

HIGH SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

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Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2010

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The Principal and Staff wish all Year 12 students a productive vacation in preparation for the HSC examinations in which we wish them every success.

## Mind and Morality Course

Year 11 Killara High School students, **Nicholas Duce**, **Stephen Mackay and Rachel Worsley**, completed the Mind and Morality philosophy course held by The University of Sydney this year.

A presentation was held at The University of Sydney on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> August 2010 where each student received a certificate acknowledging completion of the course.

Mind and Morality is a 1 unit HSC Board Endorsed Course developed by the University designed for highachieving students for study in Stage 6. This course supplements and extends the HSC curriculum.



# Farewelling Year 12 – Ekuba 2010

On Tuesday for the 41<sup>st</sup> time since its establishment, Killara High School hosted Ekuba, the formal farewell for Year 12 students and their parents. Ekuba is a celebration of six years of schooling at Killara and the culmination of 13 or more years of education for many. For families who've first met at local pre-schools or primary schools and then continued on to Killara together, it is the concluding ceremony to a rich and wonderfully rewarding part of their lives and the commencement of another. The bonds of friendship and shared experience are not limited to those forged in the playgrounds of our local schools. They unite families and form an important foundation of a caring and resilient local community from which we all draw strength and comfort at different times.

After the HSC examinations, many will disperse to other parts of Sydney, Australia, indeed the world, but the values each takes with him or her are some of Killara's most valuable 'exports' – the ability to see the world from another's point of view, care, responsibility, respect for others, acceptance of difference and a commitment to social justice. In the early 19<sup>th</sup> century Abigail Adams, the incisive, wise mother of a future President of the United States of America, wrote to her son as he finished formal schooling, "To be good and to do good is the whole duty of [a person] comprised in a few words." The simplicity of her statement is as relevant today for our departing 260 Year 12 students. All their teachers and parents know that our society's future will be richer and more wondrous for their contributions. I thank the staff for all their work with Year 12.

I thank the parents for their trust in the school and for the support they have provided. On their behalf I also thank the staff for all the time, care and expertise invested in Year 12.

On behalf of all, I wish Year 12 well for the forthcoming examinations. We look forward to hearing of their individual, successes and achievements in the years to come.

Mark Carter, Principal

A great school close to home

# Calendar

#### September 2010

- 23 French Study Tour departs
- 24 Yr 12 Farewell Assembly and Picnic

#### - Last day – Term 3

#### October 2010

- 11 First day Term 4 Staff and Students
- Yr 10 Assessment (continues)
- 13 French Study Tour returns
- Yr 10 Assessment concludes
- 14 HSC examinations commence
- 15 Prefect Blood Drive
- 18 HSC examinations continue
- 19 Yr 7 Immunisation Program
- 20 P&C Meeting 8pm C Block Conference Room
- 25 HSC examinations continue

#### November 2010

3	- Yr 11	Legal	Studies	Excursion

- 8 School Certificate examinations commence (2 days)
- Yr 9 Camp Stanwell Tops (3 days)
- 9 Yr 11 Food Technology Excursion Sydney Tower Restaurant
- 10 School Certificate Computing Studies examination

Yr 10 Elective Assessment

- 11 Remembrance Day Assembly
- 12 Yr 11 Geography Excursion Observatory Hill Field Centre
- Yr 9 Assessment commences
- Yr 11 Society and Culture PIP Day Wesley Centre
- 14 P&C Grounds Working Bee 8.15am – 12noon
- 15 Yr 10 It's Your Life Program (all week)
- 17 DEAS Induction Evening 7pm
- 18 KHS Musicale Evening Kerrabee Hall
- 19 Lindfield Public School Music Spectacular (3pm-9pm)
- 22 Yr 9 Water Safety & Survival (all week)
- Yr 10 Work Experience/ Service Learning (all week)
- 24 Yr 11 Society and Culture Excursion State Library
- 25 Executive Conference (2 days)
- 29 Yr 11 Assessment Block
  - Yr 7 Water Safety & Survival Skills (all week)
  - Yr 10 Work Experience/ Service Learning (all week)

# ATAR Morning Tea for Year 12 Students

On **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2010**, our HSC students will be able to obtain their Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR), formerly known as the University Admission Index (UAI).

On that morning we would like to invite our Year 12 students to come back to school to share with us their good news and or to commiserate and help plan for 2011 and beyond if their expectations were not realised.

We will provide morning tea in the staff common room in A Block and would love to see as many of our Year 12 students as possible. In years past it has been a wonderful occasion of reunion and celebration and 2010 will be no different.

So, Year 12, it's a date - on **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December at 10.30am** in the staff common room upstairs in A Block. Come and celebrate with your friends and teachers.

Jane Rountree, Head Teacher Welfare Christine Black, Head Teacher Stage 6

# **State Athletics Carnival**

Killara High School was well represented at the CHS Athletics Carnival which was held at Homebush Athletics track from 9<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup> September.



The 13 years boys' relay team, **Bowen Lin, Daniel Soans (Year 8), James Andreou and Kieren Young (Year 7),** qualified for the final and ran 3<sup>rd</sup> just behind Sydney Boys and Terrigal High Schools in a time of 49.86, only 0.2 of a second behind the winner.

**Lachlan Cannell (Year 10)** made the final of the 15 years boys' shot put and came a respectable 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Ryan Persson (Year 10)** narrowly missed the final and ran 4<sup>th</sup> in his heat of the 15 years boys' hurdles.

**Ella Gibson (Year 8)** competed in the 14 years girls' Javelin and finished  $18^{th}$ .

**Eliza Cepak (Year 9)** competed in the 15 years girls' shot put and discus and finished 4<sup>th</sup> in both events.

Congratulations to those athletes and we look forward to their performances next year. Well done.

#### Ben Costantini, PDHPE Faculty

# **ENCORE 2010**

**Melissa Mony (Year 12)** has been nominated for possible inclusion in ENCORE, a selection of exemplary performances and compositions from HSC

Music students. ENCORE will be held in the Concert Hall of the Sydney Opera House on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2011. Congratulations, Melissa.

## Year 11 Drama Night



Last Thursday and Friday night, the Year 11 Drama students presented us with a compilation of short plays, each based around the all-important question: "What do you need?". This wonderful collection included plays about bittersweet love, unrequited love, lost love, and destructive love. Both performances drew large crowds, filling most of the theatre on each night with students, parents, and teachers. Audience members commented that it was "in my top three favorites", "amazing", and "fantastic". One person even said it was "life-changing"! Not actually, but that would have been quite an achievement, wouldn't it?

This talented group of students provided their audience with laughs, shocks, and tears, all in one performance. If you ask me, that's all I need.

A big thank you to the light and sound team, and our Drama teachers Mr Ramburuth, and to Ms White! Victoria Durand, Year 11

Year 11's Drama production "All You Need" was certainly different from the traditional productions. Every year as part of their unit, "Script Interpretation", Year 11 Drama students showcase their talent with a full scale production. Taking part in various roles such as actors, directors, choreographers, scriptwriters, the design team, backstage crew as well as advertising it, undoubtedly is a unique experience.

Friendship, courtship, jealousy, the love of a monster, naive young love, passion and hate, awkward beginnings, a lack of love and, most importantly, the love of self was represented through a variety of characters and settings.



The main focus of the production was to explore these emotions coming to the conclusion that "without loving yourself the rest just doesn't work".

The play came together wonderfully over two successful nights with nothing but positive feedback from the audience. We have no doubt become closer as a class from this experience of working so closely together.



This wonderful experience will no doubt stay in my heart as I am sure it will stay in the minds of all who came to watch this year's Year 11 Drama Production. It is certainly "All You Need"! **Deeba Binaei, Year 11** 

# Boccia: A Triumph for Killara High School



On the 12<sup>th</sup> August 2010, four of our Killara students participated in the Inter-School Boccia Tournament at

Homebush Boys' Hall of Legends, organised by Boccia Australia's Peter King.

Boccia is a bowls-type target game played at the Paralympics by people with Cerebral Palsy.

This elite team consisted of **Ben Payne (Year 7), Jack Hanrahan-Shirley (Year 8), Corey Krecichwost (Year 10) and Jonathan Shar (Year 11).** 

We played three hard fought games with two narrow loses and one exciting win coming down to a last winning throw by Jack Hanrahan-Shirley.

Well done to the team on a fantastic achievement and thank you, Mr Smith, for organizing this event. Jonathan Shar, Year 11

# "Brighter Days"

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> September was World Suicide Prevention Day and Youth Services Officer with Ku-ring-gai Council, Jenna Bloom, worked with some young people in the area to create a hip hop song that delivers a message of hope for those who are struggling with negative thoughts.

The song, *Brighter Days*, was written by **Noah Gorrick** (**Year 12**) and two other young students under the name of Poz (short for positive). The song was played

# Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme – Bronze Qualifying Expedition



on Triple J and 96.1fm The Edge. Jenna and one of the young artists were also interviewed on Triple J. The message in the song is **that** life's too short not to be lived, no matter how hard something is, you have to stay positive.

To listen to the song and watch the video visit <u>www.kmc.nsw.gov.au/brighterdays</u>

On 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> of September just over 4 groups hiked different areas of the Great North Walk. My group consisted of 14 girls, Mark Krieger and Laura or Kiwi as we sometimes preferred to call her.

We started at Hornsby Station after meeting the group at Berowra Oval and catching the train up. We then started our hike, spirits high. We walked through part of Hornsby despite the weird looks and a little interaction with a resident and then got officially onto the hike. We walked through bush on the track and had to cross a river, the water was high from rain and covering the stepping stones and obviously with wet, damp weather comes the leeches. The squeals that ensued were quite funny. So most of us took our shoes off and crossed the river without slipping. We then started walking along the track again, stopping every now and again for regular leech squeals and begging for someone to take it off, our resident leech expert happened to be a scout so they were flicked off easily and we continued. We were a little behind on time so we stopped for lunch around 1:30 at a truck crossing.

After eating such luxuries for lunch like sushi, wraps and tuna we started on our way **again**. We then hit

the hills. After much struggle we reached the top, celebrated with a well earned drink break. After walking for quite a while we noticed how rough the terrain was and having subconscious thoughts about the fact it just might be the wrong track, well these thoughts were right, Kiwi eventually told us that we were in fact going the wrong way, so after losing an hour, walking back and a strangely cramping leg we finally made it back to the track where we had to strap yet another injury. We had to get our head lamps out because it was starting to get dark by this time and we knew that we wouldn't find our camp before the sun went completely down just like our spirits. So we just kept walking, the only incentive the fact that we could eat and sleep when we got there. A girl in the group was telling me about how faint she felt when we were on the never ending "home stretch" but I encouraged her to keep going and we eventually made it to camp where there was as much celebration about finishing the day's walk as there was about having public toilets. SO we reluctantly set up our tents and cooking stoves, cooked dinner and finally relaxed. After a while the wind got up and started blowing tarps and some rubbish around which we had to run around and collect. But after a tiring day everyone needed some sleep, so after a light flashing war with another group close by we fell asleep, some more quickly than others.

The next day we woke up to a surprisingly nice day, blue sky and sun with a little wind. We got up, packed tents and bags and ate breakfast. After that we had a little talk about different theory things like orientation, what different words meant, how to pin point yourself on a map etc. Then started our walk for the day, we had a little pit stop where we dropped of the tents, stoves and any other excess equipment. We then cruised through the day, walking alongside a river, crossing bridges where we stopped for pictures ("Say CHEESE!") and then walked through some more bush. We finally met our worst enemy, a steep hill.



After many water breaks we finally reached the top and celebrated with a well earned lunch! We had so much time up our sleeves that we were able to go to a lookout that was a bit out of our way and play 'Red Light, Green Light'. We then walked the rest of the hike back the Berowra Oval, passing another group not from our school that we guessed were just starting their hike which we had a giggle about. We walked along a couple of roads back to the oval where we got our Bronze DEAS books signed and met up with our parents that took us home where we discovered hidden blisters, bruises and scratches. Another hike well done and completed!

Millie Thompson, Year 9

# From the Principal's Mailbag

On behalf of Chatswood Legacy, I would like to express our appreciation for the support provided by yourself, Ms Liesl Williamson (teacher) and students during Legacy Week 2010.

I am pleased to advise that your six students made \$521 from the sale of badges, pens and wristbands towards just over \$54,000 collected in total within the Chatswood Legacy area. Students, **Nick Duce (Year 11)**, made the highest sales at \$129.05. The funds so generously donated will be put to good use in maintaining Legacy's support to the dependants of our deceased veterans.

We will arrange a date for Chatswood Legacy to present the participating students with their certificates, and the school with a Legacy plaque as a token of our sincere appreciation.

Thank you.

Douglas Chee, Chairman Chatswood Division of Sydney Legacy

# Uniform Shop – Holiday Opening

The Uniform Shop will be open on **Saturday, 9<sup>th</sup> October 2010 - 9am to 12noon** during the school holidays for your convenience to purchase summer uniform items prior to Term 4.

Our price list and order form can be downloaded from our School website; <u>http://www.killara-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/sws/view/ 41261.node</u>, and select <u>Killara High Uniform Shop</u> **Conny Valeontis, Uniform Shop Coordinator** 

## From the Library

#### Sydney Morning Herald 2011 HSC Success Pack Peglar, Tim. Five Parts Dead For only \$35 per year, or roughly 10c a day, students Phelan, James. Chasers can get a head start on their HSC studies. This is what Ruckdeschel, Liz and James, Sara. What If ... All Your you receive in the pack: Friends Turned On You A copy of The Sydney Morning Herald delivered Voight, Cynthia. Come a Stranger to your school commencing Term 4, 2010. Wallace, Jason. Out of the Shadows A free copy of the Herald Education HSC Perspectives booklet – full of tips for HSC success. **New Non-Fiction titles:** A free entry to The Sydney Morning Herald HSC Acoustic Hits: Perfect for Guitarists, Keyboard Players & Careers Expo in 2011 and All Other Musicians – 100 Classic Songs. Free and exclusive access to the Herald Education Barrett, Terry. Intepreting Art: Reflecting, Wondering, HSC Success Website and Responding. Free access to the Herald's HSC School Archives Black, Maggie and King, Janet. The Atlas of Water: Mapping the World's Most Critical Resource. For an extra \$10 students can have Saturday's Sydney Federman, Rachel. The Great Music Trivia Quiz Book. Morning Herald and The Sun-Herald delivered to your school each Monday during the school year. Kaufman, Stefan H.E. The New Plagues: Pandemics Year 11 should come to the Library to organize their and Poverty in a Globalized World. subscription. Mayes, Frances. Every Day in Tuscany: Seasons of an Italian Life. New fiction titles: Martin, Sylvia. Video Art Brooks, David. Umbrella Club Need to know? Latin Dancing. Ducrou, Daniel. The Byron Journals Smith, Dan. The State of the World Atlas: The Gardner, Scot. *Happy was Larry* Bestselling Survey of Current Events & Global Trends. Havel, Geoff. Water: Secrets Always Float to the Tan, Shaun. The Bird King and Other Sketches Surface Worldwatch Institute. State of the World 2010: Leroux, Gaston. The Phantom of the Opera. Transforming Cultures from Consumerism to Levine, Gail Carson. Fairest Sustainability. Mones, Nicole. The Last Chinese Chef: A Story of **Karen Jones and Francie Campbell** Food, Healing, and Love... Teacher-Librarians Pascal, Francine. Live Bait

# Vision Valley Holiday Camps

Adventure day camps;Horse riding camps;Overnight camp-out;3day/2night campsClimb a rock face, fly through the valley, ride a horse<br/>along a rugged trail, or try to stay dry in a canoe.

Our camps are packed full of fun and adventure, and are designed to promote confidence and give every individual the chance to grow.

Camps are for kids aged 8 and up, and are on these Spring school holidays.

Don't miss out; book your place now by calling 9655 2600 or go to our website for more details www.visionvalley.org.au.

# Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Relay for Life

When and Where:

10am Saturday to 10am Sunday 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> October 2010

Rofe Park, Galston Road, Horsby Heights

**Registration:** 

\$15 per person (pay by 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2010) **Contact:** Ph: 02 4336 4505 - Fax: 02 4367 5895

Email: <u>kiml@nswcc.org.au</u>

Register now! <u>www.relayforlife.org.au</u> 1300 65 65 85

## **COLLAROY SURF CLUB**

The Collaroy Surf Club would like to extend an invitation to all students who may be interested in joining the Club and participating in surf life saving activities over the upcoming 2010-11 Season.

Our junior member (Nippers) activities cater for Surf Awareness and Participation from age 5 to 13 years. From there, Nippers move into the transitionary Cadets section before joining the seniors. Parents are also encouraged to participate, with many gaining their Bronze Medallion.

Nipper <u>registrations will be taken on 12<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup></u> <u>September 2010 from 9am-12pm</u>, upstairs at the Clubhouse on Pittwater Rd, Collaroy. (New members remember to bring your birth certificate). Or at Collaroy beach when <u>the season starts on Sundays from</u> <u>17<sup>h</sup> October</u> at 9.00am.

Enquiries can be made to Martin Bowyer at <u>martin.bowyer@team.telstra.com</u>, on 0418 662 358, or at the club

website <u>http://www.collaroysurfclub.com.au/collaroy/join\_t</u> <u>he\_nippers.html</u>.

## **Dealing with Teens Back Chat Workshop**

#### For Parents and Carers of Teens

Presented by: Gitta Laub, Northern Sydney & Central Coast Child and Adolescent Parenting

A 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> hour workshop that includes the following:

- Learning how to restore a respectful and positive relationship between you and your teenager
- Understanding what it's like being a teenager today
- Learning how to talk so that they will listen and how to listen so that they will talk to you

### When: 20<sup>th</sup> October 2010 – 6.30pm-8.30pm

Where: Mater Maria Catholic College, Byrne Theatre, 5 Forest Road, Warriewood

**Cost:** Free - Refreshments served

Bookings essential – to make a booking call and speak to an intake worker on Ph: 8425 8700 or email: Natalie.wu@dbb.org.au



## Are You a Single Parent?

Each week *Single with Children* provides fun and exciting social activities for single parents and their children. (Many activities are subsidised or free)

It's a great way to meet and get to know people in your area.

To find out more and get a FREE copy of our social calendar

Call us today on 1300 300 496, or check out our web site: <u>www.singlewithchildren.com.au</u>

## Parent Line Parents, Adolescents and the HSC

It is that time of the year again as the class of 2010 prepare to sit their HSC exams. Twelve years of schooling has gone into this final set of examinations and many students and their families find it a particularly challenging time to get through with relationships intact.

It's a given that as parents we all want to help our children achieve their very best in the HSC. The issue we often discuss with parents is what we can do to help ease the way for a better HSC experience for everyone.

It is reassuring for parents to know that most schools have already coached students in study techniques and about the actual exams.

Our support role as parents is very different from the school's support role. In some ways our role is to oversee things from a bigger perspective. School and education is only one facet of our children's lives. While there is no doubt that the HSC is an important milestone in a child's education, it can help to take a step back and view it from a long term perspective.

Here are some of ideas that we have found useful for parents to think about as their child finishes their years at school.

**Take a big picture perspective:** One analogy that we have found useful is the idea that we can take many paths to the same destination. Some children can manage the expressway to their destination and others need the scenic route to know that the final destination is right for them.

**Maintain passion:** Encourage your child to be involved in something that they are passionate about.

Have a continued learning approach to life: Encourage your child to view the process of sitting the HSC as an opportunity to continue to learn about themselves and others, how they manage stress, what's important to them, how they can improve next time they are placed in a high stress situation etc.

Hope and a belief that things will work out: Children need a support crew who believe in them during this time. Find a positive way of encouraging them with their studies.

**Fun**: although the HSC is a serious time it is important for parents to encourage children to have fun and laugh along the way.

Our counselling team, made up of highly qualified and experienced child, adolescent and family counsellors who are happy to talk through the issues your family is experiencing.

Call us at Parent Line **1300 1300 52,** 24 hours a day, 7 days a week or log onto our website for more parenting information <u>www.parentline.org.au</u>.

Ku-ring-gai Police and Community Safety Committee in Partnership with Ku-ring-gai Council WORKING TOGETHER FOR BETTER COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING FREE FORUM for Parents/Carers and Adolescents "Get Connected" Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2010 - 6.30 pm for 7 pm till 9.30 pm Will feature - "Best Enemies" DVD focusing on the impact of "Cyber Bullying" on teens Speakers include: Snr Constable Julie Jones, School Liaison Officer, Hornsby Police Will share valuable tips for cyber safety Prof Garry Walter, Clinical Director, Child and Adolescent Mental Health, NSCCAHS Will discuss signs and symptoms of adolescent depression and youth suicide David Citer, Manger, Ku-ring-gai Youth Development Service [KYDS] will chair the forum A typical scenario among young people in the community will be presented – leading to guestion-and-answer discussion between the audience and expert panel **FREE ENTRY - Light Refreshments** Ku-ring-gai Council Chambers, Level 3, 818 Pacific Highway, Gordon - Access via rear entrance BOOK EARLY - Contact Carroll on 0405 558 6609 or 9489 6283 carroll.howe@gmail.com



Staff and students' Bompo Dompo competition



Year 10 Canberra Excursion



Surf School



Grade Sofcross