Welcome to a new year at Homebush Boys High School, a special welcome to all our new students and parents, in particular our Year 7.

New staff at Homebush

We have a number of new staff in the school and we are very fortunate to have quality professionals join this wonderful team. Our new deputy principal is Mr Kamie Khurshed who replaces Mr Hilliard. Mr Khurshed has started off well and has been overheard saying “I am impressed by the wonderful students of Homebush. They have been most welcoming”. Mr Khurshed was Highly Accomplished Teacher at Epping Boys.

Our new teacher librarian is Ms Pamela Vine. Ms Vine is also Head Teacher Administration and has previously been at MacArthur Girls. She has exciting plans to transform the library and increase the resource for our students. Ms Nuwar Kordy has also joined the library administration staff. The school also has a new school counsellor on Wednesday and Friday, Ms Linda Gilford (whilst Ms Kalle Egan is on maternity leave).

In sport it has been wonderful watching ex-student cricketers Mitchell Starc and Phillip Hughes play for their country but closer to home I had the pleasure of attending the Sydney North Regional Blues Presentation where last year’s students were recognised for their excellence. They were Andrew Depta (Football), Jacky Tran (Hockey) and Nick Taylor (Water Polo). It was a wonderful night and extraordinary achievements of these Homebush students were as good as or better than any of the other schools in our sporting region (including those with over 1500 students and both genders!)

The study skills program is in full swing with all students undergoing a structured program enabling them to attempt tasks, do homework and organise their studies in a more effective way. Congratulations to Ms Milovanovic for her excellent organisation.
HSC 2011

HSC results were very successful. Dux of Year 12 Youssef Latash and second dux Yi-lung Chen, both received Premier's All-Rounder awards. Joel Todd was placed 15th in the state in General Mathematics. Alan Chen’s art major work has been chosen for the prestigious Art Express. The students achieved 89 placements on the High Achievers list (top HSC band results) and a further 373 placements in the second top band. I congratulate all the students, thank their families for the support and wish them well for the future. Of 31 courses studied Homebush bettered the state average in 21 subjects.

Student Achievements

There have been a number of student achievements I must mention here.

- Soumil Chhiber (Yr 12) chosen for CHS 1st cricket team and also Cricket Australia’s ambassador program.
- Po-Shen Wang (Yr 10) has been offered a position with the Sydney youth Orchestra 2012 (Sinfonietta).
- Edwin Guo (Yr 11) has been selected to participate in the YMCA NSW Youth Parliament 2012.

DER Laptop Evening

The Digital Education Revolution continues on this year 9 group of students will receive their laptops to access the technology resources offered by the D.E.C. To comply with regulations parents and students must sign the laptop charter. These charters will be issued at a meeting at 6pm March 1 in the Hall.

Clean-Up Homebush

Clean-Up Australia day is to be held on March 2, 2012 and the Homebush Boys students will do their best to improve our school and community.

Homebush IMP

The School Instrument Music Program (IMP) is expanding. This year we will have a band, tutorial group, ensembles and a choir. The IMP is led by Miss Tracy Burjan (conductor) and Mr Andrew Smith (music teacher). Mr Ian Albertson is leading the Band Camp in March (there are still places available). To find out more about the IMP an ‘IMP INFO EVENING’ is to be held on February 28 at 5pm in the HALL.

Uniform

I must report that I am disappointed with some of the students who have started the year determined to flaunt our very reasonable uniform standards. In some significant cases these students are seniors who should be setting an example for the juniors.

The uniform policy is as follows:

a) Full school uniform – white shirt, grey pants, black leather shoes (tie is required in terms 2 & 3)
b) Sports Uniform – school shorts, polo shirt, sports shoes.
c) School hat and jumper when needed.

The following items may not be worn:

a) Canvas runners (rayben style)
b) Non-school hats
c) Non-school jumpers or ‘hoodies’

Note:

- Boys in Year 10, 11, 12 are permitted to wear blazers with tie.
- Boys are permitted to wear Sports Uniform on sports day (Wednesday).
- Junior boys may wear sports uniform on P.E. practical class days.

The Year 7 Camp

The boys not only survived but they thrived. It was great to meet them at the buses on Friday and welcome them home. They were tired but smiling. They are a very pleasant group of young men. Thanks to the staff and prefects who attended. They gave up a considerable amount of sleep and teaching/learning time and this is truly appreciated by the community. Thanks to Ms Dwyer who led this initiative.
Year 7 2012 Camp-Coolendel

Arriving at school at 6.15am proved a little too much for some. Tired eyes looked around blearily wondering what they had to do. That was just the parents. The year 7 boys were for the most part - excited and looking forward to three days with their current friends and ready to make some new ones.

On the buses at 6.45am and heading south. Through the southern suburbs, then on to Wollongong and beyond. The boys had time to catch up on sleep, chat with mates or watch the world go by. Unfortunately, some were forced to spend the time in a state of readiness with the impending doom of travel sickness weighing heavily on their stomachs and minds.

Arriving at Coolendel, the instructors for the next three days met the students with enthusiasm. The student’s bags were lined up straight off the bus and they were taken to be placed in their tribes. Here they met their instructors and were grouped with their accompanying prefect. Introductions were made from the team at Optimum Experiences and ground rules covered.

Twenty minutes later, tribes were off in their separate directions, camping in a variety of spots in this beautiful part of the south coast. Straight away, the students had to dodge goannas and avoid peacocks and peahens. They made it to the location of their tribe’s camps and began putting up their accommodation - two man tents.

For the next three days, the tribes tested themselves physically, mentally and emotionally. Whether it was on the ropes courses (tackling the milk crate towers or the climbing ladders or ‘possum’), mountain biking, bushwalking, canoeing or swimming. The student’s wits were tried during the ‘adventure games’ where they had to use their decision making abilities and devise solutions to problems as a group.

Some excited Yr7 students raring to go!

The boys had respite in Nowra, with a quick stop for morning tea and using the facilities. Back on the bus, they commenced the winding trip along the dirt road into Coolendel about 30km west of Nowra on the Shoalhaven River. This road is rough, windy and picturesque. It gives the boys a sense of isolation and increases the feeling of adventure.

Are you sure this is how it goes Miss?

The boys tuck into some dinner.
Food was not an issue at Coolendel. The groups were fed healthy and tasty food at every meal. On the first night, half the tribes had the chance to cook ravioli using camp kitchens, working together to form a meal. The other half of the tribes were fed with a barbecue. This was reversed the following night.

Come 8pm, and in entered Slabface - A musician, a comedian and an all-round entertainer. For over an hour the boys were enthralled and amused by the songs and stories of Slabby (who reportedly lives in a nearby cave). His songs were catchy and poignant; particularly the number on ‘girls germs’.

The first night of sleeping in tents was exciting enough for the boys. However, most were so tired that they were asleep as soon as their tent mate quietened down. Some boys took the opportunity away from home to make a little too much noise- attracting the attention of an irate teacher, instructor or prefect.

The second night had the tribes build a camp fire and bake damper on sticks. Most tribes were in bed early after having a chat with mates and comparing war stories from the day’s events.

The morning sunrise and the sound of the instructors mooing like a cow led to an early awakening for the students. They were up, making breakfast and breaking camp straight away. The tribes were quick to get to the first of the days sessions. Two more sessions and they were to be on the buses ready for the trip home.

The next day saw a rotation in the activities. All activities proved successful in achieving several things - enjoyment, team work, challenging the participants and developing skills. Dozens of students were delighted that after a session of one hour, they can now ride a bike! Others have developed a new found love of canoeing or defeated their fear of heights.

The boys enjoying a row on the river

Come 1pm, the boys had been given a hotdog and were on the buses after a debrief from the instructors. A long trip back to Homebush for the boys and into the awaiting arms of their anxious parents.

If the camp was a success, it will be shown in the increased independence of the students. The team work and camaraderie between the cohort has improved with new peer groups formed and a greater sense of direction achieved. Students have conquered challenges and achieved things they didn’t think they could. Our year 7 boys have now been inducted as official Bushy boys.

Ms Juska thinking of seconds...

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Mmm.... this is good tucker eh Miss?

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This is lots of fun!
DRUMBEAT PERFORMANCE

On February 8th Drumbeat performed for all of Yr 8 in the school hall. Musicians Mark Stewart and Tony Azzopardi shared the Drumbeat presentation.

The stage was full of many different drums and percussion instruments from a wide range of cultures. Of particular interest were the African “talking drums”, used to communicate between tribal groups over large distances.

The highlight of every presentation is when students are selected to join Mark and Tony on stage to play the instruments.

Both Mark and Tony commented on the excellent behaviour of Year 8 students at this music concert which is testament to the high interest in this presentation.

Andrew Smith  Music Teacher

Thank you to the prefects for them taking time out from their schooling. These older students have sacrificed valuable academic time at school and home time to develop relationships with the younger students and enhance their already strong leadership capabilities.

Thankyou Phillip Siomos, Tim Mitry, Mikhail Ozdemir, Brian Griffin- Collins, Jack Codd-Miller, Johnny Chen, Scott Bunch, Lachlan Foster and Aleks Wynne. Your guidance and leadership was well above expectations.

Thankyou also to the teachers who took time away from their families to allow our students to experience this brilliant start to high school- Ms Edwards, Ms Ad- dams, Mr Achmad, Mr Goodwin, Mr Tierny, Ms Willis, Ms Kumaralingam, Ms Dwyer, Mr Madyski and Ms Juska.

Year 8 students perform on stage
The ninth Annual Performing Arts Camp will be held at Naamaroo Conference Centre, Lady Game Drive, Lane Cove between 6.30 pm, Wednesday 21st March and 6 pm Friday, 23rd March 2012.

Previously known as “Band Camp”, the change of title reflects the wider range of activities on offer.

Morning, afternoon and evening Workshops will be held for String Ensemble, Instrumental Ensemble and Voice. It is hoped that members of the Drum Corps are able to join us ahead of the Anzac Day march.

Students who either sing or play guitar, drums, bass guitar, keyboard/piano, or any orchestral instrument (e.g. flute, clarinet, saxophone, oboe, trumpet, trombone, tuned and untuned percussion etc) are encouraged to take advantage of this once-a-year opportunity.

Year 12 prefect Daniel Parkee will be directing the String Ensemble. The Instrumental Ensemble will be directed by Ms Gobel (flautist and maths teacher). The Voice Master classes will again be led by multi Mo Award winner Stephen Fisher-King.

Naamaroo Conference Centre is a wonderful venue for music camps. The meals are well above standard and there is usually seconds for those feeling peckish. Morning tea, afternoon tea and supper is also provided. This venue adjoins Lane Cove National Park as is 25 mins drive from our school. To keep costs down parents arrange private transportation for their sons to and from Camp. At this stage no other group is sharing the venue so we have the whole conference to ourselves.

In between meals and Workshops students will be able to enjoy the recreational facilities at Naamaroo (swimming pool, basketball court, recreation hut with ping-pong equipment and large grassed playing field).

At the end of camp a Family Concert is held to showcase what students have achieved at camp. This is followed by afternoon tea in the Dining Room before students return home.

For the first time the duration of this annual camp has been shortened from 4 days/3 nights to 3 days/2 nights to reduce costs for parents. The cost of attending the Performing Arts Camp is $240.

Application forms are available from Mr Albertson or any music teacher at school. The yellow Application Form needs to be returned to Mr Albertson (Creative and Performing Arts staff room) as soon as possible to reserve your place. Monies are not due until closer to the Camp dates.

If Music is your “thing”, don’t miss out on this wonderful opportunity. You will really enjoy it!

I.S.Albertson
Music teacher

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History and geography classes for years 7 and 8 have been semesterised at Homebush Boys for some time, and this approach has now been extended to include years 9 and 10. This means that each student will study history or geography for two terms (6 periods a week) and then swap to the other HSIE area for the next two terms. We have found this curriculum pattern to be effective for years 7 and 8 and believe that there are academic and welfare benefits in semesterisation.

Upcoming dates for term 1:
- Week 8. Year 12 Modern History HSC assessment on Germany
- Week 9. Year 12 Ancient History HSC assessment on Sparta

Mr. P. Wilson
Head Teacher - History
# SCHOOL CALENDAR 2012

## Week 5
**February**
- **B 27**
  - Year 7 Social Parent/Teacher evening
  - Year 11 Science excursion to Olympic Pk all day
- **B 28**
  - Sport - Semi Finals Period Rotation 3,4,1,2
  - Year 9 Parent meeting DER Laptops Hall (6pm)
  - Zone Swimming Carnival
  - HSC & Preliminary enrolment closes

## Week 6
**March**
- **A 5**
  - Year 10 Commerce Excursion - Police & Justice Museum/State Parliament
  - EOI forms issued to Year 6
  - Year 7 Information Meeting - SGHS
  - School Council Meeting (6pm)
- **A 6**
  - Sport - Grand Finals Period Rotation 1,2,3,4
  - Public Speaking - periods 1-6
- **A 7**
  - Year 7, 2013 OPEN DAY - Year 6 visits
  - Year 10 Commerce Excursion - Police & Justice Museum/State Parliament

## Week 7
**March**
- **B 12**
  - Year 11 Incursion - ‘Wired’ - New Gym
  - Year 10 History Drama Incursion - Hall
  - Sydney North Swimming Carnival
  - Sport - Winter Trials Period Rotation 3,4,1,2
  - Year 10 Geog Exc.
  - Selective Tests - Hall (08am) Return of EOI forms, Year 7, 2013

## Week 8
**March**
- **A 19**
  - Year 7 ‘Andrew Ho’ - Hall (09:30am)
  - Motivational Media - Hall
  - P and C Meeting (7pm)
- **A 20**
  - Sport - Winter Trials Period Rotation 1,2,3,4
  - # Rotation 1,2,3,4
  - # Performing Arts Camp
- **A 21**
  - Performing Arts Camp
- **A 22**
  - Performing Arts Camp
- **A 23**
  - Performing Arts Camp

## Week 9
**March**
- **B 26**
  - Year 8 Geography excursion
  - Year 8 Incursion - Period 7-8
  - Year 7 Science Excursion - Taronga Zoo
  - Sport - Winter Trials Period Rotation 1,2,3,4
  - Zone Rugby Trials - Epping Boys High School
  - Year 12 Biology Excursion - Sydney University - Kickstart

## Week 10
**April**
- **A 2**
  - Year 7 Incursion - Periods 1-2
  - # Year 12 Chemistry Day - ANSTO
  - Year 9 Geography Excursion, Homebush Bay Wetlands
  - CHS Swimming
- **A 3**
  - Sport - Round One Period Rotation 1,2,3,4
  - CHS Swimming
- **A 4**
  - Workshop for Yr 12 Drama, 8 to 11 AM in Hall

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## SUBMISSIONS TO BUSH BULLETIN

If you wish to submit a photograph or article to the BB please send it to Mr Kamie Kurshed email address: kamie.kurshed@det.nsw.edu.au
The Languages Other Than English faculty has started off 2012 with some old and some new faces. Ms Lay has returned from maternity leave and can be found on the premises Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Ms Lay will focus on co-ordinating Stage 4 & 5 Chinese studies at Homebush Boys High School.

We are very pleased to have Ms Su continuing in her wonderful role as Stage 6 Chinese Co-ordinator on a full time basis. As always, the LOTE faculty is fortunate to have the professionalism & knowledge of Mrs Gilchrist (Italian Language co-ordinator) and Mrs Gabor (French Language co-ordinator). Mrs Gabor, although housed in the LOTE Faculty staff room, is also a member of the English faculty. Mrs Gilchrist continues to look after Saturday & Open High School students plus Distance Education students.

2012 marks the beginning of KOREAN language studies at Homebush Boys High School. The NSW Curriculum and Learning Innovation Centre of the Department of Education and Communities and the Korean Education Centre have highlighted Korean as a language of growing importance in NSW. We are fortunate to have Ms Yu teaching and co-ordinating Year 9 & Year 11 Korean at HBHS. Ms Yu will be teaching on Mondays and Fridays only. Please note that Year 11 Korean classes are on at 8 am on Monday and Friday mornings. Attendance at both these morning classes is COMPULSORY and a roll is marked. Parents will receive an SMS (text) message if their child has not attended these before school times.

Another change, although not a new face, in the LOTE faculty is me, Mrs Shadwick. I have been given the pleasurable task of supervising the LOTE Faculty and as such Head of Languages at HBHS. As well as my Head of Administration duties, many boys may see me as part of any issues pertaining to their Language classes. Let’s hope we meet on positive terms!

Languages studied at HBHS

Year 7 students will be studying compulsory Chinese, Italian and French in 2012. Year 8 students are studying Chinese, Italian or French for Year 8 depending on the language they chose at the end of Year 7. We have 3 classes in Year 9 – Chinese, Korean and Italian, with Italian continuing through in Year 10. Year 11 Korean & Chinese classes are running, and in Year 12 we have a Chinese and an Italian class. For the very first time at HBHS, we have a Year 12 student undertaking the Chinese Heritage Course. Good luck William!

HSC Results 2011

The was definitely a marked improvement in the 2011 Chinese HSC results. The students did well to overcome the pressures of the HSC to achieve at a level compatible with their other subjects. Congratulations to all students and Ms Su for all her efforts with “The Class of 2011”.

For LOTE students

I would encourage all language students to consider the following

- Come prepared for every lesson. Make sure you are punctual, have all resources and have completed all necessary homework tasks.
- Participate in all language classes. Italian, French, Chinese or Korean classes are NOT for spectators only.
- Make sure you are using your DIARY to record homework, incomplete class work, assessment tasks, projects and any other reminders.
- Abide by the LOTE Faculty classroom rules.
- Abide by the HBHS Student Code of Conduct.
- Respect the learning in ALL classes.

For Parents of LOTE students

Please feel free to contact me at school, if you have any queries and/or questions regarding your son’s language studies at HBHS. I will try to assist you in any way possible. I am keen to have contact early in the year, to establish any concerns.

I look forward to a happy and productive 2012, a year full of growth for our LOTE students. Growth both physically but also mentally as we endeavour to immerse them in culture, spoken and written language and traditions.

Mrs Matina Shadwick
Head of LOTE Faculty
Vipullan and James receiving their Science awards from Mr Everett.

Scott Worthington with his public speaking award and Ms Sahay.

Mr Jurd with the students that were selected as House Captains and Vice Captains for 2012.

Australian test cricketer Pat Cummings signs autographs for our students.

Edwin Guo being congratulated on his selection of YMCA Youth Parliament for 2012.

Joshua and Clay working on their artworks.
MATHEMATICS REPORT

Welcome back to a new year at Homebush with a special welcome to all new students and parents. We have started the year with some uncertainty in the staffing. Ms Lakshmipathy will continue to teach Mrs Manjeet Kaur’s classes until she returns from maternity leave and Mr Tierney will take Mrs Rizos’ classes until a permanent appointment is made by the department. I am certain the faculty will be enriched by the new arrivals. The staff now is composed of:

- Mr Carrozza (HT)
- Mr Abbou
- Mr Arundavaraja
- Mr Betts
- Ms Chan (yr 10 advisor)
- Mr Doolan
- Ms Fattouh (yr 7 advisor)
- Ms Gobel
- Mr Ha
- Mr Halkidis
- Ms J Kaur
- Ms Lakshmipathy
- Ms Shadwick
- Mr Sivasothy
- Mr Tierney

One of the priorities of our faculty is to expose students to the use of technology. The faculty encourages all classes to use the Mathletics program which is free to all of our students. This program provides lessons, interactive activities and other many revision problems which students can access from home via the Internet. Some of our new year 7 students would be familiar with this package as it is used in many primary schools. In the next few weeks teachers will distribute the user names and passwords required to access the program.

All students are also reminded that they must have a scientific calculator. The Board of Studies has a list of approved calculators, of particular interest to our senior students. The school sells the Sharp EL-532XH for $20 but if you already have a calculator and are not sure if it is approved or not show it to your mathematics teacher. Year 7 students are also reminded that the NAPLAN test early next term requires the use of a calculator.

I would also like to recommend to all students the use of the Maths Clinic. The “clinic” is open two lunchtimes a week and provides an opportunity for all boys experiencing difficulties to have their mathematical problems answered. Ms Gobel and Mr Halkidis coordinate this worthwhile activity.

We hope all students have an enjoyable and successful year.

Mr G. Carrozza  Head Teacher

NSW Speed Blitz Blues Visit

On Wednesday 22nd February, the school had a visit from three conjoining organisations in the aid of promoting a safe road use message to our year 10 and 11 students. The RTA, the local police and two members of the NSW Blues cricket team joined forces in delivering a sobering message about driving.

The member from the RTA gave a statistical perspective of deaths and serious injury from motor vehicle accidents in our local area. Such as, in the past year, there have been 23 deaths resulting from motor vehicle accidents in the Strathfield area. 75% of these being under the age of 25 years.

Constable Shannon Thompson brought a human perspective to the motor vehicle accidents in the local area. As our School Liaison Officer and rostered police officer, he comes into close contact with the results of poor road decisions in the Homebush/Strathfield district. Constable Thompson is acutely aware of our student’s vulnerability on the roads having had an extended period of experience within Auburn District Command.

We were also lucky to have two of the NSW Speed Blitz Blues cricket team members- Daniel Smith and Patrick Cummins. Daniel has played for Western Suburbs for many years and Patrick Cummins has had a meteoric rise over the past year after leaving high school and playing a few games for NSW before being selected and playing in a handful of games for Australia. The cricketers brought forth a comparison between bowling fast in cricket and speeding. Most of the time if you try to bowl as fast as you can, you have little control of the direction of the ball. Similarly, driving too fast will result in less control of a motor vehicle. Conversely, slowing down on the road and on the cricket pitch gives greater control and accuracy.

Students had the opportunity to measure the speed of their cricket bowling, before receiving some promotional material. Mr Khurshed was asked to receive a cricket bat signed by the entire 2011/12 NSW Speed Blitz Blues cricket team.

It is important to note that the visit from the organisations was prompted by a noticeable increase in deaths and injury from motor vehicle accidents in our local area. Therefore, riding on the back of this notion, although we enjoyed the visit, we would prefer that our young men did not give the group a reason to come back.
YR 7 STUDENT MEETS 2011 SCHOOL CAPTAIN’S CHALLENGE.

Head Teacher Teaching and Learning Ms Suzi Milovanovic welcomed Year 7 students for 2012 with a fun and challenging orientation activity. Ms Milovanovic’s Year 7 English class, who were in the process of completing their first English curriculum unit program requirement, were set a fun and challenging activity with the school’s 2011, School Captain, Erkan Altun.

2011, School Captain Erkan Altun, returned to Homebush Boys High School to both participate in the school’s Year 12 Study Skills Program and discuss educational endeavours with staff and students. Upon his visit to the school he met the Year 7 English class and set them a fun orientation challenge. Students were required to find the whereabouts of the school’s ‘Time Capsule’ that was buried last year on the grounds as part of the school’s 75th anniversary celebrations, and to be opened for the school’s 100-year anniversary.

The challenge was unique in the sense that no information was provided to the students. Student orientation, public speaking, and literacy skills were challenged. Period 8 saw Mohammed Elakhras return to his English class to state that he had found the whereabouts of the ‘Time Capsule’. Mohammed displayed initiative in his quest and outstanding public speaking skills during his explanation to fellow students of the process by which he had used to find the ‘Time Capsule’. Complementing this, Mohammed took the class on a tour to the burial place of the ‘Time Capsule’, and students were then asked to read the inscription on the marble plaque.

Ms Suzi Milovanovic
Head Teacher Teaching and Learning

Year 7 were delighted to meet the 2011, School Captain, Erkan Altun and look forward to more fun filled challenging activities.

Head Teacher Teaching and Learning Ms Suzi Milovanovic welcomes all of Year 7 students to the school and congratulates them on their successful completion of the Year 7 Study Skills Program with the support and guidance of their Year Advisers Ms Fattouh and Ms Willis, and whole school personnel. We wish you all a very successful 2012 year.
Seven Tips For Year 7 Students – Term One

- Use your timetable to pack your bag for the next day. This way you do not have to make your bag heavier than it has to be.
- Use your diary to record all your homework and assignments. This will help you keep organised.
- Keep all important documents, such as excursion notes, in your blue folder. You can even use this folder to collect all your certificates!
- Get to all classes quickly and wait for your teacher’s instructions. This means you do not waste valuable and fun learning time!
- When in class, make sure you settle down quickly. Get all the equipment you need for class ready so your teacher knows you are ready to get started.
- Listen when your teacher is talking. This way you do not miss out on important information.
- Put your hand up if you would like to speak. This way everyone has a fair go at participating in the learning that is happening.

Remember to always try your best!

SCIENCE REPORT

Several staff changes this (maybe signifying the avalanche to come over the next few years). We welcome Mr Kevin Khalidi as a permanent member of staff and welcome Mr Wayne Goodwin and Ms Kathy Digges as replacements for staff on maternity leave. We are also fortunate to retain Mr Padro Recinos and Ms Rasha Kamil as temporary teachers for the year.

I would like to commend the 16 students from years 8 and 9 last year who entered the prestigious Sydney University Gifted and Talented Discovery Entrance exam. This a difficult test requiring Science knowledge and reasoning ability. Congratulations to James Koungoulos and Vipullan Puvanendran for being selected into this program the costs of which will be partially supported by the school's Excellence Fund.

The Science faculty believes encouraging a pattern of regular homework is a positive contribution to a student’s development. As such, students from years 7 to 10 are set regular homework and allocated one period a week when the homework is assessed. Year 7 has skill sets and crosswords, year 8 has exercises from “process questions in Science” text, years 9 and 10 have laptop exercises which cover all topic covered in the year. Parents will be informed if a student fails to attempt the homework on three occasions per term.

Finally, a reminder to all students to be alert to the many extracurricular activities that are run through Science over the year and to make the most of the opportunities these present.

Year Adviser’s Welcome

We would like to welcome year 7 this year as they begin their journey through high school. It has been a very busy and exciting start to the school year, with year 7 successfully completing their Orientation and Study Skills program, and participating in their very first high school camp.

It has been great to see the students making friends and enjoying their classes. There are plenty of opportunities awaiting the students this year! So we encourage all students to participate in the different activities around the school and make the most of their time here at Homebush Boys High School.

We would also like to extend a big welcome to the parents and guardians of our wonderful students. Year 7 is an action-packed year, with students learning to adjust to the new and different environment of high school and learning at the same time! We kindly remind all parents to refer to their school information booklet and the orientation booklet as one way to help through this transition. These booklets have general school information and also more focused information related to your child’s particular subject areas. Subject related issues or concerns should be directed to the teacher of the particular subject or the Head Teacher of the faculty. As year advisers we are here to help with any welfare questions or concerns and general queries about your son’s time at Homebush Boys. We look forward to meeting you all the upcoming Year 7 Staff-Parent Night.

Good luck to all our boys and all the best this year. We look forward to helping you through your journey of high school and looking after you as you successfully achieve all your goals.

Finally, we would like to thank all the teachers and staff who have helped year 7 through their first few weeks at high school and making the mentioned programs such a great success. It would not have been possible without the great support that they all provide.

Best Wishes.

Ms D. Fattouh and Mrs L. Willis

Year adviser and assistant year adviser.
SPORTS REPORT

Sport is off and running once again with the summer season coming to the closing stages. Teams will be playing in semi-finals and grand-finals in the coming weeks and we wish all players and teachers the best of luck in these BIG end of season games.

We have had several students be selected as Sydney North Regional representatives in both cricket and Volleyball. Good luck to Willis Choi and Libeesan Sukirthan who will be competing in the CHS volleyball championships and congratulations to Soumil Chhibber who had a fantastic tournament at the CHS cricket carnival and was selected to represent CHS at the NSW All School Carnival in Maitland. Soumil has also gained recognition in the sport of cricket by becoming a Cricket Australia Ambassador and we wish him every success in that role.

Homebush's strongest man has been at it again by dominating at the recent Trans-Tasman Weight lifting Championships. Basel Rana broke the national under 15's record in the snatch and total on his way to winning gold and has also been selected to represent Australia at the youth and junior training camp at the Millennium Institute of Sport. Best of luck Basel.

The Sydney North Regional Blues Sports Award dinner was held on Tuesday the 7th of February with 3 students from Year 12 2011, Andrew Depta, Jacky Tran and Nick Taylor all receiving blues in their respective sports. Well done to those three great athletes and we thank them for all their contributions to school sport at Homebush Boys High.

A special mention to Rowan Castro who performed extremely well at the recent Australian Lifesaving Championships. I received a lovely email from the president of the Enfield Lifesaving Club who had this to say about Rowan's achievements.

“Rowan represented Enfield Lifesaving Club at the Royal Lifesaving Pool Championships in January at Adelaide. He won a Gold medal as part of the SERC team and a silver medal in CPR. He competed well and was a great ambassador for the sport.”

It is always great to hear that our students are doing wonderful things. In the sport of Tennis Anuraj Talati has been excelling and had improved his rank to be in the top 200 players in the state for his age group. Well done to both Rowan and Anuraj.

A reminder that Annual School Swimming Carnival is on Friday the 24th of February and will be held at the Sydney Aquatic Centre. Students need to be at the front of the Aquatic Centre by 8:45am.

For up to date information for sport please check the schools website in the Curriculum tab and then click on sport. Here you can access the weekly sports arrangement sheet, the latest results for grade sport and a list of all the sports person of the week awards for Grade and House.

Mr S Belgre

Champion weight lifter Basel Rana with Mr Jurd

NSW CHS cricketer Soumil Chhibber with Sports coordinator Mr Belgre
Homebush Boys High School Year 8 English students are studying “Aboriginal Culture” as part of the school’s curriculum. Head Teacher Teaching and Learning, and Year 8 English teacher, Ms Suzi Milovanovic, has exposed students to the many interesting facets of Aboriginal culture including, Aboriginal biographical work, Dreamtime stories, traditional language/linguistics and art painting just to name a few, through her curriculum knowledge and work with Aboriginal DEC and community members. This study is an essential part of the school’s curriculum and supports other initiatives conducted by the school.

Using knowledge gained from curriculum content and experiences, Homebush Boys High School students continue to celebrate Aboriginal culture, art, and traditions. Students began their exploration with the further development of literacy skills by reading, analysing and appreciating traditional Aboriginal Dreamtime stories. It was here that students experienced the many traditional cultures that existed and the formation of these into Dreamtime stories. In addition to this, students designed their own Aboriginal boomerangs through the study of traditional art paintings.

The art of Aboriginal Australia is the last great tradition of art to be appreciated by the world at large. This too was the case with Year 8 students and their English teacher/Head Teacher Teaching and Learning, Ms Suzi Milovanovic. Students were required to study and read up on Aboriginal artists and their continuous traditions of their art. Students studied traditions that sketch back at least fifty millennia and artists who have worked in contexts from the scared and secret realm of ceremony, to more public spheres and media.

Students then set upon the task of designing their own boomerangs by utilising knowledge gained from examination of art pieces, symbol knowledge, colour, and traditional and modern design. A final presentation of individual work was given by students to further develop their public speaking skills and engage an audience with their own traditional Dreamtime story.

Homebush Boys High School continues to celebrate Aboriginal culture, art and traditions, just to name a few, through both curriculum and whole school initiatives.
### HBHS Study Trip to Italy

From the 21st September to the 10th October 2011 10 students, together with Mrs Gilchrist, Ms McGuinness and Mr Standen, participated in the fifth HBHS Study Trip to Italy.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Student</th>
<th>Highlight</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Angus Armstrong</td>
<td>The view and castles in San Marino</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Dylan Fuller</td>
<td>Milan, it’s cathedral and the view from the cathedral</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Jack Hindmarsh</td>
<td>The Trevi Fountain and the Colosseum in Rome</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Joshua Evans</td>
<td>The ancient ruins of Pompeii and Herculaneum</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>James Ford</td>
<td>The ancient buildings of Rome</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Jarryd McFarlane</td>
<td>The ancient swords and guns in San Marino</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Burney Wong</td>
<td>The castles in Bellinzona, Switzerland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Chris Hong</td>
<td>The shopping</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Matieen Smith</td>
<td>History, architecture and culture of Italy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Kevin Tanu</td>
<td>Italian food and way of life</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Our first stop was Rome where we visited the main sights such as the Colosseum, the Forum, the Trevi fountain, the Vatican and lots more. This was followed by a side trip to Sorrento. From Sorrento we had day trips, with a guide, to the archaeological sites of Pompeii and Herculaneum.

We also visited the cities of Assisi, Siena, Florence, Pisa, Bologna, Padua, Venice, Milan, Rimini, Ravenna and the independent state of San Marino. The trip to San Marino was great as the town is just like the ones you read about in stories or see in films like Lord of the Rings. We visited the Swiss city of Bellinzona and visited two out of three amazing World Heritage listed castles.

We also attended Italian lessons in Rimini that weren’t too bad as the teachers were pretty entertaining. It was a great trip.

Year 9 & 10 students

Homebush students enjoy a cultural experience of a lifetime in Italy.
Homebush Boys High School 2012 Study Skills Program commenced in the first week of school. The 7-12 Study Skills Program, run by Head Teacher Teaching and Learning Ms Suzi Milovanovic, is an essential part of the school’s curriculum.

The Study Skills Program assists students with their educational endeavours.

Year 7, for 2012, was the first year to commence with the program. Topics included assessment schedules, using your diary, getting organised and setting goals, and writing skills in high schools.

An important aspect, for the Senior School, is to produce a School To Work Action Plan to assist them in reaching their goals for the year. The Junior Program further assists students in their transition from primary to high school and in addition, gives students the opportunity to further develop their academic/organisational skills, study habits and processes for goal setting.

Principal Mr Jurd, welcomed and thanked former Year 12 students for giving up their time to present valuable information to the current Yr 12 students and called upon the current Yr 12 students to be proactive in asking questions and seeking advice about educational endeavours. Topics covered by the students included, note-taking, time management, involvement in extra-curricular events, management of assessment studies and study techniques.

Head Teacher Teaching and Learning, Ms Suzi Milovanovic, would like to thank all those involved in the implementation of the 2012 Study Skills Program and wishes all Homebush Boys High School students the best in their educational endeavours.

The Study Skills Program will run for several weeks in Term 1.

**Ms Suzi Milovanovic**

**Head Teacher Teaching and Learning**

*Year 12 students from last year spend time mentoring this years students*
Year 12 Adviser Ms Annabel Chapman

Year 10 Adviser Ms Joanna Chan

Images from the different Study Skills groups
Welcome to another year at Homebush Boys High School especially to our new Yr 7 students. The CAPA faculty is again fully focused on students achieving high standards to reach their maximum potential in both Visual Arts and Music. This was evident in Music where there were some outstanding efforts with four students gaining Band 6 results in the HSC. Although there was no Band 6 results in Visual Arts we did have success with Alan Chen having his Body Of Art selected for this year’s HSC Artexpress exhibition, which is an outstanding achievement.

We would also like to welcome Ms Katie Roberts to the Visual Arts faculty. At this stage she will be teaching part-time, however with the faculty growing there is the possibility that this position will increase towards a full-time load.

This year’s students will be again offered opportunities and challenges in Visual Arts and Music with a range of visiting workshops and performances to inspire the students. There will also be different excursions on offer so that students are exposed to performances, workshops and exhibitions to gain a greater experience of relevant courses.

During the course of the year there will be student performances and exhibitions that will be held at the school where parents and carers will be able to attend as an audience. All activities, displays and performances will also be published both in the Bush Bulletin and also on the school website where images and video of students musical performances and artworks can be viewed.

The Creative Arts faculty are keen and enthusiastic to ensure that all students reach their potential in a positive learning environment and we look forward to 2012 being a rewarding and successful year for all students.

Mr. K. Attwood

Head Teacher Creative and Performing Arts.

Mr Attwood with Emmanuel, Adyta, Phillip, Anuraj, Basel, Kevin, Ian, Francis and Michael with their certificates from the Artsmart workshop.