International Women's Day Breakfast
International Women’s Day Breakfast
The 10th annual International Women’s Day Breakfast was held on 7th March at Asquith Girls High School. This is our eleventh year supporting our sister school “Abdara Girls” in Panjshir Valley, Afghanistan. The day is dedicated to acknowledging the importance of women in society, the theme for 2014 was “Inspiring Change”. The event was organised by the Social Justice Team, while the breakfast was catered by the Year 11 Hospitality class. We were privileged to have over 200 attendees.

It is vital for us to learn how women have changed not only their own worlds but broader society. They inspire us to strive for continual progress with their tales of battling against prejudice and inequality to help the good of humanity.

We were fortunate enough to have Bernadette Berlyn from the League of Extraordinary Women as one of our guest speakers at the breakfast who told us of her inspiring tale of how she changed her life after she lost her friend to a cycling accident. Berlyn decided to honour her friend’s life by not only completing multiple charitable triathlons but also has joined the CEO Sleep Out for numerous years and has raised thousands in support for the homeless. In addition she also started up a foundation of her own called Coats for Sydney to honour her friend’s life. The Coats for Sydney project aims to provide every homeless person in Sydney with a coat. Bernadette’s achievements have been an inspiration for many who seek to volunteer.

We were also honoured to have Mahboba Rawi, the founder of Mahboba’s Promise. As a young individual, Mahboba joined campaigns to fight for her rights to education, however, she was forced to flee Kabul because of the threat of imprisonment. She walked for several days to reach from one country to another to flee persecution. She later married and moved to Australia. It was the tragedy of losing her son in 1992 in Kiama at the Blowhole that triggered her desire to fight for the basic rights for children and women. Since then she has been successful in raising money and awareness for the girls of Afghanistan. With the help of her friend she was able to build the first school ever in Panjshir Valley, and also in the process of building another 12 schools around the region.

She thanks Asquith Girls for their contribution to her foundation. We hope to continue supporting and providing Abdara Girls School, our sister school, with resources to help them continue changing the lives of the Panjshir Valley People.

We would like to thank all our guests for attending and supporting our charity event and the companies that sponsored our breakfast. A special thanks to Hornsby North Public School, Asquith Boys, Cherrybrook Technology, Normanhurst Boys and Hornsby Girls for supporting this charity event each year.

Alanna Jordison & Leila Frijat - Year 12

From the Deputy’s desk:
First term has seen lots of activity across the school as you can see further in this newsletter. It is always a pleasure to have the opportunity to meet parents and community members at lots of these functions.

As the weather is turning cooler students will need a school jumper to remain warm. They must be the green knitted jumper from Lowes (not a sweatshirt) or a cotton knitted variety is available from the school uniform shop. Winter uniform is to be worn from the commencement of term 2. Years 9 and 10 are permitted to wear their sports uniform to and from school on a Monday. However they must be in full correct sports uniform (leggings are not permitted). If they do not have full sport uniform they should wear their school uniform to and from school and get changed into sports attire for their sport activity.

We have had issues with students being dropped off and picked up at the school gates in Baldwin and Stokes Avenues. In Baldwin Ave please do not pull into the school driveway to turn around as this is in constant use by staff and delivery trucks and additional vehicles create a very unsafe area for your daughters. In Stokes Ave please avoid making a U turn right in front of the school. We are all concerned that we manage these areas for the safety of everyone.

Earlier this term notes have been sent home regarding acceptable use of computer technology, permission to publish, update of medical information and information on the parent portal. These notes need to be signed and returned to school via the front office. We appreciate that everyone is busy but this paperwork is vital to the smooth running of the school and providing your daughter with the best learning opportunities available. Return of this paperwork as soon as possible would be much appreciated.

I will take this opportunity to wish you all a safe and restful holiday break.

Karen Di Stefano

2014 - Asquith Girls HS - developing high achieving young women who are responsible and independent leaders and learners
Community Forum ‘2020 Vision’

As Educators, Parents, Caregivers and students, we often discuss or have been asked just how much education has changed. Even though we’re all quite aware of the many changes – are we really aware of the largest change? The most influential attributor shaping today’s educational landscape? Many believe technology, administrative processes, curriculum and the social role of education are the fundamental changes. Others believe the relationship between schools, home and the community which has evolved into a learning community.

May 20 is a very important date for our learning community. On this date Students, Parents, Caregivers, Teachers and community members will meet in a round table discussion to share views, propose ideas and collectively define and chart the future academic roadmap of Asquith Girls High school.

An invitation letter will be sent by post in the next few days, inviting all stakeholders to participate in this important event. The invitation will include meeting agenda details and participation forms.

Why your involvement matters

Firstly, because change is the distinctive trait of our times! The only thing sure of not changing is change. We did not invent change, it is the result of progress and it can be traced back through the ages in the history of mankind. The switch from hunting-gathering to agricultural societies was change; the introduction of literacy to the Renaissance was a change. These changes, however, took a long time then, a lifetime in some cases. This is not the case today. In our modern world, change is occurring many times during our lifetime. We are regularly asked to give up our “old” ideas and habits in order to adapt to the new, to the better, to the changes brought about by mankind’s innate need to create. We have to learn anew, not just fall back on what we were taught.

We live in a world that is changing faster than the world our parents and ancestors knew, and given that this progress will continue, the speed of change will be even faster for our children and our grandchildren. We cannot therefore remain spectators; we must respond to the challenges of our time and collectively empower our children to manage and excel in this ever changing world.

Secondly, because decades of research have shown that when parents are involved students have:

- Better academic results.
- Better school attendance.
- Increased motivation, better self-esteem.
- Lower rates of suspension.
- Decreased use of drugs and alcohol.
- Fewer instances of violent behavior.

Family participation in education was twice as predictive of students’ academic success as family socioeconomic status. Some of the more intensive programs had effects that were 10 times greater than other factors. The more intensely parents are involved, the more beneficial the achievement effects. The more parents participate in schooling, in a sustained way, at every level the better for student achievement.

I urge all of our school community to participate since the outcomes of this discussion will help to chart an academic direction that will empower our girls to meet and exceed 21st century challenges.

Annual School Report

The 2013 Annual School Report is now available on the school website.

Parents/Caregivers can ask for a hard copy of the Annual School Report by submitting their request in writing to the school’s Administration Office.

Elizabeth Amvrazis
Principal
Invitation
Asquith Girls High School Community Forum
‘2020 Vision’

Date: 20 May, 2014
Time: 6:00pm for 6:30 pm start

Parents/Caregivers, Students, Staff and the Wider Community
Have a voice
Participate
Contribute

chart an academic direction that meet and exceed 21st century challenges
Is your School Is our Community Make a difference

New Shelters in Year 12 Garden
The beautification of the school grounds continued on Thursday with the official handing over of 4 shelters in the Year 12 area.

These were built by construction students of Hornsby TAFE under the guidance of Rob Brown. These students learn and demonstrate competencies that enable them to find an apprenticeship and a job. The 14 students were joined by family members and TAFE executive for a barbecue and presentation.

We will be continuing the community of schools projects next term with the construction of 4 more shelters in the Year 12 area.
**Camp Report**

**Archery**
On the 24 February year 7 went on camp. My group’s second activity was Archery. We had to learn how to use a bow and arrow and how to use them safely. We all got given a number which signified the group we would fire in. There were 5 firing stations to shoot from and 5 targets to aim for. We were given 3 arrows to each station and a bow for each station but if you were left handed you had to walk and get the left handed bow from the cabinet near station 5. After we had all rotated through the groups once, we started doing challenges. The first challenge was called ‘First Date’. We had three arrows; our first one would determine who we would go out with, the second was the location of our date and the third, how we would get there. The person, location and vehicle were all determined by where we hit on the target or if we hit it at all. I ended up going to the Tip in a wheelbarrow with Kevin Rudd, I wasn’t very happy about it. The second game we played was what I liked to call ‘The Cutlery Game’. This time we only got 2 arrows, the first was our knife and the second was our fork. If we hit the target with our first (knife) arrow we could use it for dinner that night and if we hit the target using our second (fork) arrow we could use it to eat dinner. However if we didn’t hit the target with one of them we couldn’t use that piece of cutlery to eat dinner with that night! Our instructor was nice enough that if we got our knife she would let us exchange it for a fork to eat our spaghetti bolognaise with.

**County Fair**
On the first night of camp we had ‘County Fair’ after dinner. We got into teams and we had to run a shop or game each. We had fake money but real products and the team with the most money at the end of the night got to go first to pick a prize... BUT there was a catch! Not all the prizes were good, some were unwanted by all. Some of the stalls were: The Bakery, Bungee Run, Inflatable Basketball, The Milkshake Stand, The Fairy Floss Stand and many more. My team was running Inflatable Basketball. It was so much fun. There were two hoops; the prices were 10 shots for $2 or 15 shots for $3. I was the banker and kept a count of the money we won, which was a total of $2222! Our prize was a good one; we got to pick one of the instructors to wear their pyjamas the next day.

Overall camp was fun and all of the instructors were really friendly. I had a great time and I will defiantly remember my Year 7 camp as an awesome one.

-Emily Duff 7A

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**THE AWESOMENESS OF YEAR 7 CAMP**

Oh my goodness I’ve got camp next week!! Do you even realise how exciting that is? We have already had our camp and it was absolutely amazing. You get to do loads of fun things like a disco, challenge ropes, giant swing. The first day we got there we were like OMG this is going to be soooo epic. The instructors there are so cool and up to date they know every comeback that we know.

We got split up into 6 groups. The instructor’s names were Jack, Turtle, Rose, Shanie, Susie and Shannon. Some groups had mud world first and some had water activities but my group had challenge ropes first. It was so fun and a little scary. There were different kinds of challenges and then when you finished all the challenges you had to go on a flying fox. No one from our group stopped in the middle, well some girls were saying that they wanted to but then their partners cheered them up and said “you can do it come on give it a go”. I was one of the girls who had difficulties on the 2nd last challenge. There were gaps in the middle of small logs and when they moved it felt like… WERE DEAD. This was a great experience for me because I was really scared of heights and look at me know. There is absolutely no fear of jumping down a cliff. Well that was my (khushee) favourite activity. I had another favourite one but my partner Jillian will explain to you what it is.

Kushee Gupta

Hi guys! Today I will be talking about how much fun I had on the giant swing! I was in group 3 and we went on the giant swing on the last day of camp. The giant swing is two posts about 15 meters high and they are connected by a elastic wire that you get connected to, and then everybody else pulls a rope that pulls you up. I was so scared about doing the giant swing! It was so high up and I had a fear of heights. When I saw the first person get strapped in and then pulled up and I was so scared. I was the third last to go. I got strapped into my full body harness, climbed the ladder and up I went. This was the moment of truth. I reached the top and my leader told me to pull the green ball, so I did. And off I went! I came down screaming and swinging back and forth. The giant swing was truly life changing fun! Two people in my group did not go on and I was so proud of myself that I was not one of them! So this concludes the article on the year 7 camp and if you ever get the chance to go to the active learning centre in Morisset you should not let it go! Thanks from Khushee and Jillian both in year 7.

Jillian Edwards

2014 - Asquith Girls HS - developing high achieving young women who are responsible and independent leaders and learners
Earth Hour Breakfast

On Tuesday 18 March, AGHS Environment Prefects (Brooke Kelly, Wana Omid and Peace T’ullayaporn) along with supervising teacher, Mr D. Andrews, attended an Earth Hour Breakfast held at St Ignatius College in Riverview. The breakfast was run by the St Ignatius Environment Team and included presentations from Chris Andrews-Habitat the Game and Engineers Without Borders. The purpose of this event was to combine passionate students from public, private and primary schools around Sydney for an environmental seminar in light of Earth Hour on Sunday March 30.

The breakfast presented many new ideas for our Environment Team to consider, mostly in the form of learning what other schools had achieved during their time as Environment leaders. Asquith’s contribution to this collaboration of ideas included our social media initiative for Clean-up Australia Day, the re-design the recycling bin competition, new environment notice board, Mobile Muster and presentation of certificates to Hornsby TAFE construction students for our new outdoor learning area.

The breakfast proved to be a highly informative and enjoyable event and our Team have brought back many new ideas to implement as soon as possible. If any students are interested in joining the team, meetings are held in Art Room 1 at Wednesday lunch. All are welcome.

Brooke Kelly  Yr 12

Special Presentation

At the beginning the year, a special presentation day was conducted at Epping Boys High School specifically for high school teachers and other staff members to learn about how to improve learning outcomes for hearing impaired students in mainstream classrooms. The aim of this presentation was to provide an inclusive approach to teaching high school students who are hearing impaired.

Each year, we like to invite some students and their parents along to give them an opportunity to let their teachers know what it is like growing up and going to school with a hearing impairment. I am pleased to say that on 12th March 2014, our Year 9 student, Rachel Maree Taylor, accepted this opportunity to have her say. Additionally, another Year 9 student Zakariya Belkadi and his mum, came to speak on behalf of Asquith Boys High School.

I am pleased to say that Rachel, Zak and his mum gave excellent speeches to our high school teachers and staff. The students took time to prepare their speeches very carefully, knowing that they would be reading them out to an adult audience. The student’s parents were so proud of how well each student was able to present their public speaking skills, as were all the presentation participants. Zak and Rachel have made an exemplary example of representing their respective schools at this annual event.

Marion Teichert
Itinerant Support Teacher (Hearing)
Year 9 Geography Excursion to Cabramatta

On the 14 March 2014 all the Year 9 geography classes set off on an excursion to Cabramatta to discover and learn about the Vietnamese community and culture. We met up at Hornsby War Memorial, bought train tickets, marked the roll and then hopped onto a train. We got off at Strathfield station and then got onto another train which took us straight to Cabramatta.

Once we arrived at Cabramatta, everyone went for a little wander around the area. It was very interesting seeing everyone connecting in some sort of way and being their own community. All the people there were very friendly and it was very interesting exploring the different places and shops. We saw and observed many grocery stores that were selling unusual fruits such as dragon fruit, custard apple and many more. We also smelt the amazing aroma of traditional Vietnamese cuisine coming from different restaurants. Many clothing and cheap items were being sold at different stores. This is also another way how people connect by visiting shops regularly and meeting each other. Many of us even got the opportunity to try different Vietnamese foods which was a great experience to try something new. We also visited a pet shop that had massive fish tanks with a broad variety of different fish. We also saw cute little bunnies and we all had the desire to take them home.

After walking around many shops we also stopped at a temple which was a great experience. We learnt how Vietnamese people prayed to the Buddha and how they give fruit as an offering. There was also a rule that we had to take off our shoes before entering the temple. This shows a sign of respect and courtesy to the Buddha. It also taught me how Vietnamese people are very devoted and loving to Buddha. After the temple visit we continued to examine and explore more shops around the area. We passed many fish markets, florists and restaurants which made all of us very interested and captivated about the place. The people there were very friendly and would always smile to greet you. This shows how everyone is very close and is together as a community.

Finally, we headed back to Cabramatta station, sadly because we all wanted to stay and explore even further about this community and culture. However everyone was very tired from wandering around, but it was an amazing experience to get to learn about another culture. The food was delicious, the people were outgoing and generous and overall the excursion was a blast. Everyone learnt a new fact and discovered and saw many things that we have never done before. It really felt like we were actually in Vietnam because the atmosphere was perfect.

Anu Krishnaswami and Tania Koeferl
Year 9 History was fortunate enough to be given the opportunity to catch the ferry to the haunted Quarantine Station in Sydney Harbour. We were given a tour of the grounds, visiting places such as the morgue, hospital and showers, where we heard gruesome tales of the lives of those who were forced there at the time, despite the fact they may not have been sick themselves. (If one or more people on your ship displayed symptoms, everyone was quarantined for 40 days). It was an amazing experience that allowed us to study the rock carvings that featured along the shores, and made it very easy for us to visualise and sympathise with its detainees whose living conditions would have been deadly. It was a great eye-opener into the lives of these settlers and convicts, and their ignorance of health and hygiene (Like drinking water that first flowed through a graveyard, and washing the inhabitants with acid to “rid them of disease”). It was shocking to see the severe gap between the classes: with first class living in beautiful, well-kept cabins, whilst the working class was kept in dingy unclean cabins with no windows for light or ventilation. Living conditions were even worse if you were of another culture or background. By the end of the day, though, we were all glad to leave to go back to our comfortable 21st century standard of living. Thank you Mrs Somerville for organising this excursion. Rachel

Our trip to the Quarantine station

On Friday 14 March all Year 9 History students went to the Quarantine Station for our topic on the movement of peoples. To get there we caught two trains and then a long ferry trip where fortunately no one got sea sick. On arrival we split up into groups and went on a tour of the Quarantine station. We got to see lots of interesting carvings in the rocks that had recently been restored. Afterwards we were taken to see what the cabins looked like on board the ships. While several students relaxed in the first class cabin most of us crammed on uncomfortable bunk beds in a large and stuffy room which was the second class cabin. We got to go in the morgue where they performed all the autopsies, where we were given a nasty surprise. Red stains also gave us a scare but we were reassured it was all paint. After an activity our last stop was the showers that they had when they first arrived. However these showers were not pleasant. The passengers off the ships were locked in and the water was mixed with acids which eventually caused their skin to peel off. We then had to hurry to catch the ferry and then two trains which took us all home safely with no diseases. All in all it was a fun day where we learnt many interesting things.

Emma

Isle of Illness in a Growing City

In my opinion, the visit to the Quarantine Station was disappointing because they had re-done the Station and turned it into a hotel and tourism facility, completely destroying the history of the original layout of the Station. Half of the buildings had been torn down and rebuilt to fit into the 21st Century, excluding the redbrick buildings from the post federation era.

The tour itself was very cliché but the factual information the guide gave us was very insightful to the lives the convicts had to lead when they were infected with Small Pox, Measles, Typhoid Fever and Spanish Influenza (in the early 1930’s). A ship would sail into port, the passengers would get loaded off and treated, put into small cramped rooms and after their seventy-day holding would be released into the main city of Sydney (Sydney Cove). However, a fire that started under the main hospital building in early 2012 had burnt it to the ground, and it was one of the biggest and most important sites at the Station. Though they rebuilt it to near perfection, all original materials and items in the hospital had been destroyed. In conclusion, it wasn’t as good as it could have been because the main attraction was the supposed “Ghost Tour”, but I don’t really see how a Quarantine Station could possibly be haunted enough to call it an attraction. Despite all this I still learned a lot and I have a better understanding of my class work.

Maddi
Year 12 EES 2013 Central Tablelands Expedition

Over 4 days in Term 4 2013, 13 students, Mr Bell and Ms Di Stefano made the trek out west to the Central Tablelands to apply their knowledge from Earth and Environmental Science. The students were able to experience the rigours of life on the land, seeing effects of salinity and erosion on farming techniques. In Forbes they investigated the past, with the fossil dig unearthing some surprising insights into the fishy past of the local area. On the return home the majesty of the Blue Mountains and the Three Sisters was on show, reminding the girls how short a time we have spent on this earth. Warragamba Dam was a fitting juxtaposition and end to the expedition, demonstrating our ability to mould the earth on a massive scale.

Sailing

In the Christmas holidays on 12-18 January, Lauren Gallaway (Yr 10) travelled to Port Stephens to compete in the Flying Eleven Australian Championships for sailing. In a fleet of 84 boats Lauren and her partner Claire Byrne (Galston High School) finished off the 12 race series in 11th position overall, only slipping once outside of the top 20. With a win in the final race of the series by an incredible 2:20 minutes making them the Australian All Girls Champions. A successful time was had by all. Lauren has also been selected to trial for the NSW Advanced Match racing Squad at the Cruising Yacht Club of Australia this winter. This squad competes around Australia with many participants also joining the world match racing tour.

Well done Lauren!

Watch this space could there be a future SYD-HOB race winner within the girls of Asquith?
Year 11 and 12 ESL Excursion to Newtown

On the Friday the 14th of March, the ESL classes and Ms Amvrazis, Ms Sweers and Ms Valladares went to Newtown for an excursion. We went around the city of Newtown and explored many things in the area.

We went to the oldest road which is King St. then we went to Newtown Neighborhood Centre. It was originally Newtown’s controversial first School of Arts. The council purchased the building for its town hall in 1868. The next stop was Zanzibar Hotel, a pub in Newtown since the early 1860s originally called the Daniel Webster Hotel. Our fifth stop was at Blue Dog Posters. This poster shop has so many different types of posters that are very unique and you would never find them somewhere else. Our next place to see was the ‘I Have a Dream Mural’. This is one of the most well-known pieces of street art in the Newtown area and is more than 20 years old.

After that we went to the bookshop Better Read than Dead and The Dendy Cinema. Both of these places were very interesting for everyone. All of the shops and buildings were stunning and people there were really nice. We finished up the excursion at the Velvet Garage cafe where we had lunch. The food there was really nice.

Thank you so much for the teachers that put so much effort in the event. We had a really great time there and will go back there again someday.

Nath Chaweepongprateep.

International Students Welcome Barbecue

The 2014 International Students Welcome Barbecue was a great opportunity for guardians to meet teachers, learn more about the support given to the students and understand how the students are blending into the school. The guardians were able to be reassured that students are having a pleasant and safe time at Asquith Girls.

After the fantastic barbecue, the guests and the students teamed up and answered some “quality” trivia questions made by Ms Di Stefano. It was an enjoyable time where everyone got to understand each other’s cultures and appreciate the fact that we all belong in this community.

Bomie Lee

St Patricks Day Celebration

Year 9 International Studies students researched and celebrated St Patricks Day as part of their unit of work on ‘Cultural Diversity in Australia’.
Knockout Volleyball
The Asquith girls volleyball team played in the second round of their knockout against Pennant Hills High School. The girls showed great athleticism and team work but unfortunately lost their match causing them to be knocked out. The team consisted of
Jasmine Mandy
Annabelle Mawhinney
Lily Mudridge
Natalie Letzner
Elyse Horne
Maddison James
Shona Watt
And Samantha Young.
A big thank you needs to go out to Ms Carter who coached the girls and also to Mr Lavy who kindly helped with driving the students to the venue and umpiring the match.
Watch this space a Teachers V students volleyball match is coming to Asquith next term.

Knock Out Touch
After having a bye in round 1 of the competition, the open knockout touch team lined up against Killara High School on 3rd March. After a slow start in the first 5-10 minutes, the girls began to dominate the game. Asquith Girls led 3-0 at half time, with a final winning score of 7-2.
Moving into the 3rd round, Asquith Girls hosted Northern Beaches Secondary College, Cromer Campus. Conditions were horrendous, with heavy rain and winds impacting most of the match. Asquith scored first, with Molly Bird scoring in the corner off a great dummy half run from Sally Hawkins. Shortly after, Cromer scored three quick tries, bringing the score at half time to 3-1. After half time, Asquith hit back with a second try to Molly Bird and a try to Karly Tattersall, both off dummy half runs from Jasmine Mandy. This levelled the scores to 3 all. The draw at full time forced the game into a drop off. Asquith kicked off with a great set, unlucky not to capitalise. Next set Cromer had possession, and unfortunately scoring to seal the game. Final score 4-3 to NBSC Cromer.
Congratulations to our girls for their effort and enthusiasm. A big thank you to the parents who drove the girls to the venue.
Team: Natalie Setiadji, Sally Hawkins, Jessica Hanna, Annabelle Rogers, Samantha Patten, Jessica Schauwecker, Karly Tattersall, Amy Corda, Jasmine Mandy, Rebecca Rogers, Alexia Van Noort, Molly Bird.
Coach: Miss C. Jones

Knock Out Basket Ball
On Wednesday March 19 the Asquith Girls Open Basketball Team played against Freshwater Senior Campus in round two of the knock-out competition and won the match 33-12. The whole team performed extremely well on the day, but a special mention must go to Nicole Hutchins who scored 22 of the 33 points. I would also like to thank Kate Johnstone from Year 9, who has volunteered her services as our qualified referee.
The team will be competing on Tuesday April 8 at Scholastic Stadium, Terrigal, where they will play rounds 3 and 4 and hopefully the finals.
Congratulations and best wishes for the following rounds.
Open Basketball Team
Erica Pitman Yr. 7
Daila Walker Yr. 7
Kate Johnstone Yr. 9
Linnea Stevens-Jones Yr. 9
Alex Smart Yr. 10
Nicole Hutchins Yr. 10
Maggie Humphreys Yr. 10
Sophie Van Leeuwen Yr. 10
Elyse Horne Yr. 10
Zone Swimming

The NorthWest Metro Zone swimming carnival was held on Wednesday 12 March at Ryde aquatic Centre. Asquith girls performed well coming in overall in 5th place sending 2 relay teams through to area as well as several talented individual swimmers.

The following students attended and competed at the zone carnival at Ryde Aquatic Centre

Erica Pitman, Samantha Barton, Lilly Perry, Kateland Dove, Darcy Hiscock, Zoe Day, Rebecca Stanton, Keisha Maksoud, Hannah Peltonen, Annie Sweatman, Hayley Robertson, Teigan Gleive, Rebecca Rogers, Bridgette Holden, Rhian Davies, Linnea Stevens-Jones, Hannah Jeppeson, Sarah McCabe, Annika Reynolds, Savannah Patterson, Annabelle Rogers, Louise Drea, Lauren Galloway, Maddison Turner, Rachel Simms, Kate Johnstone and Molly Bird. All of these students positively represented their school and did Asquith proud.

Many of these girls swam phenomenally well and were advanced on to area which was held at Homebush. The under 15 years relay team (pictured above) came first at zone and also came 1st at area which was held at Homebush Aquatic Centre on Tuesday 25th March. This team will now go on to represent the zone and Asquith girls at the NSWCHSSA swimming championships which are to be held on 7 April. Well done girls!

The 17 Years girls relay team pictured above (Sarah McCabe, Savannah Patterson, Annabelle Rogers, and Emma Liddelow) also went to area and placed second in their heat, and fourth overall.

All the students who competed at Zone are to be congratulated for their efforts; a great day was had by all the students who attended. Thank you also to all the teachers who attended the day, it was a great experience had by all.

Talent Fest 2014

Congratulations to all the contestants in this year’s “Hollywood Talent Time’

The winners and runners up were:

Heat 1 - Tarna Rosentreter, Aimee Langeveldt (year 9)

Heat 2 – Emily Holland & Bri Sykes Spencer, Erin Branagh & Francine Dayrit, with special mention to Phoebe Hewitt and Molly Bird (year 8)

Heat 3 – Brianna Sykes Spencer, Sabrina Watson, Orana Durney-Benson (year 8)

Heat 4 –Tetian Pollock, Meghan Issala, special mention to Emily Duff (year 7)

Heat 5 – Katherine Miller and her band Georgia Barbour, Tayla Gibbs and Maddison Prince, Victoria Smith (Year 12)

Heat 6 – Amy Lewis(yr 10), Ana Vaka(Yr 9)
As term 1 draws to a close next week, your daughters will be returning after the holidays wearing winter uniform in terms 2 and 3. If you are considering stepping up a size, please consider donating your old uniform to the Uniform Shop, or maybe the larger size is available in the Uniform Shop second hand. Is your daughter in Year 11 or 12, and her junior uniforms are lurking in the cupboard? Please consider donating these to the Uniform Shop. Also, the Uniform Shop is the ONLY place to source the approved poly/cotton jumper if your daughter doesn’t like the feel of the wool jumper. The support of the Uniform Shop in donating and purchasing clothing, as this benefits the school at 100% of the value.

It’s great to see the new covered tables being constructed in the front of the school, following on from the outdoor learning area in the agricultural gardens last year. This is a great partnership with the TAFE College, and although the P&C are not funding these, we pioneered the concept (!!) and these areas will be of great value to the Year 12s and the availability of covered outdoor areas to study, relax, eat and chat.

The Working Bee was a success, and we had teams on painting some of the many seats around the school where the girls sit, eat and chat in morning tea and lunch. We decreed that we can move on from Mission Brown, a hero colour from my youth many decades ago (on second thoughts, never…), and the new light blue is much easier on the eye. Anything that helps make the environment more pleasant for our daughters and the staff is worthwhile.

Our next meeting is Wednesday April 9th, at 7:30pm in the staff common room, just squeezed in before the end of Term 1. Please visit the meetings tab on our web site to find a map to the common room. We look forward to seeing you there.

Michael Ficker
President@AGHSPandC.org.au
www.AGHSPandC.org.au

Dates for the Diary:
P&C Meeting 7.25pm
Wednesday 9 April 2014

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

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<td>Years 7, 9 &amp; 11 Parent Teacher night</td>
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<td>Wednesday 9 April</td>
<td>P &amp; C Meeting</td>
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<td>Friday 11 April</td>
<td>Last Day of Term</td>
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<td>Monday 28 April</td>
<td>Staff Development Day</td>
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<td>Tuesday 29 April</td>
<td>Students Return</td>
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<td>Wednesday 7—9 May</td>
<td>Band Camp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 14-15 May</td>
<td>NAPLAN</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 14 May</td>
<td>Blitzing the HSC Night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 14 May</td>
<td>P &amp; C Meeting</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Maths On THursday

A quiet place to complete your Maths HW
Get free help from a Maths teacher
Available to Years 7-10
In the Library every Thursday 3:10-4:15pm
See you there … Bring a friend!!

2014 - Asquith Girls HS - developing high achieving young women who are responsible and independent leaders and learners
ASQUITH GIRLS HIGH ANZAC DAY ASSEMBLY 2014

General Invitation to Anzac Assembly

You are invited to attend this assembly which will be held at AGHS on Tuesday 29th April at 10.00am in the school hall.

Students and teachers at AGHS are organising an assembly honouring the men and women of the ADF who are completing their service in Afghanistan and continuing the Anzac Spirit and legacy in modern times.

The assembly will be followed with morning tea in our Anzac Memorial Gardens adjacent to the school hall.

Parents, family and friends are very welcome to attend.

Please RSVP before 29 April 2014

Phone: 94776411 or Email: asquithgir-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au – attention Phillipa Somerville

**English News**

One of the many privileges of teaching English at AGHS is reading the wonderfully diverse compositions of our students. We’d like to share some of them with you and to start, for this month, we have a narrative written by Hana Sanders-Leahy for her Year 12 English Studies assessment. The concept was ‘Family’ and the process included drafting and editing before submitting a two page polished product. Congratulations to Hana for such a great story. We hope you like it too.

**Hana’s Family**

“No, slip; be careful!” George shrieked. His younger sister, Hana, balanced delicately on her elfin ballerina toes, swiftly eluding the monstrous auburn sea beneath her.

“I’m okay, just stay where you are!” Lava spewed aggressively upon large boulders, clawing at the surface as if to escape its own deadly heat. A chasm of liquid fire encapsulated the land as the ground began to fracture and tumble into itself. The stench was pungent and thick within their lungs, like the breath of burning souls yearning to be set free. Trees and buildings were consumed, the remaining earth barely intact. George understood that soon they’d no longer be standing on their feet; eventually they would fall into the volcanic abyss.

“Hana, we’re going to have to make the jump,” George alerted his sister, “We’re running out of pillows!”

Imagination is like a dreamtime vortex that nicks children away – a portal welcoming a hasty escape from boredom or monsters in the dark. It’s the basis of big ideas, and who a person becomes. Imagination shapes childhood.

George and Hana often overlooked their parents’ presence when they were little; almost always occupied in their own little world, a microcosm of fun and games. Mum and Dad were, in a way, like ghosts to them.

Mum appeared when there was bickie dough sitting on the kitchen bench awaiting its inevitable perish. *Oi, get out of it!*

Dad became visible in times of super awesomeness: *Dirt driving, anyone?*

George was always busy. Whether he was inventing a bizarre contraption that no one understood, yelling at the television debating politics with the journalist on the news, collecting toilet rolls for who knows what reason, or running around the house shooting a cap gun at everyone.

He was the kind of boy whose knowledge and understanding of the world around him was underestimated. But to Hana, George was the most intelligent person she knew. She thought he had the potential to do and be anything: George the engineer, the politician, the fireman, the physicist. George the inventor, magician, adventurer or warrior.

Thump.

Hana raised her eyes from her half-coloured-in Bratz doll picture to focus her attention on the bizarre cylindrical figure George had placed on the table: a toilet roll.

“It’s gonna be my best one ever! It weighs, like, two kilos, chock-a-block with gun powder,” said George, the explosives expert.

He enthused over his latest sparkler rocket. “Dad said we can set it off tonight if the rain stops drizzling.”

So that’s what the toilet rolls were for, Hana thought.

Hana liked dress-ups and dolls, and dancing in dirt.

One day she’d have makeup smeared shambolically over her face, the next day it’d be paint. After breakfast she could be looking like a princess, yet by lunch time, smothered in mud from tiara to toe. As boyish as she could be, she always looked forward to getting ready for her next ballet recital. She’d love having her lipstick prudently applied to her tiny, twitchy lips; and blinking into the end of the mascara brush, having her lengthy lashes coated in the liquid black. *Now, look down. There we go – almost done.* Hana would listen to her mother’s soft voice, calming her nerves as the performance grew nearer and nearer. The smooth, cold brush of eyeliner would swoop across the edge of her eyelid, in a silent whispering stroke that sent sleepy tingles down her spine.
A ruckus of voices and shuffling erupted within the crowd as the countdown was initiated.

“Ten, nine, eight…”

The magnificent structure began to swell a blistering heat beneath it as the blur of the mirage melded with the excitement in the air. Conductors, engineers, operators, scientists; everyone stood stagnant with nerves, watching with great anticipation. The space station was such a compelling sight to George and Hana, and so they snuck away to get a better look, weaving nimbly between the tall figures of uniformed men and women.

“Seven, six, five…”

Sulphur and charcoal spat out from the rocket in aggressive puffs of gas, only to gracefully disperse throughout its surroundings seconds later. Unfazed by the scent, onlookers cheered as the final seconds of the countdown came to an end. The audience joined in, their voices booming.

“Blast-off!”

The rocket sprung to life in a mighty grumble of movement. Hot, bright flames ejected from its base. It ascended through the air, climbing, climbing, climbing. “Look, Hana!” George observed in wonder and excitement.

Hana then mumbled, “Uh oh.” Suddenly it was leaning, leaning, leaning... Frightened, she fumbled for her brother’s hand. The spacecraft zoomed out of control; to the right, to the left, doing loopy-loop after loopy-loop, spin-and-twist, and plunge-and-swoop. Fizz! Pop! Bang!

The audience scrambled to find safety, running around with their hands in the air, their lungs pumping shrieks and squeals out of their o-shaped mouths. Then all of a sudden there was silence. The crowd was gone, as if they had evaporated into thin air. Perhaps they had been carried blissfully away by the smoke.

Clunk.

George and Hana stood in the backyard next to each other; their arms dangled by their sides as they peered up to the house next door. George’s makeshift rocket had landed on the neighbour’s roof!

“Should we tell them?” Hana asked. Half a burnt out toilet roll oozing with plasticine slowly melded to the slates.

He tilted his head from left to right, pondered the question, and then replied, “Naaaah,”

The kids giggled and giggled, and that was that.

Eight years later…

George and Hana’s childhood was full of imaginary games, many pairs of ballet shoes, spoonful after spoonful of bickie dough-eating and cake batter bowl-licking, shell pool splashing in the summer and countless rocket experiments.

Eight years later and five doors down, it seemed to Hana that she barely saw her big-brained brother any more, despite the closeness of the vicinity between them. She found comfort, however, in the fact that she could always rely on him no matter how long they spent away from one another, no matter how long a period they went without communication.

George and his sister had grown up together and shared the wildest dreams their imaginations could create. They had shaped each other’s childhoods, whether it was by dodging out-of-control toilet rolls or jumping from couch, to pillow, to blanket to avoid falling into that classic pillow-impervious lava.

The memories were so fresh within Hana’s mind that she could still hear the echo of frustration in her mum’s voice after her kids had redecorated the living room floor: Who made all of this mess!?
In May 2014 the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be completed by students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. NAPLAN has the support of all State and Territory Education Ministers and will assess the literacy and numeracy skills of students across Australian schools.

The results of the tests will provide important information to schools about what each student can do, and will be used to support teaching and learning programs. Parents will receive a report indicating their child’s level of achievement. Each student’s level of achievement will be reported against the national minimum standard.

Background information (student name, gender, date of birth, language background and Aboriginality) will be collected as part of the National Assessment Program. This information is treated confidentially and held securely to ensure that every student’s right to privacy is maintained.

The NAPLAN tests will be conducted from 13 - 15 May 2014.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TUESDAY 13 MAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY 14 MAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY 15 MAY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Language Conventions (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar)</td>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>Numeracy (Number, Algebra, function and pattern; Chance and data; Measurement and Space)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

In the Numeracy tests students do not require any measuring tools such as rulers or protractors. In Years 7 and 9 there will be two Numeracy tests: one where a calculator is allowed and one where calculators are not to be used. For the calculator test, the student should use the calculator that they currently use at school.

In 2014, as in previous years, the Writing task will be a single common task for all students. The 2014 Writing test will require students to respond to either a persuasive or narrative Writing prompt. However, the genre of the prompt will not be disclosed prior to the test period.

Wherever possible, schools will organise for individual students who are absent at the time of testing to complete missed tests at another time during testing week. Individual students are not permitted to sit tests after Friday 16 May 2014.

Students may be considered for exemption from the tests if:
- they are newly arrived in Australia (less than one year before the test) and with a language background other than English, or
- they have significant intellectual disability and/or significant co-existing conditions which severely limit their capacity to participate in the tests.

All other students are expected to participate in the tests. Disability adjustments which reflect the student’s normal level of support in the classroom may be provided. Large print, Braille, coloured paper versions and electronic tests are available to meet the needs of individual students.

Access to disability adjustment or exemption from the tests must be discussed with the school Principal and a parent or carer consent form must be signed. Students may be withdrawn from NAPLAN by their parent or carer. This is a matter for consideration by parents in consultation with the Principal. If you wish to withdraw your child from the tests, a parent or carer consent form must be signed.

Please make an appointment with the Principal of the school your child attends if you would like to discuss your child’s participation in NAPLAN.

Additional information about NAPLAN can be found at www.nap.edu.au/NAPLAN/Parent_Carer_support/index.html.
Sydney's largest school holiday program returns this summer, with over 50 fun-filled activities to keep your kids active, outdoors and entertained. A range of activities are free or under $20, making it affordable to discover Sydney's most exciting playground this holidays!

Archery – Kids on Target & Little Archers
All Day Holiday Recreational Program
Art, Cooking and Drumming Workshops
Cheerleading & Gymnastics
Cirrus Skills & Flying Trapeze

Fizzics Science Workshops
Martial Arts for Kids
Sport & Adventure Camps
Space Racing for Kids
...and lots more

Full details at www.kidsinthepark.com.au

It would be greatly appreciated if you could include the above activities in your school newsletter.

Sydney Olympic Park

ROLL UP YOUR SLEEVES AND GIVE BLOOD

Mobile Blood Service visiting:
Hornsby War Memorial Hall
2 High Street, Hornsby

Tuesday 8 April 9:00am – 1:30pm

Drink up! Have 3 or 4 glasses of water or juice in the hours before you donate
Eat! Have a good sized breakfast or lunch
Please bring photo I.D. with you

Call 13 95 96 or visit donateblood.com.au

Australian Red Cross BLOOD SERVICE
Parenting Programs
Child & Adolescent Parenting

WHAT'S ON IN TERM 2 - COURSES/WORKSHOPS FOR PARENTS/CARERS

Tuning in to Teens Course
Skills to communicate with your teenagers so that you understand each other better & are able to build positive relationships.
* Understanding teenagers today & communication skills
* Emotional intelligence skills
* How to prevent behaviour problems & conflict resolution
Chatswood 5 wks/2.5hrs (19/5 - 23/6, 7.00-9.30pm)

Dealing with Teen’s Backchat Workshop
* Learn how to restore a respectful & positive relationship with your teenager
* Understand what it is like being a teenager today
* Learn how to talk so that they listen & how to listen so that they talk to you
Chatswood (12/5, 7.00-9.30pm)

Tuning in to Kids Course - Chatswood (22/5 - 19/6)
Triple P (Positive Parenting Program) Course - Chatswood (14/5 - 25/6)
NEW Communicating with Kids Workshop (based on PET) - Chatswood (18/6)

WORKSHOPS ON REQUEST FOR PARENTS/CARERS OF TEENS - 9887 5830
* Dealing with Teen’s Backchat
* Transition to High School
* Triple P Seminar Series (Teens)

RESILIENT KIDS
* Resilient Kids
* Bully Busting Workshop

OTHER WORKSHOPS ON REQUEST (2-2.5 hours)
* Understanding Your Toddler/Discipline & Tantrums
* Tucker without Tantrums/Toilet Training
* Speech & Language Development/Sleep
* Triple P (PPP) Seminar Series (1-12 years)

Enquiries: Child & Adolescent Parenting 9887 5830

2014 - Asquith Girls HS - developing high achieving young women who are responsible and independent leaders and learners
Invitation

Hornsby/Ku-ring-gai Women’s Shelter benefit night
To provide crisis accommodation for women escaping domestic violence.

Fact: Every night in Australia, half the women who seek crisis accommodation are turned away.

Our Local Community Challenge
To establish a Women’s Shelter within the Hornsby/Ku-ring-gai area in 2014.

6:30pm for 7pm Friday, 16th May at Asquith Leagues Club
11 Alexandria Parade, Waitara

FOR ONLY
$40

- A delicious two course meal
- Music – Golden Guitar winner Steve Passfield (pictured at right) & The Funsters playing the best music of the sixties and seventies.
- PLUS The Hornsby Bugs…
- Dancing – A night of great music and dancing…
- Games, raffles and silent auction and fabulous prizes.

ORDER YOUR TICKET NOW
via website www.hkws.com.au
or ring Keith Murray 0400 745 644

More Information:
John Lockyer (Lions Club of Hornsby)
Ph: 0407 044 422

WIN fabulous prizes
Go 4 Fun is a free healthy living program for children above a healthy weight. It is a fun & interactive program that helps children aged between 7 & 13 and their families adopt a long-lasting healthy lifestyle.

The program focusses on improving:
- Eating habits
- Fitness
- Teamwork
- Overall health

Programs are led by qualified health professionals & take place after school running parallel with school terms. Children & their families become fitter, healthier & happier as they have fun, meet new friends & learn new skills.

Phone 1800 780 900 or SMS back 0409 745645 or visit https://go4fun.com.au/

Are you a musician or dancer who would like to try something a bit different? Would you like to march in the ANZAC Day march in the city?

The Golden Kangaroos are looking to increase their membership in the marching band and are looking for people interested in joining the Auxiliary Corps (Dancers and flag bearers), Drum Corps or as wind musicians. Now is a great time to join the band as the focus is on the basics of marching in preparation for the big ANZAC Day March in the city. Once the thrill of marching in such a special event in front of tens of thousands of spectators has subsided the band then focuses on more complex routines in preparation for Spring, when most engagements requiring routines occur.

The Golden Kangaroos Hornsby Concert Band consists of a beginner band, intermediate and senior concert bands, a marching band, a stage (jazz) band and a number of smaller ensembles and welcome musicians of all levels and ages.

For more information visit www.gks.org.au or contact the band at membership@goldenkangaroos.org.au or on 9868 3289

CALLING ALL PAST BROOKLYN PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS

Do you want a lasting memory of your time at BPS? We are adding to our memorial paving area at the front of the school and would love for you to be a part of it. To obtain an order form, just email annettetk@hotmail.com or phone the school on 9985 7315.

DON’T MISS OUT – THIS OFFER IS LIMITED.

(get your orders in by 14/4/14)

2014 - Asquith Girls HS - developing high achieving young women who are responsible and independent leaders and learners
# The Canteen Menu

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HOT FOOD</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Butter chicken</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheese/herb bread (v)</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicken Burger + sauce</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicken tenders + sauce</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creamy tomato pasta(v)</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fantastic Noodles</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fried Rice</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garlic bread (v)</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lasagne or Bolognais</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pie + sauce</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pizza slab (veg or H/P)</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sausage roll + sauce</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spinach Roll(v) + sauce</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>* ORDERS ONLY</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fried rice (v)</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grilled beef burger*</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nachos*</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soup* + hot cheese roll</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toasted Sandwich from</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vegie Pie(v)*</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All orders for recess or lunch must be in 1 hr before required.

**Sandwiches / Wraps**

- Sandwiches/Rolls from $3.00
- Sushi (M, T, W, Th, F) $3.00
- Gourmet Turkish from $4.00
- Wraps $5.00

**EXTRAS**

- Sauces 30c each or 2 for 50c
- (Tomato, sweet chilli, mayo, bbq)
- Fork/ spoon $0.10
- Container with lid $0.50

**Ice blocks**

- Mini Calyppo $1.00
- Frozen yoghurt $2.00
- Icy twist $1.50
- Paddlepop (flavours) $1.50
- Cyclone $2.00
- Paddlepop thickshake $2.00

**SNACKS**

- Banana bread $3.50
- Chips $1.20
- Friand $2.50
- Fresh Fruit from $1.00
- Gingerbread kid $1.50
- Muffin $2.00/$3.50
- Yoghurt (96% fat free) $3.00

**DRINKS**

- Cans $2.50
- Diet coke (600ml bottle) $3.50
- Iced Tea (bottle) $3.50
- Juice 350ml $3.00
- Juice box $1.50
- Milk (flavours) $2.00/$3.00
- Milk (plain) $1.20
- Milk 1L (lite) $2.50
- Mt Franklin water $2.00
- Pump Water - mini $1.50
- Pump Water - flavours $3.50
- Soy milk UHT/Up & Go $2.00

**TERM 1, 2014**

Open from 8.20am daily

Separate Breakfast menu - includes cereal, melts, fresh yoghurt & fruit

**SALADS#**

**ORDERS PREFERRED**

- Fruit, Garden, Greek, Tuscan
- Brown Rice Salad $3.50
- Garden Salad with Ham or
- Chicken or Egg, Chicken Caesar,
- Thai Beef, Asian Chicken, $4.50

#Please check which salads are available when you order

**GLUTEN FREE/LACTOSE FREE ITEMS AVAILABLE**

**PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE…**

- SCIENTIFIC CALCULATOR $30
- MATHS GRID BOOK $2.50
- VISUAL ART DIARY $10

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2014 - Asquith Girls HS - developing high achieving young women who are responsible and independent leaders and learners
Student Health Alert
A case of nits has been reported to the school. Please check your daughter’s hair. A recent story in the news suggests that more teenagers are getting nits because they are taking photos with their heads together thus allowing for the easy transfer of nits from one person to the other.

Head lice
The facts
Head lice infestations are a common occurrence, particularly in primary schools.

- about 23% of primary students have head lice at any one time
- anyone can catch head lice regardless of their age, sex, or how clean their hair is
- head lice move from one person's head to another via hair
- head lice do not survive long when they are off a human head
- head lice do not live on furniture, hats, bedding or carpet
- head lice have built up some resistance to head lice treatments

Treatment
daily combing of white hair conditioner using a fine tooth comb is effective in getting rid of head lice and eggs (nits)

Tips for parents in reducing the spread of head lice
As infestations are particularly common in primary schools, it is best to choose a treatment that can be used over time. There is no single solution to eradication, only persistence.

- regularly check your children's hair
- teach older children to check their own hair
- tie back and braid long hair
- keep a fine tooth head lice comb in the bathroom and encourage all family members to use it when they wash their hair.