GREAT EXPERIENCES IN TERM 4

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PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

School Planning 2015 and Beyond

In 2015 NSW Public Schools enter into the next three year’s school planning cycle in which the purpose and key strategic directions of the school are carefully examined and planned for. From 2015 schools are also into a very new, different, challenging and exciting planning model that will ensure that School Strategic Plans are very real documents to which we are accountable.

I have established a school planning team comprising of myself, both Deputy Principal’s, three Head Teachers and three teachers. This team has undertaken significant training and has begun the planning process. They will also be responsible for undertaking the bulk of the planning process.

In the planning cycle it is critical that we harness the thoughts, views and opinions of both our parents and our students. On Wednesday 22 October the SRC will be involved in a student forum in which they will provide valuable input to the future directions of the school. Equally I would like to invite parents/caregivers to participate in a school planning forum from 5.00pm-6.30pm on Tuesday 28 October in the library. This is a valuable opportunity for parents to have direct input into the future directions of Henry Kendall High, and I encourage interested parents to attend. To ensure that I provide for enough numbers, please phone the school office on 4325 2110 to indicate your intention to attend.

Strong NAPLAN Performance

NAPLAN results were released late last term for students in Years 7 and 9. In 2014 we have again performed strongly with results above data for other non-selective school across NSW. Close analysis of these results is being undertaken by our staff to identify areas for continued focus. These forms of testing should be used by schools as a means for continual development and to ensure we are getting the best from and for our students. As such we have identified that we do have work to do around the area of Writing, particularly in Year 9, and to a lesser extend in Reading and Grammar and Punctuation. Specific strategies are already being planned to address these. However, as always Henry Kendall has displayed a strong academic performance and the results, on the whole, are very pleasing. Congratulations to Years 7 and 9.

Year 11 into 12 Information Night

On Tuesday 28 October from 7.00pm-8.00pm we will be holding an important Information Evening in the School Hall for our Year 11 students and their parents/caregivers who commence the 2015 HSC courses this term. The evening will discuss the importance and requirements of the HSC, in particular school based assessment, the ATAR, school expectations, support for students and families, study and time management, and general factors around the HSC year. Students will also be receiving their HSC Assessment Schedules for 2015.

All Year 11 students moving into Year 12 for the 2015 HSC, and their parents/caregivers are encouraged to attend. Please contact the Deputy Principal, Mrs Donna James (Loveridge), on 4325 2110 if more information is required.

Mr Andrew Backhouse, Principal

Parent Forum

School Planning

2015-17

All Henry Kendall parents and caregivers are invited to attend a forum to have a valuable input into the School Strategic Plan and priorities for the next three years and beyond.

5.00pm-6.30pm

Tuesday 28 October in the library.

Please phone the school office on 4325 2110 to indicate your intention to attend.
This event was held on Friday 10 October in the School Library. Six students from Years 7-9 and 19 students from Gosford Public School attended and all attendees reported how much they enjoyed the experience.

Students discovered how to create their own commercial grade 3D World with hills, ocean, sky and trees which blow in the wind. They also learnt how to import vehicles to make a fun driving game, write simple artificial intelligence code, character animation code as well as learn the 12 most important coding concepts needed to create games for all major platforms, mobile devices and games consoles.

Every student received links to the free commercial grade development software, access to a library of game development resources and video tutorials to use at home valued at over $3500 - these resources include vehicle packs, 3D models, scripts and terrain tools.

Mr Chris Myers, Head Teacher Technological & Applied Studies

GRANT WINNERS

Congratulations to SeoKyoung Inn and John Freeman winners of a grant from the Bouddi Society. SeoKyoung Inn in Year 10 has received a grant of $1000 to further her artistic development and assist with her Visual Art projects.

John Freeman in Year 10 has received a grant of $1500 to further his pursuits in becoming a Music Teacher. Congratulations to both students for your success in your applications. Thank you to Mrs Tracy Smith for mentoring these students through the application process.

The Bouddi Society is a cultural group which organises events and publications to raise money for local charities and to provide the opportunity for the community to join together for artistic, musical and other cultural occasions. “We emphasise creative activity in the arts, writing and discussion that help to enrich our awareness of the beautiful place in which we live and to celebrate time, place and community. We support other groups in their social and environmental awareness, concerns and actions”.

GOSFORD LOCAL AECG MEETING NOTICE

The Gosford Local AECG invites Aboriginal Parents, Carers and Community to come along listen, have an opinion and talk about improving Aboriginal peoples outcomes in Aboriginal Education and Training.

Date: Monday 20 October
Time: 4.30pm
Venue: Henry Kendall High School
YEAR 7 MATHS

Left: Here is our magic carpet. Its area is 1 m² (one square metre.)

The challenge was to get our whole class to stand on it at once.

At first we could only fit 12 kids on the magic carpet - and that was a tight squeeze.

Below: Can you see how we got everybody on, with room to spare? And its area is STILL one square metre.

Right: Jacob, Caleb, Tim, Kane, Chris, Megan, Jasmine, Elise, Bodene, Molly, Sarah, Gemma, Angelina, Thalia, Alisha and Jasmine.

YEAR 10 AWARDS

Congratulations to John Freeman and Sharmila Schumacher who will be receiving the Probus Award for Citizenship. Both students have been involved in SRC activities, Peer Support, welcoming new students and contributing to the wellbeing of other students in our school.

Congratulations to the following students who have achieved Principal’s Awards: Molly Davis, Sarra Dreha, Mitchell Donovan (2), Laura Ghali, Oliver Lee, Tanika Porter-Pope and Ethan Russell (2).

The following students are to be congratulated for achieving Year Awards: Ashley Cooper, Nicholas Chapman, Molly Davis, Sarra Dreha, Mitchell Donovan, Laura Ghali, Jarrod Gibbs, Sinead Haynes, Sienna Inglis, Seokyoung Inn, Annalise Hegessy, John Freeman, Oliver Lee, Connor Miller, Tanika Porter-Pope, Demi Rutter, Corey Simmonds, Ethan Russell, Jarrod Thomas, James Sutcliffe, Elyse Tully, Liam Wafer, Ella Whelan and Mitchell Wilson.

Ms Gae Hobson – Year 10 Adviser

TIPS FROM OUR SCHOOL COUNSELLOR

Useful Parenting resource

In the last newsletter I flagged the website from NSWKids+Families: Raising Children Net found via http://raisingchildren.net.au/communicating/talking_to_teens.html.

For a brief overview, there is a link to a short video describing the website, within the flyer at the end of this newsletter. The content is evidenced based and very worthwhile. I recommend it highly!

Ms Liane Porter, MAPS, School Counsellor
TUTORS NEEDED!

Calling everyone who loves Maths!

Do you want to make a huge difference to our students?
Do you want to keep your brain stimulated through retirement, or practise your teaching skills?
Do you have 80 minutes you could give on a Wednesday after school?

HKHS is privileged to have an awesome Maths Club, where community volunteers tutor our students one on one in the Library. This program is the joint initiative of the Smith Family and Ms Gae Hobson, Year 10 Year Adviser. It is a personal program, with each tutor assigned to an individual student, enabling them to build a positive relationship.

The program runs from 3:10pm to 4:30pm each Wednesday. Afternoon tea is provided.

Here’s what the tutors say:

"It’s rewarding to still be able to make a difference."
“It’s good to stimulate kids who take responsibility for their own progress. They wouldn’t come to tutoring if they weren’t taking responsibility for their own futures."
“As you go grey, you need something to keep your brain stimulated.”
“This program is really well-run. The Smith Family has rules in place which protect both the tutors and the students. We tutor in the school library and we can’t contact the students out of hours.”
“I am keen to continue with this program.”

Here’s what our students say:

“It takes us out of our comfort zone, but in a safe and friendly way.”
“My rank in my class has improved.”
“My tutor gives us heaps of challenges. It’s interesting.”
“It really helps us with social skills too. It’s a good relationship.”

HKHS is thrilled with the progress made by the students at the Maths Club this year. Their ranks have massively improved, going up by an average of 20%. At the same time, the students have found their self-confidence has also greatly increased.

These results are a tribute to the dedication and efforts of the students, as well as the huge and generous support of the Smith Family and their tutors.

We are keen to extend this successful program in 2015. We would like to continue to support Year 10 as they move into their Senior studies. We would also like to open the program up to Year 9, assisting them as they move into Year 10.

If you are a Year 10 student who would like to join the program, please give your name to Ms Gae Hobson or Ms Jenny Lill and we will place you on the waiting list.

If you are interested in being a volunteer Maths tutor, please contact Regina Gilbert, Springfield Learning for Life Program Co-ordinator at the Smith Family.

The Smith Family

The Smith Family is a national charity helping young Australians in need to get the most out of their education, so they can create better futures for themselves.

Regina Gilbert
Springfield Learning for Life Program Co-ordinator
Phone 43334159
Email regina.gilbert@thesmithfamily.com.au
www.thesmithfamily.com.au
Do you have a spare bed? Can you welcome an exchange student into your home as a volunteer host family with AFS?

Can you host Airi from Japan?
Age: 16
English: Fair
Interests: Tennis, Playing the piano, skiing and playing the flute

“I decided to study abroad in Australia because living in different cultures makes me broaden my horizon. I will be able to solve a lot of problems from various perspectives by myself.”

Can you host Rafael from Brazil?
Age: 16
English: Good
Interests: Traveling, photography, trekking, swimming, walking

“I’m very curious. I enjoy making new friends and learning about different cultures. I really admire the potential and the life quality of the developed countries, and want to be a part of it.”

Can you host Hanna from Germany?
Age: 17
English: Good
Interests: Music, dragon boat, swimming, zumba and cooking

“I applied because I want to learn about different cultures, meet people from all around the world, make experiences that will stay with me forever, and of course get much better with my English.”

Somewhere in another country a young person has the opportunity of a lifetime to come to Australia. Imagine that student becoming part of your family.

Each year hundreds of Australian families volunteer to open their home and hearts to an AFS participant. They are rewarded with precious long-lasting friendships.

On February 6 2015 AFS will be welcoming over 70 students and volunteers from across the globe to experience the Australian way of life and either attend a local high school or volunteer at a local community organisation.

Can your family host one of the above students? If so, we’d love to hear from you!

For more information on how you can become an AFS Volunteer Host Family please contact the AFS Hosting Team:
Phone: 1800 023 982 Email: aus.hosting@afs.org
Website: www.afs.org.au/host
TAKE HOME A BIG BROTHER OR BIG SISTER!

Let's get organised early!

Give your children the wonderful opportunity to have an international big brother or big sister by hosting one of our exceptional international students arriving in Australia in February 2015 for their 5 or 10 month programs. Our international students from France, Germany, Italy, Austria, Japan, the U.S.A and Canada will live as a local, attend a local secondary school, arrive with their own spending money and comprehensive insurance cover – all arranged by Southern Cross Cultural Exchange. Call your local coordinator today on: 0429 406 126 to request some student profiles, and capture the spirit of family and friendship!

POINT CLARE SPRING MARKET

Large Outdoor Market With Over 65 Stalls Featuring A Variety Of Items Including Clothing, Plants, Preserves, Homewares, Stationery And Giftware, Waffles and Coffee!

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18 - 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM
209 BRISBANE WATER DRIVE, POINT CLARE

Everything In Our Op Shop Will Be Half Price - What A Bargain!

A BBQ And Drinks Will Be Available, Gallery 209 Will Be Open And A Variety Of Kid’s Activities Will Be Running

For More Information Or To Book A Stall Please Contact Sue Or Catherine On 4323 3566

Fairhaven Services
SPECIAL UPDATE

SEPTEMBER 2014

YOUTH HEALTH & WELLBEING
Getting connected and staying connected

www.kidfamilies.health.nsw.gov.au

PARENTING YOUNG PEOPLE
Better communication – better health

The Parenting Teens project is a recent collaboration between the Youth Health and Wellbeing Team, the Raising Children’s Network, and the Parenting Research Centre. This project produced a range of new articles and videos about teenage health and wellbeing.

The new videos and articles help parents communicate with:
- Teens who are stressed out
- Teens who need support from a mental health service
- Teens with chronic medical conditions

If you are interested in finding out more about these resources or having a member of the Youth Health and Wellbeing Team at your next team meeting, please contact:
Shika Raju on 9424 5833 or e: sraju@doh.health.nsw.gov.au

Click here to view a short video of the new parenting teens resources

NEW HEALTH CARE AND CHRONIC MEDICAL CONDITIONS ARTICLES
- Teens starting to see the GP alone
- Teenage health care: your child’s rights and responsibilities
- Parenting teens with chronic health conditions
- Teenagers with chronic conditions: transition to adult care
- Teens with chronic conditions: Kate and Rosie’s story

Talking about teenage depression
In this video demonstration with actors, a father talks with both a friend and then with his son. This demonstrates a way that a parent might start a sensitive conversation and show support.

Teen transition to adult health care
This video looks at the transition from paediatric health care to adult health care. Two young people share their experiences of the move from child-centred care to adult-centred care

Teenagers and alcohol
Tom is sixteen and has been brought home drunk by the police. This video demonstration with actors shows parents working together to address their son’s behaviour.

NEW MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING ARTICLES
- Teenage issues: what teens worry about
- Choosing mental health services for teenagers
- Mental health services environment for teenagers
- Mental health treatments and therapies for teenagers
- Happier teenagers and teenage wellbeing
- Teenage issues: what teens worry about
- Mindfulness

raisingchildren.net.au
the australian parenting website