

# Alexandria Park Community School

Community Opportunity Success  
in a caring learning environment

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## Newsletter

Term 3 Week 10

2015

### FEATURE STORY





## 25 Years for 'Uncle Hilt'....Congratulations and Thanks

Hilton Donovan is a name any Aboriginal person from Redfern and surrounding areas would know. That's what happens when you have been the Aboriginal Education Officer at Alexandria Park Community School (formerly Cleveland Street High) for a quarter of a century. Since 1994 he has also been joined professionally by Deb Daley, another stalwart of the Redfern Community who originally hails from the small town of Tingha in Central New South Wales. Over three decades they have seen the bar raised for Aboriginal educational standards and they credit a renewed pride in Aboriginal identity being linked to academic achievement and overall school retention for Indigenous students.

Last month Hilton quietly celebrated the 25th anniversary of his work with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students at Alexandria Park Community School. Ironically it was a job Hilton fell into by accident and it almost didn't happen if not for some twists of fate.

Hilton was contacted by his sister and told to apply for a job at what was then Cleveland Street High School back in Sydney who required an Aboriginal Education Assistant. Hilton says of the time however that getting the job at the school was relatively hassle-free. – "I had the interview on the Friday, on Saturday I got a telegram saying I'd got the job and on the Monday (in August 1990) I started" ..... "And he's never left" Deb adds.

In his time he and Aunty Deb have seen the school change its name to Alexandria Park Community School and eventually wholeheartedly embrace the identity of the schools' many Indigenous students. It is now something embraced by all students and staff. Hilton remembers: "We celebrated NAIDOC week in 1991 and we continue it every year. Now we thrive on Aboriginal pride being part of the day-to-day running of the school." Deb adds "Some staff and students come here having not met any Aboriginal people [so their knowledge is limited], but their perspectives soon change". This has not only meant that a broad range of people have been exposed to Aboriginal Australians and culture in a safe setting but it has directly benefited the outcomes of the Aboriginal students, namely through regular attendance, year 12 completion and academic achievement. Hilton and Deb both see that overall the school dynamics have changed from earlier years. There's definitely a link between academic achievement and doing things from an Aboriginal perspective and a link between acknowledging and celebrating Aboriginality and finishing year 12" Hilton proudly acknowledges and Deb agrees; "In the past year 9 and 10 was the goal, now they want to finish year 12 and they're thinking of TAFE, work or University".

Alexandria Park has six Aboriginal staff currently employed, but they also credit organisations such as NASCA, AIME, Babana and Tribal Warrior who at different times have helped to drive the ambitions of the school while collaborating with the students and teachers. After 25 years Hilton has seen success with the students he directly works with as coming down to acknowledging Aboriginal perspectives. He says "Outcomes for Aboriginal kids around Aboriginal perspectives means people do well at school". Like his hand-written job application 25 years ago, it sounds pretty simple. *(Thank you to NASCA for allowing our school newsletter to print this article.)*



Deb (left) and Hilton have seen an appreciation of Aboriginal Culture grow over three decades.

## Principal's report

As you can see from our September newsletter it has been another busy and exciting month at Alex Park. I continue to be amazed and very proud of our school, our wonderful students, committed staff, exceptional parents, carers and outstanding community support. No wonder by the end of each school term we are ready for a holiday. I wish you all a wonderful fun-filled holiday and look forward to seeing everyone back at school in October.

## Year 12 graduation – aspiring and achieving students

Congratulations to Year 12 class of 2015 on their graduation. We hosted a wonderful year 12 graduation ceremony attended by many proud family and community supporters. Our year 12 of 2015 have demonstrated themselves to be a talented, creative, hardworking, and socially aware group of young people. They are highly talented musicians, world class athletes, international climate change advocates, scientists, mathematicians, writers, artists, chefs, and outstanding crafts persons. The list goes on.

Achieving and  
aspiring  
students.

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## Gifted and talented Aboriginal programs

Once again our students represented our school in an outstanding manner. Our 2 Great Debate teams were organised, focussed, well-prepared and well presented. 10 school teams debated 5 topics called 'Matters of public importance'. The 'Matters of public importance' are developed by the students during the training days for the debate. Our Alex Park teams spoke with confidence, eloquence and passion while communicating highly persuasive arguments for their case. Not easy when you have to step up to the microphone in the legislative assembly of

Parliament House in front of a packed house filled with parents and carers, community members, students, teachers, Principals and Department officials. Many of our student debaters had come through the ranks of the Yarn-up and Speak-up programs and their skills were evident... Maeve Thomson, the teacher in charge of this program has done an amazing and thorough job organising and mentoring the students. Thank you Maeve.

## The Alex Factor

Due to unforeseen circumstances I sadly and regrettably missed the Alex Factor...

I raced into the Denzil to see the talent winners with guest judge the wonderful Paul Goodchild being photographed with their certificates and huge smiles.

Many parents were taking photos and there was a real buzz of excitement and good cheer in the space. I hear that it was the best Alex Factor ever!!!

Thank you Ms Winfield, music guru, for bringing to our school another wonderful creative program to showcase student performance and teamwork.

Achieving and  
aspiring  
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## What's on

Monday October 5	Public holiday
Tuesday October 6	Back to school. Term 4 commences for students and staff
Friday October 9	Kindy swim program commences
Monday October 12	HSC exams Commence P & C meeting
Tuesday October 13	Deadly Kids doing well awards

## Support from our local member for Heffron, Mr Ron Hoenig.

Within 24 hours of making a call to Mr Hoenig's office to ask him to help us with our concerns for the safety of students, parents and staff crossing Mitchell Road, his office had organised a visit to our school. On September 2 Mr Hoenig met with myself, Mrs Smith, Mr Kingsley and parents to listen to our concerns for and observe the potential harms at the Mitchell Road crossing. He also toured the senior campus, talking to staff and students. Mr Hoenig is a great supporter of Alex Park and has taken immediate action to help our school advocate for a safer crossing at Mitchell Road.







**WINNER OF THE SCHOOL DELIVERED VET EXCELLENCE AWARD (NSW ULTIMO REGION) VET BUSINESS SERVICES - ANNE NGUYEN (Year 12)**

Congratulations to Anne Nguyen (Year 12 student) who was the winning recipient of the Vocational Education and Training Excellence Award in Business Services 2015 (Public Schools NSW Ultimo). The VET Award was presented to Anne by the Director of Public Schools NSW (Fairfield) at the VET Awards Evening held at Revesby Workers Club on Wednesday 19 August 2015.

**JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS**

**Chickens in Kindergarten!**

Kindergarten has had the unique opportunity to look after some baby chicks in their class. Over the course of two weeks, students were able to observe the eggs in the incubator and watch them hatch into cute little chicks! It was wonderful to see the way that the chicks were growing and changing. Both staff and students loved getting a 'hands on' learning experience. This incursion was part of the Science and Technology unit "Staying Alive" where students learn about the needs of living things.



**My Treasure Box By 1S**

Inside my treasure box there are lots of special objects I have collected,  
I hide my treasure box in a safe place under my bed  
so that it is protected.

My Grandfather gave me a feather that he found from the beach,  
My sister and I collected shells that are the colour of peach.  
My father gave me a coin that belonged to him when he was a child,  
My mother gave me a wisteria flower that she said grew in the wild.  
My cousin gave me his toy bear with very fluffy ears,  
He told me that if I keep the bear under my pillow  
it will scare away my fears.

My Grandmother gave me special coloured pencils that we use to draw fish under the sea,  
Every time we draw together our imagination runs free.

I kept the gold medal that I won at the running race,  
When no one is looking I get it out and wear it as a necklace.  
I kept the metal horse shoe that I found in the stables at my family farm,  
And the bracelet that my Uncle gave me which he told me is a lucky charm.

My Aunty gave me a silver safety pin,  
She told me she wore it and kept it in a small tin.  
All my treasures bring back different memories and belong to only me,  
When I hold them in my hand,  
They fill me with so much glee.







**The Magic Door written by 1D Alexandria Park Community School**

The door opened slowly and I saw a gorgeous rainbow of many different colours made from delicious lollies. Everybody and everything that the rainbow covered had magical powers.

The door opened slowly and I saw a pink, furry, humongous monster with large googly eyes. The monster became my very best friend and lived under my bed.

The door opened slowly and I saw a gigantic, scaly, three horned creature with a large frilly neck. It was a TRICERATOPS! I had travelled back in time to the land of the dinosaurs.

The door opened slowly and I saw a magnificent beach. The water was shimmering and crystal clear. There were palm trees swaying in the gentle wind. I spent the day swimming and collecting beautiful seashells and playing in the white, fine sand.

The door opened slowly and I saw a barren land with no plant life. There were grey, ugly zombies breathing in the foul pollution which bellowed from the tall chimneys.

The door opened slowly and I saw a luscious, green land bursting full of life. Every child was happy and loved playing outdoors in the sunshine under the clear blue sky.

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## STAGE 1

Stage 1 have been enjoying learning Mathematics through practical activities!



## Science in 2P

2P have been learning about how food changes. 2P have done some lessons about ice-blocks, spaghetti, chocolate and popcorn.

Our first lesson was about an ice-block that we found out was melted. At first everyone thought it was egg yolk because it was runny and orange. Isn't that funny! It was our second best lesson because at the end of the lesson we got to have some of the melted ice-block!

Our favourite lesson was about chocolate. We described normal chocolate which is hard and strong. We also described melted chocolate which is runny and soft. We got to taste the chocolate. It was very tasty because we got to lick our fingers.

We made funny pictures with cooked spaghetti. Here is a word chain to describe how spaghetti changes when you cook it:

uncooked spaghetti → pointy → hard → cook → cooked spaghetti → soft → curly → can't be changed back

We did an investigation about ice cubes. We put one ice cube on a plate. We put one ice cube between our hands. We found out that the one in our hands melted faster because we have blood running through our hands and that warms us up. It was lots of fun!

by Kristoffer and Jacob



## APCS Students Excel at Regional Spelling Bee Finals

Spelling can be easy, but then you come across a word like "*INCOMPREHENSIBLE*"<sup>1</sup>, and it can become a struggle. However, four APCS students, Alicia O. (3/4F), Kelly M. (3/4J), Deni K (5/6HM) and Adrian P. (6M) excelled at spelling some exceptionally difficult words at the recent Regional Spelling Bee finals. Competing against the best young *lexicologists*<sup>2</sup> from the schools in our area, our students stormed through the early rounds before, unfortunately, being eliminated on some really challenging words.

While they were knocked out of the competition, their *exemplary*<sup>3</sup> knowledge has been *acclaimed*<sup>4</sup> by competition organisers.

Hearty *felicitations*<sup>5</sup> to all who participated!

Daniel R. Judd

APCS Spelling Bee Coordinator

1 incomprehensible (adj.) not comprehensible; not understandable; unintelligible. (say *inkompruh'hensuhbuhl*)

2 lexicologist (n.) a social scientist who studies the history, form and meaning of words. (say *leksuh'koluhjist*)

3 exemplary (adj.) worthy of imitation; commendable: exemplary conduct. (say *eg'zempluhree*)

4 acclaimed (v., past tense) to salute with words or sounds of joy or approval; applaud. (say *uh'klaym*)

5 felicitations (pl. n.) expression of good wishes; congratulation. (say *fuhlisuh'tayshuhn*)

Definitions from the Macquarie Dictionary Online.

## Happenings in Middle School

By Willow Ross and Ambika Soengkoeng in 5O.

Lots of classes have been doing interesting things recently, all over the school. This article is going to describe some of these things. All of the school? No can do. But a little of it? Definitely.

5/6HM has been reading *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* (which is an awesome book! Ages since I've read it, I should soon 'cause it ROCKS! One up to you, C.S. Lewis!). They've also been writing fantasy stories (call us nerds if you want to, but that is fun! Sign me up!) and making models of fantasy lands (another awesome thing!). They developed their skills in editing stories and the technical structure, and Ms Hanekroot was very pleased with the high standard!

5/6S have also been doing work to do with *The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe*. They read the book and compared it with the movie, and made artwork too! For PE, 5/6S learnt how to play European Handball.

5O has been doing a map of the area around the school, with drawings of the significant buildings in the map's limits, such as the restaurants, cafes and other businesses. Slightly less recent but even more fun (in our opinion at least) we all made fantasy creatures! There were lots of creative ideas. Now I'm slightly scared of the wall as there are plenty of dragons! (nothing against dragons though, they rock!) We also wrote information reports about our creature. We also enjoyed watching the AleX Factor, and we are pleased to announce that our classmate Caitlin won! (WHOOHOO!)

Oh, and how could we forget, four 6M students had a brilliant debate against Ferncourt Public School. The topic was *Space exploration is a waste of time and money*, which, if you ask us, is a downright NO. Happily, APCS was on the negative team. It was amazing! We loved all the arguments, AND WE WON THE QUARTER FINALS!

## Mad Science Day



National Science Week is Australia's annual celebration of science and technology. On Thursday the 21<sup>st</sup> August Alexandria Park Community School celebrated National Science Week by hosting a 'Mad Science Day' for middle school students. Students were given the opportunity to dress up as their favorite Scientist or a Scientist, students then entered the fancy dress competition. It was a tight competition with our Guest judges Mr. Abdullah, Wendy Sun and Alex Makarytchev deciding on 5 students to take out the prize. Scientists included Marie Curie, Albert Einstein and Jacques Cousteau. Students spent the

day rotating through

teachers. These workshops included; Acid + Base reactions, Static electricity, building boats, optical illusions and projectile motion, using fruit as batteries, exploring the relationships of planets and comets and making plastic out of milk. We also had Anthony from the Australian Wildlife Park visit and bring some of his friends. A huge thank you to a number of Year 10 students who volunteered to help out for the day as well as all the teachers involved.

"It was interesting to see how milk reacts to different substances" – Humyra 7X.

"The activity was fun we were able to build boats and then have a competition to see who had the best boat" – Ben 7A

"This activity was fun and engaging. It was amazing to see many different illusions. The end was full of excitement as we battled with marshmallows and counters, it was the best" - Ushante 7A

"I found this(acid + base reaction) really fun and we were able to try different ways of inflating the balloon. It was really exciting and interesting" -5/6HM

"I like the animals, we were able to touch some of them and the man was interesting and funny" – 5/6S





This seems awesome! We are having so much fun at the moment. It's been a fantastic term, with Mad Science Day, The Book Parade and The AleX Factor all rolled in! We have taken some photos of student work to share with you.



## FANTASY

What a successful unit of work "Fantasy" has been this term in Year 5/6HM!

We studied "The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe" by C.S. Lewis. This novel provided the foundation for creative writing and such outstanding stories resulted. Stories written by Deni Kokkinis, Savera Lather, Tehya Rouse, Eufa Vaewpech and Nadia Aigner were of superior quality and far too long to print in this newsletter.

Incorporated into this theme was Visual Arts where the students built a 3D model of their own Fantasyland. Again, outstanding results were achieved. Some models by Tehys, Eve, Sam and Audrey were edible while other models were long lasting.

I am so proud of everyone in 5/6HM.

Jann Hanekroot  
Teacher





## Primary Sport News

We have enjoyed a highly successful Combined Sport programme for our Years 3-6 students throughout this term. Our PSSA Soccer, Netball and Oz-tag teams have been representing us proudly in their competitions against other schools. City Community Tennis shared their expertise with our Tennis group, developing their skills and confidence in the sport. Additionally, our At-School group have been developing their skills in Netball, Soccer and other games and sports. As usual, student behaviour has been exemplary, with all students participating in a responsible and supportive manner. For your information, City Community Tennis also organise weekend lessons and competitions. Lessons generally run for between 45 and 60 minutes. Using modified equipment, participants will be guided through the technical and tactical fundamentals of the game. If interested, you can find additional information at <http://www.citycommunitytennis.com.au>.



The South Sydney Zone Athletics Carnival was held on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> August. I was really proud of all our students who represented our school so well. Special congratulations go to the following students who have qualified for the Regional Athletics Championship, which was held later this term:

- Lauren Young 6M (High Jump, Discus, 200m, 800m)
- Justin Nonis 6M (Long Jump, 100m, 200m)
- Caibe Harrison 5/6 (Discus)
- Anika Harrison 5/6 (Discus, Shot Put)
- Callum Povey 5/6 (100m)
- Eric Kidson 5/6 (200m)
- Snr Girls Relay Team (Lauren Young, Ji Woo Kim 6M, Irene Zhong 5/6, Tunya Sripradit)

We have several sport programmes planned as part of our Combined Sport programme in Term 4. The PSSA Softball and Cricket competitions will recommence, and students continue on the same teams as they were in during Term 1. Thanks for your ongoing support and encouragement in our sport programmes.

## Under 15s Basketball

We've had a busy couple of weeks for both our Boys and Girls u15's basketball team with some mixed results with mixed preparation.

The boys team has been training for 1 ½ hours every week of term 3 in preparation for our game against Woollooware High. The team is made up of a few veterans who have played organised basketball before, while most players experience on the court is from grade sport or lunchtime basketball. The boys showed great improvement throughout the term so confidence was high as we jumped on the train down to Sutherland Basketball Stadium.

The boys started well and it seemed like the home team had put glad wrap over the hoop in the first quarter as we watched quality shot after shot roll around, have a look and then jump out of the hoop. From this point the boys seemed to get a little frustrated and started relying on their experienced players rather than playing the team game that had allowed them to start so well. This drop in confidence allowed Woollooware to gain confidence and they set up a ten point lead that they would hold throughout the match, eventually winning 38-24. It was encouraging game given the amount of players who hadn't played a competitive game before. I would also like to congratulate the work ethic of all 12 members of the team, who chose to stay behind each week and get better individually, as well as grow as a team.

The Girls competition was pretty much the opposite to the boys. Due to our amazing previous results in this competition we received a bye in the first round then a forfeit in the second, straight through to central venue. Central venue is a tough day where teams are expected to play 3 games over the space of 3 hours and most schools arrive with a cast of thousands to rotate and keep their players fresh. We had 6 players, only 3 of which had played organised basketball before, a team who hadn't trained together and had only 1 reserve.

The girls showed amazing composure and skill on the court, winning their first game and being ultra-competitive in the second game against a Sydney Girls team that had 15 players in their rotation. By the time the third game rolled around the girls were exhausted, but still put in the effort against Woollooware, eventually losing to a team that ended up winning the day. I'd like to thank all 6 girls who tried hard on the day and were, as usual, complimented by the refs and organisers for the way they represent themselves and the school.





**SUMMER UNIFORM**

As Term 3 draws to an end, this serves as a timely reminder that students are expected to wear summer uniform from the commencement of Term 4. APCS is a school that values the correct wearing of uniform. School uniform is integral to the maintenance of APCS’s high standards and expectations regarding student achievement and behaviour. Our uniform policy is a result of extensive consultation with the school community over a number of years and is a feature of the participation focus of our Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) program. Wearing correct school uniform is important for the following reasons:

- ✓ Wearing correct uniform builds a sense of community and ownership in the student body, ensuring pride in the school as well as forming a lasting impression of the school in the wider community.
- ✓ Builds students' self esteem and confidence.
- ✓ Provides a clear identification of students within the school and community.
- ✓ The correct wearing of APCS uniform is acknowledged by the school and the community and rewarded through commendations.
- ✓ Wearing correct uniform results in positive record on school reports.
- ✓ Wearing correct uniform allows students to participate in extra curricular activities such as excursions and other formal school functions.
- ✓ Wearing correct uniform develops skills in students about meeting safety expectations that are important in working life.

Our school uniform is available for purchase through the Junior Campus front office and student assistance is available.

**SAFETY CROSSING ROADS**

One of the complexities of operating a multi campus school is the need for high school students to move between the Junior and Senior Campuses. The school has policies, procedures and practices in place to risk manage students walking between campuses. In summary:

- Classes in Years 7-10 are accompanied by thier teacher
- Senior students in Yrs 11 &12 are permitted to walk between campuses unsupervised in order to attend timetabled classes
- All students are required to walk calmly in an orderly fashion, obey the traffic light signals and only cross Mitchell Rd at the traffic lights- directly opposite the Fratelli Fresh restaurant.
- At all times students are expected to behave in a safe manner and be respectful to the local community.

**YEAR 12**

I would like congratulate our Yr12 students for being excellent role models for our younger students and wish them all the best in their upcoming HSC examinations.

Mr Kingsley- Deputy Principal



## Agvision



On the 29<sup>th</sup> of June, a group of students from our Alexandria Park Community School attended Agvision 2015 which was an expo that touched in with the agricultural aspects of each individual. This event aimed to broaden the knowledge of those who attended in terms of the different aspects of agriculture, career paths in agriculture and how relevant agriculture is to us as individuals. For some, this was an enlightening learning experience, for others this was a huge milestone in achieving their career in agriculture. All attendees were given the opportunity to choose their workshops for the day which provided a great insight to a variety of different careers. The workshops that were appealing and engaging to us were Cereal Chemistry, Fish Retail, Poultry Industry, Cattle Industry and Sheep Industry.

**Arindum Saha** – “It was a great dive into the sea of agriculture”.

**Stanley Peng** – “Agvision was a real eye opener and I was really enlightened by the various career paths in agriculture and how relevant it is to me as an individual”.

**Christopher Cen** – “It was an informative day of future job opportunities in agriculture”.

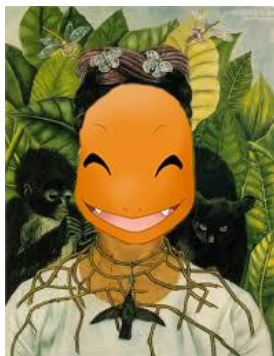
**Nathan Wint Zaw** – “The squid was tasty!”

**Jemo Kim** – “I learnt a lot about agriculture, job opportunities and cows.

**Ibrahim Hoballah** – “I’ve always wanted to be a lawyer, but after today sheep shearing is a life goal!”

## Photographic and Digital Media

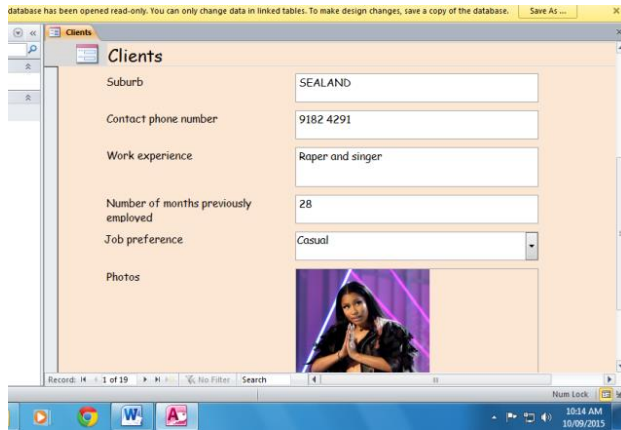
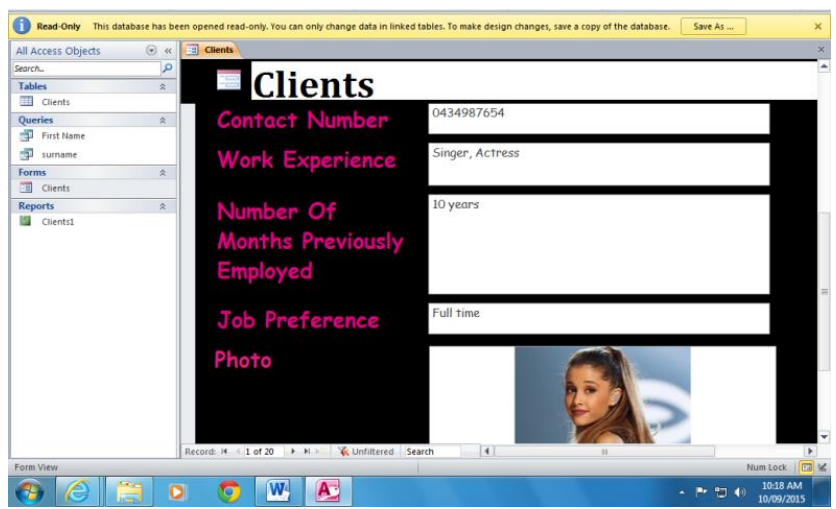
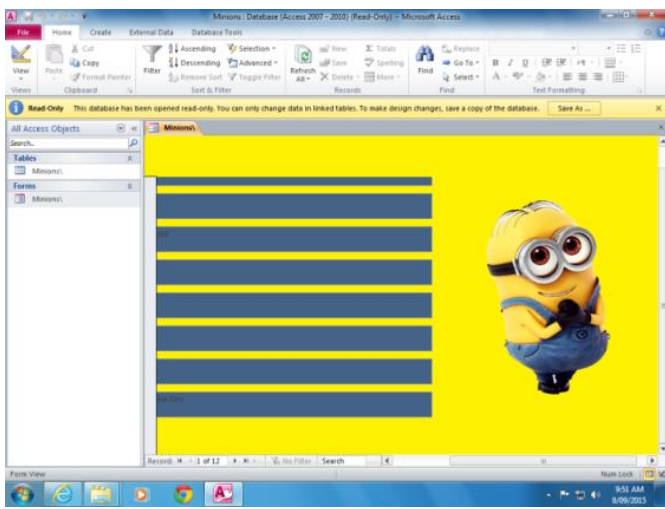
This term we have been working on the concept of appropriated images. Appropriation artists deliberately copy images to take possession of them in their art. They are not stealing or plagiarizing. Appropriation artists **want** the viewer to recognize the images they copy, and they hope that the viewer will bring all of his/her original associations with the image to the artist's new context, be it a painting, a sculpture, or photograph. In this module students were required to import their own portraits into famous paintings to challenge the viewer. Some students have used other portraits in their creative journey.



## Information Software and Technology

This term we have been creating a range of databases. Our first database included our favourite minions and as we have progressed we have created databases with more detail and greater function. Currently we are working on a Job Agency that includes a range of clients ranging from Chewbacca to the Kardashians.





### Term 3 Report, SRC

Term 3 has been a productive one for the SRC who have been busy establishing a Senior Study Room on the Senior Campus. As of September, it is near completion with the walls painted and carpet laid, and now we are working on furnishings. As well as the Senior Study Room, we also participated in the 40 Hour Famine. This event raised awareness about people living in developing countries without access to adequate food, water and medical supplies. The SRC also took part in a community survey called *Urban Growth*. Students were asked about their opinions on the area around Alexandria and Redfern and the housing rates. This event was successful with around 50 students and some teachers participating. More recently, the SRC participated in Legacy, a Department of Veterans Affairs fundraising event which aims to provide funds for former veterans of war and their families. We raised an estimated \$1000 for this organisation. The SRC have had a productive and exciting term and we look forward to continuing our school and community work throughout Term 4. By SRC representatives Robinson Shi & Igor Andonov.

### Diversity in Year 8 English

8A and 8X explored the concept of diversity through reading poems written by other young people and then creating their own texts. Students could focus on any aspect of diversity and present it in any mode they wanted. 8A created a variety of drama performances, which addressed a variety of issues including acceptance of students who identified as homosexual and standing up for people who are being discriminated against. 8X created written pieces, some of which has been included below. Both classes produced wonderful pieces of work and showed great maturity in their understanding of the importance of accepting diversity.

#### How to Create Diversity

##### Ingredients

- Interests
- Appearance
- Beliefs
- Language
- Gender
- Sexuality
- Acceptance

3. Add some beliefs into the mixture, Add as much as you want because everyone is different and can have more than one belief.
4. Add a dash of language and set bowl aside for the language to develop. The longer you leave it, the more developed it becomes.
5. Sprinkle some gender. Spruce it up if you want.
6. For extra flavour, add a bit of sexuality.
7. Coat mixture in a thin layer of appearance. Don't add too much because appearance isn't as important as what is underneath.
8. Lastly, pour a lot of acceptance because without acceptance we can't create diversity.

#### Procedure

1. Gather your ingredients.
2. Start off with a handful of interests and pour it into a bowl.



Together we share a land,  
In a world where race shouldn't matter,  
This generation is the time to accept,  
Let's work to make stereotypes shatter.

You live in a city, I live in a town,  
But this doesn't mean we can't have fun.  
Not next to each other, but connected at heart,  
We all sleep to the moon, wake up to the sun.

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If someone were to say to me that they don't accept certain backgrounds and beliefs I would argue back saying Australia is a multicultural country and that everyone in Australia can freely express what they believe in without any consequences.

Sexuality is something that people are born with, as people with different sexual preferences they will emotionally struggle because of how society says that they are 'weird' if they aren't straight. When these feelings occur people can go into a state of depression for a long period of time. I'm 100% sure no one would want to go through depression.

People from war torn countries who come to Australia for asylum should most definitely be accepted because their lives are at serious risk. It can range from sexual exploitation to forced labour or just end up getting killed. Majority of asylum seekers give up everything in their lives just to save their family and have a slim chance of having safety in Australia, but no, our government just turn them back! For more information, go watch Go Back To Where You Came From, it's a real eye opener.

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In a world of seven billion,  
We all come together as one.  
No matter our races,  
backgrounds, appearances and  
sexuality,  
Acceptance and love is spread  
throughout.

But we're all connected through  
the struggles we've been through.  
So stand up, and speak up,  
Be proud and put the stereotypes  
to rest!

Ignorance and hatred will not be  
tolerated!

Spread positivity, and stay away  
from the negatives.  
People like us, we got to stay  
together,  
Keep your head up, nothing lasts  
FOREVER!

Smile, because you are loved

Everyone is unique and beautiful,

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In my ideal world we would all be accepted; accepted for who we are as a whole; for our imperfections as well as our most desirable aspects. No one would have to be afraid of expressing who they are. No one would be shunned for doing something they love, for being them.

No matter what your interests are, what you believe in, what sexuality you are, what gender you are, your background/language spoken, you WOULD BE ACCEPTED. All these aspects would be a reflection of who you are and it would be accepted with open arms and wide grins. In my ideal world this would be the mindset everyone would have.

In my ideal world, seeing two people of the same gender together would be completely normal. Everyone, not just the LGBTQIA community would embrace who they are. This is what I think most people believe nowadays and although I can't just create a new world, with everyone who wants a change, we CAN and WILL make a diverse but accepted world a reality.

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How would you like it,  
If it happened to you?  
It can spread like a virus,  
And envelope you too.

Long chains reach out,  
Taking you away too.

Don't be like them,  
Don't be the same.  
You can be different,  
Make a change.

In the dark times,  
When we close our eyes.  
It's a nightmare,  
It's a nightmare.

Hurry up and run,  
Before it's too late.  
You can be different,  
Don't stay in the same state.

Break free of the lies,  
Before it all ends.  
What you thought was right,  
Spread the message, send.

When the sun doesn't shine,  
We lose our minds.  
But I swear,  
We can get there.

Dark shadows appear,  
Crawling towards you.

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In this world, filled with different identities.  
There is a lot to accept, oh the varieties!  
No two are alike, so there is no need to fake,  
We are all a little different; we are all a unique snowflake.



Dear Ms Thomson,

As an Imperial Storm Trooper, I am no different from my comrades, and I mean NO DIFFERENT. We wear the same uniform, speak the same language and fight for the Emperor. I am expendable because any one can replace me. The worst thing is that I didn't even realise this. But when I arrived on Earth, I saw something that fascinates me. This planet has something unique or should I say this planet's inhabitants are unique, each one of them. The difference of races on this planet is one of its most amazing factors. Earthlings, Vulcans, and other races unknown to me, all of them have their own beliefs and way of life. They are not all working for one occupation but they have jobs of plenty. They wear colourful and bright clothing unlike this uniform I am wearing. The amount of languages overloaded my Universal Translator. But most important, this thing called diversity, something that I know this planet can't live without.

During my short stay on this planet, I was surprised I did not feel excluded. This is mainly because I was in a world where everyone is the same, but now I'm in a world where everyone is different, unique. Isn't this what the entire universe should be like, a place where people are allowed to express their own identity? I will live you to answer this question.

May you live long and prosper!

John Smith

2015/08/28

### YEAR 8 DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY – Timber Toys



### YEAR 9 GRAPHICS TECHNOLOGY – 3D Printed USB holders



### YEAR 9 INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY TIMBER – Decorative Boxes







**YEAR 10 INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY TIMBER – Tool Boxes, Bed Side Cabinets**



**YEAR 12 DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY – HSC Major Design Projects**



**Year 11 Work Studies – Team Project Fundraiser, Cake Stall.**



On Thursday the 13<sup>th</sup> August 2015, Year 11 student ran a cake stall fundraiser as part of their Teamwork Project assessment in Work Studies. The purpose of the fundraiser was about building their skills in communication, self-management, teamwork, organisational, financial, marketing and leadership.

A total of \$284.30 was raised from the event in 30 minutes. The sweets included cupcakes, chocolate brownies and crackles, apple pie, custard puffs and milkshakes. A big thank you to all staff and students who supported the Year 11 Work Studies cake stall fundraiser and making the event a huge success.



## Legacy Day



During Legacy week (31 August-4 September), our school participated in raising money for the retired veterans and their families. There were other schools participating as well, such as Sydney Girls, Burwood Girls and Sydney Grammar. Our school met up at 8 o'clock in the morning, at St James Church. From there we were sorted into groups/pairs and were given a specific location around the area of Hyde Park and St James Station to sell merchandise. There was a mixed reaction from the public, the majority of the citizens that students approached were nice and bought the merchandise, while others preferred to donate. Some students faced difficulties due to people being annoyed or not interested and the bad weather during the day. Everyone did a great job at raising money with senior students, William Makarytchev and Solongo Marneur, raising \$486.35. In total, our school raised \$2489.05. Overall the students had an enjoyable experience and loved helping a good cause.

### Positive Behaviour for Learning, (PBL) Update

We are happy to announce the erection of new PBL signs on both the Senior and Junior campuses. These signs are designed to remind the student, parents and staff at APCS that we promote learning in a respectful and safe environment.

This Term our PBL team met again to look at the progress our school has made in the implementation of PBL into our school culture. There is still a long way to go but part of that journey is keeping parents and the community informed of our themes and encouraging students and families to include our current PBL theme into the conversations we have with our young people.

Next Term's themes are "**Respectful Relationships**" which is a theme that should be promoted in all forms. The introduction of our second theme for the term should coincide with Mental Health week and it is "**R U OK?**" If we can teach our young to show compassion towards others than everything becomes easier.

### Maths Matters

Term 3 has been a busy time for all years in the High School.

Year 12 students have completed their trial exams and are busy preparing for the HSC exams. They will attend a study day with the mathematics faculty during the holidays to further improve on their exam technique and identify any remaining areas that may need extra attention in the last few days of study before the HSC exam. Good luck year 12.

Year 11 have completed their exams for the preliminary course and are deciding, in consultation with the mathematics teachers, the level of mathematics they should attempt in their HSC year. There are a range of courses catering for the needs and goals of the students including two general mathematics courses, a 2 unit course and extension 1 and 2 mathematics.

Year 10 have made their selection choices for year 11 and are busy studying for the final exam in term 4. The exam will cover the mathematics they have studied in years 7 to 10. It will be used as one of the indicators to guide the mathematics teachers in recommendations to students about the level of mathematics that is suitable for them in year 11 revealing for students, wishing to attempt more advanced mathematics, to understand the areas and concepts they need to revise during the long holiday to succeed in the course.

During term 4 students in years 7 to 10 will be undertaking a statistics task that will involve them gathering, displaying and analysing data using various media. Some of the data will involve investigations into diverse areas such as travel, food quality and use of time. The task will culminate in a power point presentation to a panel of judges.

74 students from years 3 to 11 sat for the Australian Mathematics Competition in July this year. Congratulations to Nathan Wong from year 6 and Arpon Sengupta from year 9 who both achieved the outstanding result of high distinction.



Other excellent results achieved by students in various years were 15 distinctions and 33 credits. Congratulations to all students who participated.

Problem of the Month

What maths word can you make with these 9 letters?

O	N	D
G	A	C
E	D	O

Solution to the last problem of the month was VINCULUM: this is a horizontal line used to indicate that an expression is grouped together.

### P&C NEWS

Make sure you mark the day on your calendar and come along, should be a fun afternoon for all.

Also this month I would like to acknowledge Brad Gillespie and his team at McGrath Real Estate. Brad has generously offered to donate the sales commission from any APCS family who sell towards the school playground upgrade.

If you know of anyone that wants to sell don't forget to mention this add.

**Alexandria Park Community School fundraiser**  
Outdoor movie event  
featuring  
**PAPER PLANES**  
Saturday 17th October  
Fun from 3.30pm, Movie at 7pm  
Family entertainment, sideshow alley, displays, BBQ, jumping castle, face painting, awesome raffle prizes and more!  
Adults: \$10, Kids: \$5 (under 3 free)  
Family: 2 Adults + Kids \$25  
Bring a picnic rug.  
This is an alcohol free event.  
CITY OF SYDNEY  
For more info  
[www.alexparkcs-c.schools.nsw.edu.au/p-c](http://www.alexparkcs-c.schools.nsw.edu.au/p-c)  
Help us raise funds for a new playground!  
Where: APCS, Junior Campus,  
Park Rd, Alexandria.  
Wet weather plan: in the Denzil hall.

**Working Bee**  
ALEXANDRIA PARK COMMUNITY SCHOOL  
JUNIOR CAMPUS  
10<sup>th</sup> October  
9am – 12:30pm

## TRANSPORT STATE TRANSIT

### Changes to State Transit Bus Services from 4 October 2015

The following alterations may impact students at our school:

- Route 355 will no longer operate via Baptist Street and Phillip Street in Redfern instead operating along Cleveland Street and Elizabeth Street (trip towards Marrickville Metro) or Redfern Street and Chalmers Street (trips towards Bondi Junction)
- Route 355 trips towards Bondi Junction will no longer operate via Crown Street, Devonshire Street or Bourke Street

Please note that there is no change to the following school buses:

- 608a trips towards the school from Redfern & George Streets in the morning
- 608a trips from the school to Redfern & George Streets in the afternoon
- Route 355 trips diverting to the school will continue to do so

