Congratulations to students for the mature and conscientious manner they completed term 2 assessments and a big thank you to our committed staff who have worked tirelessly to complete Semester One reports in time for parent teacher night. There have been some outstanding improvements in students’ academic achievement and many students will be recognised at the high achievers morning tea organised by the Deputy Principals.

A Parent/Teacher evening for parents of Years 7, 11 & 12 is organised for Thursday 26 June and on Thursday 24 July a Parent/Teacher Night for Years 8, 9 & 10 will be held, commencing at 3pm and concluding at 7pm. We value the opportunity to meet with parents and discuss how we can best meet the individual learning needs of each child we teach.

Appointments can be made on-line through the millennium parent portal (user name and password have been previously sent to all parents). Please contact the school if you have any questions or concerns regarding portal access. It would be very helpful to bring a copy of your child’s report to your interviews.

The 2014/2015 school Prefects have been elected and congratulations to the following elected leaders who will assist the Year 12 Prefects for the remainder of this term and all of Term 3. The year 11 students that presented themselves for elections gave excellent speeches and I think all of them would have made confident prefects and uphold the outstanding school leadership tradition at PPHS.

As this is the last PIC NEWS before the end of Semester One holidays, I would like to congratulate students who have worked so hard to achieve excellent results this semester and wish everyone a safe and enjoyable holiday. I look forward to an exciting program of teaching and learning in Semester Two.

Some recent school achievements include;

- The Reconciliation Week Barbeque celebrated a week of fun and educational activities. The promotion of reconciliation week and remembrance of "National Sorry Day" which acknowledged and raised awareness of our history and the effect of the forced removal of Indigenous Australians was done brilliantly by students and staff.

- Congratulations to both the Senior and Junior Company on their outstanding performances at the South West Regional Dance Festival on the 4th and 5th of June 2014 held at Sydney Olympic Park Homebush.

- MADD night will be held on Wednesday night 25 June (7pm) and is going to be an outstanding exhibition of student artworks and demonstration of amazing performances in dance, drama and music. Year 7 and 8 students were given the privilege to view the matinee performance during the day.

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Madeleine Buckley, Isabella Bull, Toni Cooper, Tahnya Haddad, Sarah Lord, Eleanor Ormsby, Nathan Anderson, Joshua Bull, Isaac Heslop, Joshua Kleckin, Angus Munro and Matthew Roberts

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONTENTS</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Deputy’s Reports</td>
<td>Page 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What’s on</td>
<td>Page 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student of the Month</td>
<td>Page 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P&amp;C News</td>
<td>Page 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>News</td>
<td>Page 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sport</td>
<td>Page 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programs</td>
<td>Page 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty Reports</td>
<td>Page 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year Adviser Reports</td>
<td>Page 23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Deputy’s Report – Mrs Sherry

Over the last two weeks, Mr Schomberg, Mr Negroh and I have had the pleasure of meeting with students from Years 12, 11 and 7 who have worked to the best of their ability in all their subject areas and as a result have been invited to attend the Deputy Principal Morning Tea.

In Year 11, students who have achieved either a Top Twenty ranking or made significant academic improvement in their results in comparison to the end of Year 10 have been also been invited.

With this being the first reporting period for Year 7 the top thirty students have been invited to their first morning tea. The student merit list for Years 7 and 11 is printed later in the newsletter. All students should be making a goal for themselves to be invited to the morning tea at the end of the year.

Students across the years are progressively receiving their reports. On the coversheet, parents will find their child’s Merit Achievement and Attendance Summary. This is important information for families to see how their child is performing at school. Now that families are able to log into the Millennium Schools Parents Portal, parents have the ability to find out more information about the merit points achieved and also the demerit points awarded. Parents are encouraged to look at this information on their child’s report and also in the Parents Portal and begin conversations with their children about their progress and behaviour at school.

The Portal also provides details of all the absences a student has had. Parents are able to access this information and check whether explanations have been provided for specific dates.

Deputy’s Report – Mr S. Schomberg

Lateness to school is never acceptable. As we approach the end of semester 2 we have noticed an increase in the number of students arriving late to school. When a student arrives late to school there are several problems that are created:

- They create a disturbance to the learning of the class when they arrive.
- They have missed out on vital information at the beginning of the lesson.
- Teachers will often have to repeat information for students arriving late which once again takes away from the learning time of the other punctual students in the class.
- Late students miss out on the important social aspects of catching up with friends before the school day starts.
- Lateness is recorded and printed on the front page of a student’s school report. This is information that future employers often are interested in when looking to employ young people. (Lateness is not accepted in the workplace either).
- The processing of late students in the morning adds a significant workload to the office staff in the morning.

It is expected that all students arrive at school by 8.30am every day. This allows 15 minutes for them to catch up with friends, visit staff rooms to hand in assignments, make payments at the front office, see their year advisers or see their deputy principals if they have notes requiring verification.

Students who are chronically late to school will be receiving consequences for their lateness. We seek the help of all parents to make sure that students are arriving on time every day.

Academic Merit Lists

As has been our practice for the last 3 years, we have published our academic merit lists again in this issue of PICNews. The academic merit lists indicate students who have been ranked in the top 50 in the year group based on their overall performance in all their subjects and also the most improved students in the year group for this reporting period. In this edition we have published Years 7, 11 and 12. Years 8, 9 & 10 will be published in the next edition. Congratulations to all students mentioned.

Year 12 Focus on Learning

In recent meetings with Year 12 students, I have provided them with data comparing their individual performances in each of their subjects from the beginning of their senior studies. The purpose of the exercise was to help them remain focused on their learning. They identified areas where they had improved, areas of their study that had slipped and they needed to address and also set goals for the remaining weeks of their study time before the trial examinations commencing in week 4 next term. Most students have taken the exercise very seriously and I have been having daily discussions with students wanting to talk about what they need to do and what is the best way to improve their results.

I would encourage all parents to make sure that they book some time with their child’s teachers to discuss their progress and what needs to happen to help them best prepare for the upcoming HSC examinations.
What’s On - Term 2

Thurs 26/6  Zone Athletics Carnival
        Parent/Teacher Night Years 7, 11 & 12
Fri 27/6   Rewards Day
        Term 2 Ends
Mon 14/7   Term 3 Commences
        Staff Development Day
Tues 15/7  All Students Return
Thurs 24/7 Parent/Teacher Night Year 8, 9 & 10
Tues 29/7  English Competition
Mon 4/8    Year 12 Trials Commence
Wed 6/8    Leadership Camp
Tues 12/8  Mathematics Competition

P&C Report
Monday 16th June 2014 was the most recent P&C meeting. This meeting was preceded by the School Council. My last report omitted to report that the May School Council AGM was held. At the School Council AGM Mrs Michele McGregor (our community representative) was elected as Chairperson. The AGM also gave us an opportunity to thank Mrs Patricia Waskiw and Mr David Middlemiss for their contribution to the School Council for the last few years. At the most recent School Council meeting we welcomed Mrs Chris Millar as a staff representative.

The P&C was presented with a treasurer’s report and as at the end of May has $26000 plus in the bank, in addition to a term deposit with a balance of $24848.55.

Mr David Rawlings Head Teacher - Teacher and Learning was a guest speaker. Mr Rawlings introduced himself and spoke about his role at Picnic Point High School. Mr Rawlings has a direct role with the VET program which is increasing in popularity; he is overseeing a new Literacy program amongst other valuable initiatives. The P&C wishes to thank Mr Rawlings for taking the time out of his busy schedule to address the meeting.

Mr Negroh gave a short presentation on the new Millenium Portal which has now been made available to all parents. Letters have been sent home to parents with a password and username with instructions on how to access the portal. For the first time parents will be able to use the portal to book their child’s parent teacher interviews. For those parents that cannot access a computer you will still have the option of booking an appointment through your child.

The school has now moved across to School Enews to push out the school Newsletter and notes to parents. All parents have been subscribed, however if you are not receiving emails please contact the school office to register your email address. Please encourage your child to subscribe to the school Newsletter through the school website.

The P&C has been approached by Mr Eaton (Careers Advisor) to ask for any parent that may be available to assist with the Year 10 Mock Interviews. If you are available to help for any period of time from Monday 18th August to Thursday 21st August in this very valuable program please contact Mr Eaton either by phoning the front office or email joel.eaton5@det.nsw.edu.au

The next P&C meeting is scheduled for Monday 18th August at 7pm. I hope to see you all there.

Kelly Macdonald - P&C President

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>REASON FOR THE AWARD</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cameron Piniros</td>
<td>Applying himself diligently in all subjects and achieving consistently strong marks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ally Shumak</td>
<td>Consistent work in class and excellent contribution in school sport, making it to zone in Swimming, Cross Country and Athletics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarah McCauley</td>
<td>Conscientious approach and excellent dedication in Visual Arts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lachlan Bligh</td>
<td>His enthusiasm and hard work in permaculture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madeleine Buckley</td>
<td>Dedication and effort to her studies and within the school community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jayden Okunbor</td>
<td>For excellence in his various sporting pursuits</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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

Mini Golf at Miranda
Our 18 HOLE mini golf INDOORS course is uniquely set in old Mombasa, Kenya. The course is fun for all ages & wheelchair accessible. After the game you can enjoy good coffee, drinks and light meals at Jungle Jokers’ Cafe.

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OPEN SCHOOL HOLIDAYS EVERYDAY 10am to 10pm
Unit 1/205 Port Hacking Road, Miranda 2228
www.puttplanet.com.au or call 9522 7888

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News
FREE School Holiday Film making workshops for 13 – 16 year olds
Would you like to get involved with creating and launching a new YouTube channel for young people? Learn about script writing, producing, filming, editing, event management, PR and media work from film, TV and media professionals. Get work experience and make friends. Join us for a free set of workshops running in the July school holidays and be part of this exciting project! Workshops will be run, 30th June – 4th July 2014 from 10am to 4pm at Bankstown Arts Centre. Lunch provided. Registrations are essential so if you’re interested get your parent or guardian to call Karen Craigie on 02 9797 8139 to register you.

Support Our Inspirational Teachers
Our school has been invited to submit nominations for the ASG National Excellence in Teaching Awards. This is an opportunity for our school to publicly recognise and encourage our great teachers and give them a well-deserved pat on the back. NEITA is the only independent national awards program where school parents/grandparents, parent associations, school boards/councils, secondary student councils, and community organisations can nominate teachers and principals who contribute excellence.

Nominated teachers receive a congratulatory NEITA Certificate of Nomination and become eligible for NEITA State and National Awards. It’s easy to nominate. Nominations can be made online at www.asg.com.au/nominate.

For any questions about the awards contact NEITA on free call 1800 624 487.

Extra-Curricular Activities
Geography Competition and University of Newcastle’s Annual Business Plan Competition
Students from Years 7-11, participated in the Australian Geography Competition during Term 2. Picnic Point High School had over 32 students compete. Many students would agree with me in saying the competition paper was extremely challenging. The Social Sciences staff is extremely pleased with some of the results our students achieved considering the challenging nature of the paper.

Congratulations to the following students who achieved the following results!
- James Butler (Junior Credit)
- Liam Campbell (Junior Distinction)
- Ryan Zangari (Junior High Distinction)
- Ethan Price (Junior Distinction)
- Sean Klimczak (Intermediate Credit)
- Daniel Papagianopoulos (Intermediate Credit)
- Sarah Lepre (Senior Credit)

Students in Year 11 will now be provided with the opportunity to participate in the University of Newcastle’s Annual Business Plan Competition. I am looking forward to some insightful ideas from our young entrepreneurs in Year 11. We may have the next Steve Jobs!

Mr. Sassine

Oil Painting Workshop
On the weekend of 24th and 25th of May Annie Zhai was selected to participate in an oil painting workshop. Run by Ken Harris, who has over 40 years of experience in oil painting and his own television show on community television, Annie was able to create three landscape paintings. Mrs McManus and Ms Peterson also attended the workshop to develop their own skills in this medium.

Ken Harris was able to show us a variety of techniques and methods to create interesting textures, and compositional devices. His experience was obvious and through encouragement we all produced artworks that we are proud of. Ken Harris will be running another workshop later on in the year in the school hall and if you are interested in attending we recommend it! The dates for the workshop are Saturday 22nd November, Sunday 23rd November.

For further information regarding the workshop please contact Ken Harris on 0406 028 299 or (07) 3209 6828 or email at: kenharrisart@yahoo.com.au

Mrs Peterson
Notes for Parents

Flu season is here!
Influenza is spread from person-to-person through the coughing or sneezing of infected people. Remind your child about these good hygiene practices to minimise the spread of infection:

- Anyone who is sick with influenza symptoms should stay home until their symptoms are gone.
- Cover the nose and mouth with a tissue when coughing or sneezing. Throw the tissue in the garbage bin after use.
- Wash hands often with soap and water, especially after coughing or sneezing. Alcohol-based hand cleaners are also effective.
- Avoid touching eyes, nose or mouth. Germs spread that way.
- If you or your child develops influenza-like illness, seek the advice of your family doctor as you would with any other illness.
- The seasonal influenza vaccine, which protects against the pandemic influenza strain as well as two other influenza strains, is now available free to eligible people. More information about the vaccine is available from the NSW Health Immunisation Unit's vaccination page.
- Previous vaccination with the pandemic influenza vaccine, Panvax® is not a barrier to also receiving the seasonal influenza vaccine.

Banish the “I’m bored” complaints these holidays

It’s harder in winter to keep kids occupied with anything other than a small screen. Here are some websites that have great tips for things your family can do these school holidays, whether you’re staying put or taking off on a holiday across the state:

- Destination NSW (http://bit.ly/1niJ7sl)
- Winter school holidays in Sydney (http://bit.ly/1nQsVC6)
- School holidays in Newcastle (http://bit.ly/1njlpjg)
- Winter school holidays Central Coast (http://bit.ly/1ingSwX)
- Attractions for kids in regional NSW (http://bit.ly/1IE8vMw)
- Australian Museum (http://bit.ly/1uEBnXD)
- Kids Camps – NSW Sport and Recreation (http://bit.ly/1hWxTra)

Keep Brains Ticking Over These Holidays

If your child is working on a personal project or a school assignment these school holidays (or you want to make use of the break for a little revision), don’t forget www.SchoolAtoZ.com.au has lots of information and fact sheets to help with homework. For students polishing their spelling skills, the free Spelling Bee mobile app also allows them to record a list of their own words and then test themselves. You might even want to challenge them with a list you create. Here’s where you’ll find the free app to download: http://bit.ly/Q9ez0G

Academic Merit Lists
(Note – students with an * after their name were ranked in the top 20 in their year group)

Year 12 – Top 50 Students

Year 12 - Significant Academic Improvement
Neder Annoo, Jordan Ashe, Courtney Brough, Benjamin Fletcher, Hercules Heferen, Dai Le, Taylah Leung, Aihel Limcuando, Aljia Ljkovac, Michael Marsh, Chelsea Mihaljek, Jayden Okunbor, Opal Pesanan, Shannon Punton, Jamie Romcke, Nicole Simpson, Samuel Tall, Joshua Thompson, Akshay Veerappa.

Year 11 – Top 50 Students

Year 11 - Significant Academic Improvement

Year 7 – Top 50 Students
Sport
2014 Zone Cross Country
At the 2014 Bankstown Zone Cross Country Carnival an increased number of students (91) competed for Picnic Point High School. All students participated to the best of their ability and represented the school in an exceptional manner. Picnic Point High received third place at the carnival with again an increased number of students (32) qualifying to represent the Bankstown Zone and the Sydney South West Regional Carnival. Congratulations and Good luck to all students competing at the Regional Carnival!

Well done on an outstanding performance to the following students who received Zone Age Champions:

12yrs Boys: Daniel Wilkinson  12yrs Girls: Annabel Buckley
13yrs Boys: Mitchel Parsons  13yrs Girls: Kaisey Janda
14yrs Boys: Taren Wilson  15yrs Girls: Georgia Anderson
Bree Wolstencroft- Carnival Organiser

Athletics carnival report 2014
The 2014 Picnic Point High School athletics carnival was held on the 21st of May. The sun came out and the autumn weather was far away. There was an outstanding show-case of student ability in all running, throwing and jumping events. Ten records were broken including 2 which had stood for numerous decades and two broken by Kyla King.

I would like to say thank you and congratulations to all students on their behaviour, enthusiasm and talent that were displayed at the carnival. I would also like to personally thank all staff on their assistance and support to enable such a successful carnival in 2014.

There will be 104 Students representing Picnic Point High School at the Bankstown Zone Athletics Carnival later this term. Good Luck to all competitors.

The following students were crowned 2014 Athletics Age Champions:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Girl</th>
<th>Boy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Annabelle Buckley</td>
<td>Garrick Tischler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Hana Herlihy</td>
<td>Mitchel Waud</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Madeline Carroll</td>
<td>Ethan Bowmaker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Georgia Anderson</td>
<td>Liam Sanson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Taylah Probert</td>
<td>Daniel Koliopoulos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17+</td>
<td>Mary Malloy</td>
<td>Jayden Okunbor</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Congratulations to Doohan who are the 2014 athletics carnival house champions, producing an outstanding final result.

Doohan   1279
Murphy    984
Hankin    967
Slater    811
Athletics Carnival 2014
Open Girls Soccer put up a Brave Fight
On the 30th of May, students in the Open Girls Soccer Team travelled to Bossley Park, Football Centre to compete in Round 4 of the Combined High School Soccer Competition. The girls fought gallantly on the day, trying their very best. They all had to play in different positions on the day, as a number of the girls were injured. Even though the girls went down 4-2 they were extremely competitive and challenged Elizabeth Macarthur for the full 80 minutes. The girls were up 2-1 in the 60th minute; however a number of attacking raids from Elizabeth Macarthur resulted in the opposing side scoring two late goals in the second Half.

I would like to personally congratulate all the girls who competed in the tournament. They were an absolute pleasure to coach. They displayed the highest quality of sportsmanship at all times. They represented Picnic Point in the finest possible manner. I would like to thank Jess, Emily, Marianna, Sam, Mary, Anna and Shannon who are all in Year 12. Thanks for the contributions you have made to Soccer at Picnic High School over the past couple of years. These girls exemplify what all successful soccer teams must have, teamwork and sportsmanship which was extremely evident on the field. Good luck in your future soccer careers!

Mr. Sassine

Junior AFL SSW Knockout Semi-Final
The regional semi-final saw us travel down to Campbelltown to play Thomas Reddall High School on an overcast day. As we were suited to the vast expanses of Kelso Park, the rugby sized Thomas Acres Reserve took a little getting used to, but proceeded to use the corridor, paying great dividends.

The match started with a flood of scoring opportunities to the defending regional champs (Picnic Point), kicking 4 goals 8 behinds to lead 32-0 at quarter time. Only wayward kicking kept the home team in the game and by half time the lead was 62-6.

The second half began the way the first finished with scoring shots aplenty to the champs and by three-quarter time the game was all but over. Thomas Reddall kicked a couple of late goals to make the scoreboard look a little respectful but in the end Picnic Point HS progressed to another regional final with a handy 85-19 win.

All boys contributed with solid performances by Liam Sansom, Hayden Probert, John (Jack) Herlihy, Ethan Higgin and influential big-man Stuart Higham. The defence was resolute, restricting the opposition to 1 goal in three-quarters of footy.

Congratulations to all the boys involved and special thanks to those who came and helped out over the afternoon.

Coach Ismail

U15s Boys Soccer - Bill Turner Cup
The boys have played two games to date after having a bye in round 1.

In the first game we played Condell Park High School. We were clearly the more skilled team but as this was our first match together we had not worked out combinations and this showed on the field. The final score of 2 goals to one flattered our opponents. We had more possession and more attempts at goal, however they fought hard and stretched our defence at times.

The second game was against Bass Hill High School and in this match the boys started playing as a team with long periods of possession and free flowing ball movement. Our defence was sound, the midfield skilful and the forwards lethal. We won this game eight goals to one and were leading 7 to zero late in the match. It was an excellent game to watch. Congratulations to everyone who played.

Mr. Sparks
Sydney South West – Netball Knockout
On Tuesday, June 17, 2014, 11 keen netballers travelled on the Picnic Point High School bus to Endeavour Sports Reserve, Fairfield. These students participated in the Sydney South West – Netball Knockout Carnival. Our opponents on the day were Elderslie, St John’s Park, Sir Joseph Banks and Camden. The girls finished the day with two wins and two losses.

They are to be congratulated on their sportsmanship, team work and determination. Congratulations to the team: Brittany Durrant, Nada El Debel, Rebecca Hughes, Shelby McCaw, Emma O'Brien, Lauren O'Shea, Taylay Probert, Jessica Setter, Paulene Taganesia and Jasmin Williams. A very big thank you must also go to Elle Bogar, who umpired for our school on the day.

Mrs S Morris - Netball Coach

Open Girls Basketball
Congratulations to the Open Girls basketball team who were crowned the 2014 Sydney South west Champions.

The team qualified in the knock-out competition to play the Northern regional finalist, Terrigal High School. The girls played an outstanding game, demonstrated their improvement and showed amazing sportsmanship. Unfortunately the girls lost to Terrigal High School 32 points to 43.

Well done on an exceptional effort, girls!

Mrs Cummings

Programs
2014 Secondary School Student Leadership Program
On Wednesday, June 18, Matthew Bennett and Emily Rotziokos participated in the 2014 Secondary School Student Leadership Program at New South Wales Parliament House. It was a day full of interesting activities for all participants, including listening to speeches from Members of Parliament, viewing the Legislative Assembly and Council Chambers, a guided tour of Government House and meeting Her Excellency, Dame Marie Bashir. Matthew and Emily both found the program informative and they were able to learn more about the NSW Parliament and the role of the Governor.

Picnic Point High School Breakfast Club
The brand new PPHS Breakfast Club started this term and so far, it’s been a great success! Mr Burgess, Mr Rawlings and Mr Clay have been making some fantastic egg and bacon rolls for the first 50 students that come along to the Hall on Friday mornings. We’ve also had the World Cup Soccer on the big screen – some great games to watch while having some cereal and toast! Breakfast Club will continue in Term 3, here are the details:

When: Every Friday morning, 7:45am to 8:15am
Where: The front of the school hall
What: Yummy breakfast!
Who: Everyone is invited!

Do you have any ideas to improve our breakfast club? We’d love to hear from you! Please email the school and let us know your thoughts!

Miss Marquis
Student Representative Council (SRC) 2014

The following students have successfully been elected to the SRC by the student leadership group. These students have gone through the stressful process of nominations, presenting speeches and elections. In addition, these students have shown to us that they have initiative, commitment and an earnest desire to help improve our school. These students are willing to give up their time so that they can be involved in the betterment of Picnic Point High School:

Year 7

Boys
Billy Berbedelis
Beckham Smith

Girls
Emaison Beck
Samantha Croft

Year 8

Boys
Tim Gray
Cameron Walsh

Girls
Rachel Stace
Imogen Wallace

Year 9

Boys
Daniel Papagianopolous
Sean Klimchak

Girls
Annalise Summers

Year 10

Boys
Cameron Blight
Alexander Jackson

Girls
Antonia Mangos
Shaylie McWilliams

The elected SRC participated in the SRC induction workshop held at school on Tuesday 10th June. During assembly these students were presented with their badges on Friday 13th June by Mr Negroh.

Congratulations to all the elected SRC
Mrs Kaur - SRC Coordinator

Year 7 Literacy Continuum Program

Picnic Point High School has accessed, and is piloting the use of PLAN software (Planning Literacy and Numeracy) in alignment with our core literacy priorities.

During Term 2, selected Year 7 class groups (Yellow, Orange and Indigo) have been participating in targeted Literacy lessons which have supported us to not only deliver the teaching of explicit literacy strategies, but as a means of mapping student literacy progress aligned with the NSW DEC Literacy continuum K-10.

The Literacy continuum K–10 identifies the literacy skills and understandings regarded as critical to literacy success. It maps how these critical aspects developed through the years of schooling by describing key markers of expected student achievement. The continuum focuses on capturing the literacy connections that are critical to success and are applicable to all key learning areas. It has been informed by an extensive range of international and Australian studies, reports and research.

As this program evolves further in the second semester, we look forward to working with our next group of Year 7 students’ and sharing the progress with our school community.

Mrs S Rawlings
Student Leadership
2014-2015 Prefect Elections
The 2014-2015 Prefect Elections were held on May 26, 2014. All nominees should be congratulated on presenting interesting and informative speeches about their leadership abilities. All Year 11 students, teachers and Year 12 Prefects completed the voting process. Congratulations to the following students who have been elected as Prefects of Picnic Point High School for 2014-2015:

Year 11 Prefects
Girls
Madeleine Buckley
Isabella Bull
Toni Cooper
Tahnya Haddad
Sarah Lord
Eleanor Ormsby

Boys
Nathan Anderson
Joshua Bull
Isaac Heslop
Joshua Kleckin
Angus Munro
Matthew Roberts

Ms Marquis - Prefect Co-ordinator

Reconciliation Week Barbecue
On Friday the 30th of May, Picnic Point High School celebrated its third annual Reconciliation Week Barbecue to celebrate Reconciliation Week and promote the idea of reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australia. To us, reconciliation means acknowledging Australia's history, including the 40,000 years of continuous settlement by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people before the arrival of the First Fleet in 1788. It also means finding ways to promote learning, understanding, acceptance and positive communication between all Australians.

To achieve this, we once again ran our Reconciliation Quiz during morning assembly in the week leading up to our Barbecue. In the past, teachers came up with the questions and answers... but this year there was a surprise twist! Students themselves submitted questions in the hopes that their question would be chosen and they would win a free kebab for their efforts.
To the credit of the students of Picnic Point High School, there were a diverse range of interesting questions which discussed Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history, culture, celebrities and achievements. Students who guessed the answer correctly also won a free kebab for their efforts. However, if you weren’t lucky enough to receive a free kebab you could still purchase one on the day.

As usual, on the day of the barbecue the sun was shining, the music was pumping and the queue for kebabs went across the oval! The kebabs were widely celebrated as a delicious alternative to sausages and amazingly we sold out of every last one.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who helped make the barbecue a big success, including Mr Clay, Mrs Bates and Ms Harding who organized the cooking. Also thanks to Ms Macdonald for organising the questions and publicity. We also need to thank Ms Gourlay and the Year 11 Entertainment for the music set up. Finally thank you to all our student helpers who demonstrated maturity, diligence and positive attitudes.

Miss Hespe-Poulos and Mr Millican
ATSI Education Team

2014 Peer Support Report
Throughout Term 1, the beginning of the school year, the Peer Support Program helps the new Year 7 students have a smooth transition into high school. This year the tradition continued and a team of Year 10 students, in groups of two or three, had fortnightly sessions of peer support with their Year 7 group.
The whole experience allowed for the Year 7 students to familiarise themselves with the way Picnic Point High School works, and meant that they could also be introduced to their peers in both Year 7 and Year 10. The students became more comfortable with their classes, teachers, and fellow students because of these peer support lessons which helped them manage situations appropriate to them, such as assessments, homework, and other school and out of school activities.

The interaction between Year 7 and Year 10 was enjoyable. One Year 7 class was taken out for one period, once a fortnight, where they got to have a peer support lesson.

The lessons involved a number of activities where the students could play games and have fun, which helped in their easy transition, while simultaneously allowing them to learn something different in a unique way.

Groups worked in such things like positive attitude, being able to read their timetable, learning all the names of teachers, staffrooms and locations of classrooms. Time management, dealing with social situations and solely adjusting to high school are also other things which were discussed. Although, there were activities such as building a sky scraper out of newspaper which Year 7 particularly enjoyed.

Overall, the program was a success, and both Peer Support leaders and their Year 7 groups had a pleasant experience working together. Hopefully the program is set to continue for the next few groups of Year 7 and 10 as it was a great learning opportunity for both year groups and should continue so that others may be involved in it as well.

Antonia Mangos - Year 10 Peer Support Leader

Congratulations to all our Year 10 Peer Support Leaders for doing a wonderful job in guiding and supporting our Year 7 students throughout Semester One. Not only have they assisted Year 7 in transitioning into high school life but they have further developed their leadership skills in the process. We are very proud to have such a lovely group of Peer Support leaders and I personally thank them for all their efforts throughout the semester.

The Year 10 Peer Support Leaders:
Georgia Gale  Peter Markantonatos
Heidi Seeto  Daniel Morris
Kaleisha Aislabie  Maddison Pike
Theodore Totsis  Elly Georgiou
Sam Dib  Chloe Burgess
Monique Larkin  Louise Stace
Lachlan Bligh  Jake Capes
Chloe Arkey  Zoe Ward Brown
Alexis Freitas  Luke Dilonardo
Kaitlin Macdonald  Alex Jackson
Georgia Abou-Haidar  Chelsea Cook
Alana Cox  Lachlan Ryder
Shontelle Swinfield  Ellie Pieters
Eryn Dimopoulos  Kayla Patterson Barrie
Jake Macdonald  Dylan Ott
Antonia Mangos  Shaylie McWilliams
Nicholas Rose  Hayley Millar
Cameron Blight  Alison Martyn
Anna Bui  Stella Lee
Chris Fartek  Veronika Lesko
Emma Peake  Sam Mourad
Annie Zhai  Thomas Grozdanovski
Lauren O'shea  Amber Langdon
Mary Karaoilis  Cameron Single
Kiarnie Bitz  Hamish McEoch
Taylah Probert  Mitchell Driver
Caitlyn Smith  Sarah Smalley
Brittany Ebbs  Melissa Petrovski
Cooper Dallimore

Ms Stavros - Head Teacher Welfare
Faculty Reports
Social Sciences Faculty Report
It has been a very busy term in the Social Sciences department. Year 11 have been busy working on their Business Plans. Students from Years 7-11 participated in the Australian Geography Competition. Year 10 travelled to Cronulla to complete a range of field work activities focused around Coastal Management.

The Year 12 Economics class travelled to Penrith, to participate in an Economics Lecture Day. Finally students in Year 12 are working towards their Trial HSC Examinations. Students in Year 12 have been reminded that their Syllabus should be used when preparing for their exams in Legal Studies, Business Studies and Economics. This will provide them with the structure needed to study effectively. Students studying Business Studies in Year 12 have been encouraged to buy the Apple I-Book via i-Tunes.

We're going on a Field Trip!
Picnic Point Geographers Save Cronulla Beach
With over 90% of Australia’s population living next to the coastline, Coastal management is an issue that needs to be better addressed. Students were given the opportunity on May 9th, to travel to Cronulla to investigate Coastal Processes operating at Cronulla Beach. The main aim of this excursion was for students to identify ways in which the Cronulla coastline could be better managed. Many students would agree with me, in saying that it is imperative that more is done to protect and promote the Australian Coastline.

Students were able to put their field work into action by developing some very powerful Research Action Plans that clearly stated why the Australian Coastline needs protection.

Many thanks to Ms.Ng and Ms.Elwell who accompanied the Social Sciences Staff on the day. The Social Sciences Staff would like to congratulate Year 10 on the way they conducted themselves on the day.

Mr.Sassine

LOTE Faculty Report
Half Yearly Assessment
All students who study Japanese have now undertaken assessments for the Half Yearly reports. We are proud of the way the majority of our students have approached the assessments and we would like to remind students that regular revision of the language provides the best preparation for assessments tasks. Our results are once again very encouraging and our students continue to excel in their studies of Japanese at Picnic Point High School!

HSC Speaking Skills Exams
Year 12 students had another opportunity to practice their speaking skills at a specialised ‘HSC Oral Examination Preparation’ workshop event run by the Japanese Teachers Association of NSW on Saturday, June 7, 2014 at North Sydney Boys High School. At this workshop, students were given tips on preparing for their exam and had the opportunity to practice speaking in Japanese in an HSC-style examination environment. Preparations for this section of the HSC exam, to be held on Saturday, September 6, are now in full swing, and we wish the Year 12 Japanese class all the best as they undertake this challenging task.
Japan Trip
It’s only 88 days until we leave for Japan! YAY! Thank you to staff and students who purchased items at the Athletics Carnival canteen and barbeque – the money raised will go towards our Japan Trip t-shirts! There will be more fundraising events happening next term – details to follow!

みなさん、気を付けて下さい！
Ms Marquis and Mrs Morris

Maths Faculty Report
Year 7 students are currently studying Fractions, Decimals and Percentages up to the end of the term. Parents of year 7 students can support their child by ensuring that all activities on Mathletics in the topic Geometry are completed by the start of Term 3.

It is essential that all students complete this topic as part of their ongoing revision. For Term 3, there will be two check points occurring in Week 4 and Week 8 using Mathletics. Students should have completed Fractions, Decimals, Percentages and Indices by week 4 and Algebraic Techniques 2 by week 8. Could parents and caregivers please assist by ensuring that your child completes all of these activities at the relevant check points?

Year 8 students are currently studying Surface Area and Volumes to finish off Term 2. For Term 3, there will be two check points using Mathletics and these will occur in Week 4 and Week 8. By week 4 students are expected to have completed Measurement and Number and by week 8 students should 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.

Succeeding in Mathematics Part 3:
Students and parents may find the following guide useful. Be on the lookout for further tips in future newsletters.

1. Review your summaries
   Know which topics will be examined
   Know all of your important rules and formulas
   Practise on worked examples and identify any weak areas

2. Work on your weak areas
   Keep at it until you understand it completely
   Ask for help if you need it
   You may need to rewrite parts of your topic summary

3. Practise on revision exercises, old exams and assignments
   Re-do exercises from your Maths book, textbook or Mathletics
   Re-do old exams, assignments and revision exercises
   Complete an old exam under timed conditions to practise your exam technique
   Identify any more weak areas

4. Anticipate the exam: find out as much as you can about its format
   How many questions? How many parts?
   How many marks will be allocated to each question or part?
   Which topics will be tested?
   How much time is allowed? Calculate the average time to be spent on each question
   What type of questions will be asked: multiple-choice, short answer, problems and investigations.

Joel Ryder, Ryan Mackay, Samuel Hansford & Kendall Hull (Year 12) performing a practical task in Mathematics General 2.
Mathematic Quiz Edition solution, 4 2014:
The lowest common multiple between 45 and 60 is 180. Hence the bells will ring at the same time after 180 minutes i.e. 3 hours after 9.00am. Both bells will ring together at 12.00 pm.

This month’s question
At a party, everyone shook hands with everybody else. There were 66 handshakes. How many people were at the party?

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

Science Report
Permaculture Club
We are glad to see all the vegetables we planted growing and flourishing. This term we planted beans, tomatoes, beetroots, lettuces, snow peas and broccoli. It took everyone a while to build the garden beds but we are happy to see our work paying off through our plants thriving. In term one, we transplanted a huge peach tree. We had to remove at least two metres off the top of the tree for transportation. We were so worried the tree would not handle the transplant and die. It is now thriving, with lots of leaves sprouting from the branches.

This term, we planted a fig tree and a pomegranate tree that we also hope will grow well. Some members of the group have built lattices to support the vine vegetables we planted. Some other members have built a compost bin as well. It is great to see the space evolving slowly from a bare patch of land to a small food garden.

By the end of the term we hope to start harvesting some of the lettuces and snow peas. When we come back from the school holiday, the beetroots may also be ready for eating.
Miss Ng.
English News
It has been a very busy term this year in English. Both Year 7 and Year 9 have been exploring new units of work as a result of the new National Curriculum. Year 9 have been completing a Comparative Study of Text unit, comparing texts such as Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet to modern film adaptations. Year 7 have been completing a Close Study of Text, including study of novels and plays.

Both Year 12 English Advanced and English Standard have begun their final Module study. We urge them to keep up their diligent focus towards their learning and to make sure they maintain their hard work.

Our Debating teams continue to show great poise, composure, persuasiveness and intelligence. The senior Debating team recently defeated Sefton High School A and B Debating teams. They were unsuccessful against Sir Joseph Banks High School but will face them again to determine the winner of the zone. Congratulations to the senior Debating team and good luck to the junior teams who will soon commence their competition period.

Year 8 8E acting activities
After finishing reading the play 'Two Weeks with the Queen' our English class 8E spent a few lessons analysing the play and the different thoughts and feelings of the characters. The first acting task was to make groups of five and perform the very first scene of the play to our other class members. We had two practice sessions before we performed in the Amphitheatre.

As actors playing the roles of certain characters, we learned more about the character's personality traits and were able to perform our roles with more enthusiasm. For example, one of our classmates Zac took the role of Mum and put on a feminine, worried mum voice which was entertaining and amusing for the whole class. Also Andrew, who played Dad, put on a rough, deep voice to capture the tone of a grown man, which was also very entertaining.

Our second acting task was the character interview, where we formed groups and answered numerous questions as a character from the play. One member from each group represented a character and answered the questions in front of the class, acting as that character being interviewed. At the end of the activity, everyone in our class voted for who they thought was the best individual actor and who had the best group answers.

Overall, 'Two Weeks with the Queen' was a lesson learning play with many morals and real life challenges. Our class had fun analysing characters and participating in acting activities and we can't wait to start our next topic.

By Rachel Stace in 8E with help from Tiffany Nguyen

Additionally, Year 8E also completed an Interview Task where they worked in groups to craft a series of answers to interview questions from the perspective of a character in the play. Each group nominated a student to play the role of the character in the interview, which was conducted by our presenters Nathan Linabury and Hayley Macdonald. A prize was awarded for Best Actor which was won by Zac Borkowski. Also, a prize for the Best Interview Answers was won by Gemma Bell, Katie Vernon and Hayley Macdonald. Congratulations to all the prize winners. All students are to be commended for their enthusiasm, creativity and communication skills.

Award winners from Miss Hespe-Poulos' English class.
Miss Hesper-Poulos

Learning and Support Report
Our students at PPHS demonstrate some fine qualities in the way they approach their work at school. As a Learning and Support team, we work with students within their classroom, as small groups and also on a one-to-one basis. The students we work with are referred by their teacher and are very keen to do their personal best at school. Students may have learning difficulties or disabilities and need some additional explanation of a task or the vocabulary used. Others may simply need some extra resources or 'scaffolds' to guide them or additional teaching of concepts or themes. At times, students have missed work and need assistance to catch up on the learning they have missed.

Throughout Term 2, we have worked with students who were revising for exams, completing assessment tasks or working to improve subjects they find difficult. Students have produced PowerPoint presentations, delivered speeches, written essays, conducted experiments, taken part in work experience and have endeavoured to work co-operatively in busy kitchens, woodwork and art rooms and science laboratories.

Term 3 will, no doubt, will be another busy term where we will assist our students to work towards their personal best.
Mrs Todd-McInerney - R/Head Teacher Special Education

Library News June 2014
This year we have started subscriptions to several periodicals. Yen and Hyper have arrived, with the others soon to follow. Come and have a look and let us know what you think.

Yen is a magazine for smart, creative cookies who love to be inspired. It has taken the best bits of a women's lifestyle magazine (fascinating features, fashion, beauty, travel, food),
given them an original indie spin and thrown out all the baloney (diet tips, advice). Every issue has a heavy dose of all things entertainment (especially music) and we’re the go-to magazine for all your film and book needs. Yen also supports and showcases women doing amazing things from a variety of fields and prides itself on supporting local talent.

Hyper is the essential videogame magazine for serious gamers Australia wide. Informative and irreverent, Hyper covers it all, from current generation consoles, handhelds and PCs, all the way through to the PS3, Xbox 360 and Wii. Plus, you’ll get a healthy dose of retro gaming, online gaming, DVD and anime reviews, hardware and technology.

Lots of great reading is happening through Premier’s Reading Challenge. I love listening to students who talk in amazement about the many books they have read.

Congratulations to Jasmine Roche and Patricia Eata, both of Year 8 who have now finished the Challenge.

Enjoy the worlds that books take you to!

Marion Aranjo - Teacher Librarian

History Faculty Report

It is a regular feature of our Year 10 history program at PPHS to include a field trip to the national capital for all Year 10 students in Term 3.

Included in this field trip are visits to the Federal Parliament and the National War Memorial. At the War Memorial students work through a study guide that directly links aspects of recently studied topics such as, ‘Australia during the Vietnam War Era’ and ‘Australia’s Peace Keeping Roles Through History’, to exhibits within the Memorial.

Our students also have the opportunity to visit other exhibits which this year will include a very substantially upgraded WW1 gallery.

Every year students take the opportunity to pay their respects to the nation’s fallen by visiting the Memorial’s Honour Rolls. This is a time for our students to reflect upon the sacrifices made by other Australians in defence of the nation.

The visit to Canberra is always productive for students as it complements so much of what they are learning in their course. Indeed, a visit to these special places in the national capital adds meaning to the history being studied. It is always a great trip for our students and I would encourage parents to support their child's attendance.

More information will be issued closer to the actual excursion date of August 15th. If you have any questions about the Field trip to Canberra don’t hesitate to contact either myself or Ms. Kyriacou during school hours.

Mr Goman – Head Teacher History
CAPA Faculty Report
Regional Dance Festival 2014
Congratulations to both the Senior and Junior Company on their outstanding performances at the South West Regional Dance Festival on the 4th and 5th of June 2014. The festival was held at Sydney Olympic Park Homebush and showcased the talents of Primary and High School dance groups in the South West District.

Senior Company rehearses Tuesday mornings and their contemporary dance was about standing up for one’s self. Junior Company rehearses Thursday mornings and their contemporary dance was about reaching for ones goals. All students auditioned for these groups at the beginning of the year and have a very high technical skill level and performance quality. Both groups were well received by the festival coordinators and audiences. Well done!

Justine Shlom

Science Faculty Report
Please consider the following:
• Place some peas, salt and water in a plastic bag and mash up the peas.
• Pour the contents into a test tube, strain the lumps and add a drop of dishwashing liquid.
• Shake carefully.
• Add meat tenderiser to the contents.
• Use a loop to remove the substance through a layer of methylated spirits.

Now you are probably wondering why you have to read that set of instructions.

Well, as Year 10 discovered recently in Science, the notion of a set of instruction or a specific code, encapsulates one of the most significant discoveries in Science: Deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA). This is the specific code that controls all our body processes and characteristics.
Within this topic and all the topics studied in Science this semester, the Science faculty aim to relate each topic to students’ lives. The point of linking a scientific concept to life in general is to ultimately illustrate that: Science is Life. You see Science is in absolutely everything you do. Teaching concepts within this framework makes learning at Picnic Point High School relevant and more enjoyable.

Year 7 discovering the important properties of water

In the classrooms, our students have been exploring various scientific concepts, and discovering for themselves how these relate to our everyday lives. Specifically, Year 7 examined the importance and various ways in which ‘water’ is so relevant to life in their topic “Water Fit Enough to Drink”. In this topic, they also learned how to safely perform experiments while demonstrating the particle theory of matter, water cleaning treatments and the special properties of water.

Year 8 students learning about leaves relevance to photosynthesis

Year 8 explored the Science of Ecology and Climate change. “I never knew the structure of leaves on plants had such an important role”, cited one student. In these topics, they discovered the cycles of nature in food webs as well as the impacts humans can have on an environment.

Year 9 have been learning about the exciting topic of “Destruction” which explores examples of natural and man-made destruction of the earth, particularly earthquakes and volcanoes and their effects on the environment.

As discussed previously, Year 10 have enjoyed discovering some common genetic traits within their families and how they may have received these traits from either parent. They have also been looking at new technological advances in reproductive technologies, such as IVF, as well as cloning and biotechnologies including in some cases making cheese using an ancient form of biotechnology.

I end the report with the following: What are you doing right now?

Please take a minute to think about the Science related to the exact thing you are doing right now. What you will find is; Science is definitely in everything we do. Until next time!

Mr Agzarian

TAS Faculty Report
Computing Studies Report

Year 9 students have been working hard undertaking their Lego robotics assessment task. The students have been very enthusiastic as they undertake the challenge to complete the requirements of the task they have before them.

Students in Year 10 have also been busy working on their Android Apps for their assessment task. Students have been creating games of chance, quizzes and apps about facts that can be installed onto Android phones.

Mr O’Mullane - TAS Faculty
PDHPE Report
As part of the new VSFR course running in Year 11 at PPHS, the students were asked to attend and perform roles as officials at the Revesby South Public School Athletics Carnival. The students are required to meet certain requirements regarding the number of hours they must perform in organising and administering sporting events or training sessions. This was a great opportunity to assist one of our local schools whilst also getting some hours for the course requirements.

15 of the students attended and performed roles such as timekeeping, shot jump, high jump and discus. It is a great opportunity to see the students in a leadership role and it was noted how well they performed their roles and also encouraged and assisted the primary students in their events. A good day had by all. Thanks also to Mrs Finn for organising the excursion and enabling the link to continue between PPHS and Revesby South Public.

Mr Millican - Head Teacher PDHPE

Year 9 Adviser Report
Thank you to Daniel Papagianopoulos and Taylor Jane Alaelua for being the chairpersons at the Year 9 Formal Assembly in Week 6. During this assembly, we had two beautiful musical performances by Clarice Mok and Sarah Beitelis and were privileged to have Jeff Yates from PCYC Bankstown as a guest speaker. The next formal assembly will take place in Term 3, Week 8. Any students wishing to be a chairperson at a Formal Assembly in the future or wish to perform are encouraged to see Ms Kourouche for more details.

Congratulations to Sarah McCauley – Student of the Month for May and to all the students who continue to represent themselves and our school at extra-curricular events. Congratulations also to the students who have been invited to the Term Two Rewards Day: Laser Tag and Ten Pin Bowling – your hard work and determination in all of your subjects has been formally recognised. Keep up the good work.

Year 9 have now completed all of the assessment tasks and half-yearly examinations for the term. Reports will also be issued shortly, so it is a timely reminder for students to do their best in every class. A record of each student’s attendance and their achievement on the points tally will appear on the cover page of the report. Please ensure that all absences are explained. I look forward to reading these reports and seeing everyone at the Parent Teacher Interviews in Term 3.

Mrs S Morris

Year 12 Advisers Report
Year 12 will be having their Trial Examinations in Term 3, Week 4 and 5. This is an important chance for all Year 12 students to practice their knowledge and skills under examination conditions.

It is important that Year 12 students prepare themselves so they can cope with the demands of the Trial Examination period. Students should aim to adhere to a home study routine with adequate revision and rest breaks. Students should also take the time to carefully review the feedback provided by their teachers both in their report, and their past assessment tasks, as this will target their study.

Students have been issued with paperwork regarding their Year 12 Formal on Wednesday November 12. Returned permission paperwork and full payment are required by August and October respectively. Parent co-operation to meet these deadlines is greatly appreciated.

Finally, big congratulations to Michael Marsh who have shown excellence in the last month. Michael was awarded a NSW Vocational Education and Training Award recognising his excellence in the VET Construction subject area. He will receive his award at a ceremony held at Revesby Workers Club in August.

Ms Latty

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