Student Excellence Recognised by Premier

The school was graced with the presence of Premier Barry O’Farrel’s official representative Mr John Sidoti MP for Drummoyne on Friday the 11th of May. Mr Sidoti was here to present a cheque for $2000 to students Thomas Goth-Towney and Lachlan Foster to help them with their acceleration of their education in the field of robotics. Last year the two boys entered as a team in the biggest robotics competition in the world (Robocup International 2011) where they represented Australia and managed to place above the half way mark out of over 500 teams. Along with this, the two have represented the school at regional, state and national competitions for the past 3 years, with a top ten finish at every competition, and almost always being awarded a gold, silver or bronze medal.

This year they are trying to raise money to upgrade the 7 year old equipment that they have used in competitions for the past 3 years. They are also trying to train 26 new students in robotics to help maintain the high standard of excellence has built up over the years. The money will go into acquiring new parts, and getting some programming licenses for the younger students to use. The boys hope to have completely new and original robots ready for action before the next competition in early August this year. They also hope to get their first national gold medal, and are putting in over 10 hours a week at home on top of the school work to make it all happen. Thomas and Lachlan are very grateful for the financial assistance from the State Government.
Principal’s Report

Staff Changes

- At the time of writing the panel to select a new member of the Administration staff is at the interview stage. This panel is required to find a replacement for Mrs Carol McKinnon who recently retired. Ms McKinnon was a valued member of the Library team and the school wishes her well in retirement.
- Ms Emily Yong has been appointed the English/History staff to fill the position vacated by Mr Andrew Fairley. Ms Yong brings a wealth of talent to this position and the community welcomes this news.
- Whilst waiting for a replacement for Ms Rizos in Mathematics, Mr Keelan Tierney has been doing a wonderful job. Mr Tierney now has been replaced by Ms Ekaterina Crosby. Ms Crosby will start on 4 June and we wish Mr Tierney well in his future career. Ms Cosby is transferring from Casula High School.
- A number of changes have occurred in Science. Mr Pedro Recinos has moved to a new position at Airds High School. Mr Kevin Khalili has accepted a position at Windsor High School and Ms Jennii Lee has accepted a transfer to Homebush Boys High School. We welcome Ms Lee to our school from 4 June. Ms Lee comes from Fairfield High School.
- Recently Ms Nadine Koff, Hospitality, accepted a transfer to Epping Boys High School to be closer to home. The school felt a great loss as Ms Koff was not only a remarkable Hospitality and TAS teacher, she was also our VET coordinator and Report’s coordinator. We are very fortunate to welcome her replacement, Mr Gerard Saber, a trained Chef, who will share his considerable expertise with our students in this growing area of the curriculum. Mr Saber is on transfer from Belmore Boys High School.
- In Social Science we recognise the permanent appointment by merit of Mr Adrian Pisani. Mr Pisani has been on staff in a temporary role for 12 months and we are happy to welcome his appointment.
- In History we farewelled the talented member of staff, Ms Sophie Tsouloukidis. Ms Tsouloukidis retired during the Easter holidays after a proud 30 year career teaching History and English. Ms Tsouloukidis’ classes will continue to receive quality instruction with former Head of Department, Mr Roger Doenau, accepting the position to teach for the remainder of terms 2 and 3. Thank you Mr Doenau and all the very best to Ms Tsouloukidis.

Parent News

- The P & C has been busy. The parents organised “Barefoot Bowls” at the Concord Bowling Club, staff and families all enjoyed a great time at this social event. The activity raised well over $600.00 for school resources.
- In May, parents staffed a stall in the playground selling wonderful gifts for Mother’s Day. This initiative raised over $900.00 as well as the beautiful jewellery, hand made by Ms Judith Edwards, raising vital funds for the School Literacy Program.
- The P & C meeting in May had over 50 parents listen to Mr Elaro present on the new Record of School Achievement (or ROSA) which has replaced the School Certificate.
- The P & C gardening bee worked tirelessly to weed and mulch the front garden south of the main entrance. It was a great initiative with staff, parents and students proudly viewing their hardwork and enjoying a sausage sizzle at the end of the day.
- The P & C also coordinated the Strathfield Council Citizenship Ceremony refreshments. Four of our prefects proudly attended, prepared and served food to the many new citizens and their families. This was difficult to organise by Ms Fiona Murray, as this ceremony was held during the holidays and communication was more challenging. The P & C are happy to coordinate this community initiative and the council donates cash to the school but we must have more support from the parents by way of food drops on the day of the ceremony.
Band and IMP News

- Our school band was at its best when invited to perform at the Annual OTEN Awards night at Club Burwood. The orchestra performed 6 pieces and the director of OTEN praised the band captain, Daniel Parkee and vocalist Rio Kang. The IMP director and conductor Ms Tracy Burjan is extremely pleased with the orchestra's progress.
- Daniel Parkee is a regular member of the Public Schools' Symphony Orchestra and we are pleased to recognise Hugh Black of Year 8 who has been selected to play oboe in the NSW Public School Symphonic Wind Orchestra. Hugh toured with the orchestra and in Melbourne they won the National Band Championships. Well done

Students Volunteers Recognised

- On Friday 25 May, Ms Gyan Sahay and I were present when Year 10 students, Leonardo Pane and Edwin Guo, were presented with the Black Opal Certificate, which is the highest award possible in the Premiers' Student Volunteering. Ms Sahay is the school coordinator of this program and is pleased with the way Homebush students have embraced the opportunity to have their volunteering recognised. Edwin and Leonardo are both members of the St Johns Ambulance and both are highly trained first aiders.
- On volunteering, more than 200 Homebush students gave up their Sunday 20 May, to don their uniforms and doorknock for the Salvation Army. This is an exceptional effort from an amazing group of young men. Their thoughtfulness will help many hundreds of families survive the harsh conditions this winter.

NAPLAN Assessment (15 – 18 May)

- Year 7 and Year 9 have just finished a tough bank of assessments to help find areas of need in our numeracy and literacy programs. I thank Mr Kamie Khurshed, Deputy Principal, for his wonderful organisation and boundless energy. He ran this massive program, assisted by a capable and industrious staff. Thank you Kamie and staff.
ANZAC DAY

- Homebush recognised Anzac Day with a moving ceremony organised by Mr Peter Wilson. The Drum Corps saluted the fallen and Peter Brimfield gave up his time to play the Last Post and Reveille on his trumpet. Peter was in last year’s Higher School Certificate class and is a virtuoso trumpet player.
- Homebush was represented in the community when Prefects Scott Bunch, Brian Griffin-Colls and Jack Codd-Miller laid a wreath on the Memorial at Davey Square in Strathfield on Sunday 22 April 2012. Scott led the ceremony with a moving prayer.
- Later on Sunday 24 May the Homebush Drum Corps and student leaders, Captain Phillip Siomos, Vice Captain Ali El Kheir and Senior Prefect Tim Mitry, proudly marched down Burwood Road, Burwood and laid a wreath at the Memorial in Burwood Park.
- On ANZAC Day the Drum Corps marched with the ANZAC day march and they were given a very special mention on the ABC Television coverage.
To be successful in life, we need support. We need support from our friends and we need support from our family. As a young man, it is also vital that there is a strong male role model in their lives. This could come in many forms - Father, brother, uncle, cousin, teacher, religious leader or sporting coach.

We are often exposed to the bad side of young men through the media. We see the ugly, violent, rude and disrespectful side of young men on the news every other night. Our boys also see the ugly, violent, rude and disrespectful side of those men that the media portray as influential.

However, at Homebush Boys High School, we will more often see the respectful, kind, generous, cheeky and empathic side of our boys through sport, charity work, community service, a myriad of classroom activities and through the vast majority of peer to peer and teacher to student interactions. So where does this come from?

It is those people around them. It’s those that care for them and who are involved in their development that shape our boys into who they will become. It is for this reason that the men around them reflect the ideals that we want from our future men.

Our year 11 students were fortunate to be involved in a presentation from Glen Gerreyn. This former high school athlete who went on to become seriously ill, then overcome this to build a multidimensional, multi-focused youth development facility with less than $20, engaged, enthralled and inspired 240 students for over 2 1/2 hours.

He spoke to the boys about being a man of honour. He examined the influences on current manhood and ripped apart the negative views on young men. He spoke to the boys about addiction to drugs and alcohol. Glen tackled the rarely discussed area of a young male’s sexuality and the need to develop strong, long lasting relationships. The respect for the roles women play in our lives and the need to approach these relationships with maturity was a central focus of the presentation. At no stage did he patronise or belittle the boys. Glen presented a quote that summed this up - “Man is neither angel nor beast.” We don’t expect them to be angels, but we don’t expect them to be sub-human.

However, the overriding notion of the presentation was the extreme significance of our boys having a strong male role model in their lives. These role models won’t and shouldn’t come from television or a worshipped sporting team, but from those in direct contact with them.

The presentation gave the opportunity for the students to take something with them. Too often the motivating influence of speakers is lost once they have left the room. The students are able to keep in contact with Glen via Facebook, email or his website - www.oxygenfactory.com.au.

“We are born a male, but not all become a man” Glenn Gerreyn

**CITIZENSHIP CEREMONY APRIL SCHOOL HOLIDAYS**

Thank you very much to the following four Year 12 boys who took time out of their school holidays to attend the April Strathfield Citizenship ceremony at the Strathfield Town Hall on Thursday 12th April. Nirosan Jude John Peter, Richard Li, Johnny Chen and Saratchandra Panangipalli.

The event was another great success with a combination of delicious food to satisfy our new Citizens to our Community. I would like to thank those parents who contribute to our ceremonies throughout the year. Being a school holiday, this particular event was logistically challenging for food to be delivered to the school but monetary donations covered our costs and Homebush Boys were once again complimented on their gorgeous food and our fine young men who help on the night. We raised $500 for the school’s fundraising ventures. Well done boys and thank you parents.

Fiona Murray

Event Co-ordinator
Creative and Performing Arts

As we head towards the middle of the school year there have been some major achievements by Visual Arts and Music students at Homebush BHS. Firstly we would like to congratulate Alan Chen for having his artwork chosen for the Artexpress exhibition at the Armory Gallery at Sydney Olympic Park. Alan was among a select group of 70 HSC students that had their artwork on display. To be selected is a fantastic achievement, as there were some stunning artworks on display that reflects the high standard of work produced by the students.

Another outstanding achievement was Francis Shin’s amazing artwork which was selected for the cover of our school magazine. Francis is a very talented Visual Arts student and created the work in Yr 9. Francis looks to be on track to follow in the footsteps of previous senior students who have gone on reach high honors in Visual Arts.

Our school band was invited to perform at the OTEN Awards evening at Burwood RSL. The band led by Ms Tracy Burjan is gaining a solid reputation across the region as a class act and an appreciative audience warmly received them as they performed 6 pieces from their repertoire. In Visual Arts we had four students that had their artwork selected for the upcoming Operation Art exhibition, they were Daniel Choi, Baki Redzeposki, Dylan Tran of Yr 7 and Jason Park of Yr 8. Their artwork will be on display early next term at the Armory Gallery at Sydney Olympic Park. And finally we would all like to wish Mr Albertson a speedy recovery from a mild stroke and hope to see him back in Music next term.

K. Attwood
Head Teacher CAPA

Year 7 Vaccination

Parents please note that vaccination booklets have been issued to all Year 7 students. These must be completed. If you do not wish your son to participate you still need to indicate this on the forms. There are three forms to read and complete.

1. Hepatitis B Vaccination
2. Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis(dTpa) Vaccination
3. Chickenpox Vaccination
4. Forms must be completed and returned to school by the 8th June to the front office or the Deputy Principal, Mr Khurshed.

There will be two visits to complete the program.

The first on the 15th June, 2012 and 1st November 2012.
### SCHOOL CALENDAR 2012

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<thead>
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<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Year 7 &amp; 8 History Incursion - periods 1-6</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>ICAS Writing closing entries</td>
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<td>22</td>
<td>Computing Skills competition - ICAS</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>Sport - Round 5 Period Rotation 3,4,1,2</td>
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<td></td>
<td>24</td>
<td>YEAR 7, 2013 - Non-local offers conclude</td>
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<tr>
<td>May/June</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>ENGLISH WEEK STARTS</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>29</td>
<td>Year 10 English Incursion - 9.15 am</td>
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<td></td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Sport - Round 6 Period Rotation 1,2,3,4</td>
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<tr>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Year 7, 2013 Round 2 Non-local offers</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>YEAR 9 SCHOOL TO WORK Periods 1-4</td>
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<td></td>
<td>7</td>
<td>School Council Meeting (6pm)</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Sport - Round 7 Period Rotation 3,4,1,2</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>ICAS SCIENCE competition</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Year 7 Incursion - 9.30</td>
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<td></td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Year 10 Gifted and Talented All Day workshop - Art Rooms</td>
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<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>QUEEN’S BIRTHDAY HOLIDAY</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Year 9 Incursion 9:30am</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Sport - Round 8 Period Rotation 1,2,3,4</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Year 8 Gifted and Talented All Day workshop - Art Rooms</td>
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<td>Year 7 HEP B, Triple Antigen</td>
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<td>Zone Athletics Carnival - Homebush</td>
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<td>ICAS Writing competition</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>ICAS Spelling competition</td>
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<td>22</td>
<td>Sport - Round 9 Period Rotation 3,4,1,2</td>
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<tr>
<td>June/July</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Year 12 Western Sydney Careers Expo - Olympic Park</td>
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<td></td>
<td>26</td>
<td>Sport - Round 10 Period Rotation 1,2,3,4Recital Night &amp; Visual Arts Exhibition (6pm)</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>Selective Schools Offers</td>
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<td></td>
<td>28</td>
<td>ICAS English - closing entries 3rd July</td>
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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 Khurshed email address: kamie.kurshed@det.nsw.edu.au
PROFESSIONAL LEARNING AT HOMEBUSH BOYS HIGH SCHOOL

As Homebush Boys High School Head Teacher Teaching and Learning, I welcome the many new staff who has joined the ranks of those at the school and in particular the New Scheme Teachers. I have had the pleasure of working with, and assisting many, with both professional learning and completion of mandatory DEC/NSWIT T1 and T2 Reports and acknowledge the efforts of all staff in their continued involvement in professional learning.

All teaching staff at Homebush Boys High School have been involved in extensive professional learning activities conducted as part the schools formal Professional Learning Plans, Induction Programs and that of School Development Days. Much of the training has been linked to the DER/ICT area and has supported the schools investment in the area of Technology. Both internal and external providers have been engaged to deliver specialised training in Captivate, One-Note, Interactive White Board usage etc. just to name a few. Effective use of the lap-top in the classroom has been addressed for both staff and students.

Teachers have also indicated continued confidence in the implementation of NSW Literacy and Numeracy Policies and the awareness of the performance of the school in NAPLAN. Staff have worked on areas in literacy as identified in student cohorts to support NAPLAN results. The conducting of writing, reading and grammar sessions has provided targeted literacy support for students and invaluable teaching and learning staff discussions. Professional development of staff has also been conducted in the TELL course to support ESL students at the school and extend on staff teaching strategies.

In addition to the courses provided on a whole-school basis, a large number of staff attended both external and internal training based around individual and faculty priorities. This is linked to the goals determined by staff in their regular professional development sessions held with Head Teachers as part of the normal supervisory process. Furthermore, team meetings, conducted on a rotational system, have supported whole school DEC priority areas and individual staff professional development needs.

Congratulations to the many New Scheme Teachers who have successfully undertaken an intensive professional development program in line with the NSW Institute of Teachers Standards of Professional Practice and have engaged in both internal and external professional development activities. I am proud to state that all staff has successfully been awarded DEC/NSWIT T1/T2 report certificates.

I wish to personally congratulate all staff on their continued professional learning, engagement in self-reflection practices and for the work that they have done over the years.

Thank you to all whole school community personnel, C4E cluster schools, DEC HR Unit/Professional Learning and Leadership Development Directorate and Ms Veronica Kapsimali, School Education Director, for ensuring that professional learning is of a valuable experience and the successful awarding of T1/T2 report certificates.

Head Teacher Teaching & Learning
Ms Suzi Milovanovic

New scheme teachers Mr Achmad, Ms Kench, Ms Willis and Ms Fattouh

Ms Su with Mr Achmad, Mr Carrozza and Ms Kench

Mr Adrian Pisani with his certificate
World Challenge Training Expedition

In December this year, Song Lin Wu (Yr11), Poshen Wang (Yr 10), Deren Mehmet (Yr 10), Bilal El- Sayed (Yr 10), Alex Flinn (Yr 10), Lukas Sorenson (Yr 10) and Lachlan Mackintosh (Year 10) will travel to Malaysia and spend a month performing a variety tasks under the guise of World Challenge Expeditions. The first week will be dedicated to getting to know the country. The second week is committed to a trek through the jungle. Week 3 is perhaps the most important. This is where the boys give their time to a charity organisation and assist with maintenance, cleaning and day to day running of the organisation. The fourth week will be allocated for rest and relaxation.

What makes this trip different is that these seven boys will be responsible for everything they do. They must organise transport, accommodation, food, medical needs and the all-important budget. They must be prepared for any situation that may arise whilst 'in-country'.

In preparation for this trip, the boys undertook a 2 day hike in the Kuringai National park, North of Sydney. A group of students was made responsible for the food to be taken, another the transport from Hornsby to our start site. The trek begun at Mt Kuringai train station, down to a picnic area by Berowra Creek on day 1. The group learnt about water management, sanitation, river crossings, logistics and some basic emergency first aid.

In camp, a major focus was food preparation, under the ethos of ‘leave no trace’ camping (there should be no sign of the campers after they leave). A beautiful Laksa was prepared and devoured. Each student played their role- making it obvious that if any student fails in their role, so will the team. Games were played and a serious discussion about the December trip was undertaken. Concerns were aired, with our guide more than happy to share his vast array of knowledge from many previous expeditions. They examined some gear and developed some plans.

Day 2 began at 6 am, with a breakfast of noodles (as is the norm in Malaysia). They broke camp and begun the 14km hike up to Hornsby. Along the way, the students were introduced to some more valuable knowledge about Malaysia and some skills necessary for survival in the jungle. At the first break point, the group was showing fatigue, but excellent cohesion. They had developed some systems to ensure all the group were in contact and all were involved (however, following their own systems proved difficult at times).

Lunch was a short stop by a creek. Then a march up hill to the back of Hornsby. On arrival close to the end point, a discussion and demonstration was held about what to expect in Malaysia and what will be needed. A simulation of arriving at the airport was carried out. This demonstrated to the boys that preparation before arrival is key in preventing bags and money going missing. Each person has to play their role.

Up 260 steps through the bush, along some roads and back to Hornsby CBD. The students were tired, but in good spirits. They hiked a total of 21kms and formed a strong group. They learnt a lot more about each other and themselves. The trek played a pivotal role in preparing the students for the absolutely massive undertaking of travelling to Malaysia.

Mr Jonathon Sculthorpe, Head Teacher PDHPE
English Report

Like every year, the English Faculty is the focus of the whole school community this term with the English Week activities. By now your son will have enjoyed a drama activity with his year cohort. These activities help your son to understand the importance of English and communication in the curriculum.

Each student in years 7 to 11 will have had the opportunity to experience live theatre during late-May and early-June. These performances were chosen to facilitate each year’s interest and needs. The performances ranged from the hilariously upbeat Mates production for Year 7 to the satirical tones of the nationally renowned satirical poet Steven Herrick who shared his work with Year 11. Other events include the English, Writing and Spelling competitions. I am pleased that the vast majority of students participated in some of these activities.

Some of the debating teams are in the midst of their competitions. We have 6 teams competing in their respective competitions. We wish them well and I would like to send out a big thank you to Ms Porteous, Ms McGuinness, Ms Mirkova and Ms Yong for the countless hours they put into coaching the boys, organising debates against other schools and the immense travel necessary to make the competition possible.

The school entered 2 teams in the Model United Nations Assembly (MUNA) on May 26 and 27 at Penrith High School. The 2 teams represented Cuba (junior team) and Australia (seniors). They utilised their public speaking and persuasive skills very well. We wish both teams well in this competition and I thank them all for their efforts and hard work. Thank you to the parents for transporting the students. As well, a big thanks to Strathfield and Concord Rotary clubs for their continual endorsement and support.

The HSC courses are nearing the last Module in every course. I would like to ask for your support in reinforcing the importance for Year 12 students attending school between the trial HSC and the end of term 3. This may seem a long time in the future but I can assure you it will come around very quickly. It is critical that students continue to attend all their English classes and complete the revision and exam practice sessions. Experience has constantly demonstrated to me that a student who works very hard and attempts as many exam type responses achieves so much better HSC results.

Upcoming activities your son can be involved in include the English Competition, Public Speaking competitions and the Premier’s Reading Challenge (years 7, 8 and 9). Your son can ask his English teacher for more details.

Just a quick reminder about the importance of every student maintaining a regular reading programme at home. A minimum of 30 minutes every afternoon/evening is vital. You can set a good example and do the same. As well, by asking your son to tell you about what he is reading is a crucial part in helping him improve his English skills. Furthermore, to help students have access to good literature and raise funds for a worthwhile charity, we held the Great Book Sales earlier this term. The second Great Book Sale will be on Thursday 14 June (week 8). All money raised will go to the Indigenous Literacy Foundation. So far, the school has raised about $2000 for this charity over the past 18 months.

Mr Cheiban Elaro
English Head of Department

Paper Airplanes....
an educational strategy!!

Ms Ball’s year 10 English class discovers that making paper airplanes doesn’t always get you in trouble. Students made and threw the planes around the classroom to inspire vocabulary which revolved around the theme of ‘flight’, which is the trigger for this year’s Sydney Morning Herald Young Writers Competition. The students found the interactive lesson enjoyable and also surprisingly educational, with many ideas ‘flying’ through their creative minds.

Ms. G. Ball
English Teacher
Library News

The library has had a busy start to the year with changes to staff, procedures and now furniture. Since my arrival at the beginning of the year I have enjoyed the opportunity to get to know many of the boys, especially the time I have been able to spend with Year 7 (and some of the older boys) learning about what they enjoy reading.

The Library has also taken on a new look in recent weeks with the installation of a new Circulation Desk. It provides a more effective working space as well as presenting a positive image of the library to all users. A display stand promoting fiction titles has also been established. It is being used to highlight books in the Premier’s Reading Challenge (PRC) as well as new books.

Continuing the theme of the PRC – let me encourage all students in Years 7-9 to get involved. It simply involves reading good books. The challenge is to read 20 books by August. Any titles read since January this year can be included. There are thousands of titles in the list, many of which are available in our library. Books can be easily identified in the HBHS Library by the PRC sticker on the spine or by looking on the Enquiry Terminals. Students who are not yet registered can visit Library Staff where we will be happy to show boys how to register and where to find some of the great books to read for the challenge.

Now the changes to procedures – with changes to technology, it is time to change the way some things happen. Photocopying and printing is now linked together. Each student has a printing account (for both computer printing and photocopying), which was credited with $5 from their school contributions. Once this money is used, students will need to pay for additional credit. This will be carried out through the library, with students needing to make a $5 deposit (minimum). Students will need to bring their money and ID card for their accounts to be credited. Their ID card will also be needed for students to be able to access the school photocopier. Library staff will assist students as they learn the new procedures.

All students will be issued with new ID cards shortly (except Year 7 who have already received theirs). These cards will be required to not only borrow books from the library but also for printing, photocopying and to identify students for administration purposes in the school. It is vital that students, once issued with their new card, keep them safe and with them every day at school. Lost cards will need to be replaced at a cost to the student.

Last announcement for the moment – Reserving books. Many students have indicated frustration at not finding the book they want because someone else has already borrowed it. A new system is being put into place that will allow students to reserve items they wish to read. More details will be revealed in the next issue.

Until next time Happy Reading

Ms P. Vine

Teacher-Librarian / HT Administration

Richard and Panayoti lend a hand to promote that very special day, being Mothers Day.
LANGUAGES OTHER THAN ENGLISH FACULTY REPORT

Expectations are high...

As I walk around the Language corridor, it is obvious that many LOTE students are working hard to maintain the high expectations we demand and achieving course outcomes. All students have either had or are currently undergoing Mid-Year examinations. Some students have produced excellent results and I would like to congratulate Burney Wong and James Ford (Year 11 Italian Continuers) for achieving above 90% in their Semester 1 reports. Reports will be distributed soon and I encourage all parents to attend the respective evenings and see the LOTE teachers, to discuss their son’s progress and discuss strategies to improve on Semester 1 performances. The LOTE faculty is expecting big things from its boys in 2012. I urge all parents to communicate with their boys and make sure they stay focussed and are completing all required homework and assignments.

Year 9 & Year 11 Korean students, Year 9, 11 and 12 Chinese students and Year 11 Italian students have embraced EDMODO- a social learning network for teachers, students and parents. EDMODO is an ICT initiative adopted by the LOTE faculty. Mrs Gilchrist, Ms Su and Ms Yu are enjoying using this “wall” type system (similar to Facebook), to post classwork, homework tasks, notes and to alert students of links to curriculum material, assessment notifications and certain files that may be useful reading, listening or reflective material. Does all this mean the teacher is obsolete in the classroom? Definitely NOT!! Students in Stage 5 & 6 LOTE Courses are being encouraged to use EDMODO to complete class work, reply & discuss issues pertaining to course materials and even turn in digital assignments. So parents-please be aware that your son MAY be doing his LOTE homework if you see him constantly in front of his computer. Soon, the students will be bringing home a letter outlining the LOTE Faculty Policy on EDMODO, security concerns and how it is to be implemented in and outside our classrooms. One of its many appealing features is its ability to keep all students informed of course work, even if they are absent or on extended leave. No longer is there an issue of not been aware! And YES, parents can also be involved and will soon be asked to join “class groups” to track their son’s Language work and progress. More to come on this matter!

A New face in the LOTE staffroom is the young Miss Gilbert, who is currently working with Mrs Gilchrist & Mrs Gabor. Miss Gilbert is from the University of Technology Sydney and is undergoing her Bachelor of Secondary Teaching. As a pre-service teacher, Miss Gilbert will be working in Stage 3 & 4 Italian and French classes. She brings with her youth, enthusiasm and a passion for teaching. I am certain her students will show her the respect and welcoming attitude HBHS is renowned for.

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.

As I have mentioned previously, we have been extremely fortunate to have Ms Yu, our Stage 5 & 6 Korean teacher with us this year. Ms Yu has also contributed to this bulletin, as a way of introducing herself to HBHS parents and setting her expectations and hopes for Korean studies at our school. Together with Mrs Maria Hong (our Korean Liaison Officer), we are making an impact on the school lives of our Korean LOTE students.

The LOTE faculty continues to award HT LOTE Awards to students who have achieved excellence in their Language classes. Three (3) certificates and the student will receive a special award at Presentation Evening in December. Congratulations to the following Year 8 French students who have received awards so far this term.

### Head Teacher LOTE Award - Term 2.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Student</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Christopher Standard</td>
<td>8 French G</td>
<td>9/5/12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Toee Naing</td>
<td>8 French G</td>
<td>9/5/12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vincent Nguyen</td>
<td>8 French G</td>
<td>9/5/12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yakub Tanrisever</td>
<td>8 French G</td>
<td>9/5/12</td>
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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.

• Year 12 Italian and Chinese students should constantly be checking the BOS website for information pertaining to HSC 2012. The HSC 2012 Timetable is currently available.

• All students must come to class ready and willing to work and with a positive attitude to learning.

• The LOTE Faculty aims to provide quality teaching & learning to all its students and will not tolerate inappropriate behaviours that disrupt the learning of others.

• 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. LOTE classrooms are environments 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.

Mrs Matina Shadwick  Head of LOTE Faculty
A little note from Ms Yu, our new Korean Teacher........

Boys, boys, boys!! Boys everywhere!! That was my very first impression of HBHS.

I have worked in primary school, Saturday schools of community languages and Open high school for the last 11 years, teaching Korean from Kindergarten to HSC level. So it is not as if I haven’t had any experience dealing with high school students but still walking among big boys can be a daunting task.

I am currently working at Carlingford West primary school 3 days a week, Tuesdays to Thursdays and Saturdays at Strathfield Centre of SSCL. I still remember the first day I started teaching in kindergarten classes. Back then I was so worried whether I would step on children’s toes with my platform shoes. Now I need them to navigate my way through corridors.

Big changes, big challenges, and big accomplishments. This is what I aim to achieve at HBHS. Staff members always make me feel welcome and have been very kind by directing me to the right places. Big boys can be charming when they say hello and smile.

I am privileged to work at this school, with very supportive and dedicated colleagues in the LOTE faculty. I am extremely lucky to work with such enthusiastic boys in my classes. I know I have just embarked on an exciting and exhilarating adventure. I can’t wait to see what the future holds for me at HBHS.

남학생, 남학생, 남학생. 여기저기 모두 남학생 뿐. 이것이 홈부시 남자 고등학교에 대한 저의 첫인상이었습니다.

유치부부터 HSC 수준까지 지난 11년 동안 초등학교, 토요학교, Open하이에서 한국어를 가르쳐 왔습니다. 고등학교 학생을 다루어 본 경험이 없지 않는 나이지만 아무래도 덩치 큰 남자아이들 사이를 걷는다는 것은 쉬운 일이 아닐 뿐입니다.

현재 저는 화요일, 수요일, 목요일 주 3일 칼링포드 웨스트 초등학교에서, 토요일은 토요학교 스트라스필드 센터에서 근무하고 있습니다. 제가 처음 교직을 시작해 유치부 반에 들어갔을 때를 아직도 기억합니다. 그때는 높은 급의 신을 신어서 조그마한 아이들 발가락을 밟을까 걱정하였습니다. 하지만 이제는 복도를 맨대로 지나다니려면 급 높은 신이 필요하게 되었습니다.

 큰 변화, 큰 도전, 큰 성취감. 이것이 제가 지향하는 것들입니다. 모든 교직원 여러분이 항상 환영해 주시고 친절하게 적절한 장소로 저를 안내해 주십니다. 또 큰 남자아이들도 미소 지으며 인사를 건네면 귀엽기까지 합니다.

적극 도움 주시고 헌신적인 여러 언어 선생님들과 같이 이 학교에서 일할 수 있어 감사합니다. 또 우리 반 학생들처럼 열성적인 학생들과 공부할 수 있어서 아주 행운입니다. 저는 이제 막 아주 총미로운 여행을 시작했습니다. 홈부시 남자 고등학교에서 어떤 미래가 펼쳐질지 몰시 기대됩니다.
Nine students sat for 2011 HSC Chinese Background Speakers (CBS) exam. Six students received a Band 4; three students received a Band 3. For six of the students it was their best result; for three it was third best or equal third best; for one it was his best by 10 marks.

There are eleven students who study CBS course this year. When I took over the class at the beginning of 2011, it was noted after a series of diagnostic test that majority of this particular group of students was far behind across four languages skills. Last week they sat for the mid-course exam. Their overall results are promising. Two boys aim to achieve Band 6 in HSC exam.

Common weaknesses in the mid-course exam included problems with written expression, sequencing and the development of ideas; incorrect use of characters; idiomatic expression and syntax; poor time management; and poor legibility. After giving the feedbacks to the students, we discussed that how they improve the results in HSC examination. Students are advised to read the questions carefully and to consider the contemporary issues and text types to which the questions are linked. They are also reminded to avoid using words and expressions with which they are unfamiliar and those of a colloquial nature inappropriate to the task. Students are reminded that they should allocate their time wisely to avoid abruptly short or incomplete responses.

To summarise, students are encouraged to make a new study plan: familiarise with prescribed texts, read Chinese newspapers, watch/listen Chinese news, practise the past HSC papers and complete all set work on time. I hope and also believe that these boys will achieve more promising and prosperous results in HSC 2012.

A note from Ms Su...Chinese HSC 2011 & 2012
Homebush first grade Rugby team were presented with their jersey’s on the school assembly.

Homebush first grade Football team were presented with their jersey’s on the school assembly.
2012 Silver laptop Remediation

Due to a LCD cable and fan fault with the 2012 Student devices (Silver Laptops) technicians had to visit schools to check and repair all laptops across the state. The visit here at Homebush was on Monday 7th of May and we had started collecting laptops two weeks prior to that date in order to ensure no students miss out on this free inspection/repair.

Here at Homebush among other schools were able to get 100% of the laptops back, checked and repaired but this could not have been possible without the help of Greg Sheath (our comp Co-ordinator and HT of Computing) and our Stephan Madyski (Yr9 Year Advisor).

The remediation technicians worked tirelessly in the 4 days they were here to check and repair over 200 laptops. All laptops have been checked and repaired and are ready to be handed back to the students.

A few photos taken of the technicians working on our 2012 silver laptops.

Socceroo Captain Motivates Students

Former Socceroo Captain of Australia Paul Wade was invited to our school at the end of term 1 to give a motivational talk to our Yr12 students. Paul went through the ups and downs of his football career where the highlight for him was to play against the mighty Argentina side in a World Cup decider, which included one the all-time great players in Diego Maradonna. Paul had the unenviable task of marking Maradonna on that occasion which he did to his credit.

During his presentation to the students he also spoke about his own personal struggles in dealing with epilepsy which has given him a completely different perspective and experience with people living with disabilities. The students were captivated by Paul's passionate and positive attitude to life in the challenges and triumphs he has faced.

Paul addresses the students and with Yr12 students and their Year Adviser Ms Chapman, Paul Wade, Deputy Principal Mr Kurshed and Careers Adviser Ms Anton
It has been an extremely busy start to the term for sport at the BUSH! Our winter season has kicked off and we have held our Annual School Athletics Carnival and School Cross Country Carnival. There have also been several boys who have excelled at a regional and CHS level.

The school cross country carnival was run at a new venue this year at Bicentennial Park and was a successful afternoon. A big thankyou to Mr Sculthorpe who organised this great afternoon and there is a full report of the carnival in this edition of the Bush Bulletin.

Our 70th Annual School Athletics carnival was held on Monday the 30th of April at the Sydney Olympic Park Athletics Centre. The weather on the day was fantastic and the participation and behaviour of all the boys was a credit to themselves and the school. Hayes was the champion house on the day narrowly defeating Vaughn. Congratulations to the following age champions:

12 years - BAMRARA, Dhruv
13 years - CHEN, David
14 years - BUTLER, Jeremy
15 years - FULLER, Dylan
16 years - SUKIRTHAN, Libeesan
17+ years - FURNEAUX-BATE, Dominic

The top ten competitors from each age group represented Homebush at the Zone Cross Country on the 11th of May with some notable individual performances. Well done to Dominic Furneaux-Bate who finished 2nd in the 18 years event, Simon Monro and Kaya Bremner who finished 2nd and 3rd respectively in the 14 years and Cory Jnr Sharma-Constance who finished 3rd in the 12 years. Our overall position on the day was a disappointing fifth.

Our knockout teams have been performing well with the volleyball and football being knocked out in the regional semi-finals and our 1st Grade basketball team still in their competition with a regional final in the next week against arch rivals North Sydney Boys. Good luck to Mr Carrozza and his team in that match.

We have had several students make representative honours this term. Congratulations to Jonah Bolden who was selected in the CHS basketball team that will play in the Australian Schoolboys Championships in Melbourne. Jonah was also voted player of the CHS tournament, a tremendous achievement. Brian Griffin-Colls and Jai Ivelja represented Sydney North at the recent CHS football carnival in Camden and finished 5th overall. Also a special mention to the large contingent of boys who will be representing the school at the CHS rugby carnival in late May, good luck to Perrin Tasker, Riley Tasker, Nyrangi Winitana, Reece Illiohia and Josh Tonpi.

There have been other fantastic achievements with Basel Rana being accepted into the NSWIS weightlifting program and Michael Napoli representing NSWIS at the Australian Gymnastics championships in early June in the field of Trampolining. Well done to both of these fine athletes.

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
School cross-country

Running any distance past 400m can be a daunting prospect. It can be gruelling, painful and sometimes embarrassing. However, it can also be a challenge. It can be liberating and it can be enjoyable.

Running is an activity that humans can naturally perform. We need little equipment and little or no training. It is cheap and accessible to most people.

For a large part of Term 1, the PDHPE department focused on athletics and in particular, running. We looked at technique for sprinting and contrasted this to the technique of long distance running. We played games and performed tasks that challenged every student to work at their peak. We also endeavoured to motivate the students to find in running the sense of freedom that comes when moving across the ground in a regular rhythm; listening to your own breathing and feeling your heart pump blood to your working muscles. We enjoyed the sense of achievement after completing a running task and took note of the satisfying feeling that your body gets after exerting itself through physical activity.

This led into the cross-country carnival on Friday 27th April. A new track and a new format. The event took place in the idyllic setting of Bicentennial Park in Homebush. Running through the trees, away from polluting cars and with their friends, about 500 students put themselves through the challenge of running the 4km track.

Some managed the full distance. Some went the wrong way. However, in the end, they ran! Congratulations to all the participants in the cross-country. It is just another avenue that students can display their strength and courage and set out to achieve a goal.

Support Zhi’s Ride To Conquer Cancer

On October the 13th this year Zhi Ma, an ex-student of Homebush BHS, will join a bike ride to raise money for the Chris O’Brien Life House. This Life House is a non-profit cancer treatment centre. The ride is 200 kilometres over two days. You can find more information at

Tim Cahill’s Surprise Visit to Watch 1st Grade Football Team

Tim Cahill shocked the 1st Grade Football team last Wednesday the 23rd of May, when he turned up to offer some pre-game advice and then stuck around to watch the team in action against rivals Randwick Boys. Cahill promoting the game of football through his sponsor Weetbix watched the entire game with eager eyes and was pleasantly surprised with the quality of football played by the Homebush Boys.

Tim was positive with the boys at half-time and expressed the need for faster movement of the ball and the importance of getting the ball into wide areas. The boys took on his advice and turned a 2-2 half time score line to a dominating 6-2 victory over opponents Randwick Boys.

Tim voted Year 9 student Harry Griffin-Colls as his man of the match. Tim was impressed with his calm nature and ability to control the game from midfield, particularly in the first half. Cahill presented a special award to Ricky Fradel for using his goal celebration after scoring a goal in the first half of the match. All boys were presented with a personally signed picture of Tim and he also signed two items that will go for auction at the schools trivia night later in the year.

A big thankyou to Tim Cahill for this amazing experience for the students and his sponsors Weetbix for organising the opportunity for the boys to meet one of the greatest players to put on the green and gold shirt for the Socceroos.