Harmony Day

Harmony means to be in agreement with yourself or together with others.

Have you ever known a good friend before but now fight and hate each other? Think about the fun you had together. Do you miss those times or do you want to experience that dream again? If you had a loved one, it could be anyone you have a relationship with, can you remember the time you had together. You may or may not regret the time you spent with them but never regret the time you had already had been granted or the bond you made with them. What happened then can’t be undone and was beyond your control whether it was your fault or not.

The one thing, the most precious thing that you have to cherish is your memories that you had with them.

It matters not of your skin colour, race, wealth or strange personality. We all should stop fighting, if only just for today or this week, and show how much we all really have in common and show also how much we care about the ones we care for or love. So, to all those who love and to those who hate, realize how precious all life is, whether it’s a friend, foe, relative, pet, famous person, role model or even the environment, and that they make your world go round.

So work together to feel each other’s happiness and sorrow, to support others and to achieve more in your life because no one can live with only themselves. Interaction with others, making friends and enemies, they are what will give you satisfaction and fulfilment in your life. This is what harmony mainly means to me as it should for you.

Happy Harmony Day.

Mitchell Perrottet

Poster design by Panayioti Constanti
Welcome to the second Bush Bulletin of 2012. So much has happened since the last bulletin that I feel overwhelmed.

We have been fortunate to have wonderful new Interactive Whiteboards (IWBs) installed in 5 more classrooms bringing the number of IWBs to over 30. The connected learning team led by Mr Greg Sheath has done a fine job in facilitating this installation. Mr Sheath is coordinating the laptop distribution to year 9. Both of these initiatives are making the use of technology much more accessible to teachers and students.

The Swimming Carnival was a great success with record numbers of students attending but, surprisingly, the number of competitors was lower than usual. It is great to see students “having a go” but disappointing to see some students playing cards or listening to music. We have a large number of students succeeding at the Zone carnival. Congratulations to those going to Region. We wish them well at the “next” level.

The year 7 parent teacher introduction on February 28 was a great success. Teachers met with parents for that important “first contact”. Students have shown that student learning is enhanced when effective partnerships are established. Most year 7 students have settled in well. Best of luck for the next 6 years.

On the year 7 parent night the Homebush Orchestra performed. This was an introduction for the IMP – Instrumental Music Program. On this night the band were superb, led by musical program director, Ms Tracey Burjan. Tracey introduced the tutors and she also supported the Band Leader, Daniel Parkee, in an outstanding solo. The impromptu performance by choir tutor, Angel Tupai, of Schools Spectacular fame, was superb. As a finale there was a show stopping performance by our Choir Captain, Rio Kong. Thanks to Mr Andrew Smith for his technical expertise.

The tutors have all begun their classes but there is still room for plenty more enthusiastic students. Just go to the IMP part of our school website and join up.

Imagine our disappointment when Clean-Up Australia was washed out. Thanks to the students and staff led by our own Mr Environment, Mr John Pearson, who coordinated an effective Clean-Up Australia (well Homebush).

Congratulations to the new Parents and Citizens team led by President Simon Burton, Vice Presidents Nick Miller and Simon Ford, Secretary Fiona Murray, Treasurer Anita Kumar and Fundraising Coordinator Cheryl Miller. This team works with the School Council, President Simon Ford, Nicole Zabbal, Kim Houlias and Catherine Lea. This extraordinarily talented and hard working group of parents are the ‘life blood’ of this school. I know
they work hard but they also ‘play’ hard. Don’t forget to come to the Barefoot Bowling on April 27 at 5.30pm Concord Bowling Club.

Open Day was again a great success. Mr Kamie Khurshed, the Deputy Principal Welfare of Curriculum, organised an outstanding morning for our visitors. Again the IMP was the highlight but many of the students and parents enjoyed the school tours. We look forward to many of these lovely students successfully applying for Homebush as their 2013 choice of high school.

Bikes, Scooters and Skateboards.

If you let your son ride a bike to school he must wear a helmet and bring a strong bike lock. The school is installing 2 more bike racks capable of parking 12 bikes.

If you allow your son to ride a scooter or skateboard to school he must lodge it with the Deputy or Principal on arrival.

There is NO riding bikes, scooters or skateboards in the playground. This leads to unsafe practices and injuries and they will be confiscated if this rule is not followed. Quite often it is not the owner who breaks the rules.

Tim Jurd

Open Day audience enjoy the concert

Year 12 are over the drama of their mid-course assessments. They tried hard and most will do very well. We are now on to the year 11 assessments which begin in week 11 and continue in week 1 Term 2. We wish them well. It is important that they prepare for assessments thoroughly.

The Board of Studies has issued a set of pamphlets to the school individually written for students, teachers and parents dealing with “Honesty in HSC assessments”. The pamphlets put in plain language what is cheating in HSC assessments. All documents are available at the Board’s website but please view the summary of student rights and responsibilities elsewhere in the Bush Bulletin.

In conclusion let me thank all the excellent staff who work tirelessly for your sons. These staff includes the non-teaching and teaching staff. Thanks for doing wonderful extra duties, like the Performing Art Comp and Harmony Day. Thanks also to the students who are a pleasure to teach.

Have a safe and happy holiday break.
# A summary of student rights and responsibilities in HSC assessment

**You have the following rights:**

- to be informed of the assessment policies of your school and the Board of Studies
- to receive clear guidelines relating to the requirements of each assessment task
- to be told in advance of the due date for each assessment task
- to receive feedback that assists you to review your work
- to query the mark for an individual task at the time it is returned to you
- to request a review of the calculation of the final assessment mark if you believe your final assessment rank is incorrect.

**You have the following responsibilities:**

- to become familiar with and follow the assessment requirements set by your school and the rules in the Rules and Procedures for Higher School Certificate Candidates booklet
- to complete all set tasks on time, or talk to your teacher about what is required if you can’t meet a deadline
- not to engage in behaviour which could be considered cheating or malpractice, including plagiarism.
- to ensure that all assessment work is your own or acknowledge the contribution of others
- to follow up any concerns you have with tasks at the time they are marked and returned.

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Students with their Premiers Reading Challenge certificates and awards
Homebush Boys High School is committed to ensuring that schools remain safe places for students to learn and teachers to teach. The school is also determined to prevent bullying behaviour by any member of the school community.

This week saw Homebush Boys High School students engage in anti-bullying curriculum activities across the school. Students were made aware of the nature of bullying, how to decrease it and what to do if you are being bullied.

Head Teacher Teaching and Learning Ms Suzi Milovanovic engaged Year 7 English students in addressing issues of bullying through poetry and critical thinking strategies. Students completed tasks on facets of bullying and provided a wide range of responses using strategies such as Edward De Bono’s Thinking Hats, Bullying Body Mind Maps, Bloom’s Taxonomy Grids, Critical Thinking Keys and Multiple Intelligences Toolbox.

In addition to this, SRC student Soham Khembavi displayed outstanding public speaking skills by addressing whole school personnel on the topic of Anti-bullying at Friday’s assembly. Areas addressed included different types of bullying that can occur and the affects these can have on an individual. Bullying exists at all levels of our society.

We are aware, that the effects of bullying on learning and general adjustment at school, can be devastating and far reaching for the students involved. We trust that the whole school community can share the responsibility for combating any form of bullying whenever it occurs.

Every person at Homebush Boys High School has the right to experience positive and respectful relationships between all members of the school community. They also have the right to learn and teach in a happy and safe environment. Bullying and violent behaviour is not acceptable at any level at Homebush Boys High School.
ANDREW OH BLOWS YEAR 7 AWAY

On Monday March 19 Andrew Oh came to the school to present a performance on a whole range of woodwind instruments to Year 7 in the school hall.

Andrew is an extremely accomplished performer who has worked as a session musician on radio and many TV shows over the years. His show “Flute Tones to Saxophones” combines over 40 instruments from many different cultures and countries and gives a brief history of each instrument.

At the end of the show he checked whether Year 7 had been listening by asking a series of questions covering his presentation and gave out copies of one of his CDs to students who answered correctly.

Andrew Smith Music Teacher

Enthusiastic year 7 students enjoy the performance
HOMEBUSH STUDENTS DO THEIR BIT FOR CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA

There is not one individual who cannot help to make a difference to the health of the environment” - Ian Kiernan AO.

The idea began in 1989 with an individual who had an idea of making a difference in his own backyard - Clean up Sydney Harbour. The event received an enormous public response with more than 40,000 Sydneysiders donating their time and energy to clean up the harbour.

This simple idea has now become the nation’s largest community-based environmental event. Now in its 22nd year, the event attracts hundreds of thousands of volunteers from the community, schools and businesses to help clean up, fix up and conserve their environment.

On Friday 16th March the SRC ventured to Airy Park and round the district whilst other students stayed within the grounds of Homebush boys High School to clean up their environment.

Ms Linda Adams

The SRC help to do their bit in making the school and surrounding areas a cleaner place
**SCHOOL CALENDAR 2012**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>March</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Year 8 Geography excursion</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>26</td>
<td>Year 8 Incursion - Period 7-8</td>
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<td></td>
<td>27</td>
<td>Zone Rugby Trials - Epping Boys High School</td>
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<td></td>
<td>28</td>
<td>Sport - Winter Trials Period Rotation 1,2,3,4</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>29</td>
<td>Year 12 Biology Excursion - Sydney University - Kickstart</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>April</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>Year 7 Incursion - Periods 1-2</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Year 12 Chemistry Day - ANSTO</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Year 9 Geography Excursion, Homebush Bay CHS Swimming</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Sport - Round One Period Rotation 1,2,3,4</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>CHS Swimming</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>GOOD FRIDAY - EASTER BREAK</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>April</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>School Development Day</td>
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<td></td>
<td>23</td>
<td>Students return - Closing Entries - ICAS Computing Skills</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td>ANZAC CEREMONY</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td>ANZAC DAY - PUBLIC HOLIDAY</td>
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<td>26</td>
<td>School Cross Country - Mason Park - Periods 7-8</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>April/May</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>Year 7, 2013, Round 1, Non-local offers begin</td>
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<td>30</td>
<td>School Athletics Carnival - Homebush</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Sport - Round 2 Period Rotation 1,2,3,4</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Year 11 Incursion</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>yr 11 Physics Luna Park Year 7 Geography Excursion</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>May</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>School Photo Day</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>HSC timetable released</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>ICAS Science - closing entries</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Sport - Round 3 Period Rotation 3,4,1,2</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Zone Cross Country - Macquarie University</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>May</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>NAPLAN - Year 7 &amp; 9</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>ADFA Presentation (1:16pm)</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>Sport - Round 4 Period Rotation 1,2,3,4</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>NAPLAN - Year 7 &amp; 9 Back up School Photo Day</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>NAPLAN - Year 7 &amp; 9</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>May</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Year 7 &amp; 8 History Incursion - periods 1-6</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>ICAS Writing closing entries</td>
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<td>22</td>
<td>ICAS Spelling - closing entries</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>Computing Skills competition - ICAS</td>
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<td></td>
<td>24</td>
<td>Sport - Round 5 Period Rotation 3,4,1,2</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>25</td>
<td>YEAR 7, 2013 - Non-local offers conclude</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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

*Angus Armstrong receives his Zone Blue for athletics from Mr Jurd*

*Willis Choi receives his Excellence cheque from Mr Jurd*
There is a certain vibe in Rooms 33 & 34 and the corridor outside the Language Staffroom as the spoken word is heard among the LOTE students. Italian, French, Chinese, Korean…the native tongue is so wonderful to listen to.

Year 12 students have just completed their Half Yearly Examinations in both the Italian and Chinese courses and I am looking forward to reading their reports. The LOTE faculty is expecting big things from the boys this year as we prepare for the H.S.C Trial examinations and of course the H.S.C. I urge all parents to communicate with their boys and make sure they stay focussed and are completing all required homework and assignments. Both Ms Su & Mrs Gilchrist have pointed out that, in their respective courses, the students need to maintain a regular study plan. This will assist in overall management of time and ensure that all students are adequately prepared for all assessment tasks. The Year 12 Parent and Teacher evening is scheduled for 1st May and I am looking forward to meeting parents and families of our LOTE boys. This will be a time to discuss your son’s progress and communicate any concerns.

At the time of writing, Year 11 are preparing for their Mid-Term Examinations in Week 11 & Week 1 of Term 2. Good luck to all our Korean, Italian & Chinese Students.

Year 9 & Year 11 Korean students are working really well and producing some excellent pieces of writing. Although the language and its alphabet are very foreign to me, I am taking on board Ms Yu’s comments, that the students can write up to 350 words, a requirement of the H.S.C Course. I remain impressed with EDMODO- a Facebook type ICT initiative adopted by the Korean students at Homebush Boys High School. This is used as a communication forum, as a place to view all classwork and homework and to log onto to complete classwork and quizzes. Please read Ms Yu’s perception of Homebush Boys High School and her feature article listed below.

Also featured below is an article from Ms Su, our Stage 5 & 6 Chinese teacher. Ms Su is offering some valuable advice on how our students’ results can improve. The message is very clear- the more effort you put in, the better your performance. This applies to all LOTE students. Study hard and you will be rewarded.

The LOTE faculty will be awarding HT LOTE Awards to students who have achieved excellence in their Language classes. These laminated certificates are presented to students at Year Assemblies. Congratulations to the following students who have gained their first certificate. Three (3) certificates and the student will receive a special award at Presentation Evening in December.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Student</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Min Suk Yang</td>
<td>11 Korean</td>
<td>22/2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hyeonuk Shin</td>
<td>11 Korean</td>
<td>22/2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sung Woo Kim</td>
<td>11 Korean</td>
<td>22/2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Son Shin Yong</td>
<td>9 Korean</td>
<td>2/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edmond Kim</td>
<td>9 Korean</td>
<td>2/3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A few reminders

- All Open High School students should be making sure that all scheduled work is completed and handed in to Mrs Gilchrist in the LOTE staffroom. This should be done on a regular basis. Please do not expect that Mrs Gilchrist will chase you.
- If a student fails to comply with the Faculty’s Student Behaviour Management Plan he will result in either incur in-class punishment, a LOTE faculty monitoring card, a Thursday After-School detention or a referral to the Deputy Principal Welfare & Curriculum. This is a 4-Step process with the student moving into the next step, if he fails on the previous level. I have already visited a few junior classes and have been very concerned with behaviour and attitude. Remember to participate in all language classes. Italian, French, Chinese or Korean classes are NOT for spectators only and to respect the learning in ALL classes.
- Our focus this year is on RESPECT. All LOTE students are to respect the learning in all classes, the teacher and their fellow classmates. The LOTE faculty aims to promote Harmony and a classroom environment where we can all learn, discover and grow.
- For parents, once again, 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.

Mrs Matina Shadwick
Head of LOTE Faculty
Homebush Boys Successfully Participate in Clean Up Australia 16th March 2012

Students at Homebush Boys High School participated in a postponed ‘Clean Up Australia’ on Friday 16th March. The original ‘Clean Up Australia Day’ was washed out, due to poor weather conditions. Homebush Boys High School has now successfully participated in ‘Clean Up Australia’ for the last 10 years. Students were able to do their bit, by cleaning the local environment and being aware they can have an impact in keeping our environment clean. Also gives the students a sense of civic pride.

Community News

It is always pleasing to hear positive feedback from our broader community. Homebush Boys has an ongoing commitment in fostering productive relationships with the local community.

Recently in the huge downpours of rain that engulfed Homebush some of our Year 10 students braved the elements and assisted cars that were stalled in large puddles. Quite an admirable act considering the conditions.

Furthermore the school recently received a phone call from an elderly resident who unfortunately had a fall. Two Homebush Boys came to the rescue and assisted making sure the local resident was safe and looked after.

These are just a couple of examples of the values our boys have for their local community and we are convinced that all our boys feel this way.

Kamie Khurshed

Harmony Day

In the heat of battle, a world of guns falls silent.

Foes forgiven, a nightmare machine screams its need to deaf ears, as burning death is smothered by loving embrace. Lands that were once worlds apart are now neighbours, as new brothers and sisters light candles of remembrance, with flames of hope. Melody lifts on the wind, all as one connected by the throats of millions.

Harmony day.

Cities once dark, now aglow with iridescence of happiness and hope for the future. Heads that once were hung are now raised in expressions of hope realised. Babes in arms held close in wonder for on this day, no cry escaped infant lips.

Only a smile of cherished peace, on this the true, Harmony day.

Craig James Miller

SRC members address the assembly about the Premiers Reading Challenge
INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC PROGRAM

Homebush Boys Orchestra
Friday mornings 8-8.50am with Miss Tracy Burjan and Mr. Smith. Experience needed.

Guitar Group
Beginners: Thursday mornings 8 – 8.40 am with Matt
Advanced: Friday afternoons 3.10-4pm with Matt

Homebush Boys Choir
Tuesday mornings 8-8.50am with Miss Angel Tupai

Drumming Group
Wednesday mornings 8-8.50 with Lloyd G

String Ensemble
Tuesday Lunchtimes with Daniel Parkee

All these groups will start in the week starting Monday 5th of March.

The fee for these groups is $50 a term ($200 a year, or $150 for students in Year 12).

You may be in one or more groups for the same amount.

This fee will be paid to the school.

There is also the possibility of scholarships for students in the music program. This would involve payment for school group fees only of $200 for the year. This will be decided on merit, punctuality and regular attendance to group sessions and private lessons by the music committee.

WANTED – INSTRUMENTS

Homebush Boys High School is looking for instruments in good condition. Our Instrumental Music Program is evolving and growing and we need instruments that would love a bit of attention and care, to be played by our enthusiastic musicians.

You may have an instrument lying around, that guitar, violin or flute in the loft or hiding in the spare room. Please donate to a worthy cause; you may be contributing to present and future greatness.

If you would like to donate your unwanted instrument(s) please contact Mr Smith or Mr Khurshed at the school. Ring 97643611 now!!
P & C NEWS

COMING EVENTS:

HBHS P & C Presents

“Barefoot” Lawn Bowls & Sausage Sizzle

at

CONCORD BOWLING CLUB

Clermont Ave, Concord

Friday 27th April 2012

From 5.30pm

Tickets: Adult $20  Family of 4 $50

Extra kids (5 – 14 yrs) $10

(Munchies & sausage sizzle

Included in the ticket cost)

Drinks to be purchased at the Club at club prices

(If raining, we will have a games night instead of bowling)

Come and celebrate the

HBHS P & C get together

and enjoy a sausage sizzle

and game of outdoor lawn bowls.

You can also buy some beautiful Jewellery

& there is a great Raffle

(5 prizes tickets $2 each or 10 for $10) with

A silent auction where you bid for the prize

Please ring school office and mention

‘Barefoot Bowls night’

to pre-book your tickets or just come along!!!!!

Payments can be sent in with your sons

Or paid on the night
A warm welcome, from all the English staff, to all students for another conducive year at Homebush Boys. And a special welcome to our Year 7 students and all new enrolments.

I would also like to take the opportunity to welcome Ms Effie Bonis and Ms Emily Yong to the English staff. Ms Bonis comes to us from South Sydney High School and she replaces the retired Mr Wills. Ms Yong is filling Mr Fairley’s place after he was promoted at the end of term 4 last year. We are very fortunate to have 2 excellent teachers on staff.

I can’t let this opportunity pass without recognising some excellent achievements the faculty had in both the Higher School Certificate and the School Certificate in 2011. All the courses were well above the state average. In the Advanced course 34 of the 45 candidates achieved bands 5 and 6, meaning their marks were 80% or better. This equates to being 20% above the state average. The Standard course average was more than 7% above the state average. Some 22 students scored above 80%, this was three times the state average. A truly outstanding achievement. Well done to all the students for their outstanding efforts and to the teachers involved for their dedication and persistence.

It is a busy time of the year for all students, particularly the senior students. The Standard and Advanced students have assessment tasks coming up soon as they begin work on the new modules. The students need to communicate with their teachers about the requirements, continue to read as much as possible and draft their written responses. Continuous effort and application will be rewarded in the end.

There are ample opportunities for students to be involved in extra-curricular activities which are both rewarding and stimulating. Ms Sahay is currently organising the John Symonds Public Speaking competition at school. This is open to all students. More competitions will be help during the year. Debating teams are being formed as well. There is a team from each year group contesting the Premier’s Debating competitions. As well, the first Great Book Sale for the year will be held on Thursday of week 10 (28 March). This is a great opportunity for students to purchase novels cheaply and in the process help a worthwhile charity – The Indigenous Literacy Project. Last year the school raised over $1000 for the ILP via four book sales. Also, the Premier’s Reading Challenge had begun. All students from year 7, 8 and 9 are encouraged to enter this fantastic initiative to help improve their reading and literacy skills. Last year Ms Kumaralingam did an outstanding job in promoting the PRC which resulted in the largest number of participants we have ever had.

I can’t emphasise enough the importance of students of all ages maintaining a consistent reading programme at home. This could only mean reading something that interests them for 30 minutes each afternoon or evening. Reading is crucial for improving all aspects of English literacy and communication. Students have ample opportunities to engage in reading at school. Years 7 have a specific reading programme one period a week for the whole year with Ms Lacek. Years 8 and 9 students are involved in a wide reading programme in their English classes, the school has the DEAR programme 4 mornings a week and students from Years 7, 8 and 9 are encouraged to enter the Premier’s Reading Challenge. Support at home will help consolidate the students’ development through these initiatives.

Mr Cheiban Elaro,
Head of Department
Homebush Senior B Oztag win the first
Premiership in this division

The Homebush Senior Bs Oztag went through the season undefeated premiers with a much deserved 11-2 victory over Normanhurst Boys. The score line in the Grand Final was a good reflection of their dominance throughout the season.

The team was led very effectively by the effervescent Charlie Brian who is always a bundle of energy and commitment to the team. He was well backed up the poised and level-headed Cameron Parcell. Cameron’s vision on the field and his ball skills are well developed at this level. Fahim Takbir’s agility and Josh Tonpi’s aggression served the team well in the middle. On the fringes the straight running Kieren Tran and Anthony Phan were always dangerous as was the electrifying stepping of Kevin Le. These players were mobile and creative in attack. The team had pace to burn on the wings with Brian Dowling, Mathew Penfold, Desmond Ngo and Anthony Giang. And we can’t forget the talents and speed on the links, namely Brandon Vuong and Dylan Kang. The team was a mixture on power and finesse in equal parts. We also need to recognise the contributions on Peter Totidis, who was the team manager/mascot.

A great season men and it was always a pleasure seeing you all in full flight on the field. Thanks for your efforts and commitment to Oztag at Homebush Boys High School.

Homebush Senior Oztag Team makes it 6
Premierships in 9 Years

In an extraordinary Grand Final at Mason Park on Wednesday 7 March, the Homebush Senior Oztag team continued the tradition that started 9 seasons earlier.

The team triumphed over their arch rivals Epping Boys in a breathtaking game that went deep into a sudden-death extra-time drop-off. The game went down to 3 players on each side before a great break by Reece Ilolahia was backed up by Hassan Koussan on the inside to end an outstanding season and a remarkably even game. Another extraordinary fact is that it was the third Grand Final that Hassan has scored the winning try in the drop-off. He did it twice in the Juniors over the years.

The team lost only one game in the whole season, finishing on the ladder 3 or 4 games ahead of their nearest rivals – Epping. All players must take credit for a wonderful season. The team was led amiably by Ali El Kheir and Youssef Morgan at different stages of the year. These two players are very competitive and resilient in tight matches. Both led by example every time they took the field. Reece and Hassan were standout players all season – their agility, pace and poise put them a class above the opposition. Bilal Taha improved enormously as the season progressed. His runs in the Grand Final made a difference in a tight game. Mohammad Elheou’s decisive runs were missed in the run up to the semi-finals but he served the team well before the Christmas break. Omar Baroudou improved as the season progressed and as his confidence improved. In the links, Ibrahim Baroudou was the most improved player over the past 2 seasons – his defence was impeccable and his darting runs were very good. Adam Alley contributed well to the team as did Ahmed Abbas and Zak Barud. These boys did their job very competently and without fuss. Youssef Sarakbi was another big improver and his try in the Grand Final nearly got us over the line late in the second half. Jacob Hill was all heart and commitment on the wing throughout the season. Also, Scott Bunch must be recognised for his efforts as manager and water-boy throughout the season. Dominic Furneaux-Bate wants everyone to know that he scored a try in his first ever carry of the ball in an Oztag game.

Thanks for the season men. It was a heck of a ride. And the way it ended was very fitting for your last game in Oztag at Homebush Boys High School.
Term 1 has gone off to a good and productive start. There have been year assemblies where a lot of useful information has been conveyed to our students regarding Board of Studies rules; and matters that students need to be mindful of when applying for courses at universities, TAFES, colleges or seeking other alternatives such as work or a gap year. Furthermore, presenters have been invited in to address interest areas of our students such as Business Cadetships, Chartered Accounting Cadetships, representatives from UNSW and the registration of students on www.seek2b.com. At the end of this term there is a motivational speaker who was a former Socceroo captain by the name of Paul Wade who will be sharing his expertise and inspirational story on meeting responsibilities and challenges with the current year 12 group. This will take place on Tuesday the 3rd April during periods 7 & 8 with a cost of $5.00 / student.

There are a lot of events lined up for our students next term such as, representatives presenting from University of Sydney and the Australian Defence Force Academy. We’ve booked our Year 12 students to attend Western Sydney Careers Expo at Olympic Park on Friday the 22nd June, which will provide them the opportunity to seek and explore their options post HSC further. The aim is that different groups come in to address the varied needs of our students here at HBHS hence; our students will have been exposed to a broad range of career paths that they may wish to pursue.

I am pleased that many senior students especially from our Year 12 cohort have come in to see me about their choices for next year; however I’d like to encourage others to do the same. For students applying for Educational Access Schemes or Scholarships now is the time to collate all of the necessary documents required for their applications. There are constantly important announcements in the daily notices, school emails, career alerts that the students will need to access for open days at universities / colleges and other essential matters.

Congratulations to our former Year 12 students (Class of 2011) who have done exceptionally well, there were two which received the Premier’s Award, a few scholarships granted to them, and a very high proportion of them continuing their studies at Tertiary Institutions whilst some others opted to get into the work force. Well done!

Thank you

Georgia Anton / Career Adviser

Were innocent !!! students experience what its like in a mock trial
Year 10 Commerce Excursion

On Monday the 5th of March, as well as Friday the 9th of March, year 10 embarked on an excursion to the Police and Justice Museum as well as NSW State parliament. The reason we attended this excursion was because we are studying ‘political Involvement’ presently and our next topic will be ‘Law in Action’. We all met at Strathfield nice and early eager to learn about our justice and political systems of our state. We caught a train to St. James station and our class was taken on a tour through State parliament by a very energetic tour guide who we quite enjoyed. After passing through security we were surprised and excited by all the history and formalities of State Parliament. We were able to sit in actual parliament, both lower and upper houses, and were guided through proceeding and some fun facts as well. Following our tour through parliament we were given a lunch break at Circular Quay, where we were able to take in all we had learnt as well as the sights and sounds of the city, touring as a group watching street performers. We all then were toured through the police and justice museum, and were very lucky to have the presence of a chief police prosecutor to give us his knowledge as we were taken through many cases in NSW crime history, from the very beginning of settlement through till the modern day. We then ended our visit by sitting a mock trial, with students performing various roles such as the defendant and prosecutor. We all found this very interesting as well as entertaining, as we had the prosecutor step in as a magistrate and guide as through court proceeding. Ultimately, the day was a thoroughly enlightening and entertaining, it ran very smoothly and was something which we all are lucky to have experienced. Thankyou to our teachers Mr Pearson, Ms Willis, Mr Pell and Mr Pisani for organising and taking us on this excellent excursion.

Bassel Rana & Tony Lee

Future politicians, you never know?
YR 10 GEOGRAPHY FIELD TRIP

EASTERN CREEK RESOURCE RECOVERY PARK & MALABAR SEWERAGE TREATMENT PLANT

On the 15 of March 2012, four Geography teachers Ms Willis, Ms Legge, Ms McIntyre and Mr Pell accompanied us Bushie Boys in our Geography classes to the Eastern Creek Resource Recovery Park run by SITA and then to the Sewerage Treatment Plant at Malabar.

With over 2,100 employees and contractors, 850 collection vehicles and 100 operations across Australia, SITA recovers valuable resources for recycling and reuse. SITA also provides these services to more than 56,000 commercial and industrial customers and more than 3.7 million residents every week. There are at least 16 Resource Recovery Parks in Sydney and surrounding areas.

When our group entered the Resource Park, we were joined by our tour guides – an education officer from Strathfield Council and a Resource Centre employee Mr Jones. The tour guides were kind enough to take us around the Recovery Park and feed us with information, both facts and statistics, about this Resource facility whilst we were inside the bus. Hopefully, this information has been included by all students in their workbooks! The teachers from Homebush were of great help as they also participated in the excursion and helped the boys by supplementing the information provided by the tour guides. The boys had their thinking caps on and asked some great questions on the day. This made the excursion both informative and interesting.

The purpose of this visit to Eastern Creek was to:

1. learn about where our waste goes after it has been washed away, thrown out or drained;
2. learn about what happens when it has arrived at the Recovery Centre;
3. what the workers do to the waste once it arrives;
4. learn about the 3 R’s - reduce, reuse and recycle; and
5. take down notes and statistics relating to all of the above.

The Recovery Park was a great place as it was a different sort of environment, a place none of the students had visited before - a once in a life time experience! It was a memorable experience, with a very pungent odour which really tested our sense of smell. In our opinion, we believe the excursion was great fun. We learnt a lot about waste and what happens to it as it arrives at the Recycling Centre. The tour guides were of great help to us as were our teachers who gave us information on the two venues which we visited. Overall, the boys and teachers had a great time and learnt a lot about the Park. Everyone participated well and followed instructions on the day, which made life a lot easier for everyone, and especially the teachers. So thank you teachers of Homebush for this wonderful experience and thank you tour guides for this wonderful adventure.

by Jai Ivelja & Vincent Christy
Success For the
Senior Boys Volleyball Team

The Homebush Boys Volleyball Team has completed a very successful season by winning the zone championship by defeating North Sydney Boys High School in the final 25 /15 and 25/ 17. The team captain is Jack Codd Miller, and the team Vice captain is Willis Choi.

The other team members are Bilal Zreika, Libeesan Sukirthan, Ian Zhou, Jason Sung, Brendan Luong and was coached by Mr Pearson. The team went through the whole competition losing 2 games.

The team is now playing in the state KO Championship which it has won its’ first round game against Asquith Boys High School 25/19, 25/21, 23/25, 25/17. The next game will be against North Sydney Boys High School in week 11 of Term 1.

The open KO squad includes some of the extra players from the under 15years team, which are: Ramanan Srithathan, Arjunasingam Abayasingam and Qi Hao Yin. These extra players will make up the core backbone of future Senior Boys Volleyball teams, to represent Homebush Boys High School.

Also congratulations to Libeesan Sukirthan and Willis Choi for representing Sydney North at the NSW State Championships.
As the term comes to a close it is a great time to reflect on some of the great achievements of our boys in the last few weeks. The Zone Semi-Finals and Grand Finals were held at the beginning of March with Homebush having 17 teams compete in semi-finals and 10 teams compete in grand-finals, a fantastic achievement. Congratulations to the following teams who were Zone Summer premiers for 2011-2012 season, Senior A Oztag, Senior B Oztag, Junior B Oztag, 1 Grade Volleyball, 15's Volleyball, 2 Grade Cricket, 1 Grade Waterpolo and 15’s Waterpolo. Well done to all the boys involved in these teams and their coaches.

The regional Golf Championships were held at Wyong in week 6 this term and three boys Sean Baek, Chris Park of year 9 and Izaac Noh of year 8 represented Homebush. The boys played extremely well against students much older to take out the regional golf championship school title. This is to add to the Zone Golf Championships they won at the end of 2011. Congratulations to Sean and Izaac who finished 2 and 4 respectively and now play in a match play tournament to qualify for the state titles.

Our annual School Swimming Carnival was held on the 24 of February with great numbers in attendance. All boys who attended put in a great effort and made the carnival a wonderful day. Congratulations to Hayes house who were the eventual winners of the carnival and the following boys who were age champions:

- 12 Years – Ibrahim Taha
- 13 Years – Vincent Nguyen
- 14 Years – Jin Hou
- 15 Years – Matthew Gu
- 16 Years – Serge Houhlias
- 17 Years – Dane Kennedy

The Zone Swimming Carnival was held the following Friday with Homebush finishing 3overall. There were some fantastic individual efforts with Matthew Gu being named the 15 years age champion and the U15’s and U17’s winning there relay events. Well done to all boys who competed on the day and represented the school with distinction.

Congratulations to Jonah Bolden who was selected in the Sydney North regional basketball team to compete at the CHS basketball championships in May and a special mention to Josh Rogers and Mitchell Taylor who will represent NSW CHS Waterpolo in a tour of New Zealand. Also, good luck to Scott Madycki and Ambrose Hill who will be playing Hockey in the USA in the next couple of weeks.

Winter Sport trials have commenced and competition starts on the 4 of April. A reminder the school cross country carnival is on Friday the 27 of April (Week 1, Term 2) held after lunch at Bicentennial Park and the school athletics carnival is on Monday the 30 of April (Week 2, Term 2) at the Sydney Olympic Park Athletics Centre.

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 sportsperson of the week awards for Grade and House.

Mr S Belgre
**2010 – 2011 North West Metropolitan Zone Summer Sport Premiership Winners**

<table>
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<tr>
<th><strong>14’s Basketball</strong></th>
<th><strong>3rd Grade Cricket</strong></th>
<th><strong>14’s Water Polo</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>Otis Burian-Hodge</td>
<td>Andrew Benedict</td>
<td>Igor Gainulin</td>
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<td>Elton Cheng</td>
<td>Santosh Canchipuram</td>
<td>Matthew Gu</td>
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<td>Jason Dang</td>
<td>Shahzain Charania</td>
<td>Michael Napoli</td>
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<td>Dilawar Gill</td>
<td>Andy Chen</td>
<td>Martin Perkins</td>
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<td>Joshua Kim</td>
<td>David Jesuthasan</td>
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<td>Brendon Lac</td>
<td>Kamran Khan</td>
<td>Adam Saker</td>
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<td>Allan Lai</td>
<td>Kevin Le</td>
<td>Gus Tabikh</td>
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<td>Saksham Parajuli</td>
<td>Victor Le</td>
<td>Mitchell Taylor (Captain)</td>
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<td>Addam Stone (Captain)</td>
<td>Robert Lopes</td>
<td>Daniel Yuan</td>
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<td>Kirk-Stephen Tuiavii</td>
<td>Abishek Naidu</td>
<td>Mr Andrew Smith (Coach)</td>
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<td>Michael Zuo</td>
<td>Shilendran Sriranjan</td>
<td>1st Grade Water Polo</td>
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<td>Ms Amanda Middleton (Coach)</td>
<td>Fahim Takbir</td>
<td>James Bradley</td>
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**1st Grade Water Polo**

| Ms Amanda Middleton (Coach) | Fahim Takbir |

**14A Cricket**

| Mohammad Allah Yari | Sen Thangavel |
| Sohaib Ansari       | Kieren Tran   |
| Sahil Bhandula      | Simon Xin     |
| Nicol Brodie        | Mr Tham Sivasothy (Coach) |
| Nivedh Dwaraknath   |                |
| Chinmaya Gupta      | Harry Griffin-Colls |
| Adam Hodgess        | Ayman Hill    |
| Sumukha Jagadeesh   | Adem Keskin   |
| Daniel Jesuthasan   | Alpay Keskin  |
| Keshan Kiritharan   | Tony Lee      |
| Shankaran Kiritharan| Sung Boh Stone|
| Luke Mansfield      | Tim Xin       |
| Hammad Mohammed     | Ms Joanne Carrasco (Coach) |
| Richard Nghiem      |               |
| David Sun           | Suresh Tharmalinkam |
| Mr Lakshmi Puran (Coach) |             |

**Junior Futsal (Indoor Soccer)**

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<tr>
<th>Mathew Cook</th>
<th>David Gajic</th>
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<td>Harry Griffin-Colls</td>
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<td>Ms Joanne Carrasco (Coach)</td>
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**Term #1.2**

**2012**

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<tr>
<th>Nick Taylor (Captain)</th>
<th>Ms Annabel Chapman (Coach)</th>
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Even the Principal gets to compete

Some hold them, some stick them on their chest
Senior students take the swimming carnival very seriously.

Friendly rivalry and lots of fun.