Principals Report

CONGRATULATIONS AND GOODBYE TO YEAR 12
The Higher School Certificate has finished and I would like to congratulate Year 12 for the excellent way in which they conducted themselves during the examinations. The supervisors commented about how well the students worked and about the fine attitude they displayed during this strenuous time. I wish the students all the very best as they leave our school for their lives beyond and I congratulate Year 12 on the excellent results which were released on December 16.

Year 12 students attended the school on that date to have a luncheon with their teachers. This was a chance to relax and talk about results and future plans.

Again, as mentioned in an earlier newsletter, I sincerely thank Ms Frost on her dedication to Year 12, ensuring that they have successfully completed school and developed into mature young citizens.

SCHOOL PRESENTATION CEREMONIES
Our school Academic Awards Presentation Assembly was held on Friday 4 December. Parents, family and friends were welcomed and we celebrated the achievements of many of our students on this day. I congratulate all of the award winners, including five of our staff who received awards for their commitment to teaching and work in our schools. Congratulations to Mrs Wallis, Ms Smith, Ms Pinto, Ms Frost and to Mrs Allen. My thanks also go to Mrs Queffert and her team of staff and student helpers for the outstanding event that was organised.

On Wednesday 9 December, we celebrated and acknowledged the achievements of our students in the sporting arena with our Sports Awards Presentation Night. Again, parents, family and friends were welcomed and we celebrated the outstanding sporting successes together.

THE ROSA
Year 10 students have completed their assessment tasks which will now accumulate to give the grade for each subject for their Record of School Achievement (ROSA).

Year 10 students who have satisfactorily completed all of their work will now qualify for a ROSA but this will only be issued by the Board of Studies at the time a student exits the school system. Hence, there is no formal end of schooling at the Year 10 level, lessons continue to the end of the school year and there is no early finishing date for these students.

A student may only leave school at the end of year 10 if they have turned 17 years of age or, they have full time employment, are enrolled in TAFE or a combination of TAFE and employment. All other students are expected to continue their schooling into Year 11 and 12.

The results achieved by the Year 10 students will be available for students to view online via the Board of Studies website at the end of the year. Students will receive information about how to access their results from the Board of Studies.

UNIFORM
A friendly reminder to all parents and students that our uniform is a feature of our school and that it is compulsory for all students. The correct wearing of the uniform projects an image of professionalism
and high standards to the community which enhances the reputation of all students. Many students always wear the uniform proudly and correctly and I thank them for the effort they make. The uniform was designed and approved by staff, students and the P&C and is often the subject of very positive comments from the community and other schools. This positive image for our students helps all of us to maintain a good reputation in the community, a characteristic which benefits our students in the long run.

Please note that Lowes Seven Hills supplies all of our uniform and is open throughout the vacation period. Please speak to the staff there if there are any particular size requirements, they are happy to lodge special orders for our students.

The maroon jacket which is able to be worn with any uniform (formal or sport) is only available through the school. Please contact the office for information on this item.

STAFF UPDATE
Ms Pinto has been working for us on a temporary basis while she was seeking a permanent job. We now congratulate her on successful application for a permanent teaching job at Kellyville High School and wish her well. I would like to thank her for her dedication to the students at our school over many years.

Mrs McNab has been working in our school supporting our students in study plans and skills over many years. She is now retiring and we wish her well in her future endeavours. My sincere thanks for her dedication as well.

CHANGE TO BELL TIMES IN 2016
Please be advised that we have made a change to our bell times for 2016. This information has been in previous newsletters and has also been sent home via students recently. The main change is to the finish time for Wednesdays. Our early day for Year 7-10 students has changed to Wednesday afternoon (previously Thursday afternoon). This means that these students will leave the school at 1.54pm on Wednesdays each week.

Year 11 & 12 students will still attend the full day on Wednesday and the late finish on Thursday for them will still be at 3.36pm.

THANKS & HAPPY HOLIDAYS
Finally, as this is the last newsletter for this year, I would like to thank Mrs Middleton and Mr Calleja for the fine job that they are doing as the Deputy Principals of this school. The Head Teachers, too, deserve acknowledgement for all of the extra duties they perform for the benefit of our students. There are very minimal staff changes anticipated for 2016 with the number of students anticipated to remain constant for 2016.

The skills with which the executive staff, teaching staff and office/support staff have managed this complex organisation is outstanding.

As the school year draws to a close, I wish all parents and students a successful and enjoyable end to the school year and safe and happy Christmas break and summer holiday.

To those leaving the school, I wish you a happy and healthy future. To those returning, I look forward to working with you again in 2016.

Year 7 students return to school on Thursday 28 January 2016.
Years 11 & 12 students return on Friday 29 January 2016.
Years 8, 9 & 10 students return on Monday 1 February 2016.

Regards

Mitchell Struyve - Principal

Website: www.hillssport-h.schools.nsw.edu.au
Email: hillssport-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
** Please note commencing in 2016, the Early Finish Day for Years 7-10 has changed from Thursday to Wednesday **

** Term 1 **
Year 7 – first day of school - Thursday 28/1/2016
Years 11 and 12 – first day of school – Friday 29/1/2016
Years 8, 9 & 10 – first day of school – Monday 1/2/2016
End of Term 1 – Friday 8/4/2016

** Term 2 ** – All Students return to school – Wednesday 27/4/2016
End of Term 2 - Friday 1/7/2016

** Term 3 ** – All students return to school – Tuesday 19/7/2016
End of term 3 – Friday 23/9/2016

** Term 4 ** – All students return to school – Monday 10/10/2016
End of Term 4 - Friday 16/12/2016

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** The Hills Sports High School **
** Information for Students and Parents **
** Important dates for 2016 **

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** The Hills Sports High School **
** Bell Times **

** Monday – Friday **

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8.20 AM</td>
<td>Go to Class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.25 AM – 8.39 AM</td>
<td>Roll Call</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.39 AM – 9.30 AM</td>
<td>Period 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.30 AM – 10.21 AM</td>
<td>Period 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.21 AM – 10.41 AM</td>
<td>Recess</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.36 AM</td>
<td>Go to Class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.41 AM – 11.32 AM</td>
<td>Period 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.32 AM – 12.23 PM</td>
<td>Period 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.23 PM – 12.43 PM</td>
<td>Lunch 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>12.43 PM – 1.03 PM</td>
<td>Lunch 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.58 PM</td>
<td>Go to Class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.03 PM – 1.54 PM</td>
<td>Period 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.54 PM – 2.45 PM</td>
<td>Period 6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

** Years 7-10 **
End of Day – Wed 1.54pm

** Years 11-12 **
End of Day – Thurs 3.36pm
2015 Hills Sports CAPA/TAS Exhibition

CAPA/LOTE would like to thank everyone who attended the 2015 Hills Sports CAPA/TAS Exhibition night.

The exhibition was well attended by students and parents.

There was a huge selection of art items displayed including: Masks, movement artworks, ceramic pots, charcoal portraits, photographs and abstract artworks.

Year 12 HSC major works had a variety from pen drawings, carved logs, T-shirt designs and a wheelchair decorated in different charity groups across Australia.

The following students received awards from the sponsor S&S:
- Principal's Award - Stephanie McCarthy year 11
- Best in HSC - Briony McAleer Year 12
- Deputy Choice - Adrienne Baxter year 10
- Best in Support - James Ryan Year 11
- Teacher's Choice - Emilee Hutchings. Year 10

Also a huge thankyou to Tamera Levi, Candice Reyes and Ronita Ah-Foon for their musical performances and the awesome catering from the TAS faculty. The food was delicious!!!
History Mastermind

Gifted & Talented Trivia Day, 20th November, 2015

1. Which Ancient Assyrian King produced the first known law code?
2. In Polynesian society, what is a Ta Moko?
3. What was the birth name of the Pharaoh Akhenaten?
4. Name the longest ruling Ancient Chinese Dynasty?
5. In Norse society, what was a Knarr?
6. What city was the capital of the Aztec Empire?
7. What number is represented by the Roman numerals MCMLXXXI?
8. In archaeology, what is the study of layers of soil called?

These were just some of the questions asked at this year’s NSW History Teacher’s Association History Mastermind Competition held at The Hills Sports High School had the pleasure of hosting the History Mastermind Competition with approximately 28 schools from across Western Sydney participating in November. These schools ranged from areas as far as the Blue Mountains, to the Parramatta, Penrith and Blacktown and even North Sydney areas.

We had a record number of 84 teams enter this year, with almost 400 students participating.
History Mastermind
Thank you to the NSW HTA for their continued support. Also special thanks to Mrs Hand, Miss Smith, Mrs Taylor, Mrs Pritchard for their wonderful work with catering the event with their Hospitality students. Also many thanks to Mr Gregory Haynes and the entire HSIE Faculty (Mr Buchanan, Mr Maharaj, Mrs Pratap, Mr Barley and Mr Proud) for enabling the day to run smoothly.

Answers: In case you were playing at home, the answers to the questions were:
1) Hammurabi 2) Tattoo on the chin and lips 3) Amenhotep IV 4) Zhou dynasty 5) Viking cargo boat 6) Tenochtitlan 7) 1981 8) Stratigraphy

Miss Robyn McKenzie
NSW HTA HISTORY MASTERMIND CO-ORDINATOR,
The Hills Sports High School HSIE Faculty
Mr Sunderland’s Years 9 & 10 Metal Work Class have been busy creating their own Clock designs in class this term.
CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations need to go out the amazing Hills Sports Cheerleading Squad who recently competed in the Australian All Star Cheerleading Federations National Championships!
The squad entered two routines and one individual item where they received 1st in Australia for their Pom routine which was outstanding!
They also received 5th for their Cheer routine which was a great achievement considering the squad has had a bad luck run of late with injuries, however they pulled through, worked together as team and made the Cheerleading Mentor and Coach very proud of their efforts!
Another individual congratulations needs to be extended to Faith Simmons who entered the individual tumbling section where she received a National 1st for her round off full out back tuck!
### REMINDER

Parents/Carers are reminded when picking students up from school during the school day, photograph identification is requested.

Thank you, THSHS
Online Payment System

Hills Sports is pleased to advise that an Online Payment System is now available. Secure payments of fees and excursions can be made via the schools website. On the schools website, there is a payment option which is easy to navigate for prompt online payments.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item Description</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Junior Girls Blouse</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Girls Blouse</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skirt</td>
<td>$30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grey Shorts</td>
<td>$20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior Boys Shirt</td>
<td>$10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Boys Shirt</td>
<td>$10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grey Pants</td>
<td>$25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jumpers</td>
<td>$30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Track Pants</td>
<td>$20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polo Shirt</td>
<td>$10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sport Shorts</td>
<td>$10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Any donations of school uniforms are greatly appreciated. These can be dropped at the front office or Maths Staffroom.

If you have any questions or queries, please don’t hesitate to contact Ms Potts on 9622-7300.

Wednesday 20 January 2016 from 9am to 10.30am

Wednesday 27 January 2016 from 8am to 9am
SCHOOL EXCURSIONS
NEW ARRANGEMENTS FOR TRAVEL - OPAL CARDS

All students need to apply for a Child/Youth Opal Card for school excursions. You can apply at opal.com.au or purchase one from an Opal retailer.

FAMILY DETAILS
Please keep your child’s details current by informing the office in writing, of any changes to contact details, eg phone numbers, address, emergency contacts.

MEDICAL INFORMATION
Please advise the office at any time if there are changes in the information about your child’s health care needs, including administration of prescribed medication.
We have been informed about a couple of cases of Head Lice, if needed, treatment is available from your local chemist.

PARENT ONLINE PAYMENTS
Excursions, school fees and sporting activities can be paid through our Parent Portal on our website ($ Make a Payment). This is a secure Westpac website, for online payments, using either a Visa or MasterCard credit or debit card.

STUDENT LEAVE
An application is required for students taking leave of 5 days or more. The application form needs to be given to the Principal for consideration prior to the leave being taken. The application form is available from the Front Office.
The school needs to be informed in writing if a student needs to leave school early. Their roll call teacher will authorise the leave and issue a pass.
Any student who is unwell, or has sustained an injury during the day needs to see their class teacher, who will issue the student with a note to come to the Front Office for assistance. The Office Staff will then contact the parents/carers if the student needs to be collected from school.
Transport for NSW

Fact sheet: The School Opal card

Who's eligible?
To be eligible for a School Opal card, students need to be NSW residents and may need to live a minimum distance away from their school:
- Years K-2 (Infants) there's no minimum distance.
- Years 3-6 (Primary) 1.6km straight line distance or 2.3km walking or further.
- Years 7-12 (Secondary) 2.0km straight line distance or 2.9km walking or further.

Students completing secondary studies at TAFE, boarding school students and students temporarily in Australia may also be eligible for a School Opal card. The eligibility criteria for these students is available at transportnsw.info/school-students.

A School Opal card is provided to eligible students who need to travel within the Opal network. Paper travel passes are issued to eligible students who need to travel outside the Opal network.

Who needs to apply?
Most students or parents won't need to apply for the School Opal card. The School Opal card will be sent to a student's school automatically at the beginning of the new school year in 2016.

However, a new application is required if:
- The student is just starting school or has not had a pass for travel before.
- The student is progressing from Year 2 to 3, or Year 6 to 7.
- The student is changing schools, including going between primary and secondary school.
- The student's personal details have changed (e.g. address).

Applications must be made by a parent or guardian for children aged 15 years and under. Applications must be made by the student if aged 16 years or older.

How to apply
Step 1 Complete the application at transportnsw.info/school-students.
Step 2 Print, sign and submit the form to the school for endorsement.
Step 3 The school will then forward the application to Transport for NSW for processing.

Once approved, Transport for NSW sends the School Opal card to the home address given in the application.

The application may take several weeks and the applicant's email address is required.

If the student doesn't qualify for free travel
They may be eligible for a Term Bus Pass which offers travel on buses between home and school at a discounted rate for the whole school term.

Apply at transportnsw.info/school-students.

Find out more
For more information on the School Opal card and the School Student Travel Scheme (SSTS), please visit transportnsw.info/school-students.
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BALLET JAZZ POM TAP
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www.facebook.com/infernocheerdance
Ruya is a graduate of Macquarie University. She has experience in the assessment and treatment of children across all ages in areas of speech, fluency, language and literacy skills. She has worked closely with families and schools to achieve specific goals to maximise communication skills for children. Ruya has completed the Hanen 'It Takes Two to Talk' training, to assist parents of young children with language difficulties.

Ruya offers bulk-billed and private consultations for children aged 2-15 years. For more information and to make an appointment, please call Reception on 8822 3000

OPEN EVERY DAY 8:00am – 8:00pm
36 Kildare Road, Blacktown (on the corner, next to Westpoint)
kildaremedical.com.au
Parents/Carers are reminded the School Car park is not available for Parent/Carer parking, or for drop off or pickup of Students. Parking is limited, therefore we ask you to comply to this procedure. Parents/Carers who require an exemption, please contact David Calleja, Deputy Principal for information on application requirements.