

Smith's Hill High School

PROMOTING EXCELLENCE IN A SPIRIT OF TRUST AND CO-OPERATION

Newsletter 10

29th June 2009

Coming events

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| Week 10 | Beginning Monday 29th June |
| Wednesday | Illawarra Schools Shakespeare Festival Music from the stage performance 7pm Billy Blue Scholarship presentation Whole School Assembly P3 & 4 |
| Thursday | Duke of Edinburgh Bronze hike |
| Friday | Year 12 Band Evening in MPU 7pm - 11pm |
| Week 11 | Beginning Monday 6th July |
| Monday | Childrens' Medical Research Institute Genetics Lectures - all Year 10 |
| Tuesday | Regional Drama Festival - H Block Senior Debating - Inter-Regional Marine Science Excursion - IMAX/Aquarium |
| Friday | Last Day Term 2 |
| Week 1 | Beginning Monday 27th July |
| Monday | Staff Development Day |
| Tuesday | Students return Term 2 Tuesday 28th July |

THEATRESPORTS

For the first time Smith's Hill had two teams in the State Finals at the Enmore Theatre. Mr Cutler and Mrs Sjostedt were very proud of their teams as they improvised some very interesting situations. Congratulations to both teams who thoroughly enjoyed the experience and were well supported by a strong group of students and parents. **Senior team:** Adam Skorulis, Mitchell Crouch, Stephanie Carrigan and Lachlan Walmsley. **Junior team:** Paul Stramare, Matthew Harrington, Tess Ferguson-Hook, Alexi Polden and Brooke Rayner

HUMOUR WINS THE DAY

On Thursday the 19th June Maddi De Gabriele and Mrs Doyle travelled to SCEGGS at Darlinghurst for the State Semi-Finals of the Sydney Morning Herald Plain English Speaking Competition. There were 28 speakers in all divided into two heats, one in the morning and the other in the afternoon. At the end of the day the best 6 speakers only are selected to go through to the State Final.

As always there are two sections to this competition, the prepared speech of 8 minutes, followed by an impromptu of 3 minutes on an

unseen topic.

Maddi firstly entertained the audience with her prepared speech, 'How to use a tooth pick', by using humour to sarcastically analyse society's obsession with instructions. She then had the adjudicators falling off their chairs with her interpretation of, 'The Long Haul', being the older generations' attitudes towards teenage sex!

Maddi won the hearts of her peers, the audience and of course the adjudicators to be announced in the top 6 to go through to the State Final next term.

Maddi has been involved in Public Speaking at SHHS since Yr7 and has made five Semi-Finals! She thoroughly deserves this final! Way to go Maddi!



Maddi De Gabriele - One of six to go through to the State Finals of the Plain English Speaking competition.

SCIENCE STUDENTS WIN CHALLENGE

Congratulations to our Year 10 Science team who won the Wollongong University Science and Engineering Challenge. This was a wonderful effort and demonstrated great teamwork. The team will now represent Illawarra in the NSW event. Thanks to Mr Crookham for organising this event and accompanying the team.

GREAT RESULTS IN WOLLONGONG UNIVERSITY TITRATION COMPETITION

Our teams took tournament honours with the following results. 1st place Isaac Jansens, Kale Temple, Michael Evans. 2nd place Nadia Perera, Rose Gu, Mandy Wang, and 5th Dominique Dileva, Lily Butler and Henna Khan.

Thanks to Mr Meredith for organising this event.

SCIENCE OPPORTUNITY FOR YEAR 9 STUDENTS

A three-day hands-on practical science program will be conducted again in 37 Australian universities and tertiary institutions in 2009/2010 for students who will be entering Year 10 in 2010. Each program includes a wide variety of practical, excursions, and career information together with interesting presentations by leading Australian scientists and engineers.

This is Rotary Youth Services Project, supported by the Australian Science Teachers Association and the Young Scientists of Australia. The total cost of the three-day program is \$105 (includes GST). Local Rotary clubs are often willing to sponsor students to attend, so please contact your local Rotary club for details.

Further information and application forms are available from your school, local Rotary clubs and from www.scienceexperience.com.au Early application is advised.

Any Year 9 student is welcome to attend.

LOVE HAS NO LIMITS

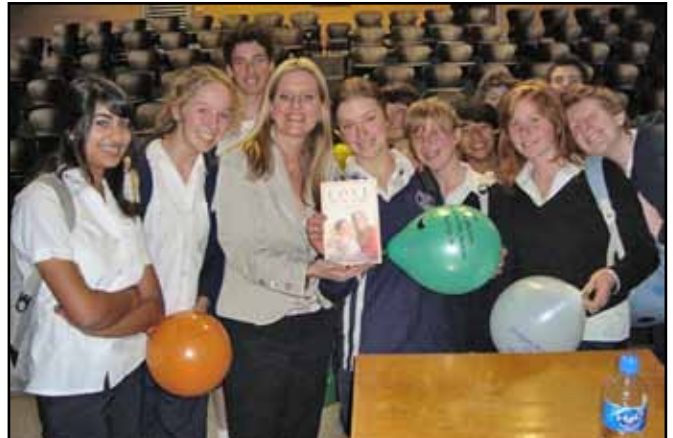
Year 9 and 10 students were privileged to hear Mrs Tania Hayes, ambassador for Young carers NSW speak about her role and her life experiences as a carer. Tania is carer to her husband Warren who has acquired brain injury brought about by a brain tumour. Her speech (and her book) are about how as a 22 year old, happily engaged to be married had her life turned upside down when Warren was found to have a life threatening tumour 12 years ago. Their story is one of love, strength and amazing resilience.

The students responded with great understanding and I am sure they will each have learned something important about taking each day as it comes and making the most of the opportunities life presents. Remaining positive in the face of

adversity is a very important characteristic to have.

Tania is such a wonderfully giving person, each student left the event with a balloon emblazoned with three personal strengths and a statement of encouragement for anyone going through tough times.

You can tell from their faces, the students enjoyed this event thoroughly.



**Tania Hayes, ambassador for *Young Carers*
NSW with Year 9 and 10 students**

HOUSING NSW YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP

Current Year 10 and 11 Students – If you are currently living in public housing you may be eligible for a Housing NSW Youth Scholarship. You do not need to be living independently. Each scholarship is a one off payment of \$2,000 to assist eligible young people to complete the HSC or TAFE equivalent. The funds are administered by the school on the student's behalf and can be used to purchase items or services, which help the student, complete the HSC or TAFE equivalent.

For more information see your Year Adviser or myself for an application form. Applications have to be endorsed by the school and sent to Housing NSW by 10 July 2009.

P & C UPDATE

The SHHS P & C have made a good start to 2009. We thought it would be good time to remind you of the purpose of the P&C and update you on activities.

The purpose of the P&C is to;

- promote the interest of the school by bringing parents, citizens, students and teaching staff into close co-operation

- Assist in providing facilities and equipment for the school and promoting the recreation and welfare of the students at the school;
- Encourage parent and community participation in curriculum and other educational issues in schools;
- Assist and co-operate with teaching staff at public functions associated with the school;
- Be responsible for the election of parent representatives to any school council constituted at the school in consultation with the principal of the school;

We are sure that many of you are aware of the cost of vast array of activities that students are involved in. Through the fundraising efforts by the P and C our children are able to benefit directly. During 2008 the P&C donated over \$20,000 to directly support the school and a range of activities. This included contributions to;

- a donation to help provide outdoor seating
- Rock Eisteddfod
- Tournament of Minds
- RAW
- providing school diaries

It is a simple equation really. The more fundraising we can do – the more our children and the school benefits. At our June meeting we agreed to work with the SRC to put on a Variety night in Term 3. We are sure that it will be an entertaining evening and look forward to your support of this event.

Please mark the evening of Friday 28th August in your calendar now. More details of the evening will follow at the start of Term 3.

All parents are welcome at P and C meetings which are held on the 3rd Monday of each month. These are an opportunity to keep astride of what is going on at SHHS. We also encourage suggestions and feedback about what happens within the school. The P & C also need support in terms of physical help at various times.

If you would like to get involved with the P&C or would like to ask any questions then please give Baz Simmons a call on 0408 974 384.

S.E.T. WORKING BEE

Our one working bee of the semester is Saturday 4th July. 9am to 11.30am. If you can only make it for 30 minutes, we can achieve a lot in that time.

Weeding, whipper snipping, edging, mulching and

rejuvenating..... it will all be happening. Looking forward to seeing you there. Bring gloves, hat, sunscreen, and your favourite garden tools.

UOW YEAR 7-10 INFORMATION EVENING

Tuesday 30th June 2009

The University of Wollongong is holding a Year 7 – 10 Information Evening for students and parents. Guests can expect to gain information about:
Subject selection for years 11 & 12
Change from UAI to ATAR
How the ATAR is calculated

Tuesday 30th June

6.30pm – 8.30pm

University Hall

University of Wollongong

Northfields Ave, Gwynneville

Bookings are essential. Please call UniAdvice on 1300 367 869 to reserve your place or register online www.uow.edu.au/future

ON TO STATE SEMI-FINALS

On Thursday 11th June the Senior Debaters travelled to Bomaderry for the Regional Final against Goulburn.

Some serious psyching up was in order so we 'jammed' to some classic hits by, 'The Zitts' before arriving at 'Terrabithia' for some more peaceful reflecting, and of course some of Mr Connor's famous Anzac biscuits!

Fully charged the senior debaters won the toss to become the affirmative for the topic, 'That our alliance with the USA is good for us.'

At the end of a nail biting adjudication SHHS were announced as the victors!

They will now take part in an inter-regional play off to progress to the State Semi-Finals.

**Congratulations and good luck
Natalie, Nathan, Solange and Milan!**



**State Debating Semi-Finalists:
Nathan, Natalie, Solange and Milan**

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ROCK EISTEDDFOD SUPPORTERS SHIRTS BROUGHT TO YOU BY FIYAWORKS

We've got the spirit, the moves, the glow sticks and the yelling and screaming. But last year some parents pointed out one thing other schools have that we do not. We are missing uniformity. We are missing that sea of colour in the audience that you can point at and go 'look at all those people supporting us!'

So this year, our YAA group, Fiyaworks, is offering everyone the chance to get their very own supporter's t shirt. Buy them for your friends, your parents, your grandparents, and your whole family! When you do you'll be supporting Smith's Hill Rock Eisteddfod as well as Fiyaworks, a Young Achievement Australia Company.

Each t shirt is \$20. They'll be simple t shirt style, with a round neck and short sleeves. The shirts will be black, like the performer's shirts, and the design will be based on the designs of all three of our team's shirts. They will be designed with the assistance of both Mrs. Jones Sweeting and senior art students. Each t shirt will also display the following text:

**Go Smith's Hill
Rock Eisteddfod
2009**

All order forms are needed back ASAP. All cheques must be made out to Fiyaworks, not Smith's Hill. Remember that for every t shirt you buy/order

form you bring in you go in the draw to win \$100 in cash!

We hope you will consider supporting this endeavour.

Thank you very much

Fiyaworks

A Young Achievement Australia company

UNIFORM NEWS

Due to an increase in price from our manufacturer, the school jumper will be going up from \$60 to \$65 from the 1st August. There is plenty of stock in the uniform shop should anyone wish to purchase a jumper before this date.

JAPANESE HOST STUDENTS

The Takarazuka group has now been also cancelled due to swine flu. However, the Department of Health has changed the status of the situation to 'protect'. Students coming from Japan no longer need to be quarantined and can attend school if they are well. Kitazono High School are still planning to come to Australia and as such profiles of students have been handed out. If you did not receive one, please see Ms David for yours. The Japanese government is still very concerned about swine flu, and the Kitazono administration will be making a final decision next week whether they will come or not.

2010 EASTER ROME TOUR

For Itinerary and costs please see Mrs Sjostedt in the English Staffroom. Students need to be accompanied by an adult.



Order Form
fiyaworks09@gmail.com

Name

Email

Postage Address

Post Code Quantity

Size: Paid \$20 Date

Day Month



**Raffle
Ticket**

Name

Contact Number

Date

Day Month



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