PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Year 12 trial examinations are almost completed and the process has run very smoothly. I commend Dave Rawlings and the learning support staff in the Library for making all of the necessary adjustments for the exams to be supervised by our outside supervisors in such a professional way. This gives our students that vital experience of completing their trial exams in a similar manner in which the HSC will be conducted. This can be a very stressful time for Year 12 students as many complete their major works and some have actually performed their practical tasks for their actual HSC. Please do not hesitate to contact the Year Adviser if you are concerned about your child as they prepare for these very important exams in Term 4.

The East Hills Choral Festival is getting very close now and I want to express my appreciation for the coordinating role Lisa Gourlay is playing at the moment. On top of her normal duties at our school, she is also preparing talented students from local primary and high schools to showcase their amazing talents with the amazing support from Head Teacher Suzy Tarasenko.

Year 10 will finalise their subjects choices for next year in two weeks. It is important that any decision about their future is based on the most accurate and up to date information. Year 10 parents recently attended an information evening where details about the process were explained and further information has been placed on the school’s website. Students will be given more information from different faculties at school during this time. The final day for subject selections for next year will be made is on Friday 22nd August. Joel Eaton, our careers adviser, will also have completed individual interviews with every year 10 student by Thursday 14th August.

The process for Year 8 students selecting their elective subjects for study in year 9 is also about to begin. Students will be given all of the relevant information over the next few weeks. Parents will be required to sign their selection forms to indicate they have had some discussions with their children.

The Parent / Teacher night data this year is very exciting. Thank you to the staff and the parents for making it a great success. The significant change this year was the move towards an online booking system. This has proven to be a huge success and resulted in further improvements in the number of parent / teacher interviews taking place (more than a 15% increase). The data for the last 4 years is shown below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years 7/11/12</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>1363</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>891</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years 8/9/10</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tbody>
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</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>955</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>847</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The other pleasing aspect of this online access that parents now have is that they can view at any time their child’s assessment marks and their merits and demerits recorded on our electronic system called Millennium. If any parents are having trouble accessing this information, please contact the school. Individual letters were sent to all families just prior to the last two parent teacher nights with the relevant login and password information.

Recently collated learning data has shown that this year the total number of students identified at PPHS as having a form of learning disability and receiving adjustments is 118 students. Of that number 34 students were from either IO or IM. The remaining 84 students were those we support in classes and/or out of class in Learning & Support and who receive either supplementary or substantial adjustments according to their level of needs and learning. I commend all staff for the extra work they put in to meeting the learning needs of these students and I encourage all parents to continue the dialogue with the Learning Support Team and your child’s teachers to help us achieve the best learning outcome for each child at Picnic Point High School.

Recent school successes include;
- Years 9 & 10 Girls and Boys Touch Football Teams – Regional Champions and progress through to the State Finals in term 4
- Years 7 & 8 Girls & Boys Touch Football Teams – Regional Champions and now progress through to the top twenty teams in the state. This is the first time that all 4 teams have progressed this far.
- Year 8 Debaters defeat Chester Hill HS.

Mr S. Schomberg
Deputy’s Report – Mrs Sherry

Last week I was extremely privileged to attend the Leadership camp at Stanwell Tops. During my stay I was able to witness the leadership skills of the students that attended. All activities that were conducted included students across the year groups working together as a team. From organising a hypothetical event for our school, to trivia night, to challenge activities, each group worked together to learn valuable skills to be used at school. During the camp Mr Schomberg and I met with our Year 11 prefects to discuss the role that they are playing as leaders of the school. These students are undertaking the intensive selection process for the positions of school captain and vice-captain. It is great to be a part of this process.

Year 11

Year 11 students are approaching the end of their preliminary studies with the Yearly Examinations in weeks 9 and 10, beginning on Monday 8th September. The great majority of students are performing at a high level and are ensuring their success by completing all work on time and to the best of their ability. There are some students; however, that need to make a concerted effort to improve their performance especially as we move into the HSC studies that commence in Term 4. Parents of students in Year 11 should be starting to have conversations with their children about organising their time and also their work space at home. Ensuring assessment tasks are looked at and completed ahead of time will reduce stress levels for students by ensuring that any last minute issues don’t affect their completion of tasks. Keeping a copy of the assessment calendar on display will assist in organising time and knowing what tasks are falling due in the coming week. The very important Ryda Excursion is also coming up on the 21st August. Students will be given expert tuition on the dangers and responsibilities involved in driving motor vehicles. This is very timely as many of our Year 11 approach the age when they can get a driver’s license.

Schools A to Z website – practical help for parents

Many parents visit or phone the school asking for advice on how to deal with a variety of issues concerning their children. The Department of Education and Communities has a website available for parents with valuable information on a variety of topics. One area of the website is Wellbeing, with articles and information on behaviour, development, fitness, food and health. There are articles on assisting your child to deal with peer pressure, developing resilience in your child and strategies on talking to your child about their friendship groups. The website can be found at the following address: http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/

The Professional Learning Team at Picnic Point High School have been continuing to work hard organising and running professional development activities for staff. For staff development day 3 on the first day of term, all staff participated in workshops to enhance student learning outcomes. During executive meetings, we have begun planning for the new school plan for 2015-2017. The DEC have developed a new school planning model and evaluation process that will streamline processes that occur in our schools.

Deputy Principal - Mrs Sherry

Deputy’s Report – Ms Stavros

I am delighted to be working closely with our Year 8, 10 and 12 students and their families whilst Mr Schomberg is filling in as Relieving Principal this term. All students have settled in well to Semester Two and the term is moving quickly with many activities and opportunities for students. It is great to see so many students involved in different aspects of school life – it makes coming to school a more enjoyable experience!

Year 8

Year 8 students have Subject Selection choices to look forward to this term. In Years 9 and 10, students study six core subjects [English, Mathematics, Science, History, Geography, PD/H/PE] and two elective subjects. In the next couple of weeks Year 8 will be issued with their Year 9 2015 Subject Selection Booklet. This booklet holds important information on all the elective subjects we are offering for study at Picnic Point High School next year. All parents and students of Year 8 are urged to look through the booklet carefully in order to make informed choices. It is essential students place their elective choices in strict priority order. Students should make choices based on their ability and interest rather than what their friends have chosen or which teacher may be taking the subject next year. Students who choose subjects they enjoy tend to do well in those subjects. Subjects with fees to cover the cost of resources also should be carefully considered.

Year 10

Year 10 students are in the process of completing their Subject Selection choices for their senior studies in 2015-2016. This process involves extensive discussions with staff, students and parents. Year 10 students are welcome to speak to their class teachers, head teachers and Careers Adviser for assistance. Subject selection forms are due on Friday, August 22. However, students need to bring their blue form with them every day to school in order to get relevant signatures from class teachers. Year 10 need to ensure their blue form is ready for submission on this date with all necessary signatures.

Year 12

Year 12 are currently completing their trial HSC examinations and on their return to class in Week 6 they will be working towards the final components of their Stage 6 courses. It is crucial Year 12 remain focused until the HSC begins in October. In the next couple of weeks Year 12 will be receiving valuable feedback from their class teachers based on their performance in the recent trial examinations. Staff will be expecting our students to continue to work hard and complete all class and home tasks. Important revision and feedback from past HSC examination papers will provide students with important tips for performing their best in their exams.

Good luck also to several of our students who are completing their HSC examinations this term for Dance Practical, Music and Japanese Continuers Speaking. And all the best to our talented Industrial Technology and Art students who have been working long hours to finish their major works!

Relieving Deputy Principal - Ms Stavros
What’s On - Term 3

Wed 20/9  RYDA Excursion
Thur 21/9  Year 12 “streetsmart”
Tues 2/9   Year 12 Prefect Lunch

Michel’s (Revesby)
Student of the Month
July 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>REASON FOR THE AWARD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Samantha Lee</td>
<td>For excellence in all subjects.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jessica Luth</td>
<td>For excellent commitment to extra-curricular Creative Arts programs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jessica Setter</td>
<td>For continued dedication and hard work in her English studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Karaolis</td>
<td>For her diligent attitude in English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Cklamovski</td>
<td>For outstanding effort in Construction.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hercules Hefren</td>
<td>For improving his position in the Year by 65 places.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Easily access all newsletters, notes, notices, reminders, events and receive emergency alerts.

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Search in the app store, visit the web address or scan a QR code:

http://apps.schoolenews.com
Michel's (Revesby) are proud sponsors of the PPHS 'student of the month' award.

Why not visit your local community club
28 Childs Street Panania
Proud sponsors of the Leonard W. Eickenloff Scholarship to Students of Picnic Point High School
Year Adviser Reports

Year 8 Report
All Year 8 students have now received their Semester One Report and I congratulate the students who have achieved their very best during the first half of the year. Particular congratulations must go to the students who received a ‘Year Adviser’ sticker on the front of their report and students who have been formally invited to the Deputy Principal Morning Tea. The sticker and morning tea recognise students who have achieved outstanding results, significantly improved from Semester Two, 2013 and demonstrated a positive application to their studies. Please remember that teacher comments provide strategies which assist students to improve their results as they work towards the end of the year.

Congratulations to the Student of the Month – June and July, Leon Durea and Jessica Luth. The next formal assembly will take place during Week 8 of this term. Any students wishing to be a chairperson or perform at a Formal Assembly are encouraged to see Mrs Gourlay. We are always very excited to showcase new talent and develop the leadership skills of our students.

Please remember to bring a ‘Notification of Absence’ cream form to school if you are away from school for any reason. If you are sick for more than two days, a medical certificate is required. All absent days must be accompanied by an explanation.

Mr S Smith

Year 9 Report
All Year 9 students have now received their Semester One Report and I congratulate the students who have achieved their very best during the first half of the year. Particular congratulations must go to the students who received a ‘Year Adviser’ sticker on the front of their report and students who have been formally invited to the Deputy Principal Morning Tea. The sticker and morning tea recognise students who have achieved outstanding results, significantly improved from Semester Two, 2013 and demonstrated a positive application to their studies. Please remember that teacher comments provide strategies which assist students to improve their results as they work towards the end of the year.

Congratulations to the Student of the Month – July, Jessica Setter. The next formal assembly will take place during Week 8 of this term. Any students wishing to be a chairperson or perform at a Formal Assembly are encouraged to see Mrs Morris or Ms Kourouche. We are always very excited to showcase new talent and develop the leadership skills of our students.

Please remember to bring a ‘Notification of Absence’ cream form to school if you are away from school for any reason. If you are sick for more than two days, a medical certificate is required. All absent days must be accompanied by an explanation.

Mrs S Morris

Year 11 Report
We would like to remind all Year 11 students that the RYDA (Rotary Youth Driving Awareness) excursion to Homebush on Wednesday 20 August 2014 is compulsory. The payment of $29 and permission note must be given to the front office. There will be no opportunity to purchase food or drink on this day. You should bring your own recess and lunch.

Year 12 Senior Jackets are in production. The final payment must be paid to the front office. These jackets are to be worn at the start of Term 4 2014. We look forward to a smooth transition and confident start to Year 12.

Year 11 uniforms are looking great. Keep up the good presentation and stay warm on cold days. Only school jumpers or jackets are allowed.

Lastly, we would like to encourage everyone to submit all schoolwork on time. Working to your full potential, prioritising your school activities over leisure activities and not procrastinating are vital to promote a healthy study culture and success at school. Try your best and be mindful of time – Year 11 exams start in Week 9 this term.

Best wishes, Monika Bray and Justine Shlom
Programs

Year 9 Brainstorm Production

Last term, Year 9 students had the opportunity to witness the Brainstorm Production ‘Cheap Thrills.’ Cheap Thrills was an entertaining production focusing on risk-taking decisions and the consequences individuals may face.

Our magnificent host acted out different scenarios, where characters of all ages and genders were placed in different situations. Our host also handpicked student helpers who were very enthusiastic and assisted the host with the production. Overall, it was a fantastic production filled with humour and excitement and we learnt many valuable things.

Thank you to Ms Stavros and Mrs Morris, for organising this incursion.

By Taylor Alaelua (Year 9)

Social Inc. and Hakuna Matata

What a wonderful day Social Inc. students experienced on Wednesday 23 July 2014! Our 38 mainstream and special education students attended ‘The Lion King’ musical at the Capitol Theatre in Sydney. We started with a relaxing morning tea in Hyde Park and then walked to the theatre to see this amazing show. All students behaved exceptionally well and we would like to congratulate them on their achievement. HAKUNA MATATA! …and look at the photos below.

All Social Inc. events in 2013 and 2014 have been supported by the Bankstown Council grant. The assistance given has been much appreciated by all Social Inc. students. Thank you!

VPT (very proud teachers)

Monika Bray SocialInc. Co-ordinator

Special Education Report

Our special education students should be praised for their exceptional behaviour on the excursion to watch ‘The Lion King’. Students from all 3 support classes and mainstream students attended this event on Wednesday 23 July 2014. This was the first these students have experienced such a fantastic show. Sharing those special moments with your friends from Social Inc. makes the whole experience even more valuable. I would like to congratulate everyone on being caring, inclusive and very friendly. Well done everyone!

“A friend is one of the nicest things you can have and one of the best things you can be.”
Talented Sports Program

Term 2 and the beginning of term 3 has continued to be an eventful and successful time for the Talented Sports Program.

The 9/10 Boys and Girls touch teams travelled to Campbelltown on Friday the 20th to participate in the NSW run touch football Regional finals. Both teams played extremely well on the day against some very good opposition. The Girls team went through undefeated on the day and in a close Final they prevailed by one in a very close encounter.

The boys team played equally well on the day, tying one game in the rounds and then playing that same team in the Final after a close semi-final win. In an exciting game which saw the lead change several times throughout the game, at full time both teams were tied again. This then went to a drop off where both teams lose a player each minute. We scored off the tap off and then had to defend everything the opposition could throw at us to end up with a win.

Both teams now progress to State finals in Term 4.

Week one of term 3 saw our 7/8 boys and girls Touch teams head to Campbelltown to compete in the regional finals. Armed with our 9/10 coaches and Miss Ngo the teams played 6 games on the day. Both teams went through the day undefeated and also now progress to the top 20 teams in the state along with the 9/10 boys and girls.

This is the first time we have secured all 4 teams to go to the state finals, which is a great achievement.

Our open boys’ team, travelled to Inverell on Monday and Tuesday of week 3. With bus driver Wayne we took off on our 10 hour each way drive. The boy’s behaviour was exemplary under trying conditions. We played Inverell High school on the Tuesday morning and what was a great game fitting of a top 16 game, the lead changed on several occasions throughout the game.

Inverell scored first and had the majority of the ball but at half time we had clawed ahead to lead by 1. Throughout the second half the lead continued to change even with a stoppage in play where a local dog tried to give the opposition an extra player. With just over a minute to go we held a 1 try lead and were defending our hearts out when a great long pass by the opposition saw us all tied up again.

At full time the game was tied and into the drop off we went. Neither team could get the advantage and players continued to drop off until it was 3 on 3 which seemed to go on for ever. We had a close call with Tristan almost scoring the match winner only to be denied by last ditch effort by their defence, the next set run off our feet they went onto score.

The boys unfortunately bowing out, were very disappointed but were a credit to themselves and the school.

Mr Smith - Talented Sports Program Co-ordinator.
LANT Program
The Literacy and Numeracy Tutorial Program (LANT) allows students to have the opportunity to seek assistance in matters relating to homework, assessments and examination preparation. Students attending this program will have the assistance of Picnic Point High School teachers from a range of Key Learning Areas. The LANT program will focus on the following:
- Literacy and Numeracy Skills
- Homework

All Year 7 and Year 8 students are encouraged to attend future tutorial sessions where four teachers are available to render their expertise in the key learning areas. Students are also able to access the library computers to complete any assigned work or their Mathletics. Permission notes can be obtained from Mr Le in the Mathematics staffroom.

Afternoon tea is supplied
Mr Le - Co-ordinator of the LANT Program
News
Rewards Day
At the end of term 2, some Picnic Point students were lucky enough to be selected to go to Darling Harbour Laser Tag and Ten Pin Bowling for Rewards Day.

For laser tag, we had great fun trying to get the highest score by shooting (tagging) other players and in ten pin bowling by knocking over the most pins.

After these activities, we sat out at the beautiful harbour to eat our lunch while being swarmed by seagulls. We had to guard our food so they did not steal our lunch. Unfortunately they grabbed half of Ms Kyriacou’s burger. All in all it was a great day that everybody enjoyed.

Nathan Linabury and Cameron Walsh.
RSPCA ARTICLE
On Monday the 18th of August 2014 Picnic Point High School is excited to announce we will be hosting a cupcake day to support the RSPCA! Being held on the same week as science week the cupcake day will have two themes: science and animals.

To get involved you can speak to Ms Elwell about volunteering or simply buy a delicious cupcake on the day. All funds raised will go towards the RSPCA who provide care for animals in need and help fight animal cruelty.

Alternatively, if you wish to host your own cupcake day with friends or at work visit the RSPCA Cupcake Day website for more information: www.rspcacupcakeday.com.au
Angela Humphreys Year 10

Academic Order of Merit
In the last edition of PICNews, we published the Academic Order of Merit lists for Years 7, 11 & 12. In this edition, we publish the lists for Years 8, 9 & 10. Congratulations to all students whose names are mentioned below.

Year 8 – Top 50 students (an * indicates a top twenty rank)

Year 9 – Significant Academic Improvement
Chevette Carnegie, Alicia Chalouf, Sash Donevskis, Jed Fletcher, Renee Hewson, Matthew Prothero, Michael Rasera, Hayley Rowlings, Daniel Steele, Tash Stengos, Wendy Tang, Thomas Truong, Joshua Williams

Year 9 – Top 50 students (an * indicates a top twenty rank)

Year 9 – Significant Academic Improvement
Jaiden Arfanis, Jack Barnes, Thomas Cowell, Dylan Deegan, Isaac Derbas, Blake Gardner, Jake Hinton, Adrian Karageorgis, Sabrina Luong, Andrew Macdonald, Izak Moses, Pamela Papacharalambous, Kenny Phan, James Poulianas, Robert Risteveski, Aaron Stevenson, James Vasiadias, John Venditti, Aaron Wells

Year 10 – Top 50 students (an * indicates a top twenty rank)

Year 10 – Significant Academic Improvement
Faculty Reports
CAPA Report - Year 11 Photography
Students have extended their experience of the darkroom and wet photography by completing a program of study based on Australian culture. The practice of artists Max Dupain and David Moore were studied as sources of inspiration as well as analysing how they incorporated interesting composition to reflect culture. Students took film photographs whilst on an excursion to various sites around the city of Sydney. After developing their negatives they had to select which image would be most suitable to represent aspects of Australian culture. They were then taught various alternative methods of darkroom practice to enhance their images such as, sepia toning, contact printing, brush-on developer, sandwiching negatives, vignetting, screening and hand-colouring.

Exhibition at MADD Night

Laura Cuddy, Contact Print, Harbour Bridge

Siahn Locklee

Maddison Zanoni, Double Exposure, Luna Park

Brooke Habony, Sandwiching Negatives, Harbour Bridge and Darling Harbour

Maddison Zanoni, Double Exposure, Luna Park

Brooke Habony, Sandwiching Negatives, Harbour Bridge and Darling Harbour
Mr Northall’s IM class is due to start a Community Access Program this week that will continue through Term 3 and 4 of this year. We wish all students a productive experience and hope they will make the most of these learning opportunities. It is so important to be able to access the community and fully participate as a member of society. Activities planned for this program will benefit our students by providing them with opportunities to learn how to handle money, read timetables, use public transport, pay for groceries and access the Bankstown Library.

Year 12 School to Work Transition
Our Year 12 students have started their ‘school to work’ transition by attending work experience trials with the Job Support officers. These trials facilitate their transition to ‘after school’ options that are available to our students. We wish our Year 12 students all the best in achieving their goals. We look forward to great success stories like in past years.

Monika Bray - Special Education Unit

English Faculty Report
Welcome back to Term 3 of 2014. It has been a busy start to the term with Year 12 students jumping straight into their HSC Trial Examinations which is taking place over weeks 4 and 5. They are to be commended on their efforts.

In other news, we would like to congratulate our wonderful debaters. The Year 7 Debating team recently entered into their first debate with Chester Hill, arguing that ‘Maths should be compulsory throughout High School’. Benjamin O’Connor, Sami Croft, Celine Bull and Jasmine Zande gave their all and although they were not victorious on the day they conducted themselves like true champions. Our Year 8 Debating team, consisting of Holly Humphrys, Rachel Stace, George Bakopoulos and Andrew Ahern, were triumphant in their first debate of the year against Chester Hill on the topic ‘NAPLAN should not be compulsory’. Congratulations to all of the teams and all of the best in your next debates.

The English Department would also like to commend those students who recently took part in the University of NSW ICAS English Competition. All students gave their best efforts and we look forward to seeing your results later this year.

We would like to remind all students that although the Premier’s Reading Challenge is coming to a close you can always go onto the website to obtain a list of quality books that can be used for wide reading at home. We would encourage all students to get actively involved in reading in order to extend and challenge themselves.

https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/home.html

The list is extensive and there is something that will appeal to everyone. As Edmund Wilson said, “No two persons ever read the same book”.

Tracey MacDonald

History Faculty Report
Term 3 has been an extremely busy term for all History students across years 7 to 12 in both the mandatory and elective courses. Year 7 has been working hard on their first in depth study of an Ancient Civilisation under the new National Curriculum. The students have enjoyed learning about Rome with topics like Gladiators being of most interest to the majority of students.

Year 8 are wrapping up their studies of the Renaissance, Reformation and Voyages of Discovery aiming towards completing their assessment task on that topic in week 6 of this term. Students have enjoyed learning about key personalities and their legacies like Leonardo Da Vinci, King Henry the 8th and Christopher Columbus in this topic. 8E also participated in the History Competition. The results were extremely strong with the class average 9% above the National Average. Among the results there were FOUR High Distinctions and SEVEN Distinctions which is an amazing effort.

Year 9 are marching their way through studies of World War One. Year 9 are also working their way through a new National Curriculum course. Students have engaged with topics like Gallipoli and trench warfare and have learnt about the horrors that global conflicts can bring. Year 10 have just completed Changing Rights and Freedoms and are working their way towards their new topic People Power and Politics in...
LOTE Faculty Report

Year 12
Year 12 Japanese Continuers students have completed their Trial HSC Examinations and are finalising their revision for the Japanese Continuers HSC Examination on October 16, 2014 – we congratulate all students on their efforts so far! All Year 12 students will complete their HSC Speaking Examination on Saturday, September 6 at the University of Western Sydney, Parramatta Campus.

Year 11
Year 11 Japanese Continuers students are diligently completing their coursework in preparation for their Yearly Examination at the end of this term. We wish our students all the best as they prepare and complete these important examinations.

Year 10
Year 10 students have been developing their Japanese grammatical knowledge and will soon begin preparation for their speaking and writing assessment task in Week 8 of this term.

Year 9
The Year 9 Japanese class have now finished the Hai! 3 Course Book and Workbook and have excitedly begun work from Hai! 4. The students are actively engaged in reading, writing, listening and speaking Japanese and have completed many tasks using the school computers. The Year 9 class should be commended for their diligence towards improving their Japanese communication skills. All students are currently working on a differentiated assessment task. In this task, students can choose which language tasks they wish to complete.

Year 8
Year 8 classes are currently completing the final chapter of their Hai! 2 course and will soon begin their in-depth study of the Hiroshima bombing in 1945. Students will view documentaries which put this devastating event into a historical context and learn about the significant effect this event had for people all around the world. At the end of this unit of work, students will undertake an in-class assessment on the Hiroshima bombing, which will replicate one of the text structures of the NAPLAN assessment. Preparations for this assessment will occur in class.

Year 7
Year 7 students have continued to demonstrate enthusiasm and interest in developing their language skills – all Chapter 4 tests were completed to a high standard. Students are now learning how to say where they live and to write and present a self-introduction – entirely in Japanese!

Japan Trip
Not long to go until we fly to Japan!! Well done to all our students for their fantastic fundraising efforts and thank you to the Picnic Point High School community for supporting our trip. A reminder to all families that our final meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 3, 6:00pm in B21.

Maths Report

Year 7 students are currently studying Indices and Algebra and then revisiting Fractions, Decimals and Percentages up to the end of the term 3. Parents of year 7 students can support their child by ensuring that all activities on Mathletics in the topics Indices and Algebra, Fractions, Decimals and Percentages are completed by week 8. It is essential that all students complete these topics as part of their ongoing revision. Could parents and caregivers please assist by ensuring that your child completes all of these activities at the end of week 8. If there are any technical difficulties please inform your child’s classroom teacher as soon as possible.

Year 8 students are currently studying Rates and Ratio and will finish the term with Data Analysis. By week 8 students are expected to have completed Rates & Ratio and Data Analysis. Could parents and caregivers please assist by ensuring that your child completes all of these activities at the relevant check points. If there are any technical difficulties please inform your child’s classroom teacher as soon as possible.

Students having problems with or accessing Mathletics from home are strongly encouraged to attend the Wednesday afternoon tutorials.
Students and parents may find the following guide useful in the study of Mathematics. Be on the lookout for further tips in future newsletters.

10 HOT TIPS FOR TACKLING MATHS EXAMS

1. Be familiar with the format of the exam
   • Revise past exams to be familiar with the format and level of difficulty
   • Calculate the average amount of time you should spend on each question or Section.

2. Be prepared
   • Revise, revise, revise
   • Bring all necessary equipment

3. Spend the reading time of the exam browsing through the paper to see what work is ahead of you
   • Read all instructions carefully
   • Plan your time. Mark the more difficult questions that will require more time.

4. Show all working.
   • Even if you get the wrong answer, you will be awarded some marks for correct working.
   • Spread out your work, down the page.
   • Write clearly and draw big diagrams.
   • Don't use liquid paper. Draw a neat line through mistakes.
   • You don't need to be writing all of the time. Spend some time thinking too.

5. Identify the key words in each question
   • Underline or highlight key words that show what needs to be found

6. Attempt every question
   • It is better to do most of each question and score some marks for them than to leave questions completely blank and score no marks for them.
   • Don't leave multiple-choice questions unanswered. Even if you guess, you have a 1-in-4 chance of being correct. Some students like to leave the multiple-choice section till last so that if they run out of time they can make quick guesses. However, just because a question is multiple-choice doesn't necessarily mean it is any easier.

Mathematic Quiz Edition 5 2014:

The last pic news edition problem is best solved by determining a general pattern.
Consider the following

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Number of people</th>
<th>Number of handshakes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>2 + 1 = 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>3 + 2 + 1 = 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>4 + 3 + 2 + 1 = 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>5 + 4 + 3 + 2 + 1 = 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>= 66</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This month's question
There were 11 people at the party in order for 66 handshakes to take place.

Valhalla at Ragnorak
Odin’s great hall of Valhalla has many doors. For every Oak door, there are 4 Elm doors. For every Elm door, there are 3 Pine doors. There is a Larch door to the left of every Oak and every Elm door, and an Ash door to the right of every Oak and every Elm door. 800 warriors will march out through each door at the start of Ragnorak. There are 20 Oak doors. How many warriors will there be?

The above problem was sourced from "http://www.ncl.ac.uk/maths/outreach/resources/challenges/20132014/questions1314.pdf"

Entries can be submitted to trieu.le@det.nsw.edu.au
Mr Le – Head Teacher Maths
Science Faculty Report

Term 3 is well underway with year 12 sitting their Trial HSC examinations and Year 7 as well as 9 on to their next new national curriculum topic.

**Year 7** are learning all about the treasures humans get from the Earth, including making rocks and crystals and testing the efficiency of energy sources.

**Year 7 Burning fossil fuels.**

**Year 8** are learning about elements and compound as well as signs of chemical reactions in the topic Building blocks of matter. This topic involves a variety of experiments and will involve a Practical assessment task in week 6.

**Year 8: Flame tests**

**Year 9** are enjoying their Sport science topic where they are learning about how the human body relates to sports. Recently some classes were given an opportunity to test out their balance using a Slackline, which we would like to thank Cameron Blight of year 10 for bringing to school for the Science department to borrow. Some of us are now hooked and we are looking at getting one for the future. Within this topic, Year 9 is working on their next assessment task. This task is an individual practical investigation where each student is investigating an interesting sport science phenomenon.

**Cameron Blight on the slack line**
Year 10 are rotating through a variety of topics from Genetics to Evolution as well as Motion. In week 7 they will have a Research assessment task due.

Year 11 are busy finishing up their last Preliminary course topics and are getting ready for examinations.

Year 12 are working extremely hard to finish their final HSC topics: the option. All Science courses will be working right till the end of term to finish the course and practise writing answers to HSC style questions.

Science week is fast approaching and all the wonderful Science staff at Picnic Point High School are enthusiastically thinking of exciting ways to celebrate. There will be experiments run by teachers and senior students during lunchtime sessions as well as prizes for answering a questions posed during assembly. Science week will kick off with an animal cupcake fundraiser for the RSPCA on the 18th August 2014.

TAS Faculty Report

Year 10 timber Bench seat project

Construction
Picnic Point High School has the privilege of hosting this year’s East Hills Choral Festival. Ms Gourlay and Ms Tarasenko have been busy with preparations and rehearsals to make sure this festival will be enjoyable for audience members of all ages. Performances will be held in the Picnic Point High School Auditorium on Wednesday 26th and Thursday 27th of August at 7pm.

Doors open at 6.15pm and tickets are available at the door.
Adults: $10.00
Children: $5.00
Family of Four: $25.00

Bully Busters Production
In Term 2 all of Year 7 attended an incursion in the school hall that gave us greater awareness about issues surrounding bullying.
A group of three actors performed the production Bully Busters. This play was both humorous and informative. Issues that the play covered included cyber bullying, peer-pressure, being ‘too cool’, teasing, mobile phones and peer image, as well as many others.

Almost all of us felt that this was a worthwhile activity and were entertained by what we saw. We would like more activities like this in the future.

Written collectively by a number of 7R classmates
St Christopher’s Cricket Club

THIS SUMMER – IT HAS TO BE CRICKET!

Registering with St Christopher’s Cricket Club is a fantastic opportunity for your child to enjoy the fun and camaraderie of playing a great sport with one of the best junior clubs in the Bankstown district – Under 9 & Under 10 BACA Premiers 2013-14.

The club has three registration days for the 2014-15 season, and we welcome new, and returning, players.

Registration days are –
Saturday 2 August Panania shopping centre 9.00 – 12.00
Saturday 9 August Woolworths Revesby 9.00 – 12.00
Saturday 16 August Panania shopping centre 9.00 – 12.00

MINI CRICKET

- Matches approx 1.5 hrs on Saturday morning – finish by 10.30am
- Boys and girls welcome
- Ages Under 5s to Under 8s
- All players get to bat and bowl
- No weekly match fees

Proud supporters of MILO in2CRICKET

FREE REGISTRATION for all Minis players.

FREE junior cricket bat, club hat & club training singlet for all new Minis

We are also keen to take new registrations for our other junior teams from U9s to U16s.

A copy of birth certificate is required for new players.

Registrations for our Senior teams are also welcome.

If you need more information, contact -
Brett Court 0414 980 860
Peter Goodrick 0418 699 864

or visit our website
stchristopherscc.nsw.cricket.com.au

Facebook: saints_cricket.club

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