

Alexandria Park Community School

Community Opportunity Success
in a caring learning environment

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Newsletter

Term 2

June 2015

FAREWELL AND THANK YOU MRS MYERS FINAL GOODBYE MESSAGE FROM MRS MYERS



This is my last newsletter contribution and it is certainly written with mixed emotions! Whilst on the one hand, I look forward to having the time to do the things that I dreamed of, such as spending more time with my grandchild, travelling and getting started on all those books on my (very long!) booklist, I will certainly miss Alex Park and I have a heavy heart as I write this. Twenty one years in one place- lots of stories, laughter, tears, and experiences!

I came to the school when the junior campus was Cleveland Street High School. Although a primary school teacher, due to my experience with teaching Aboriginal students, I was lucky enough to be offered a job as a support teacher for Aboriginal students in a secondary setting. The kids were playful, cheeky and lots of fun. I so enjoyed their senses of humour and larrikinism whilst striving to make a difference by improving their literacy skills and engaging them in experiences which had meaning and purpose. Working in Aboriginal education has certainly allowed me some great experiences, including having the opportunity to teach Aboriginal Studies, to work in the Board of Studies developing the Stage Five Aboriginal Studies syllabus and receiving a Premier's scholarship to research best practice in Indigenous education in Hawaii and Canada! Hey, someone had to do it!

The amalgamation of Clevo with Redfern, Waterloo and Alexandria Public Schools brought new challenges and experiences. Four schools coming together as one- four cultures, combining high school and primary staff and having each of the schools' resources arriving in boxes! On top of this, both campuses were building sites. Certainly a test of staff resilience- trying to come to terms with major change for students and staff, teach over the sounds of jack hammers and sort through hundreds of boxes of resources all lining the corridors! I think that many staff members shared my view, that if we were able to get through that first year, we pretty much could do anything!

And so, from a very challenging beginning, Alex Park was born. There is still so much to do, but I believe that we have made amazing progress in the eleven years since the amalgamation. Our school goes from strength to strength and has been blessed with passionate and committed staff with an incredible array of skills and commitment to equity for all kids. There is a generosity of spirit amongst the staff which emulates through the school and creates a culture of care and security. Coupled with this is a desire to ensure that all kids achieve their personal best. I have indeed been blessed to work alongside people of such calibre. A special mention at this point to our principal, Diane Fetherston, who came at just the right time to take the school "to the next level" and has taught me so much. Her mixture of professionalism, extraordinary work ethic and wicked sense of humour has enriched Alex Park.

It has been a joy to work with the school community. Our dedicated and hardworking P&C deserve acknowledgement and a big pat on the back. Thank you for your investment in, and support of, the school. I love that we have developed into a multi-cultural community and that coming to school every day is experiencing "the world in a bubble". Our mixture of cultures, religions and different types of families is of wonderful educational value to our kids and affords them a great social experience. Kids are worth all that is good in the world. Alex Park kids are a joy. They are worth the early wake up, the traffic and the continual hard work and I will miss them all immensely. I won't miss the rest on the list in that sentence, though! Au revoir Alex Park and a heartfelt thank you!!

PRINCIPALS REPORT

Our Amazing Newsletter

Once again our monthly newsletter is packed with reports and articles which showcase the achievements of our wonderful students, teachers and parents. The diversity of programs, curricular and extra-curricular is impressive, with something to engage each student's strengths, interests and passions – what a fabulous school we are at Alex Park. Please read our newsletter which can be accessed via our school's website and is sent out to our families via SMS.

Julie Myers Deputy Principal Retires

On behalf of Alexandria Park Community School students, staff, parents and friends and on behalf of Public Education in NSW I would like to congratulate Julie Myers on her outstanding dedicated to the education and care of children which has spanned over 30 years. Mrs Myers has been a high quality teacher and school leader, an exemplary role model for other teachers and an inspiring and innovative educational leader. Mrs Myers' deep knowledge and skills will be much missed at Alex Park, along with her personal qualities of care, commitment, fairness, friendliness and ethical practice. I wish her all the best in her retirement and hope that she knows that she has made a positive impact and a real difference in the lives of many children, staff and parents. Julie Myers...teacher, leader, and friend to many...thank you.

Staff Changes in Term 3

High School

Glen Kingsley the Deputy Principal of the high school will be taking some long service leave at the start of term 3. He will be replaced by Nahida Jamal. Ms Jamal's Head Teacher position will be covered by Mr Adrian Johnson.

We welcome back Amy Day our wonderful teacher of History, Geography and Legal Studies who returns from maternity leave. Ms Day will be teaching 3 days a week.

Primary School

With the retirement of Mrs Myers, Lucy Smith will relieve as the Deputy Principal on the Junior Campus. Mrs Smith's Assistant Principal Position will be filled by Thea Wilson. I am thrilled to be able to work with Thea and Lucy in their new leadership roles and together with Amanda McLeod I am confident in continued strong and visible leadership on the Junior Campus.

We welcome Jessica Butler- McPhee to our school who will take over as teacher in the 1S classroom.

It is excellent news too that I can report that Daniel Judd who has been doing a wonderful job with his year 3 / 4 class has been engaged to continue as the class teacher of 3/4 J for the rest of the year.

SASS staff

Our school administration manager Margaret Dickinson will be on leave for 4 weeks at the start of Term4. Linda Turner will relive in her management position and Leanne Seddon will be engaged to backfill Linda's position

Half-yearly reports

All students from Kindergarten to year 12 have received their half-yearly reports. This year, under the leadership of Glen Kingsley, we have implemented a new system for reports, which included reviewing what we report on. Our year 1 to year 10 students now receive an overall grade for most subjects from A – E. We have also designed new folders which are used to house each student's report.

Happy Holidays

Have a happy safe fun and restful holiday. Thank you to our school community for all your work and support this term. Looking forward to seeing our students back in term 3, on Tuesday July 14 2015.

Date	What's' happening
Friday June 26	NAIDOC Day Last day of Term 2
Monday July 13	Staff return for term 3
Tuesday July 14	Students K – 12 return for first day of term 3
Thursday July 16	Middle School Achievers Excursion Year 9 History Excursion

Selective Schools Application years 8 – 12 2016

The information and application can be accessed via this link.

<https://detwww.det.nsw.edu.au/publicschoolsnsw/school-programs/selective-high-school-placement/years-812-placement>

WELCOME TO OUR NEW YEAR 1S TEACHER



Name: Jessica Butler McPhee

Academic Qualifications & Institution:

-Bachelor of Arts in Organisational Learning (Major in Human Resource Management) at University of Technology, Sydney

-Masters in Teaching (Primary) at the Australian Catholic University.

Teaching experience (courses, years, schools):

-September, 2012: Casual Teacher for ES1-S3 students at Rozelle PS, Orange Grove PS, Dulwich Hill PS, Kincoppal Rose Bay Junior School and St Marks Primary School.

-September 2012 – December 2012: Music teacher at Summer Hill PS.

-January, 2013 – Present: Balmain PS teaching Year 3, Kindergarten and Year2.

Other employment experiences (what, where, how do the duties relate to/compliment 'teaching'):

-Tutoring at Maths Not Squiggles in Literacy and Numeracy for S1 –S3 students. I assisted students in achieving the outcomes for Literacy and Numeracy based on new outcomes from the National Curriculum.

2015 teaching load at Alex Park (courses, years):

Full time, teaching Year 1.

Other responsibilities at Alex Park (faculty-based, extra-curricular): OR areas of passion / interests that you would like to be involved in at Alex Park:

I would love to be involved in the extra-curricular activities at Alex Park and have passions in:

- Public Speaking and Debating
- Music Programs or Choir conductor
- Computer Committee
- Dance and Drama
- Sporting Events

Beliefs/goals in relation to teaching, learning and student achievement:

As a dedicated teacher, I will endeavour to uphold the following:

- Differentiate the curriculum to cater for the needs for a diverse range of students learning styles and abilities.
- Construct learning experiences that develop 21st century skills in students which include creativity, collaboration, critical thinking skills and communication.
- Incorporate ICT in classroom experiences in meaningful and interactive ways.
- Hold a positive regard for all students and ensure that respect is maintained within the classroom at all times.
- Create a classroom that is a welcoming, positive and fair environment where all students learn from one another and feel safe and comfortable to share their thoughts and ideas.
- Establish high, reachable standards and provide support to students to reach those standards.
- Embrace the constructivist learning approach which includes the teacher acting as the facilitator and the learner being active and involved.
- Ensure my students are actively engaged in learning experiences which deal with issues which they regard as important in their lives.
- Ensure deep learning is imparted rather than rote learning and my students are supported in order to make connections to understand relationships.
- Provide specific and meaningful positive feedback and encouragement to my students as it is important to me that my students build up their confidence and develop intrinsic motivation.
- Monitor individual student learning and plan according to the needs of individuals, groups and the whole class.
- Foster independent learning and expect students to take responsibility for their learning.
- Continually reflect on my practice and demonstrate my commitment to lifelong learning by seeking out appropriate collegial support and furthering my own professional development.
- Make a difference in my school community by working as part of a team with my colleagues and sharing my knowledge and skills whenever I can.

First impressions of Alex Park – (the students, the staff, the parents, the educational programs, the learning environment.):

- It gives all students an equal opportunity to have an education and to achieve their learning goals and reach their aspirations. Alex Park caters for all types of students from different cultural backgrounds that have varying styles of learning and abilities.
- The school offers a range of extra-curricular activities such as dance, drama, music and sport allowing students to show their different strengths and talents outside of the classroom.
- The school's focus is on student wellbeing and developing a well-rounded student who takes responsibility for their actions, is reliable and an active learner.
- The school has initiated a Positive Behaviour for Learning Program which aims at improving the social and learning outcomes for all students. I think this is a wonderful program and look forward to implementing it in my classroom.
- The staff are accepting, inclusive and very friendly.

SCHOOL SPORTS NEWS

PRIMARY SCHOOL SPORT

It's been a damp but eventful term in Primary Sport, with both Cross-Country and Athletics carnivals taking place alongside our Combined Sport programme on Friday mornings. Our PSSA Netball, Soccer and Oz-tag teams have been proudly representing our school at Tempe Reserve and Waterworth Park, and I congratulate them on their success so far in the competition. The Tennis group has been equally active on the courts at Alexandria Park, while our At-School group participate in a range of sports activities.

Please be reminded that students will continue with the same sport in Term 3, as they have been involved in for Term 2.

PSSA Soccer Report

"Our senior teams, Alex Park 1 and Alex Park 2, have each played against three other schools, and managed to win all games so far. Our junior team won one of their matches, but were sadly defeated in others. We're having fun playing against Mascot, Eastlakes, Newtown and Bourke Street. We would like to thank our Team Managers, Mr McLeod, Mr Judd and Ms Rossides."

PSSA Oz-Tag Report

"We've tried really hard for all of our games of Oz-Tag this term. We've learnt a lot so far, including teamwork, passing and kicking. Our team play fairly and we have fun. We've won one of our games so far, and have played against Mascot and Darlington. Thanks Ms Smith for your advice this term."

PSSA Netball Report

"We've had heaps of fun at Netball this term. We've played fun and friendly games against Mascot, Newtown and Crown Street. Some have been more competitive than others, but we are undefeated so far in the competition. While we play Netball, we meet many new teams and coaches. We've got a really good coach, Ms McLeod, who is very nice and listens to everyone's opinion. We've all improved a lot and we are looking forward to next term!"

Tennis Report

"Tennis has been an enjoyable sport to learn this term. We learned all of the important skills through fun games. We always encouraged other people to try their best. We have all improved, not only physically, but mentally. We were split into three groups, taught by our instructors, Hannah, Daniel and Honza. Our instructors are really helpful and have great expertise. This term has been fun!"

At-School Sport Report

"At-School Sport has been fun this term. We've played Basketball, Soccer, Oz-Tag and Dodgeball so far. Everyone participates and helps the teacher set up the equipment, and pack it away again. We usually break off into three different groups depending on our interests. We hope the rain stays away!"



HIGH SCHOOL SPORT

ZONE ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

On Thursday 18th June, 2015 students from Alexandria Park Community School competed in the Zone Athletics Carnival. The day was laced with uncertainty weather wise yet APCS students were not phased, competing in an array of track and field events. All of our students gave their utmost effort to each of their events and displayed wonderful sportsmanship and team work as they cheered each other on from the stands.

Rachel Lin, Vivien Yaba, Leah Povey, Trisha Williams, Nabill Khan, Jayden Wright, Jason Ke, Jennifer Vo and Jordan Lee all placed in the top three of their events and will have the opportunity to represent our school at Regional Level. We wish them the best of luck! A particular mention has to go to Nabill Khan's 200m sprint which he ran in 23.34 seconds, breaking a 21-year-old zone record, previously held by a student of our formerly known Cleveland Street High School. Mr Matthew Bowman also broke a record this year by introducing a sole competitor event of Teacher Javelin. Unfortunately, there is no event at regional level for this event and Mr Bowman will be celebrated at a school level instead.

Special mention must go to my little helpers Hayley-Rose McKee, Rachel Lin, Matilda Folwell (despite her broken wrist) and Aaliyah Parnell who worked tirelessly with me the majority of the day to ensure Long Jump was run smoothly. Without them, Long Jump may have been a disaster, thank you girls! Another special mention to Uncle Hilton who organised the students into their events on time and ensured tremendous amounts of screaming support and chanting took place, it wouldn't have been the same without you!

It was with great pride that I was able to witness the sporting triumphs and efforts of our students on this day and I commend each and every one of them. The day wrapped up a success and just in time before the heavens opened for the thunderstorm we had anticipated all day.

Tiffany-Jane Kasz

PDHPE teacher and High Jump Official Extraordinaire.

Special Mention to the students who attended on the day- Well done and Thank you!

Aliya Oluklu
Jainen Mautama
Trisha Williams
Hayley-Rose Mckee

Japhia Obejas
Jennifer Vo
Aaliyah Parnell
Hilary Lam

Vivien Yaba
Ethan Johnson
Ben Snaea
Matilda Folwell

Marion Silk
Nabill Khan
Jayden Wright
Claire Lin

Jason Ke
Leah Povey
Jordan Lee

Rachel Lin- 1st Girls 16yrs Long
Jump, Girls 16yrs 100m and 3rd in
16yrs Girls 400m.

PHOTOS FROM OUR SCHOOL ATHLETICS CARNIVAL



Open Girls Basketball Report

Anyone who has been following the progress of our Open Girls Basketball team would remember that we had reached the top 16 schools in the state. Our next problem was that we had to play the powerhouse that is Westfields Sports High School for a place in the top 8. If anyone wants to research Westfields Sports High you will find that it is High School with over 1700 students, most of who have applied and been chosen due to their sporting ability. They have specialist coaches for each sport and their sport is incorporated in to their curriculum. This small piece of information will tell you that our school, with our high school population of around 300 students, were massive underdogs in this match, so much so that I would have expected Hollywood to make a movie about the team if we managed to win this game. The girls did everything that could be asked of them against such a formidable opponent and it wasn't until the final quarter where Westfields were able to pull away and win the game. Our team played exceptionally well and Terry and I couldn't be prouder of the effort that the girls put in on the day, as well as the 3-4 hours a week, as well as holidays, that the girls practised during the 2 months leading up to the game. The girls and I would also like to thank Terry Denzil for all the hard work and time he has put into training the girls over the last 4 years. He has helped turn them into a great team that has achieved some amazing results for such a small school.

Grade Sport – Oztag Report

This term year 7 and 8 grade sport Oztag teams have started like a house on fire. Despite the rain interruptions all 3 teams remain undefeated. The Alex Park girls' team have beaten JJ Cahill 5-2, Rose Bay 5-0 and the previously unbeaten Randwick Girls 3-2. Their performances have been first rate with their excellent team work being the highlight thus far.

In the boys competition the B side have had a 6-6 draw with JJ Cahill and an 18-1 drubbing of Rose Bay. While the A side have had two wins with another trouncing of Rose Bay 16-2 and a convincing 5-2 result over JJ Cahill. The tension has already begun to build for the meeting of the two Alex Park teams in what should be a classic encounter. Good luck to all 3 teams for the remainder of the season.

Hilton Donovan (Super Coach)

Year 7 Sport Report

It's been a great first semester for year 7 with all students showing their skills and building a good foundation for their future years at Alexandria Park Community School. It has been great to see a large contingent of students representing our school at our weekly grade sport, as well as having success at zone and regional sporting carnivals. I am looking forward to next term where Year 7 can continue to show their commitment to all areas of their schooling.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN CLASSROOMS IN THE MIDDLE SCHOOL

Class 5/6HM

5/6HM has been working on different scripts for Drama. We have worked on 'The Feud' and 'A Kids Night Out'. It is great for the kid's self-esteem and they have enjoyed working on their characters and practicing their acting skills.

6M & 5O

Students of 6M and 5O have been learning new and creative ways to build characters. They have been exploring the different ways a character's pose and expression can reflect personality and will be incorporating this knowledge in their Jungle Book creative writing task.

Year 7 Science

In Science we have been experimenting with mixtures to identify their properties and the various processes that we can use to physically separate them. We videoed our mixtures and created a scientific report as a video, to explain the experiment and discuss the results. Students now have an understanding as to why correctly setting up a scientific report is important

Year 7 Maths

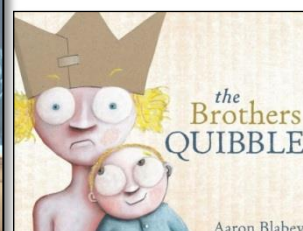
In year 7 there is excellent progress happening in Mathematics, with students achieving some fantastic results. 7X are confident and understand the importance of neatly setting out their worked solutions, a skill so important for the HSC. Year 7 have been learning about time, its development and the importance of time zones. They have had opportunities to demonstrate their understanding through practical applications in the classroom.

Year 7 English

Year 7 English have very successfully learned how to produce and deliver a persuasive speech to an audience of their peers. A lot of students conquered their fear of public speaking and realised that it isn't as scary as it seems! They've learned a lot about how persuasive language is used. We've analysed how a speaker can use threats and rewards to influence their listeners and have demonstrated this very well in their speeches

JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS

KINDERGARTEN EXCURSION TO THE STATE LIBRARY

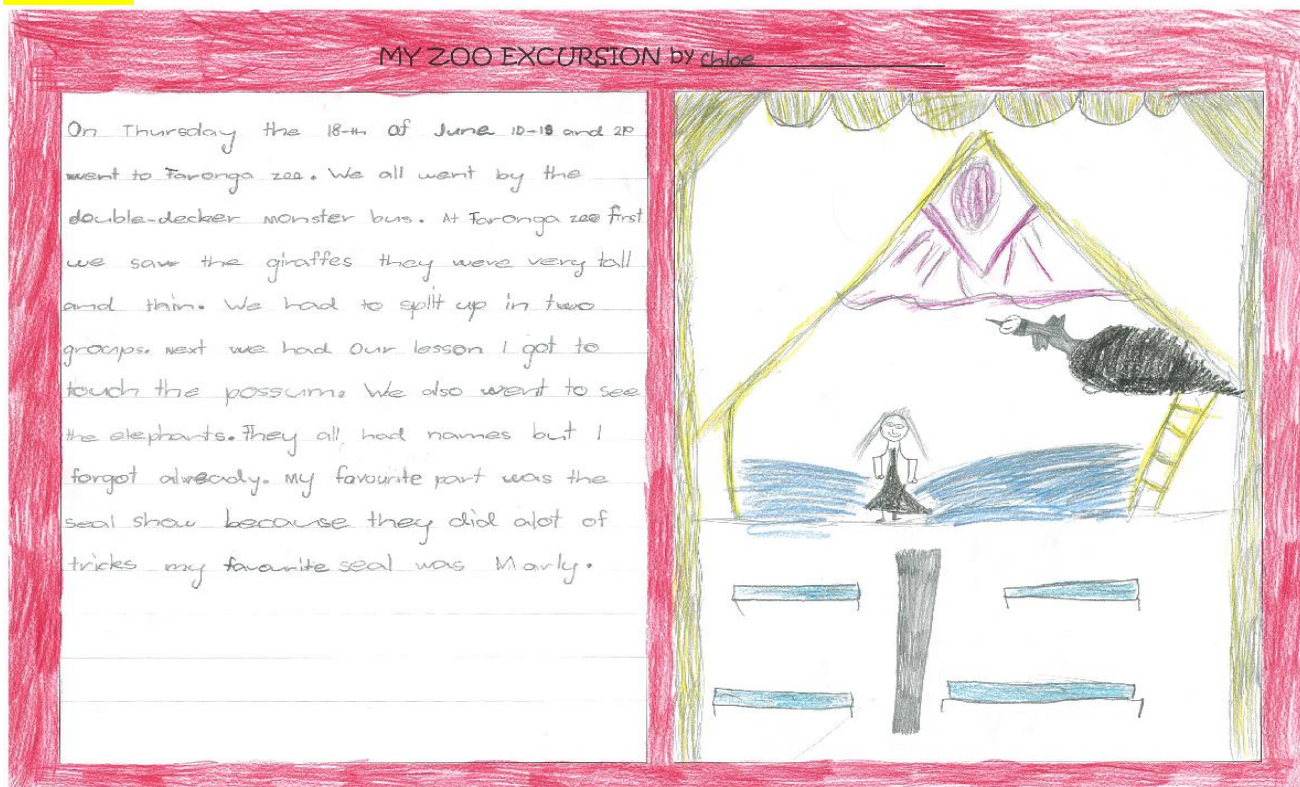


Recently, Kindergarten went on an excursion to the NSW State Library for the National Simultaneous Story time. This event sees students all over Australia listening to the same story at the same time, to promote a love of quality literature. Students in KW and KM embarked on their journey, with twelve committed parent volunteers and two teachers in tow. We all got to catch the train to Martin Place, which was very exciting. When we arrived at the Library, we were taken to special reading areas and we were read the hilarious story "The Brother's Quibble" by Aaron Blabey. Students created some fantastic crowns which were just like one the character in the book was wearing.

We were then treated to a tour of the Library including the impressive Mitchell Room and the Shakespeare Room. We even got some delicious fruit and cupcakes to snack on. The Library also generously donated a copy of "The Brothers Quibble" to our school. It was a fantastic day, which the students thoroughly enjoyed. Many thanks go out to the wonderful parent volunteers as this day could not have happened without their support.
Ms Thea Wilson and Ms Lorna Micallef

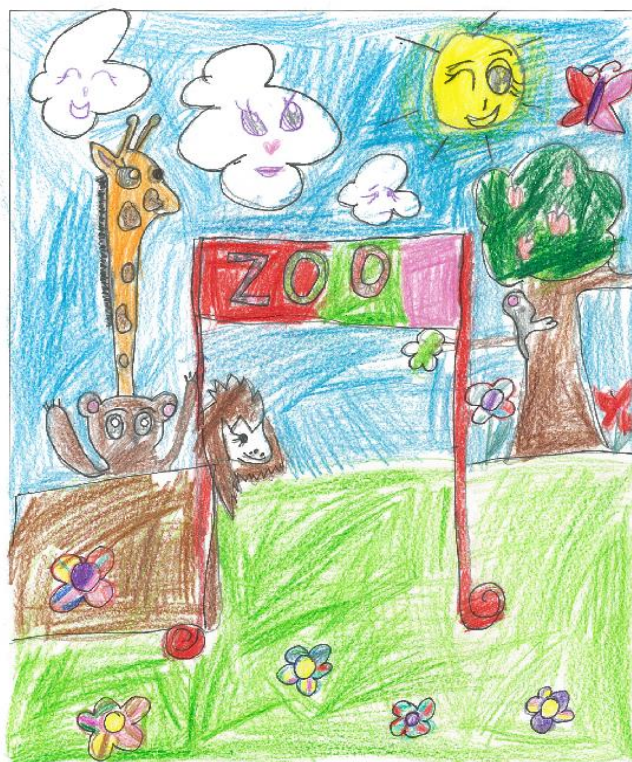
ART WORK FROM YEAR 1 AND YEAR 2 THE ZOO EXCURSION

1S CLASS



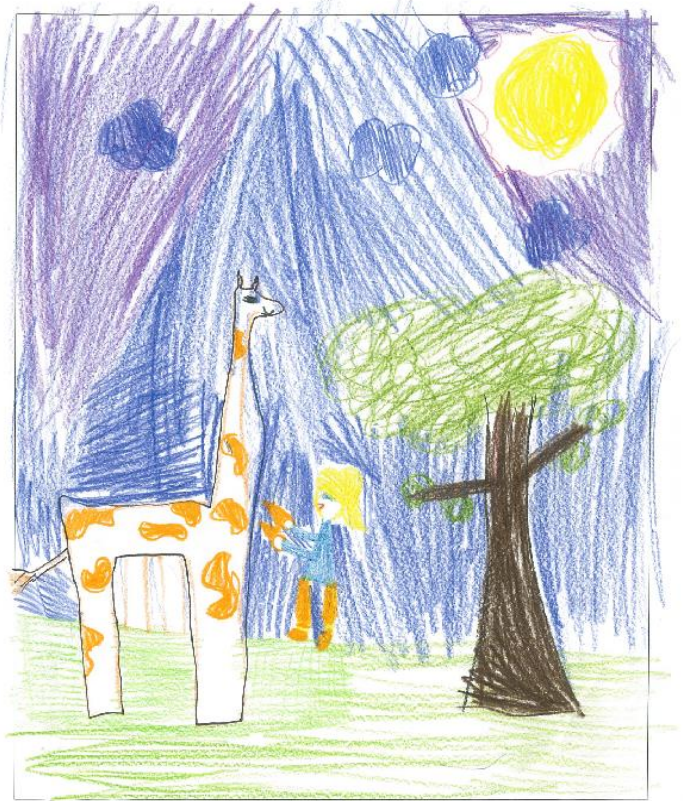
MY ZOO EXCURSION by Yesui

On Thursday 18th June Stage 1 travelled on a Monster bus to the zoo. We saw lots of interesting animals and learnt amazing facts. The giraffes have the best view of the Harbour Bridge and the Opera House. The seal show was fantastic! The seals performed awesome tricks and tried to splash us. We all loved the baby chimpanzee and he smiled at us. The lions and tigers were asleep and so were the koalas. It was the best day ever.



MY ZOO EXCURSION by Lena

On Thursday 18th of June 2015 we went to Taronga Zoo and we got to see lots of animals. When we got to the zoo we saw elephants, monkeys, chimpanzees, and gorillas playing tips. Before we got on the bus some of us got to buy toys. We had a funfilled day. We can't wait for our next excursion.



MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

SPEAK UP! TRAINING DAY 2



On the 5th of June a group of students from year 7 and year 8 participated in the second training day for Speak Up! At NSW Parliament House.

They practiced their impromptu public speaking skills and were given the opportunity to practice speaking at the podium in the Legislative Assembly Chamber.

They were all very well behaved, and learned some very useful public speaking skills. The year 7 students incorporated what they learned into their persuasive speech assessments at school!

The followings students attended the workshop:

Year 7:

- Elijah Munro 7A
- Ethan Johnson 7A (Pictured)
- Jaida Conway 7X
- Zoe May Zawetz 7X
- Sebastian Wooldridge 7L

Year 8:

- Rodney Russell 8A
- Liam Johnson 8A
- Jarad Simon 8A
- Siu Afu 8L
- Elizabeth Cox 8L
- Trinity Dixon 8L

The final Speak Up! Forum will take place on the 31st of July at

NSW Parliament House. Families, teachers, and principals will be invited to attend.

Mr Harry Jun and Ms Rochelle Foley

SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS

FOOD TECHNOLOGY-FARIDUL MISHRA

YEAR 12

This term the Year 12 Food Technology class designed and created food products for different target markets. Marissa and Joshua made Peach and Honeydew melon jam, Nise and Mikey made Frozen Chicken drummets and wings seasoned with Australian Bush spices and Caine and Douglas made Chocolate brownies. Their products were taste tested and evaluated by the other students and teachers who were in their target market range. All herbs were from the senior schools kitchen gardens. Year 12s are making good progress towards their HSC.



FOOD TECHNOLOGY

YEAR 10

Year 10's have been studying Food Equity and Innovative Foods this term. They have done individual research tasks for Food Equity where they investigated a variety of reasons for unequal food and water availability both in Australia and Developing countries.

They are also experimenting with a variety of new recipes for their Innovative Foods. As part of their trials they finished up making Lilly Pilly jam for NAIDOC day. The jam will be served to our invited guests for morning tea.



MANDATORY TECHNOLOGY

YEAR 7

Year 7 groups are introduced to Food Technology skills through the following activities: Risk identification and assessment, Food Technology theory background, designer profiles and practical skills. They have been trying a variety of healthy recipes using herbs. For their practical assessment task students designed their own recipes including at least one herb. All the herbs used in this task were grown in the senior schools vegetable and herb gardens.

This term the students had a very successful practical assessment output. They created meals like Healthy Vegetarian Pizza, Healthy chicken and vegetable pizza, Chick Pea Dhal, Sweet Potato and vegetable soup with Quinoa seeds, Chicken and vegetables and Berry muffins with mint.



YEAR 8

This term year 8's did some textiles in combination with cooking a variety of healthy meals and some desserts. They were only assessed for their textiles project. All students made pillow cases for their assessment task and redesigned their bedroom layout. They came up with very creative surface designs for their article. Students used stencil printing to decorate their pillow cases. Some of their works are displayed in the photos below.



PROGRAMS COOKING

Students from across year 7 to 10 choose to participate in Tuesday afternoon Programs Cooking classes. This program involves students choosing recipes from around the world then changing them to create healthier versions. They then cook and enjoy their healthy recipes. Below are some photos of students participating in this class.



TECHNOLOGY & APPLIED SCIENCE (TAS)



What a busy and exciting 2015 for our TAS students. The new Graphics and 3D printing course and new timber projects in woodwork have our student numbers growing in all subjects in TAS.

TAS electives provide the opportunity for students to complete practical projects which are both challenging and rewarding. They allow students to develop sound practical skills which are an asset both personally and later in the workplace.

Exciting news for the TAS department has been the addition of Plant Production as a new technology subject at the beginning of this term. This has seen year 7 and 8 students learn about plant produce, garden maintenance, agriculture, and landscape design. Students have been given opportunities to indulge in fun activities such as planting their own herbs and vegetables in the school garden while using a variety of tools for the upkeep of soil and compost. This subject is proving to be an engaging experience for our students with more exciting activities in the field for the approaching semester.

Year 7 technology students are creating Perspex smart phone holders and year 8 technology students are creating Bird feeders and small wooden children's toys.

Year 9 woodwork students are making skate board decks and cheese boards.

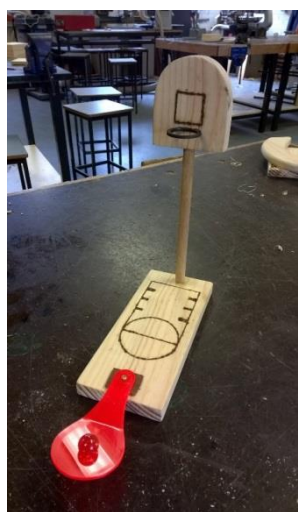
Year 9 graphics technology students are designing and drawing in 3D using sketch up software and printing their designs using 3D printers.

Year 10 woodwork students are learning to make dovetail joints to create their tool boxes.

Year 11 Design and Technology students are learning about Australian Designers and year 12 are busy finishing their major design projects for their HSC.



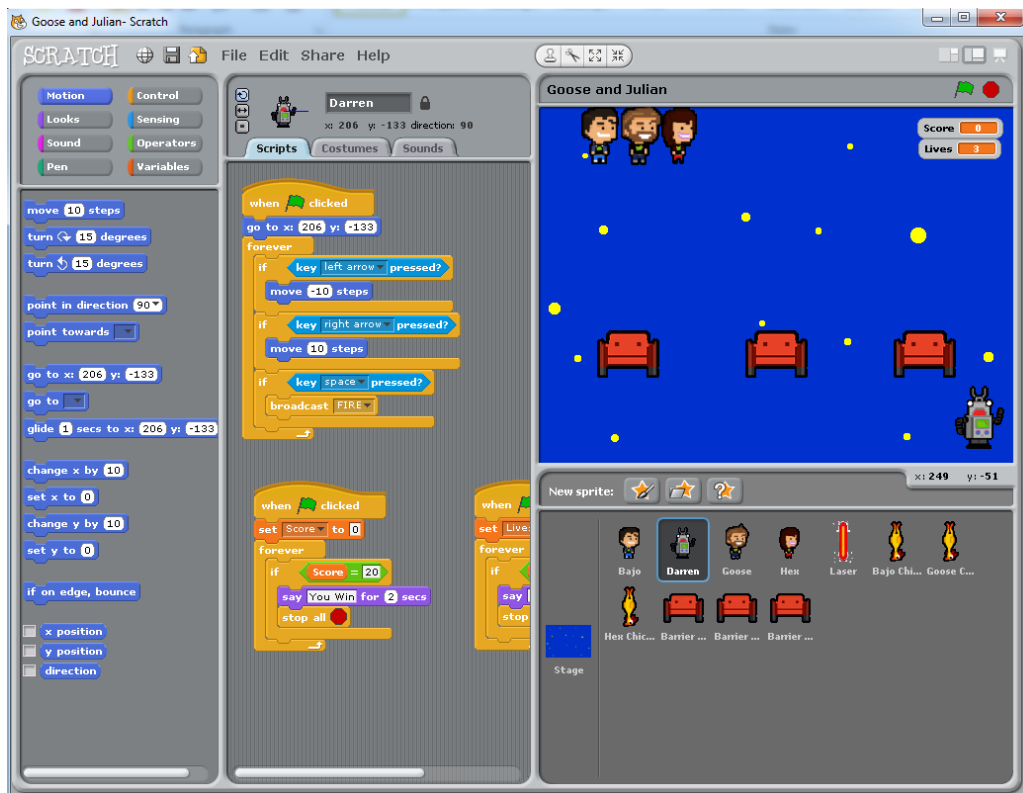
TECHNOLOGY PROJECTS CREATED BY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS



MULTIMEDIA PROJECTS

YEAR 7

This semester, Year 7 have been learning to code. We have created a variety of multimedia projects, including a disco party and a maze game using the Scratch programming software. We have also created sprites using Gamedevkit. Our major project was a space invaders game with sprites named Bajo, Hex, Darren and Goose. There were also lasers, couches and rubber chickens.



YEAR 8

Year 8 have been working on creating Movie Magic using Green Screens. There have been lots of special effects being made. Through the magic of video effects and technology, we have been superimposing subjects onto virtual backgrounds. You can shrink down a student so they can stand on a table top, or use visual effects to make them fly through the sky like a superhero or create a news report. One group have even created "holograms" using a range of innovative techniques.

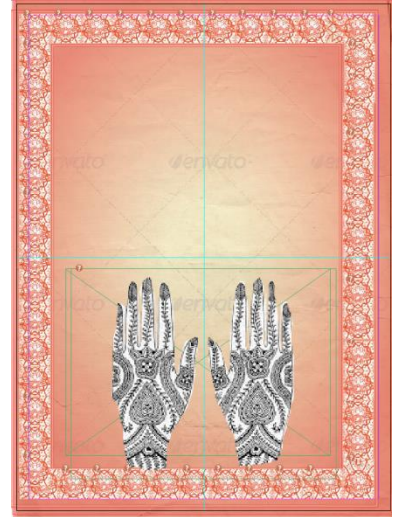


YEAR 10

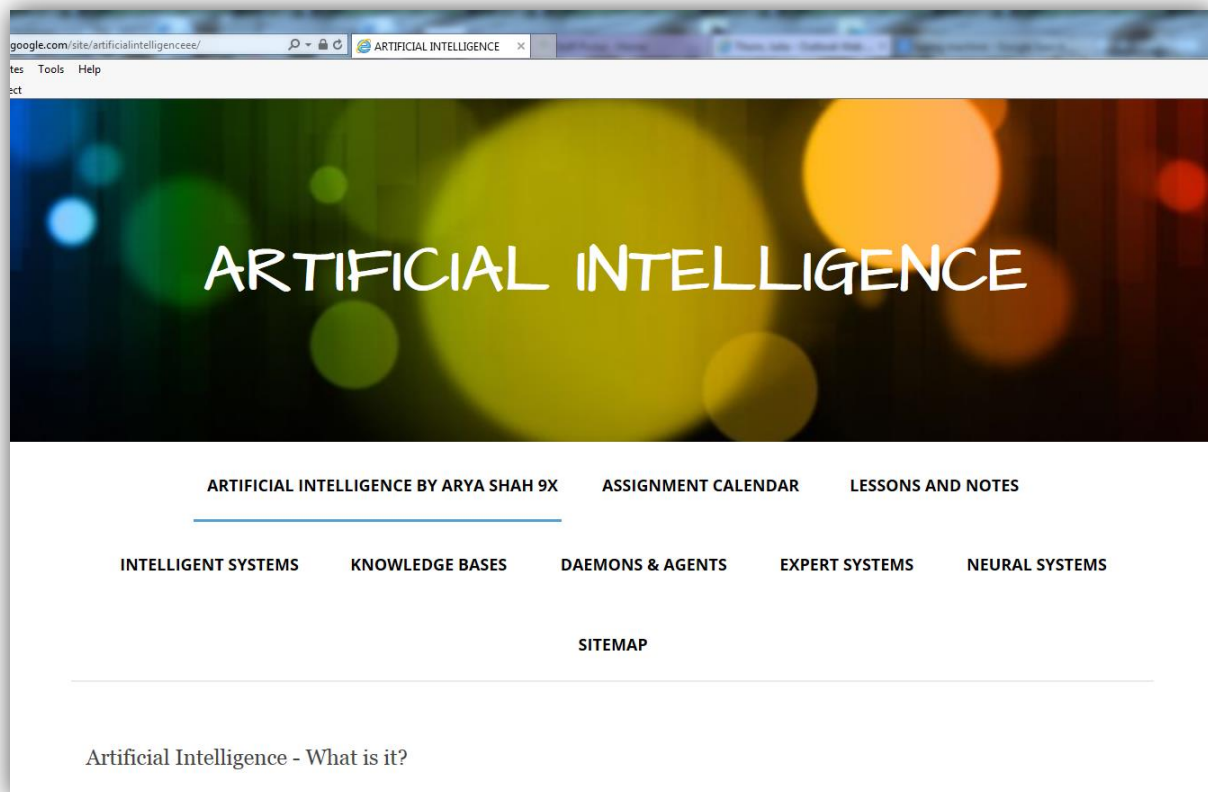
Year 10 Photography have been creating a 3D installation art folio with a wide range of differing artworks. The most popular part of this project was to create giants and fairies using their Photoshop skills. Other notable artworks included our 3D portrait cubes of selfies. Again, a popular activity.

YEAR 9

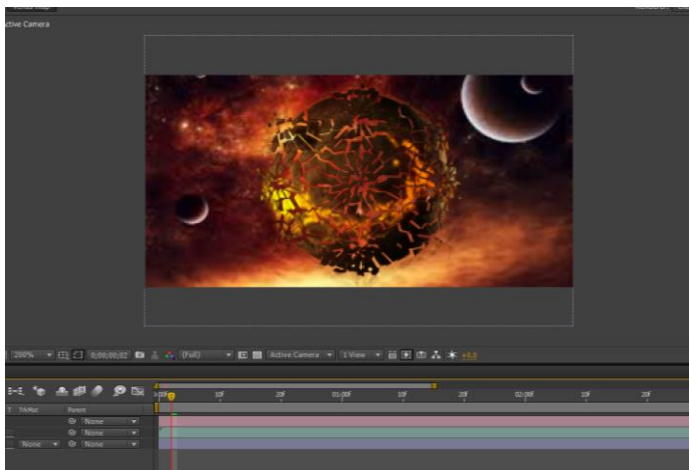
Year 9 Photography have been learning the basics of composition and an introduction to Photoshop. And in Multimedia we have been studying Graphic Design, using the Adobe suite to produce a variety of documents.



Both IST classes have produced some professional looking websites exploring a range of 21st century topics such as the development of Artificial Intelligence and the Turing machine.



Year 10 Multimedia have been producing a range of 2D and 3D rendered models using Google Sketchup and Blender. Some excellent work was submitted.



dreamstime.com

YOUNG ECONOMISTS BIG DAY OUT

Recently 15 of our Year 12 Economics students joined 800 other students' for their 'Big Day Out' at the UBS Economics Student Conference. There they saw their economics guru's perform live, including the venerable Mr Ross Gittens and textbook doyen Mr Tim Riley. Students returned well informed on interest rate strategies and global economic trends. So if you're thinking of investing in the housing market or in stocks, just ask one of our students for an update on the latest figures.

MODERN HISTORY



Year 12 Modern History embarked on a journey, a journey that led them to the meaning of what it is to be human. On Thursday 30 April, we went to the Sydney Jewish museum for a tour and talk on Albert Speer. What we encountered was a lesson on humanity filled with personal stories of death, destruction, triumph and enduring spirits. Our guide Mary, spoke to us about her father's experiences during the holocaust, how he was one of the lucky ones who lost everything including his wife and child, was transported to the death camp like cattle but was instead selected to collect the clothes and belongings of the people who were to enter the gas chambers, was denounced by a group of

teenage boys but was saved by a kind Polish man who stopped the youths with a gun and managed to escape Europe under extreme circumstances and after everything create a life in Australia. If Mary's story was not harrowing enough, Olga, a gorgeous lady in her nineties and sole survivor of her family during the holocaust detailed her tragic tale of force labour, abuse and neglect, the pain caused by the denial of the holocaust and her success again in building a new life and a new family. For 3 hours, we sat and listened to all that they had to say and learnt the truth behind the tragedy and despair of industrial killings.

"The pile of shoes and the children's memorial made me realise how privileged I am to live in a multicultural country that accepts all religions and beliefs." Eri

"If we had a minutes silence for every child that was killed we would be standing in silence for 11 years, this made me realise how heartless the Nazi regime was." Angela

"The most significant aspect of the tour in my opinion was the recognition of guilt by a Nazi officer who ran a death camp. He spoke to his interviewer about any resentment he might endure in regards to the death of thousands of people at his hands. It took three months of denial before the officer admitted his weighted conscious and as a result, it is believed that he died the same day from a heart attack after the interview." Alex

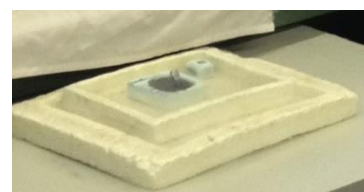
UNITED NATION YOUTH DEBATE



Pictured: Jason Ke, Mehtaj Jahal, Dennis Deng and Solongo Marneur. The UN Youth debate at SCEGGS, Darlinghurst was an incredible learning experience simulating the real events in the United Nations Secretariat Council. Our ACPS students Solongo Marneur, Mehtaj Jahal, Dennis Deng and Jason Ke participated actively in the debate. They were able to participate in multiple events throughout the day representing Chile and Angola in the bills deciding the legislation against various international issues. They were able to bond as a team and improve their skill sets vastly. They are definitely looking forward to the next opportunity to participate in such an event. They thank Miss Ryan for all the time and the effort she gave up for the debate and the school for making it possible.

YEAR 12 PHYSICS EXCURSION

On Thursday the 18th June, Year 12 Physics students went to Sydney University. We worked in a 2nd year Physics laboratory to carry out a number of first hand investigations. The first hand investigations were directly linked to the HSC syllabus and gave us an opportunity to enhance and deepen our knowledge of the module 'Ideas to implementation' which we have been studying in the classroom. Whilst at Sydney University we were able to explore the 'photoelectric effect', cathode tube rays, and replicate the famous hertz's radio waves experiment. The coolest part of the day was using liquid nitrogen to cool a superconductor down to its critical temperature and see the Meissner effect, a magnet 'levitating'.



ROTARY DISTRICT 9675

Model United Nations Assembly

On Saturday 16th May 2015 six year eleven students from Alexandria Park Community School participated in the Model United National Assembly for the Eastern District. The Nan Tien Temple in Berkeley was transformed into a Model United Nations where students from nineteen high schools were delegates of a variety of nations including the United States of America, Brazil, Ukraine, Israel, Pakistan, Turkey, Kenya, Mexico and China. Jason Ke, Sophie Kerrigan and Surya Wijaya were delegates of Egypt and Farhan Khan, Solongo Marneur and Christopher Pintus were delegates of Nigeria.



The day includes a series of resolutions that delegates (the students) respond to by representing the perspective of the country they are delegates of. This includes a great deal of research and preparation to ensure your response is well informed, well structured and no more than three minutes long.

The major resolutions discussed dealt with the following issues:

- Convention on the Status of Refugees, recognition of this status and accepting the duties relating to this convention.
- A peaceful solution to the conflict between Israel and Palestine including the possibility of creating two independent, democratic and prosperous states.

- Border security and the safety of a countries citizen in regards to the risk of terrorism and the use of torture to access information.

The general resolutions discussed dealt with the following issues:

- Dealing with catastrophic disease, such as Ebola, as a united world with clear process.
- Cultural heritage and that items connected to cultural heritage should remain in their country of origin, or be return there, unless there is a threat to security.
- Each country only had one minute to respond to each of the general resolutions.

Jason, Sophie, Surya, Farhan, Solongo and Christopher all spoke well and represented Alexandria Park Community School beautifully. It was an incredible day and was an excellent opportunity for students to learn more about key world issues, the range of perspectives on them and the United Nations. Students also developed diplomacy and public speaking skills in a unique and real world setting.



THE GREAT DEBATE

Eight students from Years 10 and 11 participated in the first training day for The Great Debate.



We learnt about Jumbunna: Indigenous House of Learning at UTS, the Matter, Manner and Method of debating and discussed the NAIDOC theme to create debating topics. All of the students actively participated in the discussion and represented our school proudly. Due to the amount of students from Alexandria Park Community School, we have two teams involved in the program. The topics they are debating are:

Aboriginal people need to be living on the land to stay connected to country (Opposition)

Building developers should acquire permission from the traditional elders of an area before they develop a site (Government)

A highlight of our day was having Professor Michael McDaniel, the director of Jumbunna, speak to us about achieving success, his Aboriginality and a possum skin coat he made. After he explained the coat to us, each student had the opportunity to wear it.



The students have also been participating in after school workshops about protocols, identity and shame. These are designed to provide them with more skills to assist them in The Great Debate. The workshops have been facilitated by Julie Welsh, a local community member, who has a wealth of experience in young leadership programs. The students have shown a great depth of knowledge in these workshops.

HSIE YEAR 12 BUSINESS STUDIES EXCURSION

By: Angela Guo and Jared Hermogenes

Business Studies is one of the most popular HSC courses, with almost a 16,000 course candidature in 2014. To help us with our studies, Ms Constantinides arranged an excursion to the Business Studies Student Conference on the 12th of June 2015 at the Seymour Centre, University of Sydney. This was to assist with our revision for the upcoming trial examinations as well as acquiring resources and additional information for the core modules that will be examined in the Higher School Certificate.



Year 12 Business Studies students had the opportunity to get expert exam advice and tips from experienced teachers and HSC markers. There were four sessions covering the core aspects of Business Studies, and every student received a folder with a set of comprehensive notes. The sessions proved to be both informative and entertaining-providing us with greater insight on what to expect for the HSC.

The best part of our excursion was having lunch at Victoria Park, where Ms Constantinides ordered pizzas from Dominos to celebrate our last excursion.

We would like to thank Ms Constantinides for her efforts in arranging this excursion for us. We appreciate your efforts greatly!



ENGLISH EXCURSION FOR STAGE 6

This term, Year 12 English Advanced has been fortunate enough to go on two excursions - one at the Seymour Centre and the other at UTS, Ultimo. For our first excursion during Week 6, we went to a Hamlet Symposium where students learnt how to analyse key scenes of the play for Module B: Critical Study of Texts and interact with other HSC students from various schools around Sydney. For our second excursion during Week 8, we spent the day in many different buildings at UTS, attending lectures based on the various modules students have studied. Year 12 were exceptional in their behaviour and attitude during both excursions and deserve to be commended for representing the school with pride. Well done!

YEAR 12 EXTEND THEIR STUDY

Earlier this month the Year 12 English Extension 1 class extended themselves by attending the English Teachers Association Study day... on a Sunday! Extension English students from some 143 schools descended upon Newington College to further their understanding of their chosen elective and consolidate their learning in preparation for the HSC. Dasha Vovnenko appreciated advice from former extension students, Will Makarytchev deepened his appreciation of literature from the cold war period, and Jared Hermogenes was impressed by the depth of analysis while Mr Forbath was impressed by the dedication of his students! A fine Sunday enjoyed by all.

The class has submitted their final assessment task and is now refining their study in preparation for the upcoming trials. Good luck 12 Extension English!

Pictured: Jared, Dasha and Will



MATH MATTERS

We are very fortunate at Alexandria Park Community that we now have another Mathematician working with us from the CSIRO Mathematician in Schools program.

Mike Hirschhorn has joined us this term for two mornings a week. He lectures at the University of NSW and has been on the HSC Mathematics examination committee. On the mornings that he attends he spends time with years 9, 11 and 12.

The Prestigious Australian Mathematics Competition will be held next term on July 30th 2015 for the students who have registered in years 3 to 12. Notes will be sent home during the second week of term 3.

Years 11 and 12 have been extremely busy this term learning the skills and concepts required for success in the HSC. Although year 11 are not in their HSC year they are aware that whatever they will later learn in the HSC year is built upon and related to all their preliminary work.

Year 12 Mathematics students have the opportunity to attend a study day at school during the holidays. The day will be run by faculty staff and is to assist students in their preparation for the HSC.

Years 7 to 10 have been busy with the curriculum and have an assessment task due early next term. To assist them in their studies the mathematics faculty has negotiated an opportunity for students to obtain an individual account for Maths Online. Maths Online is a fully automated interactive tuition website for Australian Mathematics k-12 courses. The discounted price is \$10 for the remaining 6 months of the year. Some students have been using the website already and have found it beneficial.

Years 7 and 9 sat for NAPLAN in May and we wait with interest to analyse the results of our students. NAPLAN is used by the faculty, as one of the many instruments, to instruct our Mathematics tuition of the students.

Problem of the Month

What maths word can you make with these 8 letters?

U	N	L
I		C
M	V	U

MUSIC NEWS

FOCUS ON NAIDOC

All Music classes this term have had a focus in Aboriginal Music, in the lead up to our NAIDOC celebration just before the holidays.

Students have learnt a variety of Aboriginal songs, including some in language, and Stage 3 students have composed amazing original songs based on the storybook "My Country" by Ezekiel Kwaymullina.

Many students have been putting in extra time to perfect performances for the NAIDOC assembly. The Alex Park Sapphires will be making a highly anticipated return appearance singing a song by local musician Nadeena Dixon. The Vocal Ensemble will be performing a Lou Bennett number and the Year 9 Elective Music class will present a Pigram Brothers classic. Our wonderful Artists in Residence will also be performing, on their own and also alongside our student performers. As usual, the assembly will conclude with a rousing performance by the Senior Rock Band.

P&C NEWS



For all our existing school bankers, please remember to bring your child's bank book and some money to deposit each Friday morning at the canteen between 8:30-9:30 AM. Every deposit made earns a token no matter what the amount (min. 50 cents), and once your child has reached 10 tokens, these can be redeemed for exciting prizes which this year have an "Outer Space Savers" theme, and include the ET Movie DVD, planet handball, invisible ink Martian pen and other fabulous space prizes.

We also welcome all our new students to sign up to the program and start earning rewards. The school banking program is run in conjunction with CBA, and teaches good savings habits to our children, as well as helping to raise funds for our school.

To register your child, you can either bring their existing Dollarmites account book on Friday mornings so they can bank at school. Paperwork is available outside the Office on the Park Road Campus, or from the canteen, and it will also be available on the day.

We look forward to welcoming all our new savers to the program.

The School Banking Team

We are also calling for volunteers to help collect money from the children and process their deposits. If you can spare an hour or two a week and would like to get involved, please email Joasia.gajda@gmail.com.

