HSC YEAR 12 CONSTRUCTION EVENT

The torrential rain did not faze the boys in Year 12 Construction as they completed their concreting task. The busy workers put all their skills into the practical application of clearing the ground, putting in the form work and reinforcement, mixing up the cement, pouring it into position and then trowelling and shaping it.

The finished result is a safe pathway around the blue shed continuous with the Industrial Arts block and the car park.

CONGRATULATIONS boys on an excellent permanent project.
EXECUTIVE REPORT

New School Bus

Our new bus has arrived. We purchased a 12 seater bus through a Schools First grant supporting our partnership with Genesis Fitness ($15,000.00) and the extreme generosity of our hard working P&C ($25,000.00). The bus been in operation everyday supporting the opportunities of our students.

Harmony Day and Anti-Bullying Action Day

On Friday 21 March we celebrated Harmony Day with the students and staff given the opportunity to come dressed in orange. We started the day with a whole school assembly run by the students, featuring an excellent drama presentation. The whole school then made the commitment to “stand up against bullying”.

Parent/Teacher Evening

Parent/Teacher evening is Wednesday 9 April. Booking can be made on-line or through the front office. We look forward to seeing you there.

PBL and our Learning Community

We continue to focus on Positive Behaviour for Learning as a key element in the school. This has been embraced across our partner Primary schools as well, with representatives from all school travelling to Sydney on Monday 7 April to look at PBL Practices in a number of Sydney schools. Hopefully they will come back with a number of positive ideas for us to implement.

Executive Leadership

Our Learning Community is, also, embracing the development of leadership in our schools. Representatives from the High School and partner Primary Schools are giving up time after school to take part in a leadership enhancement program over the first two terms. Twenty-one executive and aspiring executive from Rutherford High are taking part in the program. Leadership development is a key element of our “School Improvement Vision”.

NAPLAN Preparation

We have given students in Years 7 and 9 NAPLAN practice tests this past week. The NAPLAN tests give us an important snapshot of how individual students are progressing with their literacy and numeracy skills and it is important that they are familiar with the structure of the tests. The actual NAPLAN tests take place from the 13-15 May.

School Musical

There is a tremendous amount of work going on at the moment. We can’t wait until June to see the finished product.

Last week of term

It is extremely important students are in attendance right up until the end of term. A number of subjects have assessment tasks running in this week. The last day of school is Friday 11 April and students return to school on Tuesday 29 April.

School Development Day 28 April

Staff will be focusing on 21st century learning skills on our school development day, particularly problem-based learning. Staff will be putting the skills into practice working with local businesses to solve some work-based problems.

Michael Whiting—Principal
YEAR 12 REPORT

The majority of Year 12 reports were positive indicating that the students were applying themselves to their studies in a diligent manner. We encourage the students to maintain their focus and not forget revision and study. The holidays should be used wisely.

After great attention to detail the jerseys have been ordered – 69 of them. If you have not yet fully paid for them (and your fees) continue to do so.

Some concerns are being raised about attendance. It is vital to attend, gain the benefit from maximum face to face teaching and avoid the interviews re unsatisfactory attendance.

The formal is at Crowne Plaza, Pokolbin on the Thursday, 13th November, 2014. We understand you need to know to allow holidays and activities to be booked around that date.

Fundraising is progressing well. I am impressed and immensely proud of the manner in which some students have volunteered to help out. I do not expect the same students to give of their own time over and over again. Others can stand up and do their share.

The Athletics Carnival is the first Thursday of next term. Much is expected of the students – over 75% attendance is expected by me. There is a $500 contribution to Year 12 based on this as well as the social structure of the day – photos, DVD footage etc.

Only two more teaching and learning terms left. Please encourage students to stay focused, complete homework, study, revise relax and stay calm.

Kevin McMullen Yr 12 Advisor

YEAR 9 REPORT

In week 8, Year 9 showed fantastic participation in the stand up to bullying assembly for Harmony Day. This not only reflects their understanding of the issues related to bullying but also their willingness to make a stand. During week 10, Year 9 were busy completing the practice NAPLAN which will aid them in their preparation for the upcoming tests. Lastly, a big congratulations to Rose Schofield, Caleb Wood and Cameron Geering who received awards during Week 9's Year assembly for recognition for their positive behaviour towards learning.

Jessica James Yr 9 Assistant Year Advisor

FOOTY SHORTS & SOCKS

Footy shorts and socks are now in stock. The cost is -

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Footy shorts and socks</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Footy shorts</td>
<td>$20.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Footy socks</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please pay at the front office.
GET WARM FOR WINTER FLEECY JACKET SALE

With the cold weather on its way we are holding a sale of our RTHS fleecy jackets (with hood) for the last 2 weeks of term.

Hoodies will be reduced from $40.00 to $35.00 for those 2 weeks only.

(This sale only applies to in-store purchases. On-line purchases will still be $40.00)

Each student purchasing a fleecy jacket during those 2 weeks will go into the draw for an “Apple Ipod Touch”.

Remember at Rutherford Technology High School we are a uniform school and expect all students to wear full school uniform. The only acceptable uniform is that supplied by the school uniform shop. We will be doing regular uniform checks at the start of Term 2, particularly focusing on non-uniform jumpers.

The uniform shop is open Tuesdays 8.00—12noon and Thursday 12.30-4.30pm. The contact number for the uniform shop is 0429 593 397

SRC SUPPORTING AUSSIE HELPERS

Students in the SRC had heard about the plight of many drought affected farmers and their families throughout large expanses of Queensland, New South Wales and Victoria.

Members of the SRC arrived at school early on Wednesday, 2nd April to cook a BBQ breakfast of bacon and egg rolls and then sausage sandwiches for lunch to raise funds for ‘AUSSIE HELPERS’. This organization supports farmers in need with animal feed and financial assistance with groceries, school fees and other basic essentials of living in the tough times.

WELL DONE SRC for volunteering your time and effort in supporting families who are ‘doing it tough’.
AN INVITATION TO
PARENT/CARERS

Do you provide care and support to a Child/Young Person who is aged Pre-School to School Years with a Disability, Mental Illness or Chronic Condition?

You are Invited to attend our
FREE Parent/Carer Information Sessions

Where: Club Macquarie, 458 Lake Road, Argenton
Time: 9.30am — 2.00pm
Cost: FREE — Morning Tea & Light Lunch Provided
RSVP: Thursday 24th April — For Catering Purposes
Ph: 4921 4895 or 1300 887 776
or Educare-Admin@hnehealth.nsw.gov.au

When: Wednesday 30th April 2014
• The Impact of being a Parent/Carer – HNE - Carer Education & Support Program – Hunter
• Building Parent Resilience – Jackie Currey, First Chance

When: Wednesday 7th May 2014
• Siblings – HNE - Carer Education & Support Program - Hunter
• National Disability Insurance Agency – Suzanne Punshon
• Using Assisted Technology – Ben Coombe, Samaritans

When: Wednesday 14th May 2014
• The Importance of Support Groups – Bronwyn Thoroughgood - Families Supporting Families
• Child Behaviour that Challenges Us – Craig Moore, Clinical Psychologist
• Discrimination – Your Rights and Responsibilities – Claire Williams – Anti-Discrimination Board of NSW

Respite may be available by contacting
Commonwealth Respite & Carelink Centre on 1800 052 222

NSW Government
Hunter New England Local Health District
THIS ‘BUILD A BLOCK’ IS MORE SERIOUS THAN LEGO

Maitland Public School needed a new retaining wall for seating for their students.

A group of Year 12 Construction students from Rutherford Technology High, Cessnock High and Kurri Kurri High, with support from a TAFE ‘Build a Block’ teacher and staff from the high schools, assisted the public school in their project. The students from Rutherford worked for a week on the task and during that time developed many practical, on site work skills.

YEAR 11 REPORT

We are rapidly approaching one third of the way through the Preliminary course. Encourage your child to reflect on how they are travelling at this point.

Have I settled well into 2014?
Am I showing the necessary diligence and sustained effort?
Am I effectively managing the assessment schedule?
Am I completing all homework as well as working with home study?
Am I utilising class-time effectively?
Have I avoided the temptation to offer second best?

With the Parent-Teacher-Student Interviews Wednesday, 9th April, conversations may be initiated at home between parent and student as to the level of commitment to academic study that is needed to succeed in senior school. All parents are urged to attend or contact me to organise some feedback as to how your child is progressing.

Studies have also shown that "When schools, families, and community groups work together to support learning, children tend to do better in school, stay in school longer, and like school more." That's the conclusion of A New Wave of Evidence, a report from USA that found, regardless of family income or background, students with involved parents are more likely to:

- Earn higher assessment grades and test scores, and enrol in higher-level courses
- Attend school regularly
- Have better social skills, show improved behaviour, and adapt well to school
- Graduate and go on to post-secondary education

Whether or not parental involvement can improve student outcomes is no longer in question. When parents talk to their children about school, expect them to do well, make sure that out-of-school activities are constructive, and help them plan for life after school, their children perform better in school.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if the need arises.

Nella Clarke—Year 11 Advisor
**SENIOR STUDY**

With the school holidays only one week away it is timely to remember that Year 12 are now half way through their HSC course and only have 2 terms of school left to go. The school holidays will be a good opportunity for Year 12 to take some time out to relax and recharge their batteries. It is however, important that students spend some time during the holidays ensuring that they are up to date with all classwork and assessment task work. So as not to put the HSC at risk, students with N Award warnings need to complete the outstanding work and submit it to their teachers as a matter of urgency.

Now is also the time to start planning ahead by writing topic summaries for all work completed so far in each HSC subject. This will put students in a much better position when it comes time for trial and HSC exams. Planning ahead and being prepared helps to reduce anxiety and stress.

The table below outlines the assessment tasks due for the remainder of Term 1 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Teacher</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Work Studies</td>
<td>Research Task – Social Issues</td>
<td>T Butler</td>
<td>Week 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PDHPE</td>
<td>Core 2 In class test</td>
<td>D Thomas</td>
<td>Week 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary Industries</td>
<td>The Environment</td>
<td>A Young</td>
<td>Week 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community &amp; Family Studies</td>
<td>Independent Research Project</td>
<td>M Thompson</td>
<td>Week 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drama</td>
<td>Verbatim Theatre</td>
<td>A O’Callaghan</td>
<td>Week 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Studies</td>
<td>Marketing</td>
<td>T Butler</td>
<td>Week 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Design &amp; Technology - Multi Media</td>
<td>Innovation Case Study</td>
<td>J Marks</td>
<td>Week 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exploring Early Childhood</td>
<td>Legislation Research Task</td>
<td>L Wicks</td>
<td>Week 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music 1</td>
<td>Elective 2</td>
<td>L Hornery</td>
<td>Week 11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Supporting your child during their final year of school is very much a team effort. We look forward to working in partnership with both parents and students. If you have any concerns regarding your child’s progress in their HSC year please do not hesitate to contact the school.

*Kris Turner—Senior Study Co-ordinator*
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
Healthy Schools Healthy Futures Surveys for Year 9 and 10 students

The Healthy Schools Healthy Futures Program aims to help improve the health and wellbeing of young people through building their resilience. Resilience includes personal skills such as communication and cooperation, self-esteem, empathy, problem-solving, self-awareness, and setting appropriate goals and aspirations. Building resilience may decrease the likelihood of students engaging in risky health behaviours such as cigarette smoking and drinking alcohol.

In 2014, Healthy Schools Healthy Futures will conduct an on-line survey of students in Years 9 and 10. The survey asks students questions about resilience characteristics, health risk behaviours, and experiences of bullying. The data collected is useful for identifying the resilience needs of the student group, and for planning strategies to be implemented within the classroom and whole school environment to further support resilience and well-being.

The data collection team will be at the school in Term 3, during Week 7. Parent consent is required for the survey. Most parents of students in Year 10 were asked in 2011 or 2013. Parents of students in Year 9, and those Year 10 students who have enrolled since previous surveys, will be asked for consent in 2014. Parents are sent an information pack and a consent form, to be returned to the school or sent via a reply paid envelope.

Your support of the Healthy Schools Healthy Futures Program and your child’s participation in the surveys is very much appreciated.

YEAR 7 REPORT

As we are fast approaching the end of Term 1, we have seen Year 7 find their place within the school community of Rutherford Technology High School. It has been a pleasure to witness students blossom with friendship groups and excel in their subjects.

Students were issued with a new timetable on Friday 28 March. This timetable commenced on Monday 31 March. The timetable has seen some minor changes with classes. Students are encouraged to record their timetable in a safe place, or photograph the timetable on their phone or iPod. Students can also access their timetable via Edval. The code is located on the notice board in the playground.

With the cool weather approaching, now is a timely reminder for the sale offered by the Uniform Shop during Weeks 10 and 11 this term, students who purchase a winter fleece jumper in the next two weeks will go into the draw for an iPod.

If students are having difficulty with, or witness, bullying and conflict, they must notify their classroom teacher or the teacher on playground duty immediately. Their next port of call is their Year Advisor (Mrs. Basedow) and Assistant Year Advisor (Ms. Marshall). Students also have access to the online ‘report a bully’. This is a confidential report which is sent to our bullying coordinator, Mr. O’Callaghan. Most importantly, we hope students are keeping their parents/caregivers informed of any conflict.

Week 11 sees the first Parent/Teacher evening for the year. This is a great opportunity for parents/caregivers to meet classroom teachers and their Year Advisor.

We look forward to the term ahead, which will inevitably be a busy one. Diligent and outstanding behaviour will be acknowledged at the start of the term at a Merit assembly, along with an attendance barbecue for those who have been at school every day this year. I hope that students are striving to achieve at these events. Keep up the good work Year 7, and have a safe holiday.

Emma Basedow—Year 7 Advisor
Nicole Marshall—Year 7 Assistant Advisor
Players needed for our following development squads for the 2014 Football Season.

**Under 13** – 3 field players, **Under 14** – 3 field players.

Interested players can contact Michael Hurn (Director) on 49663462.

Registration payment plans are available if required.

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**MAITLAND CITY LIBRARY HOLIDAY FUN APRIL LEGOMANIA**

LEGOmania hits Maitland City Library these April holidays. You've seen it on the big screen, now get into the library and get building with LEGO! Lots of exciting activities and challenges for kids from 4 -14 years. Booking and payment prior to events is essential and may be made online at


Contact Maitland City Library for more information on 4933 6952.