

Hunter River High School News

Quality Relationships, Quality Learning

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Issue 2

Friday, 27 February 2015

Hi there from the principal!

It is hard to believe that we are finishing off our 5th week of school already for 2015. Today we celebrated the achievements of our Year 12 students from 2014. Of our 72 HSC students last year, 35 were eligible for an ATAR and 18 students received offers into University. We had 2 Band 6 results in PDHPE and 23 Band 5 Results across a broad range of subjects. Again, congratulations to all of these students.



On Thursday 12 February we held our annual swimming carnival at Lakeside. It was not only great to see a high attendance rate but, also encouraging seeing so many students participating in the carnival. Congratulations to Mr DalMolin on a very well organised and successful carnival.

We were pleased to have so many Year 7 students and their families join us for our "Meet the Teachers" evening on Monday 9 February. It is always a pleasure meeting the family of an excited Year 7 student and to hear the stories about how much they are loving high school. Thank you to Mr McLennan for your organisation and awesome sausage cooking.

Thank you to Miss Thomas, Mrs Caslick, Mr Neal and Mr Rolfe for accompanying Year 7 to the Great Aussie Bush Camp earlier this week. From all accounts it was another fabulous camp with loads of adventure and fun for all.

Hunter River High School P & C Association

Tuesday 24 March 2015 at 6.30pm

Venue: Library

Refreshments available– All Welcome

The P & C meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 6.30pm in the school library, come along and be involved in the future of your child's school.

Last Friday we recognised Sorry Day with visitors to our school who spoke about their own personal experience of the "Stolen Generation". Sorry Day is a day of commemoration and remembrance for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children who were forcibly removed from their families, communities and culture. The school then watched Aboriginal dance performed by our very own talented dancers and participated in a smoking ceremony. Our students showed such a high level of respect that our visitors left our school with fond memories and positive stories to share.



On 26 March we will be holding our Parent/Teacher/Student interviews. I encourage you to bring along your child to allow them to be a part of the conversation about how they are progressing at school. It is very powerful having parents/carers and the teacher talking the same language.

Remember, "It's not okay to be away" and "hard work = success".

Deb Dibley
Principal



LOWES
SCHOOL UNIFORMS

Your school uniform is now available online at
www.lowes.com.au

FREE SHIPPING
FOR ORDERS OVER \$100

Register online and receive a
DISCOUNT ON YOUR FIRST ORDER

STUDENT ABSENCES

When replying to the SMS sent out from the school to advise of a student's absence, please reply with the student's full name (first and last names) and also the reason for the student being absent.

If you have more than one child who attends HRHS please ensure that you advise which child/ren are absent and the year/s that they are in.

CCTV CAMERAS

The school now has four CCTV cameras installed due to vandalism.

One camera is located at the end of the D Block, two cameras are located around T-Block and the other is located in Admin 2.

We hope that this will stop any further vandalism.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

2015

Term 1:

2 March	Year 7 2016 Information Evening 6pm in the library
12 March	Selective Schools test
20 March	Harmony Day
24 March	P&C Meeting 6.30pm in the library
26 March	Parent Teacher interviews
27 March– 2 April	Year 12 Half Yearly Exams

Term 2:

20 April	Staff Development Day NO STUDENTS TO ATTEND
21 April	All students return to school
28 April	P&C Meeting 6.30pm in the library

SCIENCE ESSA TEST RESULTS

Last year, most of year 8 Science students took an online Science test called ESSA. The results are now available and have been handed out to the year 9 students to take home.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact Mr Hargrave at the school.

WANTED! WANTED! WANTED!

If you have an old Elna Press in working order but no longer needed (there can even be a bit of rust on it!) the TAS Textiles class would make good use of it and it would be greatly appreciated.

Contact Megan Hirst or Jo Green in TAS if you can help.

UPDATING DETAILS

Is your contact information up-to-date?

It is important that we have your most up-to-date information on file in order to be able to contact you.

If your details have changed recently and they have not been updated at school, please contact the office.

BILA YARNING

The Cultural Room staff extend a warm welcome to our new students for 2015, and a welcome back to the students and staff who participate in our special programmes, tutoring and events.

Aboriginal Education Student Scholarships

Congratulations to three of our senior students who were awarded *Aboriginal Education Student Scholarships*.

These scholarships are part of a government initiative to support Aboriginal people in their educational aspirations. Ngateika Stamp, Chloe Date and Kurt Langdon will each receive \$1,000 scholarships to assist with costs associated with their education.



Aboriginal Culture Elective Class

A Year 8 *Aboriginal Culture* elective class has been introduced this term. This elective emphasises learning culture through art, music, dance and traditional crafts. First projects have commenced: the boys are making didgeridoos and the girls are making emu callers.

Gathang Language Classes

Our highly successful *Gathang Language* classes have recommenced. There is a continuing class from 2014. Students in this class are able to have conversations in Gathang as well as deliver the Acknowledgement of Country on assemblies. There is also a beginner's class for students who have not done language before. Jonathan Lilley from the Worimi Land Council is the trained Aboriginal Language teacher presenting these classes.

Mitjigan Yarning

Mitjigan Yarning continues this year. A group of Year 7-10 Aboriginal girls will participate in cultural activities, including teaching Aboriginal culture through dance, art, Dreamtime stories and traditional games in local pre-schools.

Who's your Mob programme

Also continuing this year is the *Who's your Mob* Programme, delivered to Year 7 Aboriginal students by the University of Newcastle Aboriginal Unit. This is a family identity programme where students research their family tree and Aboriginal Heritage. They will receive their family tree as a framed poster at the end of the course. Students who completed this course last year produced some fabulous results, and had a great time at a weekend camp at Wollombi.

Junior AECG

Our Junior Aboriginal Education Consultative Group (AECG) will continue with a weekly meeting to discuss the questions and concerns Aboriginal students may have. Office bearers are Tarryn Roach (President), Kiernyn Morley-Ridgeway (Vice President), Kane Chester (Secretary) and Joanna Downey (Assistant Secretary).



Tarryn
Year 11



Kiernyn
Year 9



Kane
Year 8



Joanna
Year 8

Cultural Room Staff

The Cultural Room has qualified teachers and support staff to help our students:

- Brooke Roach (Aboriginal Education Officer),
- Tracy Jones (Senior Norta Norta Tutor),
- Kirran Shearer (School Learning Support Officer) Mon – Thur,
- Sharon Connell (Senior Norta Norta Tutor) Tues & Wed,
- Marg Bajzath (Senior Norta Norta Tutor) Thur & Fri,
- Codie Barber (Junior Norta Norta Tutor) Mon & Tues,
- Aunty Lyn Slockee (Junior Norta Norta Tutor) Mon

We are looking forward to seeing many students and staff in the Cultural Room this year.

Text of the Apology to the Stolen Generations

13 February 2008

Delivered by Prime Minister Kevin Rudd

I move:

That today we honour the Indigenous peoples of this land, the oldest continuing cultures in human history.

We reflect on their past mistreatment.

We reflect in particular on the mistreatment of those who were Stolen Generations—this blemished chapter in our nation's history.

The time has now come for the nation to turn a new page in Australia's history by righting the wrongs of the past and so moving forward with confidence to the future.

We apologise for the laws and policies of successive Parliaments and governments that have inflicted profound grief, suffering and loss on these our fellow Australians.

We apologise especially for the removal of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children from their families, their communities and their country.

For the pain, suffering and hurt of these Stolen Generations, their descendants and for their families left behind, we say sorry.

To the mothers and the fathers, the brothers and the sisters, for the breaking up of families and communities, we say sorry.

And for the indignity and degradation thus inflicted on a proud people and a proud culture, we say sorry.

We the Parliament of Australia respectfully request that this apology be received in the spirit in which it is offered as part of the healing of the nation.

For the future we take heart; resolving that this new page in the history of our great continent can now be written.

We today take this first step by acknowledging the past and laying claim to a future that embraces all Australians.

A future where this Parliament resolves that the injustices of the past must never, never happen again.

A future where we harness the determination of all Australians, Indigenous and non-Indigenous, to close the gap that lies between us in life expectancy, educational achievement and economic opportunity.

A future where we embrace the possibility of new solutions to enduring problems where old approaches have failed.

A future based on mutual respect, mutual resolve and mutual responsibility.

A future where all Australians, whatever their origins, are truly equal partners, with equal opportunities and with an equal stake in shaping the next chapter in the history of this great country, Australia.

MATHEMATICS NEWS

By Mr Sproule

By the numbers...

The Mathematics Faculty would like to extend a warm welcome to all students and families for 2015. As staff we are ready and motivated to help your children achieve at their potential. Many of our 2014 programs will be running again this year to help support student learning.

Some new faces

I would personally like to welcome three new members of staff to the faculty for 2015. Mrs. Heather Jamieson comes to us as a permanent transfer to HRHS and has settled in extremely well and is getting to know your children. Mr. Jamie McSpadden, a former student of HRHS, will be replacing Mrs. Drayton for the rest of the year while she is on maternity leave and he will be doing plenty of touch football coaching throughout the year. Mr. Matthew Richards has returned to HRHS and is very well known to the students from his prior work in the Cultural Room. He will be covering the Long Service Leave of Mr. Dibley for Semester One. Finally, Mr. Chris Neal will be teaching several classes this year in addition to his other role of Boys Advisor at HRHS. We are lucky to have all of them onboard.

A few reminders...

- It is vital that all students are familiar with and can confidently use a scientific calculator. Please ensure your children bring one on everyday they have mathematics. We sell approved HSC calculators at school for \$20 each.
- Used textbook give away. We currently have a surplus of used textbooks covering all years and levels. If you are interested in taking one home just come to the staffroom and ask.



Free tutoring on Thursday afternoons

The Mathematics Faculty is pleased to be offering our award winning tutoring at school on Thursday afternoons free of charge to all students. While we can provide work on the afternoon, it is more beneficial when student arrive with work they know they need help with.



Numeracy by necessity...

In 2015 HRHS will continue its whole school focus on developing the numeracy skills of all students. Junior classes will receive numeracy lesson starters that aim to develop problem solving techniques. Year 7 and 8 classes also attend Quicksmart once per cycle which is a small group intervention program delivered by their classroom teacher with the support of our fabulous learning support staff. Additionally, all staff at HRHS have been provided with time to collaboratively identify and teach numeracy components embedded within their curriculum. Finally, 2015 will see the introduction of MilbaDjunga program which means 'smarter' or 'better' in a northern dialect of Aboriginal language. Our Aboriginal student in Year 8 will attend the program once per cycle and link traditional aspects of their culture with contemporary notions of financial literacy. Local members of the Aboriginal community are assisting with the presentation of the course and are thanked for time and effort.

CAPA NEWS

By Mrs Van Ede

Visual Arts:

First Class Exhibition

At the end of last year, Cassie Wright from Ms Peters Year 12, 2014 Visual Arts class was selected to have her HSC artwork "Changing Tides" included in the Annual 'First Class' exhibition held at Lake Macquarie City Art Gallery.

This exhibition showcases some of the best examples of HSC Visual Arts Body Of Works from across the Hunter and Central Coast areas.

Congratulations Cassie and best wishes for all of your future endeavours!



Year 8 Visual Arts

This term Year 8 Mandatory Visual Arts are working on a unit of work called "Me, Myself and I". One of the first tasks that students are asked to complete is a tonal chart and a colour wheel. We will be using both colour and tone to complete a number of portrait based artworks.



"Every child is an artist. The problem is how to remain an artist once we grow up"- Picasso

Music News and Dance News:

Welcome Mrs Hungerford

HRHS would like to make a very warm welcome to Mrs Hungerford who has joined the CAPA faculty. She will be teaching Year 7 Music and Science in Yrs. 7,8, and 9. One of Mrs Hungerford's initiatives is to start a ukulele club. We look forward to hearing great sounds from this group. Mrs Hungerford is also assisting with vocal group and supporting senior students with composition and performances. It is fantastic to have her working at our school.

Star Struck Auditions:

Students are working hard towards the Star Struck auditions for Dance and Choir performances.

Dance students have been learning the audition dance in class times and through their own lunch times. The effort from all students participating is fantastic. We are hoping to take 16 dance students to Star Struck this year. The final audition is to be filmed and sent off to the panel by Friday of Week 5.

The students in the Choir have also been meeting through their own lunch times to practice their piece for the Star Struck audition. Up to 16 students will be singing "Count On Me" by Bruno Mars, which will be filmed and sent away also by Friday of Week 5.



Senior Citizens concert:

CAPA staff and students are working towards the first Senior Citizens concert of Term 1, 2015. We are very excited to develop these performances in Dance and Music to showcase our talented students. Performances will include class work, and ensemble work developed over break times, including our new Ukulele group. Our school Vocal ensemble has also been working hard in their breaks, towards some new material to perform at this event. All performers' families are invited to attend the concert. The students are all very excited to be able to perform for the local nursing homes and wider community.

Ukulele Club

The Music staff are very excited to have 10 brand new Ukulele's in the school! They have generated a lot of interest from students who come and meet every Wednesday to learn how to play. We will be working towards performance pieces for the Senior Citizens Concert at the end of Term 1, as well as Showcase in Term 3. All students are welcome to come and give this new instrument a try.



SCIENCE NEWS

Student Report By: Jasmine Tisdell

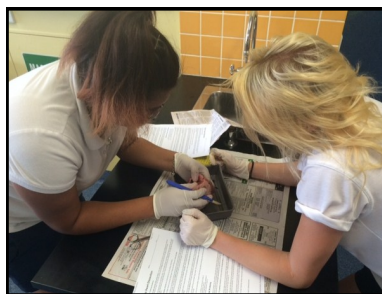
Mr Rolfe's Year 12 Science Class recently dissected a sheep's heart. The purpose of this dissection was to understand how a heart works and to be able to identify the different valves, arteries veins and muscles.

My lab partner and I first tried to identify each part of the heart and then we began to dissect the heart. We were trying to figure out which part connected to the different parts that were shown on the diagram that was provided.

Whilst doing this, we found some blood clots and were able to discover that the valves and arteries were connected to each other in different places within the heart.

It was an interesting experience to be able to physically cut open a heart, however it was also quite a challenging one as it was confronting at first.

Thank you to Mr Rolfe for giving us the opportunity to be able to learn more about how the heart works.



SPORTS REPORT

By Mr Dal Molin

Important Term 1 2015 Dates

Parents and students are reminded that Hunter SSSA team trials for specific sports require application being lodged by the due dates indicated in *Regional Trials Format and Information Booklet*. Please refer to calendars outside the PDHPE staffroom and in classrooms around the school. If you are interested please see Mr Dal Molin in the PDHPE staffroom.

23 February:	Closing date for Secondary Swimming entries Golf Trials (Stonebridge)
24 February:	Diving Trials (Lambton Pool)
25 February:	Boys Volleyball Trials (Broadmeadow)
26 February:	Girls Volleyball Trials (Broadmeadow)
27 February:	U/16 Boys Touch Trials (Raymond Terrace) U/16 Girls Touch Trials (Raymond Terrace)
3 March:	Swimming (Maitland)
9 March:	Boys Basketball Trials (Maitland)
10 March:	Girls Basketball Trials (Maitland)
17 March:	AFL Trials (Teralba)
18 March:	Boys Football Trials (Gateshead)
19 March:	Water Polo Trials (Raymond Terrace) Girls Football Trials (Adamstown)
20 March:	Netball Trials (National Parks)
24 March:	Hockey Trials (Broadmeadow)
25 March:	Rugby League Trials (Raymond Terrace)
26 – 27 March:	NSW CHS Swimming (Homebush)
1 April:	Rugby Union Trials (Passmore Park)
2 April:	Open Boys and Girls Touch Trials (Raymond Terrace)

HRHS Coaches

HRHS staff and students pride themselves on their commitment to sporting competitions within the Hunter Region and beyond. We have had successful teams represent the Hunter region at State level in the past. Our Coaching staff pride themselves in achieving their best results every time HRHS competes. We also hold our core values of Harmony, Respect, Honesty and Success in high regard on and off the field.

Any students who have an interest in the following teams and can represent our school demonstrating our core values please see the respective coaches. Selection trials and coaching sessions will commence soon so listen to announcements during roll call and over the PA system.

Merv Baker Shield

Mr Rolfe Science Faculty

Jim De Courcy Shield

Mr Richardson Maths Faculty

Senior Boys Football

Mr Neal Maths Faculty

Junior Boys Football

Mr Kolmajer English Faculty

Girls Football

Mrs Dixon PDHPE Faculty

Senior Girls Netball

Ms Dempsey English Faculty

15's Girls Netball

Ms Thomas Maths Faculty

Buckley Shield

Mr Rolfe / Mr Roach Science Faculty / AEO

University Shield

Mr Rolfe / Mr Roach Science Faculty / AEO

Table Tennis

Mr Winter HSIE Faculty

Boys Touch

Mr McSpadden Maths Faculty

Girls Touch

Ms Thomas Maths Faculty

Lawn Bowls

Mr Neal Maths Faculty

SPORTS REPORT CONTINUED

Sports House Captains

Attunga



Boys Captain
Jayden Brown



Girls Captain
Nicahla Adams



Boys Vice Captain
Daniel Benedetti



Girls Vice Captain
Samara Davidson

Corrunga



Boys Captain
Trent Guest



Girls Captain
Jorgia Gibbes



Boys Vice Captain
Nash Johnson



Girls Vice Captain
Jessica Grosser

Kurratoo



Boys Captain
Jackson Page



Girls Captain
Taylor O'Neill



Boys Vice Captain
Shane Parker



Girls Vice Captain
Zoe Meehan-Hele

Pindaree



Boys Captain
Guy Woodward



Girls Captain
Cheyenne Turner



Boys Vice Captain
Jai Roby



Girls Vice Captain
Angie Simpson

SPORTING HOUSE GROUPS

HOUSE :	STUDENTS:	COLOUR:
Attunga	- Surnames: A-E	Yellow
Corrunga	- Surnames: F-K	Black & White
Kurratoo	- Surnames: L-Q	Blue
Pindaree	- Surnames: R-Z	Red

PDHPE NEWS

By Miss Jones

And we're off and racing

The sun is shining, the grass is lush and green, and the mozzies are out in full force - ideal conditions to kick off the practical component of PDHPE. This term students will begin with the Modified Mars Assessment Task that requires them to perform in a range of athletic events in preparation for the Athletics carnival in Term 3. Each Year focuses on a set of different events.

In theoretical lessons students are embarking on a range of topics.

Year 7 - The F-Word: students are discovering that failure isn't to be feared but learnt from.

Year 8 - Health Matters: students are learning about what health is, factors that influence health and examples of lifestyle diseases.

Year 9 - Sexual Health: students are becoming increasingly aware of what is required to maintain their sexual health and relationship with others.

Year 10 - Road Safety: students are exploring the many responsibilities and risks that are associated with being a driver and passenger.



Above: Chloe Bee and Madeleine Hansell of 7G

The F-Word unit requires students to be challenged and experience failure in a safe environment. In one activity students were required to solve a range of puzzles.

PDHPE CONTINUED

PASS

9 PASS are testing out their physical fitness.

10 PASS are earning their accreditation as beginner coaches.

SLR

11 SLR are completing an athletics unit

12 SLR are attaining their accreditation as beginner coaches.



*Ben Johnston
Completing his online coaching
course*



*Kiern Morley-Ridgeway
Testing his strength using a
hand dynamometer*

Hit for 6

The PDHPE faculty was thrilled and very proud of Connor Mason and Susie Annable's performance in the 2014 HSC. Both students achieved an impressive band 6 in the PDHPE course, a deserving result for their sheer determination and hard work ethic. Congratulations again to Connor and Susie.



On the run for funds

All students will be invited to participate in the Adidas Fund Raising Fun Run on Friday March 13. Our PDHPE 'school Fun Run Fundraiser' will be held in conjunction with the school cross country and

participation by students will be optional. For students who are wishing to participate a consent form can be collected from the PDHPE staffroom. All students who raise more than \$10 will receive a prize.



*Participants from last year's Adidas Fund Raising Fun Run
with their prizes.*

NSW Schools Physical Activity & Nutrition Survey 2015

Dear Parents,

Some of you may have heard about the Schools Physical Activity and Nutrition Survey (SPANS) and involves over 100 schools in NSW. I am delighted to announce that our school has been invited to participate. This is a great opportunity for our students to be involved in helping health professionals better understand children's lifestyles such as their physical activity, fitness, food habits and movement skills. A team of specially trained teachers will collect the information on almost 8,000 students from Years K, 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10. The survey is being managed by a research team from the University of Sydney.

Students in selected classes in Years 8 and 10 will bring home information about the study and a consent form. Please read carefully the information statement; if you agree to allow your child to participate, please complete the consent form, and send it back to school as soon as possible. The survey will take place at our school on Wednesday, 11 March 2015.

PDHPE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Each student was given a
PDHPE Permission Note.
These need to be returned as
soon as possible.

Every PDHPE student
needs to purchase a
work book voucher at
Admin 1 or online.

PASS and SLR students
also need to return
permission notes and
purchase book vouchers.

ENGLISH NEWS

Year 9 Hiku's

By Miss Hodges

Students in Year 9 were asked to read the iconic Australian poem "My Country" by Dorothea McKellar and use some of the words to create a haiku. The aim was to capture the theme of the poem in as few words as possible.

Ryan Noon – 9C

My Heart, My Country!
A vast land of sweeping plains
Droughts and flooding rains.

Sabrina Bernat – 9C

Droughts and flooding rains
A land of far horizons
Sunburnt land for me!

Nakoda Clulow – 9C

A sunburnt country
A land of the rainbow gold
My love is jewel sea

Spell City App

By Mrs Wheeler

This year 8P are focusing on improving their ability to spell correctly by using SpellingCity. This resource has been implemented in our Literacy across the school lessons and is an important part of our school Literacy focus. 8P use their iPads to download the app (free) where they find their word lists (10 words per list) for every week for the first term. Students complete a series of spelling tasks, which are varied and very enjoyable. They are able to access this list from home, enabling them to learn outside the classroom as well as use this resource in other classes, not just for English. As each term is completed the word lists are replaced with the current term's list of words. Not only are these word lists appropriate for their Stage of learning, they are also an excellent addition to learning new words for different units of work studied in all their subjects.



TAS NEWS

By Mrs Hirst

Welcome to 2015, particularly to our new students including all Year 7. The TAS staff look forward to teaching our students and meeting our parent community when opportunity permits.

The 2015 TAS staff consists of Megan Hirst (Head Teacher Relieving), Jo Green, Kay McCosker, Briony Ryall, John Cracuin, Ross Johnson, Mark McLennan, Chris Edwards and Gary Pritchard.

The staff would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all of our 2014 Year 12 students on their HSC results. We wish them well in their chosen fields. Our results in TAS included a Band 5 in Hospitality for Naomi Sinclair, Band 5's in CaFS for Emma Broadfoot, Naomi Sinclair, Sophie Fitzpatrick and Caitlin Lawlor and Band 5 in Food Technology was rewarded to Brendan Asquith.

At the end of the 2014 school year a number of our Hospitality and Food Technology students assisted the TAS staff cater for the RTPS YEAR Six Formal. Students had to plan, prepare, cook and serve 100 guests including staff and students, a variety of finger food. This provided the students with valuable work experience and also allowed us to network with one of our partner primary schools. The night proved to be a great success and students enjoyed catching up with some of their old primary school teachers. Those students involved included Chloe Date, Christa Mani, Ngateika Stamp, Hope Pearce, Samara Davidson, Emily Fagan, Katie Griffiths and Angie Simpson.



All students studying subjects under the TAS banner have been issued with **Subject Information Sheets** which outline course requirements and fees. Parents and care givers are asked to read, sign and return these sheets to their child's teacher to ensure that you are aware of what is required to enable your child to succeed in the various subjects. Your email address would be appreciated.

All students studying a food based course are also required to complete a **Food Allergy information sheet and return to the school as soon as possible.**

Our students in Years 9 & 10 studying Child Studies are required to complete and return a permission note regarding the viewing of DVD's in this course.



Our Technology Mandatory students have been hard at work.

TM students working through safety booklets, cutting templates for felt case and sanding to create a sauce holder.

LEARNING & SUPPORT REPORT:

By Ms. Milne

From the LAST's (Learning & Support teachers)

The Learning Centre

The Learning Centre (TLC) provides support for the teaching and learning programs available at HRHS. It provides a classroom that caters for the individual learning needs of all students. The Learning Centre provides opportunities for students to receive personalised attention to complete assessment tasks, catch-up tests, small group learning, individualised learning programs and tests that require special provisions. The Learning Centre is available for all students, including seniors. The Learning Centre is open in B5 each Monday to Thursday and in G2 each Friday.

Community Tutor Program

This program is available to help any student in our school that need individual help in the areas of literacy and numeracy. Tutors work with these students to improve their skills. Help is also available for assignments. Tutors are available to work with students from periods 1-5 each Friday.

Reminder that all students who wish to be involved in this program on a Friday should pick up and return their parent permission notes ASAP.

Year 7 Literacy & Numeracy Programs and Year 8 Numeracy Programs

During 2015, all Year 7 students are involved in a literacy and numeracy program. The program focuses on, numeracy skills such as problem solving, reading for understanding and development of vocabulary. The resources used are designed for the skill levels of the individual students. This program involves 4 periods per cycle.

All year 8 students will be participating in extra numeracy program for one period per cycle.

Both Year 7 and Year 8 students require a set of earphones for these program.

Parents who wish their students to attend extra literacy or numeracy sessions please contact one of the LAST's, (Mrs Fiona Olds, Mrs Dale Kennewell, Ms Sally Milne).

SSS NEWS

Multicat Class

Tilligerry Peninsula Excursion

On Thursday the multicat class enjoyed the day at Tilligerry Peninsula after going to "Sailability" at Grahamstown. We enjoyed lunch at "Kippies" on the waterfront at Lemon Tree Passage and then went to "Habitat" at Tanilba Bay. We were not lucky enough to spot any koalas but did see a possum. We did not have time to look at all the things we wanted to so have to ask Mrs Dibley for permission to go on another excursion!



Stage 5/6 Class

By Ms. Eddebuttel

In class this term the students are making use of the class IPADs provided by the school in all of their subjects. In TAS they are doing a unit on 'Making movies with iPad APPS'. Presently they are all involved in interviewing / filming a number of staff around the school to create a HRHS News report. They will then create a short film in groups using Stop Motion Apps, similar to the Lego Movie.

In English, the students are studying 'Mao's Last Dancer' by Li Cunxin and will use iBooks and the iPad text to speech technology to access the book. All of the students are busy organising work experience opportunities as well so it has been a very busy start to the new school year.

CANTEEN NEWS

Welcome to Hunter River High School Canteen. A place for healthy choices.

In Indonesia we would be called THE WARUNG (small food stall).

Lining up, having your money ready at the till and using "please"- Talong and "thankyou"- Terima Kasih when you shop are using your best manners.

We now sell California Handroll sushi \$2.00



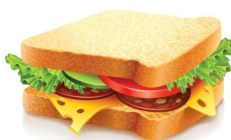
You can make healthy choices from our range of freshly made sandwiches wraps rolls and salads.

Forgotten your lunch? See Mr McLennan (Head Teacher Welfare, Relieving) for a voucher to get your lunch at the canteen and pay the next day.

The summer menu will continue in Term 1 2015, there is a copy available at the back of the newsletter.

Su Jo and Di @ the canteen

Ibu Su, Ibu Jo and Ibu Di @ the warungrhythms.



New volunteers are welcome!

Ring Su on 4983 1836 to arrange a convenient day.

Start at 9am finish at 12.00noon any day.

Food preparation only, no ordering, no money handling.

Free morning tea and lunch.

G'DAY USA 2016

Hunter River High School has a group of seven students who will be travelling to the USA, with Ms. Dempsey, during the January 2016 school holidays. The group will be travelling to the east coast of America for 20 days, with tours including: full day visits to Disneyland, Universal Studios and Knott's Berry Farm, day visit to San Diego and factory outlets, hosting with an American family for ten days and attending an American High School for two days, visiting the highlights of the local area in host location, and a three day stopover in San Francisco!

The **EW T G'day USA** program is available to students from 14 to 18 years, and is invaluable in providing students with a greater sense of responsibility, self-reliance and self-esteem. Students return with an increased awareness of the importance of working cohesively in a team environment, and a better knowledge of the differences between our cultures.



The *Tell Them From Me* student feedback survey

I am delighted that this term, our school, like many others in the state, will participate in a Department of Education and Communities initiative: the *Tell Them From Me* student feedback survey. The survey aims to help improve student learning outcomes and measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.

More information about the survey is available at: <http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/information-for-parents>

The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide our school with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the *Tell Them From Me* survey to help improve how they do things at school.

I want to assure you that the survey is confidential and school staff will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between 9 March and 2 April. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary.

A consent form and FAQs for parents/carers about the survey follows in this newsletter. If you **do not** want your child or children to participate, please return the form to school by **Friday 6 March**. Copies of the form and FAQs are available from the website above.

Yours sincerely,

Deb Dibley
Principal



***Tell Them From Me* student survey:
Information and consent form for parents and carers**

Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation

27 February 2015

Dear Parents and Carers

This term, our school is taking part in the *Tell Them From Me* student survey. The survey will provide us with valuable feedback on what our students think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the *Tell Them From Me* survey to help them improve. The survey is completed on-line and is run by an independent research company, **The Learning Bar**, which specialises in school-based surveys.

Staff in schools will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. To ensure confidentiality, participating students will receive a unique username and password. Where fewer than five students respond to a question, the results will be suppressed. The survey typically takes less than 30 minutes to complete and will be administered by the school during normal school hours. Once the surveys are completed by students, reports are prepared and in most cases are available to schools within three business days.

As well as schools getting student feedback, the Department of Education and Communities, through the Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation (CESE), will have access to data from across the State and will run a research project to look at state-wide patterns of student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices. The research will look at how these things impact on student outcomes, including academic performance. Individual students and schools will not be identified in any CESE publications, and all information will be handled in accordance with the relevant privacy legislation. Students' personal information will not be disclosed by the Department to any other person or body other than as required by law.

This research will help schools in New South Wales to better understand how to improve student wellbeing and engagement. It will also help teachers and principals discuss what works to improve student outcomes.

Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary. Your child will not take part if either you or your child do not wish to. If, during the survey, your child is uncomfortable answering any question, he/she should leave it blank and move on to the next one. Your child can stop the survey at any time.

If you do not want your child to take part in the survey, please complete the attached form and return it to your child's school by **Friday 6 March**.

More information about the survey and the research is available on the CESE website:
<http://surveys.cese.nsw.gov.au/information-for-parents>

Dr Jenny Donovan
General Manager
Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation

***Tell Them From Me* Student Feedback Survey**

If you **do not want** your child to participate in the student feedback survey, please sign this form and return it to your school **by Friday 6 March 2015**.

I (*print name*) **DO NOT** give consent
for my child/children (*print name/s*)
of roll class/esto participate in the ***Tell Them From Me***
student feedback survey.

Signed..... Date.....



Tell Them From Me Student Feedback Survey

Frequently Asked Questions (parents and carers)

Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation

What is the *Tell Them From Me* student survey?

The *Tell Them From Me* student survey asks questions about factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other outcomes. It aims to help improve the learning outcomes of students.

The survey is designed to measure, assess and report insights at the school and system levels. The focus of this NSW survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.

What kind of questions will the survey ask?

The survey will ask students questions about:

Participation in Sports	Homework Behaviour	Expectations for Success
Positive Learning Climate	Participation in Clubs	Behaviour at School
Experiences of being Bullied	Tuancy	Sense of Belonging
Interest and Motivation	Effective Learning Time	Aspirations: finishing Year 12, University, TAFE
Positive Relationships	Effort	Teaching Relevance
Feelings of worry or sadness	Valuing school outcomes	Skills and learning challenge
Teaching Rigour	Advocacy at school	Advocacy outside school
Positive Teacher-Student Relations		

How have schools been selected to take part?

The survey is open for all NSW government schools to participate in at no cost to them. Your school has taken up this offer.

How will taking part in this survey benefit my child's school?

The *Tell Them From Me* student survey will provide school principals and school leaders with insight into student engagement, wellbeing and effective teaching practices at their school, from the perspective of students.

Data collected from the survey responses are quickly compiled into reports for school leaders. Principals can then use this information to help them identify emerging issues and plan for school improvement.

What does my child need to do to participate in the survey?

The survey typically takes less than 30 minutes and is conducted entirely online through a secure website operated by the survey developers, The Learning Bar. Schools will make computers or laptops available so that students can complete the survey during school hours.

Does my child have to participate?

No, participation in the survey is optional. Your child will not take part if either you or your child do not wish to. If, during the survey, your child is uncomfortable answering any question, he/she should leave it blank and move on to the next one. Your child can stop the survey at any time. Parents/students have a right to apply for access to, and correction of, a student's information.

Will the school be able to identify my child from their responses?

Staff in schools will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. To ensure confidentiality, participating students will receive a unique username and password. Where fewer than five students respond to a question, the results will not be made available.

A small number of staff in the Department's Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation (CESE) will have access to individual student responses for the purpose of state-wide analysis. Individual students' data will be held on a secure server with access strictly limited to CESE researchers. The researchers are interested in trends only – not in individual student responses. Individual students and schools will not be identified in any CESE publication.

What sort of analysis will be done on the survey data?

Once the surveys are completed by students, reports are prepared and in most cases are available to schools within three business days. School leaders may use the data to better understand the experiences and views of students at their school.

CESE will undertake state-wide analysis of the survey data in conjunction with existing student data held by the Department, including performance data. The results will help all schools better understand the relationship between wellbeing, engagement, effective teaching and student learning. Results from CESE's analysis of this data will also help teachers and principals discuss what works to improve student outcomes. This supports the Department's continuing focus on quality teaching and leadership. The data will be retained for future analysis to help us better understand the nature of student engagement and wellbeing over time.

Can all school students participate in the survey?

Schools are encouraged to allow as many students as possible in Years 7 to 12 to participate.

When will the *Tell Them From Me* survey happen?

The surveys will be conducted in all participating schools between Monday 9 March and Thursday 2 April 2015 (Weeks 7-10 of Term 1).

What is the Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation (CESE)?

CESE is part of the Department of Education and Communities. It has been established to improve the effectiveness, efficiency and accountability of education in NSW.

CESE will identify and share what works, creating new opportunities to improve teaching and learning across all education sectors.

What is The Learning Bar and what is their role?

The Learning Bar is an international education company, with offices in Australia and Canada, that specialises in school surveys and student assessments. They have been contracted by the Department to run the surveys for NSW public schools. Its survey, *Tell Them From Me*, is the largest national school survey in Canada, used in nine of Canada's ten provinces. More than 2,600 schools and 1.7 million Canadian students have participated in the survey over the last nine years.

The Learning Bar has conducted surveys in Australia before, with schools helping to adapt surveys, ensuring they are appropriate to an Australian context. For purely administrative purposes, The Learning Bar will also have temporary access to identifiable student responses to the survey questions. Other than The Learning Bar and CESE researchers within the Department, identifiable student responses will not be disclosed to any other person or body other than as required by law.

More information about The Learning Bar is available at: www.thelearningbar.com.

Contact Details

For more information about the Centre for Education Statistics and Evaluation, please contact us:

✉ cese@det.nsw.edu.au

🌐 www.cese.nsw.gov.au



National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy 2015 Test Dates

Dear Parent or Carer

The test dates for the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy for all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 will be as follows:

Test name	Includes	Date of test
Language Conventions test	Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar	Tuesday 12 May 2015
Writing test	Writing task	Tuesday 12 May 2015
Reading test	Reading	Wednesday 13 May 2015
Numeracy test (Years 3 and 5)	Number, Algebra, Function and pattern, Measurement, chance and data, and Space. There is one numeracy test for Years 3 and 5. (No calculator allowed.)	Thursday 14 May 2015
Numeracy tests (Years 7 and 9)	Number, Algebra, Function and pattern, Measurement, chance and data, and Space. There are two numeracy tests for Years 7 and 9. (Calculator allowed followed by non-calculator.)	Thursday 14 May 2015
Catch-up day	For students who missed a section of the test or were absent on a particular day.	Friday 15 May 2015

Dear Parents/caregivers,

I am pleased to announce that Hunter River High School's award winning, after hours tutoring program will once again be provided to all students by the Mathematics Faculty in 2015. In 2014, the number of students attending grew significantly with over 30 students present each week. All students are encouraged to bring along course work, homework, assignments and general revision that they may require assistance with. When students arrive prepared with their own work, it greatly assists the limited number of staff present to ensure that all students can be productive as soon as possible. Additionally, it places more responsibility on the learner to identify their strengths and weakness, as well as developing their organisational skills.

Location	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senior students in the Connected Classroom • Junior students in G4
Time	Thursday afternoon, 3:30 - 4:30pm
Commencing	5th February and continuing all 2015
Refreshments	The school will provide a can of drink and a biscuit
Cost	Nil

More information can be obtained by contacting the school on 4987 2306.

Mr G. Sproule
 Head Teacher Mathematics
 Hunter River High School

HRHS AFTER SCHOOL MATHEMATICS TUTORING



I give permission for my son(s) / daughter(s)

to attend Thursday afternoon tutoring between 3:30 and 4:30pm at Hunter River High School.

(please indicate)

- ☐ I agree to pick my son(s) / daughter(s) up from the staff carpark in Elkin Avenue by no later than 4:30pm.
- ☐ I acknowledge that my son(s) / daughter(s) will be making their own way home on or before 4:30pm.

Parent/caregiver signature _____

Date _____



2014-2015 Family Energy Rebate

Apply before Midnight
16 June 2015



2 MINUTES TO FILL IN A FORM

<https://applications.fer.trade.nsw.gov.au/>

* eligibility criteria apply

**APPLY
ONLINE
NOW!**

WHAT IS THE FAMILY ENERGY REBATE?

The Family Energy Rebate helps to cover the cost of energy bills for NSW households with dependent children. In 2014-2015 the rebate gives:

- Up to \$150 credit on electricity bills for eligible applicants who hold an account with an electricity retailer
- Up to \$165 direct payment to nominated bank accounts for eligible applicants who live in a residential community (caravan or mobile home park) and receive electricity from the park operator.

AM I ELIGIBLE FOR THE REBATE?

To be eligible you **MUST**:

- Be a NSW resident; and
- Have been assessed by the Federal Department of Human Services (DHS) as being eligible for the Family Tax Benefit (FTB) A or B at any time during the 2013-2014 financial year, and have received an FTB payment in respect of that eligibility; and
- Be an account holder of an electricity retailer, or a long-term resident of a residential community (caravan or mobile home park), whose name appears on the electricity account for supply to her or his principal place of residence.

WHAT DO I NEED TO DO BEFORE I APPLY?

Before you apply, here's a quick checklist. Have you:

- Lodged your tax return for 2013-2014 with the Australian Taxation Office or informed the Department of Human Services (DHS) if you are not required to lodge a tax return?
- Received confirmation from DHS as to your eligibility for Family Tax Benefit A or B for 2013-2014?

HOW TO APPLY

- **ONLINE** – it takes just two minutes to submit an application. Processing starts immediately.
- **PAPER** – download a form from the website, complete and submit by email, fax or post. Use this form if you receive your electricity from the operator of the residential community where you live.

FOR MORE INFORMATION & ASSISTANCE

PHONE Service NSW 13 77 88

EMAIL fer.program@trade.nsw.gov.au

WEB www.resourcesandenergy.nsw.gov.au/info/familyenergyrebate



Tuning into Teens

A 6 session parenting program for
anyone caring for Adolescents

Would you like to learn how to:

- be better at talking with your teen?
- be better at understanding your teen?
- help your teen learn to manage their emotions?
- help to prevent behaviour problems in your teen?
- teach your teen to deal with conflict?



Then register in our Tuning Into Teens program!

Tuning in to Teens shows parents and caregivers how to help their teen develop emotional intelligence. Emotional Intelligence enables young people to appropriately express and control their emotions. It also enhances their ability to understand, interpret and respond to the emotions of others.



headspace
Maitland

When

Tuesday Evenings for 6 weeks

6pm-8pm

Starting 17th February

Where

headspace Maitland

73 Elgin Street, Maitland 2320.

Contact

Phone: (02) 4931 1000

Email: headspacemaitland@samaritans.org.au



WELCOME TO

STEP BACK INTO KING STREET HERITAGE FESTIVAL

APRIL 18, 2015 WORLD HERITAGE DAY

FESTIVAL PROGRAMME

10 am	Welcome to Country and Opening
10:30 am	Indigenous Storytelling
11 am	Schools' Puppet Theatre
12:30 pm	Best Hat or Bonnet Parade
12:45 pm	Port Stephens Community Choir
1 pm	Marriage Ceremony
1:45 pm	Renewal of Vows
2 pm	Pumpkin Juice Celtic Fiddlers Band and Celebratory Dance
2:45 pm	Clean Out Auction
3 pm	Close – you are welcome to help clean up
4 pm	Street re-opens to traffic

ALL DAY ACTIVITIES FROM 10AM to 3PM

Donkeys, market stalls, food, handwriting with quills, bamboo pole fishing, quoits, stack of tins shy, giant draughts, puppets to try after show, dress up box with photographer, Quilts display, spinning and weaving, historical information, soap box to tell your King St story, 100 year old wooden longboat, Top 20 photography competition photos, "Tomorrow When" movie photos, maps of King St features, street performers, wandering musicians, buskers, clown, fairies, hop scotch, skipping, stocks, and much more fun and learning.



**For updates check our Facebook page
SAVE HISTORIC KING STREET RAYMOND TERRACE**



Prices subject to market changes
Farm produce used *
(v) vegetarian
(g) gluten free

CANTEEN MENU



RhyTHmS Café - Summer Menu and Price List

Breakfast

	Cost
Fresh Fruit in season (g)(v)	0.50
Fruit tubs (g) (v)	1.00
Cheese and Bacon Rolls	1.00
Low Fat muffins (chocolate/blueberry/apple)	1.50
Yoghurt – variety flavours	1.50
Sanitarium Up n Go Choc Vanilla Strawberry	1.50
Toasted sandwiches	
ham/cheese tomato/cheese	2.00
Cheeseburgers	2.50
Egg* & Bacon Roll	2.50
Banana Bread	2.50
Up n Go Energize Choc Mocha Vanilla	2.50

Hot food Menu (reduced fat varieties)

Garlic Bread	1.00
Sausage rolls	1.50
Spinach & Ricotta Rolls	2.00
Chicken fingers	2.00
Seasoned potato wedges	2.00
Chicken & gravy rolls	2.50
Mammee Noodle Cups Beef or Chicken	2.50
Plain pies	3.00
Chicken Burger – lettuce, mayo, chicken patty	3.00
Fish Burger – fish patty, lettuce, mayo	3.00
Hamburger – Lettuce, tomato, cheese, beetroot, Low fat meat patty - Tomato or bbq sauce	4.00
Hot Chicken Wrap – chicken breast tender, lettuce tomato cheese BBQ or Chilli sauce	4.00
HAWAIIAN CHICKEN BURGER – lettuce, Tomato, cheese, pineapple, chicken patty, Mayonnaise	4.00

Snacks

Sauce BBQ or TOMATO	0.30
Jelly cups	0.50
Chocolate Mousse	1.00
Popcom (g)	1.00
Red Rock Chips (v)	1.20
Grain Waves –sour cream	1.20

Ice creams and ice blocks

A variety of products ranging in price from 0.50 to 2.00

Sandwiches

Create your own flavour – order only - from	2.00
C L M – chicken lettuce and mayo	2.00
Egg* and Lettuce and mayo (V)	2.00
Salmon Lettuce and mayo sandwich	2.00
Chicken Tomato and Avocado	2.00
Chicken mayo and chilli sauce	2.00
Ham & Cheese and tomato	2.00
Salad sandwich (V)	2.50

Rolls

Salad Rolls – lettuce tomato beetroot cheese carrot cucumber onion mayo (v)(g)	3.50
Chicken salad roll with mayo	4.00
Ham salad roll with mayo	4.00

Wraps

Salad wrap – lettuce, tomato, cheese, carrot mayo	3.50
Chicken salad wrap Or Ham salad wrap	4.00

Salads -

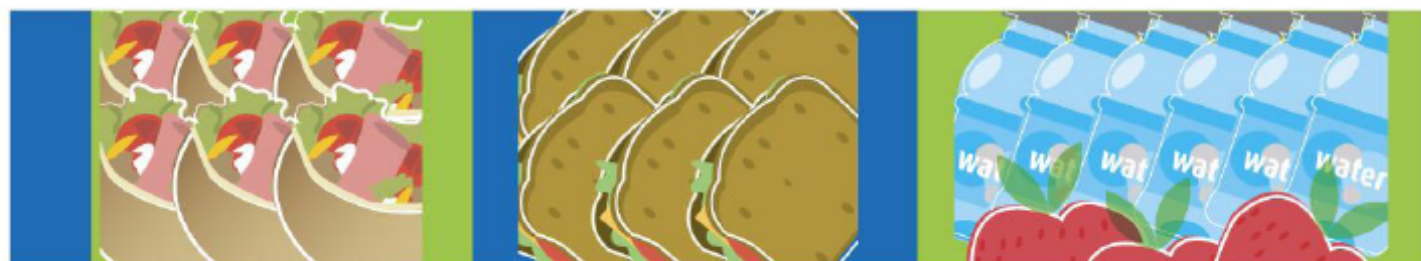
Salad Box – lettuce, tomato, cucumber, onion Carrot, boiled egg*, shredded cheese, mayo(v)	3.00
With: Chicken Or Ham Or Salmon	4.00

Pasta Salad –

Pasta peas corn carrot mayo	3.00
With Chicken	4.00

Drinks

Water	600ml	1.00	1.5 litre	2.00
Jucy Isle Poppers – Orange, Apple ABC				1.50
300ml Moove – reduced fat - choc, strawberry				1.50
300ml Dairy Farmers Classic				
- Flavoured milk				1.50
Slush Puppies all flavours				2.00
600ml Classic milk				3.00





HUNTER RIVER HIGH SCHOOL – STUDENT ABSENTEE NOTE

Please feel free to use this form note when your child is either **LATE** or **ABSENT** from school

Student's Name : _____ Year (Please circle): 7 8 9 10 11 12

Roll Class : _____ Date/s Absent (Include all dates) : _____

Reason for Absence (Please indicate reasons for absences to enable the student's record to be altered accordingly) :

Parent/Guardian Signature : _____ Date : _____

✂ _____



HUNTER RIVER HIGH SCHOOL – STUDENT ABSENTEE NOTE

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✂ _____