



Alexandria Park Community School

Community Opportunity Success
in a caring learning environment

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Newsletter

Term 4 Week 10

2015 December

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

P & C Fundraising team hit their goal



As our community is aware our P & C fundraising team have been working tirelessly for over 2 years to raise \$100,000.00 to invest in new equipment for the playground area on the Junior Campus.

There has been consultation with students, staff and parents about the design of the playground. A number of fundraising activities have been undertaken such as community BBQ events, raffles, the Thursday P & C canteen and the highly successful Paper Planes Movie Night. Along with the fundraising activities the team submitted an application for funding from City of Sydney Community Building Partnership Grant.

It is with great excitement and much thanks to our local State member for Heffron, Mr Ron Hoenig that our application was successful and the principal Miss Fetherston was contacted by Mr Hoenig to be informed that funding to the value of \$52,925.00 had been secured to go towards the construction of the new playground equipment. Ron Hoenig is a huge supporter of our school and of all schools in his area. On behalf of Alexandria Park Community School we

thank you Mr Hoenig and look forward to inviting you to our school to play with us on our new playground equipment once the construction has been completed.

Brad Gillespie

I have been told this week that local real estate businessman Brad Gillespie had been approached by the P & C fundraising team to ask him to support the purchase and installation of new playground equipment at APCS. He promised that if a member of our school community listed their property for sale with him, he would donate the commission back to the P & C for the playground. So many thanks to one of our grandparents who listed with Brad, and having recently sold, Brad Gillespie has confirmed that over \$12,000 in commission will be donated to the P & C for the playground. Hooray and yippee!!!! Thank you so much Brad.

BRAD GILLESPIE

Proud supporter of Alexandria Park Community School

Are you thinking of selling your home? Brad Gillespie will donate the sales commission of the first Alexandria Park Community School family who sell their home towards the playground upgrade.

Brad has worked in the local area for 20 years and has sold over 1,000 homes. If you would like the expertise of the area's number one agent and an exceptional result, please contact Brad for further information.

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McGrath

Alexandria Park Community School structure for 2016

STRATEGIC DIRECTION 3

An engaged and
connected K – 12
community.

In our school plan one of our targets over 2015 – 2017 is to ensure that “Management systems, structures and processes work effectively to deliver services and information to support teaching, learning and student well-being”. In 2015 under the leadership of the high school Deputy Principal Mr Kingsley and his technology team we have introduced ‘Sentral’ as our management system. In 2015 we have implemented applications of Sentral to improve our systems and communication in area such as assessment and reporting to parents, agendas and minutes of meetings, storage of student learning plans and teacher markbooks.

In term 4 there was consultation held with students, staff and parents (via the P & C) to look to restructure the school as a primary school (K – 6) and a high school (7 – 12). The current structure of a junior school (K – 4) a middle school (5 – 7) and a high school (8 – 12) was becoming complex to manage in terms of systems implementation, decision-making and communication with increasing student and staff numbers. It has been agreed upon that from 2016 Alexandria Park Community School, a Kindergarten to Year 12 School, will have an internal structure of a primary school and a high school.

The new proposed structure will have the primary school led by the Principal, assisted by the Deputy Principal Primary and Assistant Principals. The high school will be led by the Principal, assisted by the Deputy Principal Secondary and the Head Teachers.

Many of the current programs that are unique and highly successful will continue at Alex Park e.g. supporting Year 7's transition to high school by providing home rooms on the junior campus and a small team of year 7 teachers under the leadership of a high school appointed Year 7 coordinator. We will continue to be **proudly Kindergarten to Year 12** committed to the continuity of education and well-being focused on high quality transition programs for students and their parents on entry into Kindergarten, across the middle years of Years 5, 6 and 7, preparation for and transition to high school in Year 6 for year 7 and across all the stages of learning including post school options during the HSC years. We will continue to celebrate our K – 12 community and ensure that K – 12 teams and special events are supported to provide opportunities for us all to come together as one school...Alexandria Park Community School.

I love being the principal of Alexandria Park Community School, and I am very lucky that as part of my job I am invited to join many school and community activities and events. Below are some recent highlights.

The Community Gardens

The community gardeners meet every second Saturday – They are a great group of local residents, some are our parents and under the leadership of Jo Fletcher our community centre coordinator they have some beautiful and yummy gardens. I like to hang out with them a bit on Saturdays...I learn a lot about plants and our food and I get to taste all of their produce. I have also been allowed to use some of their plants in salad that I have made for lunches at school.



Congratulations to our primary school captains for 2016



Our student leadership team is in place for 2016 now that we have voted for our primary school captains. A number of Year 5 students were nominated for school captain in 2016 and all gave outstanding and passionate speeches to the primary school. Students and staff voted and it is with great pride that I can announce that Atticus Brown class 5OC and Wan Yi Lai class 5/6S are our school captains for 2016. They joined our high school captains Saraih Flood and Jason Ke and vice captains Hamzah Alitemborkarsan and Mehtaj Jahan in a morning tea recently to be congratulated and to also meet our new primary school Deputy Principal Debra Lade.

Achieving and
aspiring
students.

Another great sporting event



It is always great to end the year with a high school sports event. It has become an annual tradition to host teams from Newtown School of Performing Arts in a number of sporting competitions. This year we fielded teams in boys soccer, boys and girls basketball and boys and girls Oz tag. The venue for the matches was our school and across the road at Alexandria Park. A great event organised by the sport teachers at both schools and this year it was wonderful to have Jane Stanley from the Aboriginal Learning and Engagement team come to watch some of the games. Whilst the games are tagged as 'friendly' the students all play their best and show great skills and sportsmanship. Alex Park won the girls matches and Newtown won the boys matches...so the glory was again shared between the 2 schools.



Of course the physical skills and values of fair play and teamwork begin in the primary school. Our PSSA sport program has been excellent this year despite some matches having to be cancelled due to rain. Our thanks go out to David Olsen, who has done an outstanding job of organising sport this year. Some students chose to represent the school in PSSA team sports, whilst others opted to

participate in sport options offered at school, and all enjoyed the benefits of keeping active and healthy whilst having a lot of fun. Many thanks must also go to Terry Denzil, who has again volunteered his time and his expertise to coach our developing basketballers each Friday morning.



The bus bay gets a complete make-over

A massive huge and very BIG THANK YOU to Jo Fletcher, Deb Heggatonklenner and Clare Millege for taking the lead on the working bee to rejuvenate the bus bay at the front of the junior campus. It was hard work on the Saturday which saw 18 adults and 13 children transform this space. Thanks so much for all the volunteers who committed time and energy to this working bee.



Thank you to our wonderful school community for another hugely successful year at Alex Park. Have a happy fun-filled and fabulous holiday and I look forward to seeing you all in 2016.

Two of our brightest and best teachers are leaving Alex Park



Congratulations, thank you and farewell to Ms Jamal.

Ms Nahida Jamal is our Head Teacher of HSIE (Human Society and its Environment.)

She was appointed to Alexandria Park Community School as a high school Head Teacher and class teacher in 2006. She has established herself in our school community as an outstanding school leader and teacher. Nahida has a passion for high quality teaching, vocational education and teacher professional learning through collaboration and sharing of practice. She cares deeply for each student and established respectful relationships with her students. Ms Jamal has relieved in the position of Deputy Principal of the high school at Alex Park over a number of years. In 2016 Ms Jamal will take up the promotional position of Deputy Principal at Bossley Park High School. We are very proud of

Nahida securing this promotion on merit but we will miss her very much, her educational leadership and her friendship.



Ms Jann Hanekroot retires

Ms Hanekroot began teaching in NSW public schools in 1973. She loved teaching in 1973 and she still loves it now 42 years later. What a champion! Ms Hanekroot was a casual teacher at Alexandria Park public school in 1987 and permanently appointed to Waterloo public school in 1988. Ms Hanekroot's passion for her students, their learning and their well-being is worthy of the greatest accolades. She was an outstanding school leader during the amalgamation and formation of Alexandria Park Community School where she was promoted to the position of Assistant Principal. Ms Hanekroot has been hugely engaged with our school and community and a massive supporter of our K – 12

Community School. Current and past high school students that have been taught by Ms Hanekroot speak so very highly of her and this is a testament to her professionalism expertise care and kindness. We will miss Ms Hanekroot, we wish her a happy retirement and we hope to see her continue to be associated with our school.

Alex Park congratulates all students in kindergarten, year 1 and Year 2 for an Outstanding K-2 Presentation WELL DONE!





Back to School in 2016

Administration Office Holiday Opening Hours – Junior Campus on Park Road

The school administration office will be open on the following days in the January holidays:

- Thursday 21st and Friday 22nd of January 9.30am – 2.00pm and
- Wednesday 27th January 2016 from 9.30am-2.00pm.

Our office staff will be able to assist you with the purchase of uniforms and the payment of contributions and fees.

The Uniform Shop

Our uniform shop, located on the Junior Campus on Park Road, is also open each school day 8.30am- 10.30am. You are welcome to come any day that suits you to purchase uniforms for 2016.



What's happening at the start of the 2016 school year?

Date 2016	Event
Thursday Jan 21 2016	Junior campus administration office and uniform shop open from 9.30am – 2.00pm
Friday Jan 22 2016	Junior campus administration office and uniform shop open from 9.30am – 2.00pm
Wednesday Jan 27 2016	Staff return – School Development Day
Thursday Jan 28 2016	<u>Primary School</u> First day of school for years 1 – 6 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Best Start assessment for selected Kindergarten students begin <u>High School</u> First day of school for year 7, year 11 and year 12
Friday Jan 29 2016	<u>Primary School</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Best Start assessment for selected Kindergarten students continue <u>High School</u> First day of school for years 8, 9 and 10
Monday Feb 1 2016	<u>Primary School</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Best Start assessment for selected Kindergarten students continue P & C meeting 6.30am on junior campus
Tuesday Feb 2 2016	<u>Primary School</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> First full day for Kindergarten - Kindergarten classes commence Welcome back to school assembly for year 1 - 12
Tuesday Feb 16 2016	Meet the teachers sausage sizzle for years K – 7 from 5pm – 6.30pm
Wednesday Feb 24 2016	Swimming carnival
Monday March 21 2016	School photos
Tuesday March 29 2016	School photos catch-up day
Friday April 8 2016	Last day of term 1

All students from K – 12 have received a 'Back to School 2016' letter to provide information to students, parents and carers about what they need to know to start off the 2016 school year well. This information is also available on the school's website at the following link.

<http://www.alexparkcs-c.schools.nsw.edu.au/>

KIDS & BLOKES PLAYZONE Thursday November 12, 2015

FEEDBACK FROM BLOKES

- Thanks Jo. It was a fantastic night, Oscar and I really enjoyed ourselves. It was great to get to know the other kids and dads. The whole night made me feel very positive about Alex Park and all the great people involved.
- Was a great evening. A nice mix that provoked a lot of thought in my upbringing and comparing it to the methods I use to bring up the kids.
- I can tell you Viv had the best night and is completely worn out from all the excitement and telling everyone about her night with Dad! Justin says he was impressed by the organisation and attention to detail, right down to their names on the cups. You are AMAZING! Thank you.
- Fantastic night last night and we appreciate all your organisation thanks very much.
- Thanks so much for the fun & enjoyable night, Aaron & I were having a ball. Though the event looked so simple, but was so professionally run, I was so impressed with the team, nothing to be

suggested as it was perfect, if in the future, you need a volunteer, please do not hesitate to let me know.

- Ben was great in facilitating the bloke group. There were a lot of blokes and he did really well to include everyone. There was lots of talking happening.



JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS



Important learning in Kindy

I fixed a pot that was from a pyramid. It is very old.

(Aleksander Stribling)

We were making a pot and it had blue glaze. It was broken and we had to put it back together.

(Ruari Sutherland)

Everyone tried to make the pot and I could make it. I solved the puzzle. (Marta Cairol)



We were digging for treasure in the sandpit and we found two frogs made of rock. We also found a little plastic lizard. (Tom Ye)
I found a little thing that looked like a pyramid. First I found a dark blue one and then I found a light blue one. (Morten Grayburn)



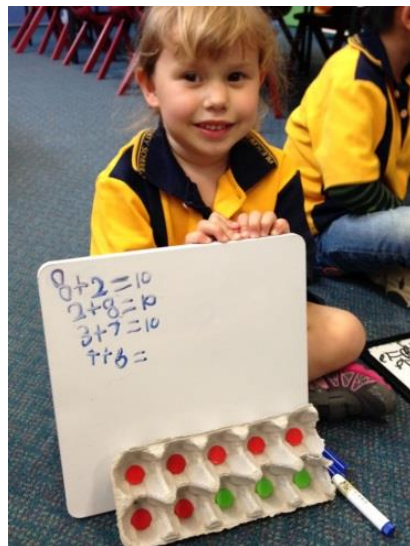
I am working with Auntie Deb. We are using the colour orange. (Leaum Colliss)



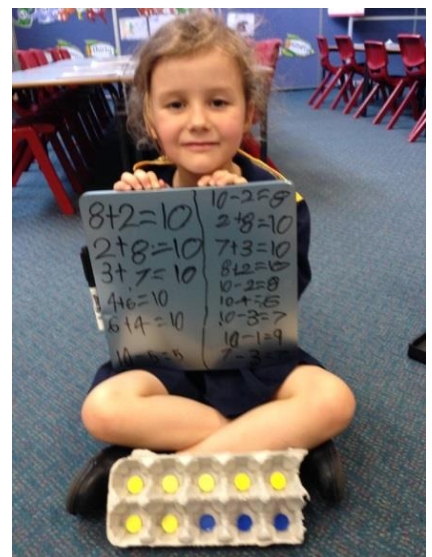
I am jumping onto the trampoline and landing in motor bike position. It felt like I was flying through the air when I bounced. Lily Foltyn



I like going to school and learning swimming. (Molly Men)



I am learning about numbers. (Anastasiia Medovikova)



I've been using counters with yellow and blue colours. I've been adding and taking away. This shows $7+3=10$ and $3+7=10$ and $10-7=3$ and $10-3=7$. (Eva Sholkoff)

Kindergarten Archaeology Incursion

Kindergarten recently participated in an exciting Archaeology incursion. Students learned about what it is like for an Archaeologist to go on a dig, and all the cool things that can be found in the ancient ruins of Egypt. Kindergarten then participated in some creative hands on activities including writing hieroglyphics, putting broken artefact pieces back together, searching for hidden treasure and trying on some Egyptian clothing. Many thanks go to Dr Eve Guerry for presenting such an engaging and fun activity.



Below are some of our favourite activities:

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- Cooper, Tate, Thomas and Theo have enjoyed learning multiplication facts.
- Daria found volume and capacity great fun.
- Tristan loved learning about fire trucks.
- Ioana shared her knowledge about wolves with the class.
- Louis and Benji worked as a team to create 3D shapes from polydrons.
- Tallara, Yesui, Oarcen, Selenge, Emma M, Natsha and Angel loved drawing intricate artworks.
- Ella-May and Seven enjoyed learning to read books.
- Paetyn continually practised her handwriting.
- Zak was a wonderful buddy to Tristan.
- Ali enjoyed working with numbers.
- Mrs Davey's favourite part of 2015 was teaching 1D!!



1S have been using Microsoft Word to type descriptions of wolves from various stories such as The Three Little Pigs, The Boy Who Cried Wolf and Little Red Riding Hood. Students have also used Clip Art to select pictures of wolves for their descriptive writing.





1S have had lots of fun in Visual Arts lessons creating Aboriginal art works. They used dots to mark the outline of their hands using earth colours of red, black, orange and yellow. Students have been inspired by Aboriginal cave art.

During Mathematics groups, 1S have been using our new Maths resources. Students have been using the new array boards to solve multiplication and division problems. Students have had fun creating patterns using the pattern blocks, solving problems using the mini white boards and playing various Mathematics games.

In Science, 1S have been investigating how sound travels by conducting fun experiments using string and cans to talk to each other. 1S have brainstormed lots of sounds that make vibrations which help us hear.

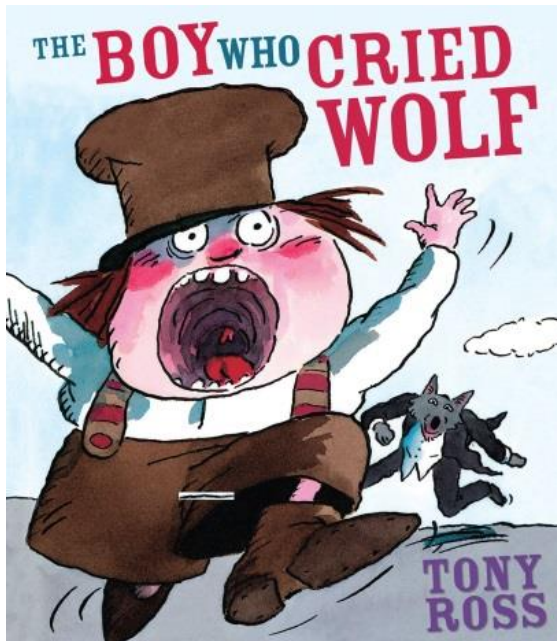


It was World Kindness Day on November the 13th, so 1S created a Tree of Kindness. Students wrote an act of kindness on a leaf and contributed it to the Kindness Tree. We had fun sharing our acts of kindness with the class.

Quality writing in 2P

This term, 2P have been studying the English unit *Who's Afraid of the Big Bad Wolf?* Look at all the different types of "wolfish" writing we can do!

We read *The Boy Who Cried Wolf* and wrote letters from the Wolf to the boy's parents.



Dear Parents,

I'm sorry for eating Harry. But well - I win of course! Are you sorry for not teaching Harry to lie? You should be sorry. When you get back, you will be the only people in the village and you will be lonely. Also, I really hope to meet you so I can eat you.

From the lucky lucky wolf of course - me! (by Elizabeth T.)

Dear Mr and Mrs Brown,

I am sorry I ate your son. He was delicious. I was hungry. I hope to meet you so I can eat you!

From the Big Bad Wolf.

(by Nakeeya)

We thought about who really is the "biggest, baddest" character in *The Boy Who Cried Wolf*.

The wolf is the worst character in the story.

The wolf likes to dine on big fat people because they are

juicy. The people don't like to get eaten.

The wolf has two slaves. One was a turtle and the other was a rabbit. He kills lots of slaves.

The wolf is the most hideous character in the narrative.

(by Tyrhys)

I think the villagers are the worst characters because when Harry was about to get eaten they did not help. Also, the villagers didn't teach Harry a lesson.

The villagers need to teach Harry a lesson. The villagers have to give him a big consequence.

The villagers are still the worst characters because they don't have proper schools. They only have music lessons.

The villagers are the worst characters in the story.

(by Kristoffer)

We wrote information reports about wolves.

Wolves are wild dogs. They come from the same group as the dingo and coyote. Wolves are pack animals. Some wolves live in cold places. They have a lot of fur.

Wolves live in forests and jungles. Wolves especially live in the northern hemisphere. Wolves live in dens.

Wolves prey on mammals such as yaks ox and bison. Wolves eat meat.

Wolves can run up to 35 metres. The grey wolf is the largest member of the dog family. A wolf is a mammal. When a pup is born it is blind and is deaf of hearing.

(by Aoife)

MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

5/6HM

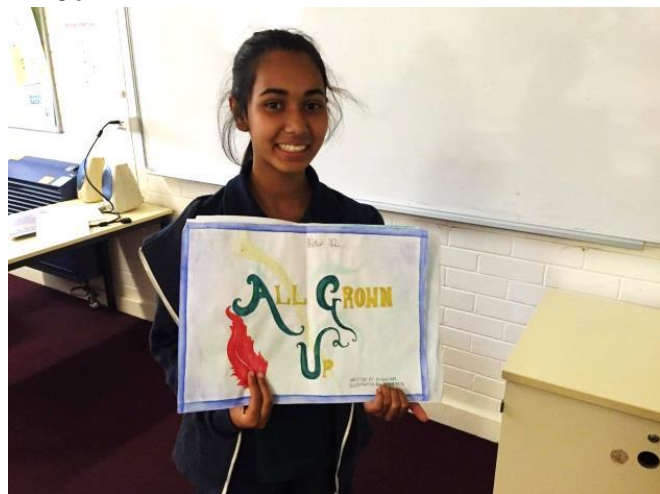
All students in stage 3 are happy with the Year 6 present of the chess board and the new handball courts. 5/6HM has been working on the six comprehension strategies and ways they can understand a text to create meaning. We have also been working on problem solving strategies and the different ways we use them to answer questions. These strategies give the students tools for the future. We have also been working on presentations on Safety in groups which the students are enjoying.

HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

English Faculty Year 7

This term year 7 have been creating picture book adaptations of well-known children's stories. They have been exploring the different ways that language can shape meaning, and the various ways that images can represent ideas. The students have put a lot of effort into their assessments and I am proud of how hard they have worked this term.

Mr Jun



Aysha Huq 7L Aysha created a sequel to Peter Pan. Wendy has grown up and contracted a disease and the only cure can be found in Neverland.



Tristan Frazer-Keyes 7L. Tristan made a picture book adaptation of the Three Little Pigs. His story explained the origin of the three pigs, and their relationship with the Big Bad Wolf. He designed the entire picture book using only three colours.

Year 7 to Year 8 Transition and Peer support Program



In our Year 7 to Year 8 Transition program, year 7 students have been participating in peer support activities. Year 11 students, who have generously given up their time for their younger peers, run these activities every Tuesday afternoon. These peer support activities aim to build trust, teamwork and respect between students and are also a bit of fun! The Year 7 to Year 8 Transition Team would like to thank the following Year 11 peer support leaders for their leadership and patience:

Maha Cheema, Minhazul Islam, Hassan Mourad, Hamza Alitembokarsan, Rosa Capogreco
Silvia Tio, Ebele Iwobi, Saraih Flood & Lucy Makamaka



VALID Science 10 2015

VALID Science 10 was conducted at APCS during September. The assessment is part of the development of the Validation of Assessment 4 Learning and Individual Development (VALID) program and the content was based on the Science K-10 Syllabus for the Australian Curriculum. VALID has now replaced ESSAonline, and has been extended to include Year 10 and from 2016, Year 6 students.

Alexandria Park Community School Year 10 students have by demonstrated their extensive knowledge and understanding of Science with outstanding preliminary results. In all areas, including working and communicating scientifically, students have shown growth and achievement above State Cohort Comparison. Overall results indicate 8 students have achieved the highest Band 6. Congratulations the following students for on being awarded Band 6 for Overall: Christopher Cen, Afia Hoque, Kevin Lic, Alexander Makarytchev, Matej Somodvarac, Yiwen (Wendy) Sun, James Tanzil and Allen Wu.

Year 12 Library Excursions



As part of their study in English, the new Year 12 students were invited to attend two library excursions to allow them to learn about the resources and facilities available in libraries.

On Monday the 26th of October students went to Customs House Library at Circular Quay. This library is part of a larger network of City of Sydney Libraries that also includes our local library, Waterloo. Some students became members of the library and were able to borrow books for their first HSC Assessment Task for English.



On Wednesday the 11th of November students went to the University of Sydney and explored three different libraries. They went to SciTech, The Law Library and Fisher Library. They were able to see the study facilities available at these three spaces for both individual and group study sessions. Students were also taken through the curriculum library which has a variety of resources, including textbooks that they can use within the library to extend themselves.

A young leader of the future



Early in November of 2015 one of our Year 11 students, Solongo Marneur, was selected to represent us at Parliament House and speak about youth input into the Senate. After an impressive performance, Solongo was then selected to go to Canberra in March. Below is Solongo's account of the day.

"I represented our school at the NSW Schools Constitutional Meeting at the Parliament House NSW on November 9th, where one student per school in Sydney was chosen to participate. We discussed two propositions so that the youth could share its opinions with the parliament to transform the Australian Senate. I was voted as one of the thirty students out of all the students to go through to Canberra in March 16th-18th for the National Constitutional Convention. Overall, it was a splendid experience not only to share my opinions, but to get to know a group of highly intellectual, supportive and motivated group of people."

Congratulations Solongo.

Careers

Work Experience

In November most of our Year 10 students were sent out to Work Experience to gain valuable insight into careers and the world of work. Some students sourced their own placements while others took advantage of some offerings from local organisations that provided structured, educational and interesting programs for groups of students.

Special thanks to The Save Sight Institute; Fire & Rescue, Alexandria; Redfern Police; the TATA Group; Wunanbiri Pre School; Sydney Opera House and The Department of Science, Technology and Defence.

Other students who did not attend work experience signed up to attend TAFE for short courses of one or two days per week for four weeks. These courses are allowing our students to gain insight into the training and skills behind trades or careers in electronics, Tourism, Construction and Digital Media.

Photo of Jennifer Zhang working at Wardell Chambers in Sydney.



I have also included some feedback and photos of the students who attended the Defence Forces Science Experience.

“... The week with yr10 work experience was fantastic! I’m pretty sure the students got a lot out of it. It was more of a science camp than work experience.

Presentations were given, activities undertaken and an excursion to Garden Island naval base was the highlight. Our staff were

impressed with the students’ behaviour and the amount of engagement they put in during the experience.

Here are the photos I took during the week; students will have their own photos as well.

Regards

Paul Piperias – Dept. of Science Technology & Defence

Defence Science and Technology Group (DSTG)



Interact Club



This year, the Interact Club selected The Malala Fund as their international charity. The Malala Fund aims to ensure girls in developing countries have access to free education for the duration of their secondary schooling. During Term 4, we organised and held two fundraisers that were highly successful. We put together a school raffle with a variety of prizes such as 5x\$10 vouchers to use at McDonalds Waterloo, 1x\$100 voucher to use at The Grounds Florist at Alexandria

and a chocolate and confectionary hamper. We had four winners for the raffle: Mr Miller, Mr Jun, Kayleen Qian (10X) and Ebony Avroniev (10A). Our other fundraiser was a cake stall held on Wednesday of Week 9 during Lunches 1 and 2, where we sold brownies, cupcakes, cookies and cake. Overall we made approximately \$150, which is quite impressive for our school community. Thank you to everyone who donated money or time (or prizes!) to make this possible. ☺

Spanish article

This term in Spanish, we have been learning about different Latin American and Spanish cuisine in the unit “La Comida”. Students researched and created their own menus for imaginary restaurants for special holidays in the Spanish-speaking community, such as Dia de Los Muertos, Fiesta Nacional and La Navidad. After all their hard work, we decided to try and make one item that they had researched in the junior kitchens. All students who participated enjoyed making their own meals and happily shared with each other. ¡Buen provecho!



The New South Wales Statistics Competition Award

Congratulations to Year 10 Stanley Peng, Arindum Saha and James Tanzil who came first in New South Wales Statistics Competition Intermediate Division hosted by Australian Mathematics Trust. Certificates and prizes of \$120 were awarded to the best projects in each of the divisions.

The students' project focused on investigating the “accepted belief” that people lose their hearing as they get older. The group hypothesised that with increasing age, the ability to hear high sound frequencies are hindered or in some cases, completely nullified. They convened a handful of teachers and students, situated them in a sound controlled environment and played a range of audio frequencies to test their hearing limits. With the encouragement of the Alexandria Park Community Schools Mathematician in Schools mentor Paul Piperias and the Maths and Science teachers, their execution was efficient and professional.

The tests and results the students recorded were excellent. For instance Mr. Bennett and Mr. Abdullah reached their hearing limit way before Mr. Liang and Ms. Thomson in terms of frequencies range. The students were pleased with themselves when they discovered that they could hear higher frequencies in ranges that the teachers couldn't hear. The team compiled the discoveries and made a PowerPoint to present the data to the judges at The Australian Mathematics Trust.

It was a long wait before the results were announced, but the anticipation was worth it. It was a proud moment for the school and the students when the students received their award and prize.

Their entry can be found at this website:

<http://www.amt.edu.au/2015-australian-statistics-competition-results/>



National Young Leaders Day



On the Friday the 27th of November, the elected school leaders and select members from the Student Representative Council attended the National Young Leaders Day at Sydney Olympic Park, Homebush. There was a great turn out of more than 2000

student leaders travelling from across NSW, ranging from the Inner City to the Blue Mountains. It was such an amazing experience to hear from inspirational guest speakers such as NSW Premier Mike Baird and Olympic Silver Medallist Jessica Fox. The day gave us great insight into what it really takes to be a young leader in our community, as well as ways to help lead our generation into the future. Accompanied by Ms. Arya, who did an amazing job keeping all of her 14 “children” in line, we had a great time and learnt how we can all be leaders in the way we think and live our daily lives.

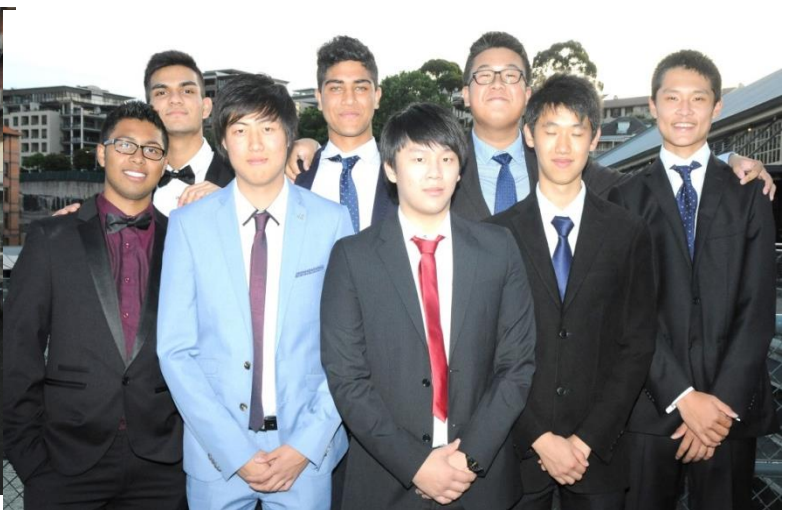
Jainen Mautama

Year 12 Formal.

Our Year 12 of 2015 celebrated the end of their school days and the HSC in style in November when they attended their School Formal.

It was a beautiful evening and the venue, Doltone House on Jones Bay Wharf was an ideal location, providing “mocktails” on arrival and delicious food to keep the hungriest teenager, (and teacher), happy. With a record number of students and teachers, it was a fantastic way for the students to celebrate the end of their Secondary student life.

Some of the photos of the night are included in this newsletter and you can see for yourself how beautiful our young people are...and their teachers.



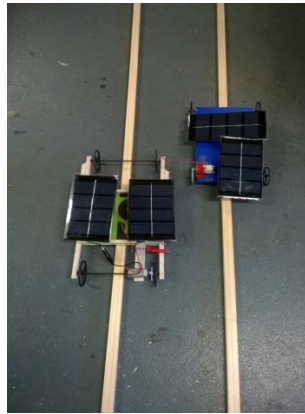
FAREWELL MICROWAVE JENNY!

It's hard to believe that the year is almost over and that we will be saying goodbye to Tessa, Brendon and Molly. Our involvement this year in the Fresh AiR Project has been an amazing experience for the students at Alex Park, opening up a window into the world of professional music and giving them extraordinary opportunities for skill development. Having Microwave Jenny as our artists in residence has enriched the musical life of Alex Park and will have flow on effects for a long time to come.



NEW ENRICHMENT PROGRAM FOR 2016

SOLAR CAR SPRINT CHALLENGE - Mr Alexopoulos



Build and race a solar race car and challenge other schools on RACE DAY at UNSW in the solar car sprint. Look out for more information about this enrichment program in 2016.

SPORTS NEWS

PDHPE



This semester in PDHPE, students have enjoyed participating in a range of summer sports. Of these summer sports, students in 8A have enjoyed learning and practicing cricket skills in bowling, batting and fielding in practical PDHPE classes. The students have displayed wonderful teamwork skills and excelled in practicing these skills during the games we have played as a class. There have been many a six hit, and many a hat trick of bowls out!

Watch out, we may just have the next Elise Perry, Steven Smith or Sachin Tendulkar in our midst!

Inner City Agriculture

On the 26th of November the Student Environmental Committee (SEC) received six adorable Hyline layer chickens.

The plan is to rear and monitor the layers to prepare them for the 2016 Sydney Royal Easter Show school egg laying competition.

They are currently located on the Senior Campus and being taken care of by members of the SEC and the watchful eyes of Ms Medway and Ms Bourke.

If you wish to help take care of the chickens or want more information about the program, please contact Ms Bourke or Ms Medway. Also check out the article about this program which appeared recently in the Daily Telegraph

Teaching, learning
and innovation.



Tony Huang, Nathan Wint Zaw and Arindum Saha with their chooks. Picture: Sam Rutty

Having a crack at egg contest

KEELY McDONOUGH

SCHOOLBOY Arindum Saha had never held a chicken before six of them arrived at his inner-city Sydney school last week.

In 25 weeks the Year 10 student and classmates at Alexandria Community School

eggs to Easter Show judges. It's the first time an inner-city school will take on the challenge of the Easter Show's poultry competition, giving country schools a chicken run for their money.

"It's been a long time in the making, we've been planning this for months

said: "It is exciting. You'd think it would be easy, you just feed them, but you have to take care of their shade, how hydrated they are, what kind of food they are eating."

THANKS TO THE SUNDAY TELEGRAPH, DISCOUNT EASTER SHOW FAMILY TICKETS AND CARNIVAL



SCHOOL SPECIAL 608 IS NOW 750

Dear Parents & Carers

We are writing to you in advance of the 2016 school year to advise of changes to the **608 will now be 750** route numbers of School Special bus services to our school.

Please note these changes do not impact the level of service provided to our school or the route taken by these services. The only change is 750 route number of these services to our school.

Detailed information regarding these changes is available on the Sydney Buses website: www.sydneybuses.info.

If you have any questions or require further information regarding bus services to our school, please don't hesitate to contact NSW Transport State Transit directly on 9582 7666.

Thank you.

27th November 2015

COMMUNITY CENTRE NEWS

Please join us at Redfern Community Centre Thursday 10th December from 3pm to 6pm for this year's Family & Culture Day Christmas Party. We will have a visit from a special guest Santa, face painting, jumping castle, and entertainment including Jimblah, Evie J Willie, Studio RCC performers, Nana Miss Koori and more. We will have Koori Radio on site broadcasting live from RCC.

There will also be a big Christmas cook up thanks to Oz Harvest and their corporate partners Amex.

Contact: Preston Peachey

Community Development Officer Social Programs & Services

<https://myemail.det.nsw.edu.au/owa/#>

School bus number changes



From the start of the school year 2016

Most School Special bus services will be renumbered to eliminate duplication of route numbers.

Please note these changes do not impact the level of service provided to your school or the route taken by these services. The only change is to the three-digit route number of these services.

Detailed information regarding these changes is available on the Sydney Buses website sydneybuses.info

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Visit transportnsw.info
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