

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

**21 August 2009**

Over the past two weeks the school has been preparing for our annual **Art @ the Park** celebration of the arts here at Holland Park High. Students of Art exhibited work, and some of our Drama and Music students performed. Everyone in attendance was most impressed by the high quality of the work on display and the performances. The originality of the art work is a credit to our art teachers Patricia Corcoran and Vanessa Rousell. The evening was enhanced by the music and drama performances, led by Tony Bryer and Kerry Mitchell. And of course, it's not an art show without wine and cheese – with our special alcohol free “vintage” and delicious savouries on offer and on sale at the Starry Night Café. Our hospitality students, led by Mrs Hepburn and Mrs Burns catered for and served at the event with great professionalism and style. Art @ the Park has become a fabulous annual occasion, and this year was a fitting tribute to the Year of Creativity.

On the day of Art @ the Park I received the drawings for our BER-NSP projects (Building the Education Revolution – National School Pride) funded by the Commonwealth Government. Our project is in two parts, related to the arts – ***an Art classroom extension and an Instrumental Music store***. Our Architect Evan Pickering has visited the school on a couple of occasions, inspected facilities, talked with the staff and I, and our drawings are now with us for final approval. It's exciting to have new facilities under way. I have also submitted an application for additional funding under the State Government SSS subsidy scheme, to supplement the Art project – I hope to hear about this shortly.

On Tuesday evening there was a most interesting debate on Insight (SBS TV 7.30pm) about the issue of ***school performance and the increasing demand for publication of school data***. Interestingly, it was the young people in the audience, high school students, who were most critical – they have seen schools labelled as “failing” or the “bottom” of the list, and felt it was most unfair to judge all students of a school as “failures”. An interesting example showcased on the program was the “Leagues Table” created by a newspaper in Tasmania, which drew attention to the high school at the bottom of the list, where approximately 70% of students did in fact meet national benchmarks. What was revealed on the program (but

not in the newspaper) was that this school suffered a major fire two years ago and was burned down. Its students were split up across other local schools and new facilities are only now available (as I understand it). The school community suffered significant stress and dislocation and a loss of their identity, so the “double whammy” of the newspaper leagues table after the fire seems very harsh. This in fact highlights the importance of using data judiciously yet carefully – numbers on their own don’t tell the full story! The program is repeated on SBS on Friday and Monday (I think!). The next program is about girls – should be fascinating!

With all the attention on school performance, I would like to confirm my commitment to achieving the very best outcomes for each and every student at the school, and to seek to employ strategies to improve when student performance is less than expected. We work in partnership with parents so we must adopt a united front – maintaining high standards for behaviour, excellent attendance, putting in quality attention and effort, workplace standards such as dress codes.... these are the enabling conditions that create a classroom environment where teachers can do what they love to do – teach well, and see their students learn and grow.

Many of our students have been doing just that – learning and growing. Last newsletter I published the names of our Excellence Award recipients; today I congratulate all students who have achieved **Commendations based on their Semester 1 results**. The list appears in this newsletter.

In the next fortnight most of our Year 12 students will sit for the **QCS Test** – good preparation (having the correct materials and equipment in advance), uniform ready, a good night’s sleep and a good breakfast are great de-stressors! Good luck to our students.

Best Wishes

**Jocelyn Roberts**  
**Principal**

IMPORTANT DATES			
Tues 25/8	Yr 8 2010 Enrolment interviews at Wellers Hill SS	31/8-4/9	Year 11 Work Experience Placements
Wed 26/8	Subject Information Evening	Tues 1/9	Year 12 QCS
	Year 8 7pm in Hall 7.20pm in F Block	Wed 2/9	Year 12 QCS
	Year 9 7.00-7.30pm in F Block	Wed 2/9	ICT Committee Meeting 3.15pm
	Year 10 7.30pm in Hall, 8pm in F Block	Wed 2/9	P & C Meeting
Fri 28/8	Open Morning Tour 9.15am	Thurs 3/9	Met East Track & Field ANZ Stadium
Fri 28/8	Arts Council – Yrs 8 & 10-11.30am Yr 9-1.50pm	Fri 4/9	Newsletter

# **Certificate of Commendation Semester 1, 2009**

## **Year 8**

*Caleb Adams  
Jeron Alfaro  
Kaleb Bartlett-Elliott  
Hannah Bishop  
Taylor Bridge  
Sunni Bridgstock  
Jakson Brown  
Abbey Bryan  
Sidonie Connell  
Taylor Cunningham  
Travis Dock  
Dougie Faragher  
James Greig-Garland  
Amanda Hadaway  
Bliss Hodgson  
Jessi Kajewski  
Brejetta Lingard  
Kurt Longland  
Sarah Macrae  
Lejla Malkic  
Mia McKinnon  
Dean McPhail  
Alishia Morel  
Tran Nguyen  
Ngoc Nguyen  
Sarah O'Brien  
Teliah Randall  
Josh Roudon  
Ben Sharman  
Steph Walker  
Trent Warren  
Casey Welch  
Tylar Willett  
Grace Wilson  
Bridgette Young  
Richard Yu*

## **Year 9**

*Luke Boldery  
Chavi Brennan  
Cameron Burke  
Samson Kwok  
Emma Maidens  
Grace Milne  
Maggie Parsons-Clark  
Amy Richardson  
Ashleigh Robertson  
Sarah Timmers  
Ashleigh Weston*

## **Year 10**

*Maddison Adams  
Sarah Caisip  
Mia Ellis  
Christian Filipovic  
Nicole Gamble  
Elizabeth Jackson  
Jayden Latta  
Greg Reid  
Gemma Reseigh  
Sharol Sharma  
Lily Spence  
Alli Taylor  
Tessa Waters*

## **Year 11**

*Jessica Bebb  
Tim Burke  
Joshua De Cruz  
Karin Delaney  
Jessica Derek  
Danielle Gibson  
Lachlan Giddings  
Tallisha Harden*

## **Year 11 (cont'd)**

*Ara Hirst  
Matthew Hurley  
Jason Lamb  
Ash Martin  
Bronagh McCarthy  
Michael McGann  
Frances Miller  
Anastasia Mizis  
Vladica Nikic  
Aaron Nolan  
Kaley Norris  
Ashlee Rigby*

## **Year 12**

*Lillian Bennett  
Zak Dillon  
Laura Glassey  
Angela Hallam  
Morgan Howie  
Kaila Jahnke  
Katherine Jordan  
Jasmine Keir  
Laura Kelly  
Joseph Kolapudi  
Becky Martin  
Jessica Miller  
Amy Parsons  
Nicole Reseigh  
Melanie Russell  
Ainslee Stephens  
Amy Sutton  
Deanna Taddeucci  
Jillian Turner*

## SENIOR SCHOOLING NEWS

Congratulations to **Anastasia Mizis**, Year 11, who has recently been registered as a Australian School-Based Trainee working with Centacare. Anastasia will complete a Certificate III in Business and attend work one day a week. Our partnership with MEGT, our Australian Apprenticeship Centre, is proving beneficial to our students wishing to undertake such as they negotiate opportunities from their client base.

The 'sign up' process is very important involving all parties present for an induction and then signing of a legal contract where the student agrees to certain workplace obligations such as being punctual, working an eight hour day and abiding by all safety regulations. A parent or guardian must also be involved if the student is under 18 years of age. The employer outlines the particular requirements expected of the student on the job and the training provider explains how and when the training will occur and develops a training plan for the student.

Currently, several Year 10 students are waiting for interviews with Greencross Vets and the Brisbane City Council who are recruiting for trainees to begin work in 2010.

Students who are considering becoming a School-Based Apprentice or Trainee must have an excellent attendance record at school, demonstrate outstanding effort and behaviour in class and be well organised to catch up on work missed when away from school for training or work purposes.

Completing a School-Based Traineeship or Apprenticeship gives students an excellent start to their career, provides them with nationally recognised training and allows them to gain qualifications whilst at school to build on when they leave in Year 12 by continuing into tertiary studies or taking up full-time employment.

*Chris Klee, HOD Senior Schooling*

### Enrolment Interviews 2010

Enrolment Interviews for  
Year 8 2010  
are now being conducted.

Please contact the school on  
3347 0111 to arrange a  
convenient time for an interview.

## GERMAN NEWS

Earlier this year, **Ché Janosevic-Grainger** won a prestigious **Goethe Scholarship** and here's what he has to say about the four weeks he spent in Germany:

Shortly after our arrival in **Frankfurt**, we travelled to **Bonn**. Our group consisted of two **Costa Ricans**, two **Australians**, two **New Zealanders**, two **Ecuadorians**, three **Malagasy**, a **Columbian** and a **Bolivian**. Most of them spoke Spanish and our first dinner was eaten in silence, but that was soon to change.

*On top of the World – the highest mountain in Germany*

We stayed in **Bonn** for a week and had a very busy schedule. After a briefing at the town hall, we were taken to **Phantasieland**, a mini-Disneyland in the nearby city of **Brühl**. We spent four hours in the theme park and it was fantastic. We also went on a day trip to **Cologne** and saw the city and the famous cathedral from an observation tower. Then we went on a boat trip along the **River Rhine** and saw the ruins of the **Drachenschloß**, a castle built high above the river. On our last night in Bonn, we attended an international evening with all the other scholarship groups. We read a German version of the classic Australian story "**Possum Magic**" to the audience and also enjoyed some wonderful performances by other groups

Our next stop was the small town of **Traunstein** in Bavaria, not far from the Austrian border. My host family, the Parzingers, took excellent care of me over the next fortnight. We attended the **Chiemgau Gymnasium** and a specially assigned teacher taught us German and History. Our most notable excursion was touring the **salt mines** near **Salzburg** in **Austria**. The mines are several kilometres below the surface! The two weeks were fantastic and culminated in a second international evening – my host mum actually baked lamingtons for the occasion! After an emotional farewell, we boarded the train to **Munich**.

We stayed in Munich for a week and I liked it very much. Highlights included playing **football** against another scholarship group and visiting the **BMW museum**. We also learnt a lot about the history of the city. On our last night we went **ice-skating**. Despite sixteen falls and some severely bruised elbows and knees, I had lots of fun!

Then we travelled to **Berlin** which is not only bigger than Munich, but also has a completely different atmosphere and a high concentration of foreigners. In fact, when our group toured the neighbourhood of **Kreuzberg**, we counted thirteen different ethnic restaurants on one street alone! Berlin also has many museums and we visited four. We went to what remains of the **Berlin Wall**, **Checkpoint Charlie**, **Potsdam Square**, the massive **Sony Centre** and the glass dome of the **Reichstag**. We also saw **Shekatak**, an Israeli rhythm and movement event, and a comedy show. Both were excellent!

Our last night together was spent at a **bowling alley** near the hotel. It was fun, but everyone knew that our time was almost up. We didn't sleep that night as we were too busy packing and saying good-bye.

The trip was a **wonderful experience – linguistically, culturally and socially!** I saw many fantastic places, improved my German and, best of all, I gained many new friends from around the world. Many thanks to the **Goethe-Institut** for making the dream come true!

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***Ché Janosevic-Grainger, Yr 10 German***

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## **TALKING TO YOUR CHILD ABOUT DRUGS - TIPS FOR PARENTS**

When it comes to talking about drugs young people will appreciate your advice and look to you for your views, but they will expect you to be informed, up front and honest, and, if you show you are listening to them, they are more likely to listen to you.

Here are 10 ways to encourage young people to talk about drugs with you.

### ***Be part of their lives***

Make sure that you make time for your children. Take an interest in their interests and establish a routine for doing things together. Don't be afraid to ask where your teenagers are going and who they will be with. Spending time together as a family is important. For example, try to talk and eat together every day and find other opportunities to enjoy time together as a family.

### ***Listen to them***

By showing a willingness to listen will help your children to feel more comfortable about listening to you. Ask for their input about family decisions to demonstrate that you value their opinions. Try not to interrupt or react in a way that will stop further discussion. Encourage them to feel comfortable about telling you their problems.

### ***Be a role model***

When it comes to drugs, there is no such thing as "Do as I say, not as I do". If you take illicit drugs, you can't expect your child to take your advice. Don't underestimate the influence your behaviour can have on your children, particularly any use of tobacco or misuse of alcohol and medications.

### ***Be honest***

It is important to be informed but don't pretend to know everything. Be prepared to say "I don't know but I will try and find out". Be honest and clear about where you stand so that your children will find it easier to be honest with you.

### ***Pick your moment***

Choose the right time to discuss the topic by looking for natural opportunities as they arise. This might be watching TV, when talking about someone at school or in response to something that was similarly difficult to talk about.

### ***Be calm***

Being calm and rational is also important and don't overreact. You should keep the lines of communication open and don't ridicule or lecture. Remember that getting angry will just close the door on further discussion.

### ***Avoid conflict***

It is difficult to solve a problem when there is conflict. Try to see their point of view and encourage them to understand yours. If a confrontation develops, stop the conversation and return to it as soon as both of you are calmer.

### ***Keep on talking***

Once you've had a discussion, it's important to have another. Ensure that you are always willing to speak to your children about drugs and start early.

### ***Set clear boundaries***

Most young people expect and appreciate some ground rules. Allowing them to take part in setting the rules encourages them to take more responsibility for sticking to them. Once you have rules, enforce them and ensure young people know of the consequences of breaking them. Find and agree to ways young people can act should they find themselves in a situation that exposes them to drugs. For example, let them know that you will always collect them if they need you to, even if it is late at night. However, make it absolutely clear that you would rather they didn't put themselves in a situation where they are likely to be exposed to illicit drugs.

### ***Focus on the positive***

Reward your children's good behaviour and emphasise those things they do well. Encourage them to feel good about themselves and let them know that they deserve respect.

(From  
<http://www.drugs.health.gov.au/internet/drugs/publishing.nsf/Content/tips-for-parents>)

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## UNIFORM SHOP NEWS

**Opening Hours** – Tuesday and Thursday 8.15 to 10.30am

### Sock Sale - \$5 a pair

We have for sale, good quality white socks (with stripe) in sizes 8-11 and kingsize. They are Australian made and have 80% cotton. We will no longer be ordering these as at stock item.

### Volunteers

We are in need of volunteers, especially on Tuesdays. Help is needed most during the first hour 8.15 to 9.15am.

### Donations

On behalf of the P & C we would like to thank everyone who has donated their 2<sup>nd</sup> hand uniforms for resale.

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**Mary and Trish, Uniform Shop Convenors**

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## TUCKSHOP NEWS

A big thank you to those people who have come forward and volunteered their valuable time to help out in the tuckshop, it is very much appreciated and I can't tell you what a difference it makes.

If you would like to help out any morning from 9am to 10.30am or on Fridays from 11.30 to 1pm, please feel free to ring me at the tuckshop on 3347 0108 or just drop in on the days you would like to help out.

Thank you,

**Donna Phillips, Tuckshop Convenor**

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TUCKSHOP ROSTER	
<i>Fri 28/8</i>	<i>Judi Summers</i>
<i>Tues 1/9</i>	<i>Jacinta Mitchell</i>

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## COMMUNITY NOTICE

**FREE PERSONAL TRAINING** is coming soon to your local park. The Brisbane City Council, in partnership with Coolsports, has organised personal trainers to show you how to operate new outdoor activity stations. Come along at 6-7am for 6 weeks and get ready for summer! Bring a towel and a water bottle. All ages are welcome. No need to book. Tuesday's start on 25<sup>th</sup> August at Tarragindi Recreation Reserve, Shaftesbury Street, UBD Map 180 Ref E13. Enquiries to John Messenger on 3878 8559.

**Brisbane Metropolitan Touch Association (BMTA)** operates the Touch Football complex at Whites Hill Reserve (Camp Hill) and hires fields for competitions at Norman Park (East Rugby Union). BMTA is one of the largest Touch Football Affiliated organizations in Australia with more than 8,000 registered players each year, including junior, social and elite players. **BMTA is Brisbane's only touch specific venue, with the best fields, referees, lighting and administration.** The new Junior Season kicks off 8<sup>th</sup> October for Junior Girls and 9<sup>th</sup> October for Junior Boys See Attached Flyer. Age groups are under 10, 12, 14, 16 and 18. For further information please go to our website [www.bmta.com.au](http://www.bmta.com.au) under new season info Summer 0910 Junior team nomination pack for nomination forms and conditions of entry.

**Lost Cat** - Our MUCH loved cat has gone missing, his name is 'Jimmy' is Black, male, 4 ½ year old, desexed and microchipped. missing since 29/07/2009 Wills street Coorparoo/Holland Park border. Was wearing blue collar with red contact name tag. contact 0432 629 428 or 0412 450 671.Thank you.

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**PLEASE SUPPORT THE FOLLOWING COMPANIES WHO ARE PROUDLY SUPPORTING HOLLAND PARK HIGH VOLLEYBALL PROGRAM**



Telephone: 3397 0566 (Greenslopes)



Telephone: 3349 1554



