Year 6 Orientation Day
Our 2016 Year 7 students and parents were welcomed to the school at an orientation day held on Thursday this week. The day was the culmination of many weeks of planning. Our Year 9 peer leaders were very excited to be working with their own group of students on the day. These connections will continue in the New Year with the same groups being used for peer support and the Year 7 camp activities. Year 7 2016 also took part in a literacy numeracy activity, while their parents were treated to student performances, student speeches and were introduced to support staff in a separate meeting in the hall. The day began with an open concert band rehearsal in the hall with Year 7 2016 students joining the concert band to produce amazingly rich music. Thanks to all of the staff who played a role in making the day a success, especially Ms Khalili, Ms McGurgan and Mrs Bodley. A special thank you to our fantastic P&C for their contribution to the day.

Year 10 Camp and Formal
This week saw our Year 10 students go off to camp at Wyee on the Central Coast for three days. While on camp, students took part in a number of sessions that covered the Crossroads Course, a Department of Education requirement for senior students. In addition to this, students also took part in sessions designed to test their comfort zones and build trust and support amongst their peers. Perhaps the highlight of the camp was the Year 10 Formal – especially from the students’ point of view. Everyone looked spectacular and enjoyed the dance floor on the night. A big thank you to Ms Baxter and the team of staff who supervised on the camp.

Year 10 – All My Own Work
A requirement for students to be enrolled in the HSC is that they must complete the BOSTES “All My Own Work” course. The course covers the area of honesty surrounding the HSC. Plagiarism is a topic that receives special attention in the course and gives students explicit messages about presenting work that is not theirs as though it is their own. On returning from camp, Year 10 have been given the opportunity to complete the course so they can be successfully enrolled in the Preliminary courses next year. Thanks go to Mr Holmes for organising this activity.

The Hornsby Salvos Reverse Christmas Tree
The SRC are taking part in the Hornsby Salvos Reverse Christmas Tree initiative. At the school office there is a Christmas tree where students and staff are able to donate gifts of new toys and/or non perishable pantry items to help fill the Christmas stockings and pantries of the needy in our local area. Even one item of food or a toy, will help to add to our donations.

Donations will be accepted under the tree until Wednesday 9 December, when they will be taken to Hornsby Salvos for preparation and distribution. Please do not wrap these gifts (all gifts are checked prior to distribution), but you may donate paper/ribbon for the Salvos to wrap them for you.

We hope to see many donations under our SIHS Reverse Christmas Tree!
GATs Camp
Our annual GATs camp was held this week with students from Years 7, 8 and 9 taking part in activities over Monday and Tuesday across Sydney. See the full report of the activities in this newsletter. A big thank you to Mrs Gettens for organising the camp and for all of her efforts this year to make the GATs program such a success.

Celebration of Music
Thursday night was a great night for a celebration of music from our band and ensemble programs. The audience heard performances from students in the rock band program, string ensemble, choir and concert band. The evening was a wonderful opportunity for all of the students in these programs to showcase the talents they have been developing this year. Thanks go to Mrs Cooper, Ms Andresson and Ms Hawkins for all of the work they have done with the Band Program this year. A special thank you to Ms Lovell for her work coordinating the program.

Reports Update
We are working to a very tight timeline to get all reports out before the end of the school year. Year 10 reports are almost ready to be emailed home and these will be closely followed by the Year 9 reports. It is intended that by the end of next week, reports for all years will be emailed home. Thanks to Mr O’Connell who has been overseeing the reports this term.

Melbourne Visit
Last week Ms Mercer, Mrs Bodley and I had the wonderful opportunity to travel to Melbourne as part of a delegation from across the NS5 (Chatswood, Killara, Turramurra, Ku-ring-gai and St Ives High Schools). The group consisted of principals and executive staff from all five high schools. We visited a number of schools doing innovative things with learning spaces, teaching ideas and curriculum. As a result of school consolidation during the 90’s, a number of schools in Melbourne are large, with over 2000 students. This resulted in building programs, and in some cases a rethinking of the curriculum. While not all of the things we saw are appropriate to our context, we came away inspired by a number of ideas that may work for us.

Year 12 Jumper 2016
Our year 12 students took one step closer to their final year of school with the addition of the Year 12 jacket and jumper to their uniform. These were issued this week to all of the students and are now part of their official uniform that will commemorate their final year of school.

Presentation Night
Our school Presentation Night will be held next Wednesday evening next week beginning at 7pm in the school hall. In addition to the presentation of awards to students, the evening will include performance items from the school curriculum and extra curricular activities.

End of Term
I would like to remind all students and families that the last day of school for students is Wednesday 16 December. Classes will cease at 3:15pm on that day. It is expected that all students will attend school up to and including the 16th. If there is a legitimate reason for your child to be absent before that time, please follow the standard practice of providing the office with an explanation.

Will you be back in 2016?
Planning is well underway for 2016 and a number of our Year groups are almost full. There is a strong demand for places in these year groups. If your child is not returning in 2016, please notify the office of this as soon as possible. This will greatly assist us with our organisation for 2016 and allow us to fill any spaces available with new enrolments.
Congratulations
This week, congratulations to:

- **Srijan Singh** (Year 8) and **Zac Matthews** (Year 9). Last week, both boys participated in the NSW School Tennis Tournament where Srijan won the Year 8 boys singles final and Zac won the converse final for Year 9 boys.
- **Nathan Taplin** (Year 10). Last week, Nathan competed in the Pacific School Games in Adelaide as a member of the NSW team that competed against teams from all Australian States and Territories and International teams from India, Macau, China, Fiji and NZ. Nathan swam in the 50m Freestyle, his individual event, and made it to the finals where he was placed 7th. He also swam in 4 x 50m Medley Relay and the 4 x 50m Freestyle Relay for which he received a Bronze medal, and the 8 x 50m Freestyle Relay for which he also gained a Bronze medal.
- **Laura Grime** (Year 9). Laura Grime is joining the Curious Minds STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths) for girls program at the Australian National University (Canberra) next week. She has done extremely well to be selected.
- **Sally Yamazaki** (Year 10) for a beautifully designed and constructed timber coffee table which is on display outside the Principal’s Office.

Best wishes

Mark Watson
Principal

SYDNEY TOWER EXCURSION

On the first official day of summer, Year 11 Hospitality students from both the Kitchen Operations course and the Specialisation joined forces with Year 9 Hospitality Fundamentals students to visit Sydney Tower.

Students enjoyed a buffet lunch at the famous rotating restaurant while dining on some of the finest food in the city and enjoying the view. After lunch they were given a guided tour through all of the dining areas on each level, including the famous 360 bar and fine dining restaurant and the function spaces, before continuing to the back of house areas, kitchens and stores.

The students had a very enjoyable and educational experience seeing behind the scenes of one of Sydney’s most iconic and famous hospitality venues, and after spending so much time this year cooking and catering for other people it was good for them to be the guests on this occasion. All students were extremely well behaved and it was a very pleasant day.

The students undertaking the Hospitality Specialisation course are now tasked with designing their own tour plan for Sydney Tower and they have to cater for a list of guests with special needs.

Megan Bond and Johanne Doherty
TAS Hospitality teachers
This week 7T, 8T and 9T experienced classroom off site as they explored the idea of Challenge! On Monday students had the physical challenge of indoor rock climbing. As Lilu showed us her expertise up the hardest wall and over the ceiling, Mr Noronha bravely challenged a table. Actually not as easy as it sounds. In the afternoon we watched "He called me Malala" the story of the brave Pakistani activist who at 15, stood up to the Taliban and was shot. She later went on to win the Nobel Peace Prize.

On Tuesday we went into the Australian Museum and students attended three workshops, learning about Aboriginal weaving (Mrs Cooper was unaware of her onlooker), ancient fossils and the qualities of gemstones. We also did some Maths and now know that Abigail is 26 Pizza boxes tall, while Felix is 39. It was tough but we had to eat a lot of pizza to learn this. At every venue we were complimented on our polite, friendly and enthusiastic students.

ARTISTS UNBIRTHDAY

VA1 and 7VA2 celebrated a range of artists by making a birthday box which they filled with appropriate presents and a card. On Wednesday afternoon we held an Artists Unbirthday Party where students shared the contents of their gift boxes with reasons for their choices. Van Gogh was given sunflowers seeds, yellow paint and a fresh bandage for his ear) while Lichtenstein received a 50's comic book and Rouault a very expensive (empty) bottle of champagne. There were many more clever and thoughtful gifts, with many students thinking "outside the box". Well done year 7!

Patricia Gettens and Tania McGurgan
AAA LEADERSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DEAF CONFERENCE

On Friday 27 November, Ashleigh Ham, Nicholas Lapsley, Jason Yoo, Mr Ryan and myself (Bianca Du) all from the Hearing Support Unit went to a Deaf Leadership Conference. We caught the train at Hornsby station and arrived at Ourimbah station then walked to the Ourimbah Campus of the University of Newcastle with Mr Ryan. When we arrived at the campus we got name tags and met some new friends and met some old friends.

Our first speaker, Alastair McEwin grew up in Adelaide, South Australia and now currently resides in Sydney. His background is arts, law and business administration. He is currently Director of Community Legal Centres NSW. He is the President of the Deaf Society. He was interesting. He speaks but mostly signed during his presentation. He was supported by an oral interpreter and live captioning. Then we had morning tea with the other students for 15mins or 20mins.

We then had the second speaker; Sofya Gollan who is an award winning director and writer of documentary and drama films. Her films are screened in international festivals in Germany, France, Ireland, Italy, UK, US and Aussie. Sofya has worked as a commissioned Playwright on several occasions. Her latest film called Preservation has screened worldwide. Sofya was born hearing impaired and has lost most of her hearing. She is profoundly deaf. She now has a cochlear implant.

We had lunch together for 30mins and then had the last speaker. The last speaker is Cecily Paterson who is an award winning Australian writer of memoir and fiction. She has a novel called Invincible featuring Jazmine a hearing impaired teenager. Then we did an evaluation paper so we all filled the form out then we left to catch the train back to Hornsby Station and then went home when we arrived at Hornsby station. We had a wonderful day.”

Bianca Du Year 8

Sailors with DisAbilities

On Tuesday our Hearing Support Year 7 and 8 students, together with their teachers, went sailing with a group called, “Sailors with DisAbilities”. In the morning we boarded the bus at school and we travelled to Town Hall Station and then on to Edgecliff Station by train. We walked to the park at Darling Point after a brief stop at “Subway”, where some of the students bought drinks. While we were in the park eating lunch, I spoke to a group of Korean Middle School teachers that were visiting Australia. They were very interested in learning about our excursion.

Soon after lunch we boarded the yacht. The yacht’s name was “Moksha” and it was really big and an orange colour. The 2 ladies and 4 men crew worked together to make sure we had a good time. Most of us had a turn in steering the yacht, while the others enjoyed the view of Sydney Harbour and the dolphins surfacing in front of us. We wanted to stay longer, but had to leave for home. We had a lot of fun and thank the crew and our hearing support teachers for organising this excursion for us. We hope we can do it again next the year!!!!

Bianca Du Year 8

Some Students’ Comments

I want to go sailing again with them!!!! I had lot of fun today!!!!! Jason

I really enjoyed it and I want to come back again next year because it was such great fun. Ashlee

I enjoyed relaxing on the yacht and looking at the view of the Sydney Harbour Bridge. Paul

I enjoyed it when I steered the yacht and also when we had to lay down on the deck. As we tacked the yacht went right down on one side, so we had to hold on tight. I want to go again. Johannes

Yesterday we went on a huge, orange sailing boat with six crew. We saw three dolphins on the harbour and went around Clarke Island before heading back to the marina. We had a great time. Nick

We had a good boat trip with lots of great people helping us. We saw lots of fish and dolphins. Luke

On our sailing trip my favourite part was the view of the city and the dolphins. Claire

I would like to go back again and again because it was so much fun on the harbour. Nicholas
Congratulations Year 7 on another fantastic week at Balmoral Pool for their compulsory syllabus component of water and sun safety. The students had a ball doing many activities including lap swimming – all styles, learn to swim; water polo skills such as egg beater kick and passing/catching techniques; entries and exits such as pencil jump and Stride entries; survival skills, such as sculling, treading water and floating; underwater skills such as dives and searching; rescue techniques such as rescue throw bags or other aids like a rescue tube or noodle and then some land based activities such theory, biathlon, beach cricket, beach soccer, flags, and beach volleyball. Thanks to our AusSwim coaches Richard and Emma who are also lifesavers on the weekend.

Congratulations to the following winners in the biathlon and flags on the final day:

**Girls flags**
1st – Ymke Hamman  
2nd – Annabella O’Brien  
3rd – Nicole Connacher

**Boys flags**
1st – Nathan Calder  
2nd – Julian Sayadi  
3rd – Liam Calder

**Girls biathlon**
1st – Nicole Connacher  
2nd – Juliet Barker  
3rd – Nashua Hemen

**Boys biathlon**
1st – Lachlan McIntosh  
2nd – Aaron Temple  
3rd – Jun Yoo

Thanks to all the teachers who gave up their school week to support this activity for Year 7.

_Sandy Terrey_  
Water Awareness Organiser 2015
FABULOUS CHRISTMAS HAMPER
ART TOUR FUNDRAISING

$2 a ticket or 3 for $5 from the school office

* Christmas Biscuits * Donna Hay Cookbook
* Women’s Weekly Cookbook * Rum Balls * Date Roll * Mug
* 3 tea towels and an Apron * Box of Giftcards * A Coriander kit
* 1x Wyndham Estate Cabernet Merlot and loads of chocolate… giant Toblerone, M&M’s, Maltesers, Cadbury’s Blocks, Cadbury’s Favourites and Celebrations!!

$2 handmade cards featuring photos from previous Art Tours are also available from the Office

CAREERS UPDATES

Online free Career Testing Tool
I would like all students to complete the My career profile at the myfuture.edu.au site this year as it is no longer free from next year. It has been updated and is easy to complete. You will need to sign up for a free account and then sign in. We are currently trialling a paid career testing tool called Career Voyage and three students have been given free trials of the test. The students trialling the test have given positive reports about it so we’ll make a decision which tool to use in 2016 with Year 10 students.

Master Builders Pre Apprenticeship 5 week Program for school leavers
Do you want to be a carpentry or bricklaying apprentice? By attending this program you will learn to:-

- Accurately measure and cut timber
- Work safely at heights
- First aid
- Erect wall frames using hand tools
- Hang doors
- Manage money
- Maths skills
- Read, understand and work with plans
- Nutrition, fitness and sun safety in the building industry
- Safety on site
- Communication skills

To find out more call 8586 3533 or attend the information evening on 9 December from 6-8pm at MBA 5 Burbank Place, Norwest Business Park, Baulkham Hills NSW 2153.

Applying for university timeline
17 December - ATARs released and Year 12 BBQ at school
End January - Main round university offers released.

For more information on any of these or other careers matters visit the Careers Adviser or email Mr Holmes at neil.holmes@det.nsw.edu.au or call the school on 9144 1689 ext 116.

Visit my free careers website at http://www.careeradvicensw.com to view career videos, take career tests, view subject selection resources, links to all universities on bonus points, scholarships, elite athletes schemes, alternate entry to university, the job market, SRS and more. The site is available 24/7.
YEAR 7 2016 ORIENTATION DAY
The P&C would like to thank the school and all the parents who came to help out for putting on such a wonderful Orientation Day. All the behind-the-scenes preparation of the Orientation Day packs and the planning for the day made for a very smooth day and provided a great welcome to the school to our new 2016 students.

For Uniform Shop, we'd like to thank all the parents who came and helped - we put on extra sessions this year and we really appreciate how everyone came together and pitched in. This year there were practically no queues which is an amazing result. We'd also like to thank the Year 8 students who came and helped and provided a great role model for the incoming students.

For this year, 125 students were served on Orientation Day and the days before - the booking-only sessions and the evening session working really well.

Well done all!

Eric Tse
STUDENT ABSENCES

There is a dedicated email address and a telephone number for student absences.

When your child is absent from school you can either -

send an email to stives-h.admin@det.nsw.edu.au stating student name, roll class and reason for absence or

telephone 9144 1689 and press the number 6 for Student Absences stating student name, roll class and reason for absence.

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IMPORTANT CALENDAR DATES

2015 Term 4
9 December
Wednesday, 16 December
Thursday 17 December and
Friday 18 December

There is a dedicated email address and a telephone number for student absences.

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telephone 9144 1689 and press the number 6 for Student Absences stating student name, roll class and reason for absence.

2016 Term 1
Wednesday, 27 January
Thursday, 28 January
Friday, 29 January

9 February
10 February
22 March
25 March
28 March
29 March—8 April
9 April—25 April

Staff return to school
Years 7, 11, 12 return to school
Years 8, 9, 10 return to school
School Swimming Carnival
Welcome to Year 7 students and parents
School Cross Country Carnival
Good Friday (Public Holiday)
Easter Monday (Public Holiday)
Year 12 Half Yearly Examinations
School Holidays

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Last Bootcamp for 2015 this Friday...

BOOTCAMP

Bootcamp is divided into two sessions:
7.00—7.30 am and 7.30—8.00 am

You can attend both sessions or attend one session only
Join us on Friday mornings ... meet on the Quad at 7 am.

Bootcamp is open to students, staff and parents. Please remember to bring a bottle of water and a towel. It is important that all participants wear appropriate footwear and workout gear.

Any questions—contact Nathan Lawler, HSIE Staffroom 9144 1689 ext 119