MINISTER’S VISIT ON MONDAY 10 FEBRUARY, 2014

The NSW Minister for Education Adrian Piccoli again visited the school on Monday 10 February. He was in Maitland for the NSW Cabinet Meeting and spoke to students and staff about progress with the upgrade to school facilities. He previously visited the school in June last year to announce the upgrade.
SENIOR EXECUTIVE REPORT

I trust now that all families are back into routine and all students are engaged in learning for 2014. I have had the pleasure over the past few weeks to meet many new families and students at our school. Rutherford Technology High School is about providing and maintaining an environment that fosters the development of a student’s full potential in every area of life: mental, physical, social and spiritual. Helping our students to grow in these areas can be challenging at times and that is why we want all our parents to be involved in understanding what the school is doing and how we can best work together.

Swimming Carnival
The swimming carnival was a great success on Thursday 13 February. It was especially great to see so many Year 12 students involved in the day. Congratulations to Miss Thompson and staff for the organisation of the day.

Developing Character
Helping our students grow in character is a key focus of our school and we need to keep on reminding ourselves about this. Recently, I was reading about a psychologist Angela Duckworth, and her recent findings. Angela had been trying to look for ways to assist children from low socio-economic areas to succeed in their learning. During her research she arrived at a startling discovery that would shape the course of her career: She found that the students’ self discipline scores were far better predictors of their academic performance than their IQ scores. She said, “The problem, I think, is not only the schools but also the students themselves. Here’s why: learning is hard. True, learning is fun, exhilarating and gratifying — but it is also often daunting, exhausting and sometimes discouraging. . . To help chronically low-performing but intelligent students, educators and parents must first recognize that character is at least as important as intellect.”


Year 6 Visits
During week 3 Mr Whiting and I had the pleasure of attending all of our feeder primary schools, meeting parents and students and informing them of wonderful educational experiences that we offer students at our school. We discussed topics such as the variety of electives subjects, the school’s vision, the purpose of an extensive welfare team and the benefits of our peer support program for year 7 students. This newsletter also includes important year 6-7 transition information. Please note that the 4th of March is year 6 orientation evening.

Year 10/11 Assessment Book
Over the next two weeks, Mr Archbold and myself will visit year 10 and 11 classes to distribute both the ROSA and Preliminary assessment schedule booklets. Please take the time to ask your child for the booklet assessment tasks schedules for all subjects which are provided along with information regarding the illness and misadventure procedures.

Uniform
A reminder that we are a uniformed school. This includes black leather shoes that must be worn in all science labs, metal and woodwork rooms and TAS kitchens. This is a work, health and safety requirement.

Truancy
All students have been distributed with new class timetables. Students are expected to attend all lessons on time. Students who truant class will be followed up by the classroom teachers and Head teacher.

Sick Students
Students who are sick at school are required to attend the front office with a note from their teacher. Our front office staff will contact parents or emergency contacts and request that the student be collected and signed out from school. Parents and carers are encouraged to ensure that the school has the correct phone numbers (home, mobile and work) and emergency contact details listed.

Elective Fees
A reminder that many of our elective courses rely on a fee to buy materials to support the course. Students select these subjects fully aware of the fee involved. It would be appreciated if these fees could be paid promptly.

Dreams only remain dreams for those who choose not to pursue them.

Kylie Fabri
Relieving Deputy Principal
ATTENDANCE

Rutherford Technology High School supports and implements the NSW Department of Education and Communities (DEC) Attendance Policy. This policy is based on research which indicates that **students who attend school regularly are more likely to achieve educational success, and increase their career and life options.**

It is important that teachers, parents and community groups work together to create a culture where regular school attendance is the norm. RTHS has a range of systems and individual strategies in place to support student attendance.

The beginning of the school year is an important time to set high expectations with students regarding their patterns of attendance. Consequently during Week 4, Assistant Year Advisors will be meeting with students whose attendance is already causing concern. These interviews will enable us to work with students and families to develop support strategies and address concerns early in the year.

If your child is absent from school please notify the school promptly and explain the absence. This can be done by responding to SMS messages which have been sent by the school, by sending a brief note be handed in at the Front Office or your child’s roll call teacher, or with a phone call to our office staff. If you are having trouble getting your child to attend school please contact Kris Turner the Head Teacher Welfare.

For further information regarding attendance see the DEC ‘Information for Parents’ flyer which has been included at the end of this newsletter.

*Kris Turner*
*HT Welfare (Attendance)*

Science Faculty News

Welcome back to another exciting year in Science and Agriculture. This year we have commenced teaching under the new NSW Syllabus incorporating the Australian Curriculum in Years 7 and 9. This involved writing new programs and assessment tasks for each of these two years, which was carried out during 2013. During this year, years 8 and 10 programs and assessment task will go through a similar process in readiness for 2015.

We have introduced some new topics in Year 7 and 9 in line with the new syllabus. These include: Physics, Classification, Solar System, Rock and Minerals, Ecology and Sustainability.

As we start the new year, some staff changes have occurred. We farewelled Miss Legare-Desilets and thanked her for her efforts throughout most of 2013. She however, will return on a more casual teaching basis this year. Mrs Basedow and Mrs Turner have both returned to their full time rolls.

Over the summer break the Faculty Fish Tank has been rejuvenated with new fish and weed. Students enjoy seeing the variety and at times the little baby fish during the day.

This year in Science and Agriculture several excursions will be organised to further extend students knowledge and awareness. Already some have been booked in, with permission notes and places limited on some excursions, keep an eye on the newsletter for when they are announced.

Enjoy the year ahead!

*Steve Edwards*
*Head Teacher Science*
Year 9 Report

Last week Year 9 attended this year’s swimming carnival. Many of them were keen to participate in the day’s events possibly reflecting their enthusiasm for their excursion in Term 4 to Sydney’s new theme park, Wet and Wild. This week the Girl’s Shine program is commencing. This program focuses on raising awareness about key issues faced by adolescents including body image and self esteem.

Year 9 attend a PBL lesson once a fortnight and are currently engaged in 21st century learning. The students use laptops to access the website edmodo.com, this program is similar to Facebook and allows students to work independently. The tasks year nine have been completing so far relate to helpful thinking strategies and perspective taking.

OUTWARD BOUND HUNTER YOUTH LEADERSHIP PROJECT 2014

FOUNDATIONS PROGRAM: YEAR 9 & 10 STUDENTS

A 7 day development program designed for Yr 9 & 10 students to challenge and inspire them to take the initiative and become all they can be. Course dates are: Sunday 1 to Sunday 8 June, 2014. The venue is the Outward Bound base in the Tweed Valley in northern NSW.

The course aims are:
To be fun & significant event that participants can reflect upon for ongoing learning and encouragement when facing future challenges. To develop positive relationships with peers from different communities. To improve self-awareness. To develop resilience, initiative and responsibility. To challenge self perceptions of ability to overcome. The program is partially sponsored by Coal and Allied and scholarships are funded by the Coal and Allied Development Fund. If interested, see Miss Whitbourne in Support or Mrs Porter in Science as applications close on Monday 31 March, 2014.

Check out this website for further details
HIGH SCHOOL TRANSITION
The transition from primary school to high school is an important time in the life of a young person. Staff at Rutherford Technology High School are keen to make that transition as pleasant as possible. This is done by a structured transition process involving visits to the high school and familiarisation with school staff and processes. As part of the transition process we will be producing regular newsletters for Year 6 students and their parents to provide an update on transition activities.

Key Dates for 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4th March</td>
<td>Parent Information Evening 5.30pm start</td>
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<tr>
<td>10th March</td>
<td>All Primary Schools have issued to parents/carers the Moving into year 7 in a government PS (EOI) booklet for placement in a secondary school.</td>
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<tr>
<td>21st March</td>
<td>EOI’s for secondary schools returned to your Primary School</td>
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<tr>
<td>24th July</td>
<td>Year 5 and 6 GATS program (9-1pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>31st July</td>
<td>Year 5 and 6 GATS program (9-1pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>7th August</td>
<td>Year 5 and 6 GATS program (9-1pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>14th August</td>
<td>Year 5 and 6 GATS program (9-1pm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd September</td>
<td>Year 5 GALA Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>28th October</td>
<td>Year 6 GALA Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>25th Nov</td>
<td>Aboriginal Transition Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Special Ed Transition Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd December</td>
<td>Year 6 to 7 Term 4 Parent Information Night commencing at 5.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd December</td>
<td>Year 6 Orientation day for all secondary students</td>
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Information Night. On Tuesday 4th March, 2014 an Information Night for all Year 6 students and their families will be held at Rutherford Technology High School. This will commence at 5.30 pm and will include a tour of the school, as well as hands-on activities, to see the facilities available to students.

Year 7 students undertaking Peer Support activities with their Year 11 leaders

Further Information. If you would like further information about Rutherford Technology High School please contact Principal, Mr Michael Whiting or Deputy Principal, Mrs Simone Hughes, at the school on 49 32 5999.

Mr Michael Whiting (Principal)  Mrs Simone Hughes (Deputy Principal)
Thank you to Mr Morgan Page from Joyce Mayne for donating blank CDs for the musical production ‘Bye, Bye Birdie’.

**Year 12 Report**

The Yr 12 students participated en masse at the swimming carnival and highly impressed the staff with their participation, good nature, innovative activities and leadership. Without doubt they have produced one of the best ever efforts by Year 12 at a swimming carnival.

PLEASE pay fees as soon as possible. The money can be spent to benefit Year 12 throughout the year. Fees paid at the end of the year cannot benefit students to the same extent.

Year 12 jerseys are being ordered. I did my best to inform the students last year so as to give them time to prepare. Designs by the students were voted upon and the winning design was overwhelmingly popular. Students collected and donated a large number of Woolworths’ animal cards to be used as a teaching resource. Well done – an inexpensive act of kindness.

PLEASE encourage Yr 12 to use social media in a positive way or not at all. Much harm can be done to the cohesiveness and comradery of all the students by inappropriate use and time that could be used to help them is wasted undoing the hurt.

If possible, be aware of upcoming assessment tasks, homework and assignments. Students should also be developing study notes, summaries and practising past questions. They ALWAYS have something to do in order to better themselves.

I have much to do and I have already started on Year 12 references and the formal. This will make the work manageable – something I wish to role model to the students – keep at it and it will be manageable. Finally, the fundraising opportunities within the school are limited. I will focus on a realistic number of activities and keep them as much as possible in class.

Two possible sponsors for Yr 12 have been approached but I am looking for more. I wish to give the students and their parents the best year possible.

Kevin McMullen
Year 12 Advisor
RTHS ANTI BULLYING PLEDGE

STANDING UP FOR EACH OTHER

This is for me
my friends today
And my friends tomorrow.
I think BULLYING is not ok!
I won't watch someone get picked on
Because I am a do something person
not a do nothing person
I care
I can help change things
I can be a leader
In my world there are no bullies allowed.
Bullying is bad
Bullying bites
Bullying bothers me
I know sticking up for someone is the
right thing to do
My name is (your name)
And I won't stand by
I will stand up

RUTHERFORD TECHNOLOGY
HIGH SCHOOL
Preparing for the Future

TOGETHER WE WILL

STOP BULLYING NOW
STAND UP • SPEAK OUT

BULLYING - NO WAY!

What is Bullying?

Bullying is a pattern of repeated physical, verbal, psychological or social aggression that is directed towards a specific student by someone with more power and is intended to cause harm, distress and/or create fear. Bullying may be carried out overtly (e.g., face-to-face) or covertly (e.g. through repeated social exclusion or via technology). It is a sub-category of aggression and is different to, but also related to, harassment and violence. It is not the same as conflict or social dislike even though, in some cases, the outcome of both can be bullying.

The different types of bullying

Face-to-face bullying (sometimes referred to as direct bullying) involves physical actions such as punching, kicking or overt verbal actions such as name-calling and insulting.

Covert bullying (sometimes referred to as indirect bullying) is a subtle type of non-physical bullying which isn’t easily seen by others and is conducted out of sight, and often unacknowledged by adults.

Cyberbullying occurs through the use of information or communication technologies such as instant messaging, text messages, email and social networking sites. It has many similarities with offline bullying but it differs in that the student(s) who issue bullying can be anonymous, it can reach a wide audience and the sent or uploaded material can be difficult to remove.

Most students who cyberbully also bully offline. It is now recognised that many forms of covert bullying appear to have significant potential for serious harm.

What are some strategies to prevent bullying?

IGNORE

Make yourself a smaller target for the bully by actively and positively ignoring.

Don’t over react.

SELF TALK

Talk to yourself in a positive way.
Tell yourself that you are ok, it is not your fault.
the bully is in the wrong, not you.

Talk sense to yourself.
Be aware of your personal power.
Imagine a protective layer between you and them -
tell yourself "I won’t let what they say hurt me”.

Don’t become a bully yourself.

BE ASSERTIVE BUT NON VIOLENT

If the bullying continues let the bully know in an assertive voice that you don’t accept their actions.
Say once only, look them in the eye-
"I don’t like it when you (Name the behavior) and
I want you to stop”.

Don’t exchange insults with bullies. Do not hit back as this will get you into trouble.

Do not be alone. Stay with friends or teachers

TELL SOMEONE

Report continued bullying to your Teacher, Year Advisor or Anti Bully Coordinator. Keep reporting any bullying to the same teacher. Don’t tell 10 teachers the same story.

Go back to the teacher you told if the bullying does not stop.

If you are still being seriously bullied a Teacher/Head Teacher, Year Advisor or Anti Bully Coordinator will ask you to complete an online Report a Bully report.

TELL YOUR PARENTS

Your parents are advised to contact the school to discuss any bullying with your Year Advisor or Anti Bully Coordinator.

PBL actions:

SHOW RESPECT
........ By not bullying others

BE RESPONSIBLE
........ By standing up for ourselves and others

COMMIT
........ By doing something to
Martial Art

On Sunday 9 February two year 7 students, Stephanie Akers and Mark Woodbridge gained their Black Belts in the Martial Art of Rhee Taekwondo.

Both these students were tested live on the day by World Master Rhee (Father of Taekwondo in Australia). Testing involved showing high level skills in many forms of Rhee Taekwondo including four board breaks one of which is the spectacular flying side kick over three students to break the board.

Welfare

Rutherford Technology High School has a comprehensive policy in place which outlines the processes and procedures for managing incidents involving student conflict or bullying.

Over the last 2 weeks year meetings have been held with all students in Years 7-10, in order to clearly explain the difference between conflict and bullying. Strategies to use in these situations were also discussed, along with procedures which should be followed by students. It is extremely important that students notify the teacher on class, or in the playground, when an incident occurs so that the teacher can follow up.

All students have been given a brochure which reinforces the information discussed at year meetings. The brochure has been included in this newsletter and it is strongly recommended that parents discuss the brochure content with their child. Students should also be reminded that is important that they tell a parent if they have any concerns or issues. A useful technology resource for parents and students is the App called ‘Take a Stand Together’. This App has been developed by Australian education authorities and provides a range of tips and advice to use in different situations.

This topic was also the focus of our recent staff meeting with all staff being updated with regards to our current policy, processes and procedures. In the coming weeks similar meetings will be held with Years 11 and 12. On the 21st March our school will be participating in activities as part of the ‘National Day Against Bullying’.

Kris Turner/Louise Smailes
Head Teacher Welfare
Year 11 Report

Year 11 have settled into their classes for the Preliminary year, which concludes, for most subjects, with end of course exams at the end of term 3. All subject changes have been processed and students are now studying subjects that they feel happy with and will continue with for their HSC. Students have engaged in classes, TAFE and VET (vocational education training) courses with great enthusiasm.

To achieve to the best of their ability in the HSC it is important for students to set up good study habits now, if they haven't done so already. As a guide, it is recommended that half an hour homework every night is completed for EVERY 2 unit subject. If there is not set homework for that subject then this time should be spent revising and reading through class notes from the previous lessons. When understanding of the basics is not clear, it is much easier to ask for help before these concepts are developed upon. Assessment tasks will require additional time on top of the recommended half hour per 2 unit subject.

Several students have part time work, so it is essential they manage their time effectively, especially study periods at school. Speaking with employers to negotiate less work during exam weeks, and when there are several assessment tasks demanding of your time, is best done at least two weeks before the dates being negotiated. For any student working more than 10 hours work a week, early development of good study habits is essential. Please help your child to succeed by providing a quiet study desk or table, with a straight backed chair, and prompting them to complete their homework. Music and television should be kept to a minimum whilst studying.

Please contact me should you have any enquiries, or if we can help to support your child in any way.

Nella Clarke
Yr 11 Year Advisor

Mathematics

As part of the National Assessment Program (NAPLAN), all students in Year 7 and year 9 will sit for a Numeracy exam which has a non-calculator and a calculator component. This exam is held in May and to best prepare your child, it is important he/she has use of a calculator in class. Whilst the Mathematics faculty will continue to stress the importance of mental computation (with the majority of content being taught this way) it is also vital students learn to use calculators effectively as a technological tool to aid their learning.

If you need to purchase a calculator, a scientific one is preferable, with the Casio fx-82AUplus model being a popular choice for our students and is the one recommended by the Mathematics faculty. It is often on sale at local newsagencies and retail stores but can also be purchased from the front office at RTHS for $25.00. This model has all the features necessary for the study of all mathematics courses from Year 7 to year 12 and if looked after should last that long.

If you have any concerns regarding the above information please do not hesitate to contact me on the school phone number.

Craig Trotter
Head Teacher Mathematics
**Administration**

Welcome to the 2014 School year. Please refer to the Compulsory School Attendance attachment for DET guidelines for your child’s attendance.

Some administration procedures may help you during the year:

1. Please make sure your contact details are kept up to date so we can contact you.
2. All students have been given a recent timetable. Please ask your child to make a copy of it so they are not caught without one. A copy can be stored on their phone by using the Edval address and code on the noticeboard in the quad.
3. The DET requires notes for absences to be handed in within five days. All notes need the Students first name and surname, year group, date for absence, the reason for absence and parental/carer signature.
4. Notes for Early Leavers requests need to be handed in at the Administration Office before roll call. Only the child named on the Early Leaver’s Pass can collect it from the office. These are available for family leave or sickness, not for work.
5. If your child is going to be away from school for three or more days please collect an Exemption Form from the front office and hand it in before you leave.
6. When attendance is being monitored for Centrelink Surveys students need to have been at school for over 85% of the time and in class during those days.

Your cooperation with these procedures is much appreciated.

Gayle Williams  
HT Administration

**Year 7 Report**

Year 7 have had a fantastic start to the year and have settled well into their new high school routines. It is wonderful to see the students wearing their RTHS uniforms with pride and embracing our positive behaviour for learning values of respect, responsibility and commitment. Students are recognised for demonstrating these values at a special awards presentation that takes place at the start of each term. I look forwarding to seeing many Yr 7 students receiving their first of many commendations.

On Thursday last week, many Yr 7 students participated in our annual Swimming Carnival and enjoyed a great day at the pool. The behaviour of our Yr 7 students was excellent and they contributed to an impressive display of school spirit. Congratulations to all of our Yr 7 students selected to represent RTHS at Zone.

A peer support programme was re-launched at RTHS this year and we are hoping to continue it in years to come. We believe peer support has contributed to Yr 7 settling in quickly and students appear to be enjoying the sessions. Early topics included school orientation and have now moved on to values. The Year 11 students who volunteered to be peer support leaders are demonstrating excellent leadership skills. As it is the first year running here in some time, we continue to provide training and feedback to our peer support leaders and are dealing with issues as they arise. On the whole, it has been a very positive experience for all involved. We will wrap up our peer support programme with a full day excursion that will involve the final sessions, a picnic lunch and some fun games and activities. A permission note with full details will be sent home shortly.

Fee invoices have been sent home. I warmly encourage you to pay the fees as soon as you can. These fees do make a difference to your child’s education. When you pay the school fees, it allows each faculty to continue to buy resources that benefit your child in class and allows us to offer your child a greater range of learning experiences.

I am looking forward to a great year ahead with Year 7. If you have any questions or concerns, please don’t hesitate to call the school office and I will return your call as soon as possible.

Emma Basedow  
Year 7 Advisor
NEWS FROM THE AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT

An invitation has been extended by the Poultry Committee of the Royal Agricultural Society of NSW to our Agriculture and Primary Industry students to participate in the School Poultry Competitions 2014, at the Royal Easter Show.

2014 Sydney Royal Hy-Line School Egg Laying Competition
8 Hy-Line 7 week old chickens were delivered to school from the Australia Egg Board Corporation in November, 2013. From November until April the chickens will be fed a specialized diet, formulated by the students for maximum growth so that by the Easter Show the chickens at 28 weeks will be laying eggs. Data needs to be collected of the chickens’ growth rate and their feed intake so that the most efficient diet is provided. This information will be tabulated and graphed and presented to the Poultry judges. The best pullet producing uniform eggs to a commercial standard and quality will be selected and taken to the Show Arena. Judgements are made on the best pullet, the worksheets of data collected over the 21 weeks and quality of the eggs laid.

2014 Sydney Royal Steggles School Meat Bird Pairs Competition
12 Meat Bird chicks will arrive towards the end of February. After 6 weeks of a high protein diet formulated by students, with data collected for their feed intake and growth rates, two birds will return to the Sydney Royal Meat Bird Competition to be judged in the Carcass class. Both competitions are designed to encourage and promote agriculture in the curriculum. Other objectives include: providing an insight into the commercial poultry industry, providing information about food production, highlighting career opportunities and encouraging students to seek employment in the industry, providing a framework for students to understand and value primary production, assisting schools develop partnerships with industry.

FRONT OFFICE

School Fees
School Fees are now due. Payments can be made via Cash, Cheque, Eftpos or Credit Card payments (over the phone). If you have any questions in regard to this, please do not hesitate to contact the Front Office.

Student Contact Details
It is extremely important that all contact details (including emergency contacts) are accurate. At times we have tried to contact parents/carers and have had no success due to changes in phone numbers etc. Please ensure all details are correct and current, any changes can be made through the school office. Our newsletter is emailed to all families. In order to keep our records accurate, please contact the office with any changes you may have to your contact details.

Sick Bay
At RTHS our policy is to contact the parent/carers if your child presents to sick bay. Students MUST NOT contact parents themselves as this may result in confusion and distress when procedures are not followed. Students must be collected by a parent or nominated person over the age of 18.

Lost Property
Lost Property can be collected from the front office. At the end of each term, all lost clothing is washed and donated to our clothing pool. If any student has lost an item, please come to office to see if it has been handed in. Please note: RTHS takes no responsibility for lost Ipods or mobile phones.

Bus Passes
All students should have received their Bus Passes. If you have not, please come to office to enquire.

Items for Sale to Students
The school office sells the following items:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Book Packs</td>
<td>$35.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safety Glasses</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calculators</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aprons</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art Books</td>
<td>from $5.50</td>
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If you have any questions regarding any of the items above, please do not hesitate to contact the front office on 4932 5999. We will be happy to help.

Lexi Fitzgibbon School Administration Manager (Rel)
TRAVEL OVERSEAS
in your summer holidays
with the Lions Clubs International Youth Exchange Program

LIMITED PLACES AVAILABLE IN 2014
APPLY NOW!

- Lions Clubs International is one of the largest service organisations worldwide. The Lions Youth Exchange Program gives youth aged 16-21 years a unique opportunity to live with families overseas to experience a cultural holiday and practise second-language skills such as German, Spanish, French, Japanese, etc. No school attendance is required overseas.
- The Program is not based on tourism or sightseeing. Australian youth live with an overseas family as a family member to experience their lifestyle, culture, interests and values.
- Lots of exciting overseas destinations including Europe, North and South America, USA, Malaysia, New Zealand, Scandinavia and Japan.
- Chaperoned stopovers available in Los Angeles and London.
- Accommodation provided at no cost by host families associated with Lions Clubs International.
- Depart early December 2014, return mid-January 2015 (5-6 weeks of summer holidays).
- Approximate costs range from $1,800 to $5,900 depending on overseas destination chosen.
- Email Lion Helen Dalglish (helend222@hotmail.com) or Lion Lorraine Hemsworth (l.hemsworth@bigpond.com) of the National Lions Youth Exchange Committee to discuss the application process.
- More information is available on the national Youth Exchange website:

www.lionsclubs.org.au/ye

TRY YOUTH EXCHANGE
YOU WILL ENJOY IT!

Flyer prepared by
Lions Australia MD201 Youth Exchange Committee
ARE YOU INTERESTED IN GAINING EXPERIENCE IN

- Leadership
- Personal Improvement
- Sportmanship
- Citizenship
- Community Involvement
- Public Speaking

Enter the Lions Youth of The Year Quest proudly sponsored by the National Australia Bank

AIM OF THE QUEST
To encourage, foster and develop leadership in conjunction with other citizenship qualities in Australian youth, when they are about to enter the fields of employment or higher education.

ELIGIBILITY TO ENTER
Entry is open to youth who are attending or have attended a high school or secondary school or equivalent standard of school in any other educational establishment, including correspondence school between July 2013 and June 2014, who are over the age of 15 and under 19 years of age at 30 June in 2014.

QUALITIES SOUGHT IN CANDIDATES
A high level of academic, leadership, sporting, public speaking and citizenship achievement is sought in potential winners. YOTY is designed to encourage students’ interest in leadership and the qualities required to take an active and constructive role in the community.

JUDGING
Youth compete at various levels of competition commencing with local Lions Club judging (September/October) followed by Zone judging (in some Districts), Regional Judging, Lions District judging, State Finals and National final (in April/May)

PRIZES / AWARDS
- Prizes will be awarded to contestants at all levels of the Quest.
- All National finalists are awarded an organised group tour to a Lions International Youth Camp in New Zealand followed by a group tour to the National Winner’s home state (totaling 16 days’ duration during the summer holidays).
- Each state winner will also receive $500 spending money for the New Zealand trip.
- The National winner receives a trip to a destination of their choosing valued at $4,000 plus $1,000 spending money.
- The National Public Speaking winner receives a trip to a destination of their choosing to the value of $2,000 plus $500 spending money.

For more information or to nominate for the Lions Youth of the Year Quest contact:
- Your local Lions Club
- The Quest Chairperson for Australia, Brian Williams; md201yoty@llinet.net.au
DO YOU HAVE TIME TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

Across Australia, during the month of April 2014, PCYC will be running our major fundraising event *Time4Kids*. Community members and leaders, business leaders, celebrities and sporting heroes such as yourself volunteer and commit to *do time to stop youth crime*. We are hoping that you would consider helping Maitland PCYC to raise funds for youth development and police crime prevention programs for local youth.

What are we asking you to do?

**Maitland PCYC** is holding our event on 12/4/14 and we will lock you up for around half an hour in our special mock gaol. It is a fun event and you can invite your colleagues, friends and family to support you. To be released from our gaol you will need to raise a minimum of $500 bail, but we will accept increased contributions towards your freedom!

The idea is for you to pre-arrange enough donations to meet the minimum bail of $500, you can raise all your donations in through our website [www.time4kids.org.au](http://www.time4kids.org.au). *Donations $2 and over are tax deductible.*

This is a great opportunity for you to join other community leaders and be a part of an exciting event that will attract strong media interest, keen fundraising competition, local benefit and community participation.

To help you get into the spirit of the event, on the day you will be provided with a prisoner uniform to wear and a tin to rattle while locked up.

Please feel free to contact me on *(02) 49 347 122* to accept my invitation to be involved in this fantastic event or email me on [JRussell@pcycnsw.org.au](mailto:JRussell@pcycnsw.org.au).

We look forward to you doing time for kids!

Yours sincerely

Justine Russell  
Club Manager  
PCYC Maitland  
Police Citizens Youth Clubs NSW

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**CANTEEN ROSTER**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Staff</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>24 Feb</td>
<td>K Cresswell &amp; L Wellard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 Feb</td>
<td>J Pitt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 Feb</td>
<td>Volunteer required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 Feb</td>
<td>J Pitt &amp; D Potts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 Feb</td>
<td>S Clarke</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Mar</td>
<td>K Cresswell &amp; L Wellard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Mar</td>
<td>J Pitt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Mar</td>
<td>A Hudson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Mar</td>
<td>J Pitt &amp; D Potts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Mar</td>
<td>Volunteer required</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Rutherford Technology High School has launched its Official Facebook Page – just go to Facebook and look for “Rutherford Technology High School NSW Official Site” and click on “Like”.

We will be using the Facebook page to keep everyone informed about events at the school, important dates for your diary, and general information about the school.

Link: http://www.facebook.com/RutherfordTechnologyHighSchool

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**A HEALTHY SCHOOLS HEALTHY FUTURES MESSAGE:**

**Meaningful Community Participation**

**What is community?**
The word community can be used to describe many different groups of people across many locations. It is important to define what your community is. Perhaps you are part of a school community, a community or youth or parents, or perhaps a neighbourhood community. Developing a sense of community and having active and meaningful participation within that community is a vital component for youth and adult development.

It is important to remember that community is not static, it is dynamic – this means that communities are made up of many different people and constantly change over time. Healthy communities are those that have strong trust in, and care for the people that make the community, and allow expression of differing opinions in order to support growth and development through debate and change.

**Community Participation**

As community participation can have a significant impact on youth, adults modelling behaviour that they wish children or students to emulate is an integral part of developing positive community participation.

Meaningful community participation can involve a variety of things including:

- **Encouraging members of the community to develop and accept responsibility.** Allowing community members to each have a valuable role, big or small, in the community, fosters self-esteem, resilience, and a sense of purpose and connectedness.

- **Finding a way for adolescents to assist and participate within the local and wider community.** The involvement of youth within community events such as fetes or fundraising activities enhances a sense of pride, belonging, accomplishment and essentially, resilience.

- **Finally, volunteering your time to community organisations.**

Communities that enable people to be involved as active members enhance student learning and engagement, improve school attendance, reduce anti-social behaviour and improve resilience levels amongst adolescents. They possess the necessary resources, such as strength, to adapt to any changes and challenges that may arise.

If you would like further information of Meaningful Community Participation, please refer to: Meaningful participation: How to give the community a ‘voice’, an article by Don Edgar available at: http://www.rdasouthwest.com.au/_content/documents/Giving%20communities%20a%20voice

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**Teaching someone to drive can be a happy experience.**

You can learn all the simple steps on how to teach a learner driver at a **FREE** two hour workshop.

The next workshop in your area will be held:

**TIME & DATE:**
Thursday 13 March 2014 6pm to 8pm

**VENUE:**
Meeting Rooms Maitland Town Hall High St Maitland

**BOOK NOW ON:**
Road Safety Officer 4934 9640 BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

Helping learner drivers become safe drivers
The Breakfast Club at RTHS would like to acknowledge the support that Woolworths Rutherford have provided for the early morning breakfast throughout the year.

Their donations have been greatly appreciated by students and staff

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Have you heard of Fizzics Education?

Well they are coming soon……
30 Year 9 & 10 students will have the chance to design, build and program NXT Lego Mindstorms robots.
30 Year 7 & 8 students will be involved in hands on workshop designed to demonstrate practical applications of Mathematics in Science and the real world.

It’s all practical – get your hands ready to do.

Date: Friday, 14th March, 2014
Years 9, 10 periods 1,2 in Lab 4 Science workshop on robots
Years 7, 8 periods 3,4 in Lab4 Maths workshop on using Mathematics

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SKATEBOARDS & SCOOTERS ARE NOT to be brought to school, except on Thursdays if doing scootering.

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RUTHERFORD TECHNOLOGY HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER - EMAIL DETAILS

The Rutherford Technology High School newsletter is issued fortnightly via email. The newsletter contains important information for parents/families. To ensure that you receive your copy please advise your email address on the form below. If you prefer to have the newsletter mailed home to you, please let us know.

The newsletter is also sent out to all student email accounts and is available via the school website at www.rutherford-h.schools.nsw.edu.au.

I would like to receive my copy of the school newsletter by: o Email o Normal Mail

Student Name/s: ……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

Parents/Carers Names: …………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

Please send my email copy of the school newsletter to the following email address:

………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

(print email address clearly) Please return completed form to the Front office.
Compulsory school attendance
Information for parents

The compulsory years of schooling

In New South Wales, all children from six years of age are legally required to attend school or be registered for home schooling. After they complete Year 10 and until they turn 17 years of age, students then have the following options. They may also be in:

- full-time further education and training (e.g. TAFE, traineeship, apprenticeship);
- full-time, paid employment of an average of 25 hours per week; or
- a combination of both of the above.

Children are expected to attend all school activities, on time. Regular attendance helps your child:

- develop the skills needed to access the world of work and other opportunities;
- to learn the importance of punctuality and routine;
- make and keep friendships.

What if my child has to be away from school?

If your child has to be absent from school, you must tell the school and provide a reason for your child’s absence. To explain an absence parents and carers may be required to:

- send a note to the school, or contact the school via electronic means such as SMS text message, fax or email, or
- telephone the school, or
- visit the school.

A small number of absences may be accepted by the principal. For example, if your child:

- has to go to a special religious ceremony;
- is required to attend a serious or urgent family situation (e.g. a funeral);
- is too sick to go to school or has an infectious illness.

Did you know that if a student misses as little as eight days in a school term, by the end of primary school they will have missed over a year of education?
What are school Principals responsible for?

Principals help to ensure the safety, welfare and wellbeing of your child. Principals have to keep accurate records of student attendance and the reasons for any absences. Principals are responsible for accepting or not accepting a parent's explanations for their child's absences. Principals may request further information from parents for long or frequent absences, even where they are explained by parents as being due to illness.

When absences are unexplained by parents, or the explanations are not accepted by the principal, the school will work with parents to help address the issue. The main aim is to sort out what is preventing the child from getting to school and putting strategies in place to help. Sometimes, the school will ask support staff and other agencies to assist.

What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?

It is important to understand that the Department may take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unacceptable absences from school. Some of the following actions may be undertaken:

- Attendance meetings and compulsory attendance conferences

Parents (and sometimes their child) can be asked to go to a meeting with school personnel and other regional officers. The aim of the meeting is to help identify strategies to support the child and family. Other agencies may also be invited along to help, if parents agree.

If the school and other regional officers have tried to help improve a child's attendance, without success, parents (and sometimes their child) can be asked to go to a compulsory attendance conference. The conference will be run by a trained conference convenor. The aim of the conference is for the school, parents (and sometimes their child) and other identified agencies ("the parties") to further identify the issues which are impacting on a child's attendance.

The outcome of a compulsory attendance conference is for the parties to agree to undertake certain actions to improve the child's attendance. These actions are written in the form of undertakings.

- Applications to the Children's Court – A Compulsory Schooling Order

Legal compliance can be sought through an application to the Children's Court for a Compulsory Schooling Order. The aim is to assist a family and/or child to address the issues which are preventing satisfactory school attendance but has the added enforcement of a Court's powers.

- Prosecution in the Local Court

If all attempts by schools and regional support staff fail to improve a student's attendance, action can be taken in the Local Court and the result can be fines up to a maximum of $11,000.

Further information regarding school attendance can be obtained from the following websites:

Policy, information and brochures:

The school leaving age:

Do you need an interpreter?

Interpreting services are provided, where possible, for parents/carers who do not speak or understand English well and for Deaf parents/carers who use sign language. The Telephone Interpreter Service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week at the telephone number: 131 450. You will not be charged for this service.

See the website address:
Rutherford Technology High School will be participating in the school vaccination program on the following days.

**Round 1** – Wednesday 5th March 2014

**Round 2** – Wednesday 21st May 2014

**Round 3** – Wednesday 17th September 2014

**Location** – School Library

Each year NSW Health offers the vaccines recommended by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) for adolescents as part of the school vaccination program. In 2014 the following vaccines will be offered:

**Year 7 students (males and females)**
- dTpa vaccine (Diphtheria, Tetanus & Pertussis (whooping cough) one dose
- varicella vaccine (chickenpox) one dose
- human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine in a 3 dose course

**Year 9 students**
- HPV vaccine in a 3 dose course, **male students only**

*The Parent Information Kits contain a consent form, information sheet and privacy statement that details how personal information will be collected, stored and utilised. Parent Information Kits will be sent home to parents/guardians. These forms will be issued through the Science classes.

To consent to the vaccination of their child, parents/guardians are advised to: read all the information provided and return the form to their child’s school.

Parents/guardians who wish to withdraw their consent for any reason may do so by writing to the school Principal or phoning the school. The Procedure for Withdrawal of Consent is available on the NSW Health website at [www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation)

To improve vaccination completion, students will be offered any missed doses throughout the year where possible.

Please note that for HPV vaccine only, parents/guardians must record their Medicare Number (all 10 digits and the 11th number beside the child’s name) on the consent form, as this is required to record the student’s information on the National HPV Vaccination Register and (for female students only) link to the National or State Cervical Screening Program.

A Record of Vaccination will be provided to each student vaccinated at the clinic. Parents/guardians should ensure that this record is kept for future reference and should not assume that their child has been vaccinated if they do not receive this Record of Vaccination.

**IMPORTANT POINTS**

- Tick the coloured boxes on the front of the consent form for each vaccine/s you would like your child to receive

- ensure your child has eaten breakfast the morning of the clinic
- ensure your child is wearing clothing that enables the upper arm to be exposed
- ENSURE FORM IS COMPLETED CORRECTLY, AND SIGNED
- COMPLETE CONSENT FORMS IN BLUE OR BLACK PEN ONLY
- Ask your child for the record of vaccination when they arrive home on the day of the clinic –
  - keep this record in a safe place (e.g. babys' blue book), ideally notify your GP for their records.

Forms have been distributed through the Science classes so prompt returns would be appreciated.

If there are any issues contact Anne Young (49325999).
# Rutherford Technology High School

## Canteen Menu 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rolls and Wraps</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Hot Food</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salad Roll</td>
<td>$3.80</td>
<td>Chicken Wedge/Dino/Pop Corn</td>
<td>$2.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicken Salad Roll</td>
<td>$4.30</td>
<td>Pizza Single Ham &amp; Pineapple</td>
<td>$2.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ham Salad Roll</td>
<td>$4.30</td>
<td>Hot Dog</td>
<td>$2.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corn Meat Salad Roll</td>
<td>$4.30</td>
<td>Pizza Slab</td>
<td>$2.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicken Salad Sandwich</td>
<td>$3.70</td>
<td>Pizza Rounds</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salad Sandwich</td>
<td>$3.20</td>
<td>Chicken Burger</td>
<td>$3.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egg &amp; Lettuce</td>
<td>$2.60</td>
<td>Chicken Burger Salad</td>
<td>$4.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curried Egg</td>
<td>$2.60</td>
<td>Lasagna</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vegemite</td>
<td>$1.60</td>
<td>Plain Pies</td>
<td>$2.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheese</td>
<td>$2.40</td>
<td>Sausage Rolls</td>
<td>$2.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ham, Cheese &amp; Tomato</td>
<td>$2.60</td>
<td>Cheese &amp; Bacon/Potato Pies</td>
<td>$2.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheese &amp; Tomato</td>
<td>$2.40</td>
<td>Mamee Cup Noodles (chicken)</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corn Meat &amp; Pickles</td>
<td>$2.20</td>
<td>Chicken Gravy Rolls</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicken Salad Wrap</td>
<td>$4.30</td>
<td>Rissole Gravy Rolls</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thai Chicken Salad Wrap</td>
<td>$4.30</td>
<td>Roast Beef Gravy Rolls</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salad Wrap</td>
<td>$3.80</td>
<td>Cheese Burger</td>
<td>$3.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meat Salad Wrap</td>
<td>$4.30</td>
<td>Cheese Burger Salad</td>
<td>$4.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salad Boxes</td>
<td>$4.70</td>
<td>Chicken Chippies (6)</td>
<td>$2.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicken Salad Boxes</td>
<td>$5.70</td>
<td>Chicken Nuggets (6)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Garlic Bread</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
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</tbody>
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## Extras

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bread Roll (Extra)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Butter Bread</td>
<td>$0.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toasted Sandwiches (order only)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extra Items</td>
<td>$0.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tomato/BBQ Sauce</td>
<td>$0.30</td>
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## Snacks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fresh Fruit Salad Term 1 &amp; 4</th>
<th>$2.00</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fresh Water Melon Term 1 &amp; 4</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deli Rock Chips</td>
<td>$1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JJ’s Chips</td>
<td>$1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheese Rice Sticks</td>
<td>$1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicken Jumpy’s</td>
<td>$1.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Drinks

| Moove Milk 500ml           | $3.00 |
| Moove Milk 300ml           | $2.00 |
| Juice 300ml/375ml          | $2.00 |
| Water 600ml                | $2.00 |
| Soft Drink 600ml           | $3.00 |
| Soft Drink 390ml           | $2.50 |

## Ice-Creams

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Billabongs</th>
<th>$1.50</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paddle Pops</td>
<td>$1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frosty Fruits</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frozen Yoghurts</td>
<td>$1.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vanilla Buckets</td>
<td>$1.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Extras

| Paddle Pop Thick Shake     | $2.20 |
| Paddle Pop Lemonade Twist | $1.10 |
| Calippo Mini              | $1.10 |
| Juices                     | $0.90 |
| Fruit Super Doopers        | $0.70 |
| Milo Cups                  | $2.60 |