's responsibility at Pittwater High School. The WHS Team would like for all students and their parents to be aware of the responsibilities during evacuations, lockdowns and lockouts. In year 7 the TAS faculty brief the students on the correct procedures and how to behave in an emergency situation. As always students are to follow teacher instructions but the WHS team would like to publicise the new procedures for students so they are aware of how to correctly behave.

Evacuation – in the case of a fire where students will leave their classroom and go to the oval.

The evacuation notification is the continuous sounding of the school bell.

Students are to:-

- Remain calm and stay with group. Notify teacher of any missing student e.g. anyone who may have gone to the toilet.
- Do not make any phone calls and turn off your mobile phone
- Follow teacher directions and proceed to oval as quickly as possible.
- Bags to be taken to oval and no phone calls to be made (in case the incident is lengthy and water is required).
- Once on oval, go to roll call lines and remain seated in roll call group until the all clear sounds.

Lockdown – where students stay within their classroom and go under the table

The lockdown notification is the continuous sounding of the lockdown sirens.

Students are to:-

- Stay calm
- Do not make any phone calls and turn off your mobile phone
- Stay with your class and teacher
- Do not move outside the classroom
- If out of class move quickly to closest classroom and follow teacher instructions.
- Notify your teacher if anyone is missing.

Lockout – this is where an emergency may be happening outside the school and Mrs Ferris locks the gates to intruders. School carries on as per usual in this situation.

The lockout notification is the repeated sound of the school bell in long and short rings.

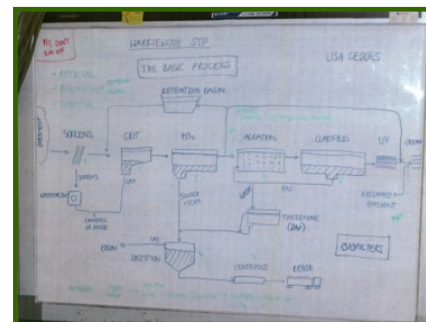
Students are to:-

- Stay calm.
- Turn off your mobile phone.
- Stay with your teacher and class - do not move outside the classroom.
- If you are out of class then return immediately.
- Notify your teacher if someone is missing.
- If outside, go with your teacher and class to closest available classroom (PDHPE).
- If lockout bell rings (repeated long and short rings) during recess or lunch go to the closest room and wait quietly.

Thank you - WHS Team

AN EXCURSION TO THE STP

Have you ever wondered where it all goes when you flush the toilet? On Friday 13 September last term a group of Year12 Chemistry students and two Year 9 tag-alongs (us) went to visit the Warriewood Wastewater Treatment Plant. The plant is situated behind Warriewood Cinema in the Wetlands area and treats the effluent of the whole of the Northern Beaches; from Palm Beach to Elanora. The plant is run by Sydney Water and operates 24 hours a day with at least one member of staff always on call. We were quite amazed that such a massive plant runs with only five people and also that it didn't smell too much.



Our tour began at 2pm, when our group first visited the overflow lagoon; a huge 5,000,000L basin with a floating membrane to prevent odour escaping. This lagoon is an overflow storage system for when the input of the plant exceeds its raw sewage-processing capacity, for instance when there are storm surges. The place we visited was the sewerage screening; where the waste directly from our toilets, showers and sinks is separated into solids and liquids, by means of stepped grilles which catch all the solids. One of the staff said he had found a one hundred dollar note in the screens; we saw a ping pong ball! After the screens, the non-organic solids are taken to landfill. The organic solids go to the digestion tanks to be further broken down, and the water continues to the secondary treatment.



The plant from the air

Secondary treatment of the plant consists of fermentation in a large open pit, then aeration in another pit, where it is mixed with air and sludge pumped back from the third tanks, the huge, circular scraper tanks. These fifteen-metre-deep, 20-metre wide tanks has the aerated water very slowly pumped in from the centre, with most of the fine solids sinking to the bottom before the almost clear liquid reaches the edge and pours down into a pit. This water is then treated with UV light and pumped out to sea. The sludge that is scraped from the bottom and skimmed off the top of these tanks is partially put back into the aeration tank, and the rest goes to the digester tank, where bacteria and protozoa break it down for weeks, before it is squeezed and dried into a black, oreo-like product known as "cake." This can then be used as a fertiliser. The Methane gas that comes of these tanks is collected and burned to power the plant. They recently built an odour-management plant, where more bacteria decompose the Hydrogen Sulphide gas.

Altogether, the experience was fascinating, and we had a great deal of fun.

by Harry H and Evan M



Standing outside the fermentation pits



Amy with some "Cake"

PITTWATER HIGH SCHOOL UNIFORM SHOP ORDER FORM

DATE _____ Order Taken By (Internal Use): _____

STUDENT'S NAME _____ ROLL CALL: _____

CONTACT PHONE NO's (Home): _____ (Parent Mobile) _____

				Order Details		
	Item	Sizes	Price	Size	Qty	Total Price
GIRLS	Junior Tartan Tunic – Summer	6-22	65			
	Junior Tartan Skirt – Summer	6-22	39			
	Junior Tartan Skirt –all year round	4-18	59			
	Junior Blue Short-Sleeved, Pintucked Blouse	10-22	25			
	Junior & Senior Long Black Pants – Winter	4-16	20			
	Senior White Short-Sleeved Blouse with Maroon Piping, PHS Embroidered	8-22	30			
	Senior Grey, Front Pleated Skirt – Summer and Winter	8-22	59			
BOYS*	Junior Maroon Polo Shirts with PHS Emblem	10-26	30			
	Junior & Senior Grey Surf Style Shorts	XXS-5XL	39			
	Junior Midford Grey Elastic Waist Shorts	12-18	25			
	Senior White Collar Short-Sleeved Button Shirt	16-26	30			
	Senior Maroon School Tie with PHS Embroidery	16-26	22			
UNISEX	Maroon Fleezy Zippered (Hoodie) with PHS Embroidery	XXS-XXL	50			
	Junior Maroon Sweatshirt (Sloppy Joe)PHS Embroidery	12-22	29			
	Junior Grey Woollen "V" Neck Jumper	10-18	70			
	Senior Maroon Woollen "V" Neck Jumper with PHS Emblem	10-24	75			
	Senior Maroon School Blazer with PHS Emblem	14-24	110			
SPORTS UNIFORM UNISEX	Maroon Microfibre Shorts PHS Logo	XS-XXL	35			
	Maroon Knit Short PHS Logo	12-16	25			
	White Polo Shirt with PHS Emblem	10-24	30			
	Navy Microfibre Tracksuit Pants	12-XL	45			
	Navy Microfibre Tracksuit Zip Up Top with PHS Emblem	12-XL	45			
	PHS Maroon Rugby Shorts	XS-XL	22			
	Maroon and White Long Rugby Socks		10			
OTHER	Scientific Calculators – required for Yr 7 Mathematics		33			
	Portable USB 2GB		7			
	Black Winter Stockings – Girls	S,M,L	9			
	Year 7 book pack		75			
	Year 8 book pack		50			
TOTAL AMOUNT TO PAY						

Please CIRCLE method of payment **CASH** **CHEQUE** Credit Card – **MASTERCARD** **VISA**

NAME OF CARDHOLDER: _____ (exactly as shown on card)

Card No: _____/_____/_____

Expiry: ____/____/____ CCV No: _____ Total Amount \$ _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

- EFTPOS facilities available - 1% surcharge on credit card purchases
- Cheques are to be made payable to "Pittwater High School Uniform Shop" and have a 5 day clearance hold on items purchased.
- All orders must be accompanied with payment and put in an envelope, clearly marked "Uniform Order", and placed in the Red Box in A Block or given to a supervisor in the canteen. Collect uniforms during opening times.
- A selection of second hand uniforms are available for purchase at reduced prices
- The Uniform Shop is open every Tuesday and Thursday from 8.15am to 11.15am, and located at the far end of the Canteen – enquiries 9979 6968 or contact the Uniform Shop manager Kim Gobbe.

Northern Beaches



A problem shared is a problem halved

So come share your ADHD-related problems ...



The Northern Beaches ADHD Support Group is a recently established voluntary group offering support for parents of children or teenagers with ADHD via regular meetings. The group is run by parents and aims to provide a supportive environment to discuss and learn more about ADHD in order to best help parents and kids alike.

NEXT SPEAKER:

DR JAN WEST - "ADHD & ANXIETY"

Jan is a psychologist in private practice in the City and Mona Vale. A large proportion of her practice is devoted to children, adolescents and adults who have been diagnosed with ADHD, assisting them develop strategies to overcome the psychological issues that often co-exist with ADHD including anxiety, anger and a myriad of other behavioral issues. Jan has worked in this area both in the Department of Education and in private practice for the past thirty years.

Monday 28 October 2013

7.00-8.30pm

**The Nelson Heather Centre (Banksia Room)
4 Jacksons Road, Warriewood**

A small donation would be appreciated to help cover costs

Ticket reservations essential via

Eventbrite at: <http://www.eventbrite.com/org/4222746751>

Email: nbadhdsupportgroup@hotmail.com

Website: www.northernbeachesadhdsupportgroup.com.au

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/BeachesADHDSupport>

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**NEWPORT PUBLIC SCHOOL
FETE 2013**

SATURDAY 19TH OCTOBER
★ 9AM - 2PM ★

STUART ST NEWPORT [find us on facebook](#)

rides haunted house kindifarm cake & jam stalls showbags + monster skate park & parkour

2nd hand clothes & books entertainment trash & treasure food stalls live radio broadcast all day

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