

Smith's Hill High School

PROMOTING EXCELLENCE IN A SPIRIT OF TRUST AND CO-OPERATION

Newsletter 14

14th September 2009

Coming events

Week 8	Beginning Monday 14th September
Monday	Year 7 Conquesta 2009 Olympiads Computer Literacy Competiton - Periods 5&6
	School Council Meeting
Wednesday	Whole School Formal Assembly Periods 5&6
Friday	Legacy Public Speaking Semi-Finals at Parliament House
Week 9	Beginning Monday 21st September
Wednesday	Vaccination Program Year 7 (2nd Hep B, 3rd HPV) & Year 10 (Catch up tetanus)
	P&C Meeting
Week 10	Beginning Monday 28th September
Monday	Duke of Edinburgh Bronze test hike

RAW A GREAT SUCCESS

The Black Tide as presented by our students on Wednesday evening was a beautiful piece of staging, cleverly executed. Congratulations to the RAW team and its teachers, Mrs Russo, Mrs Koutsoukos, Mrs Bennett, Mr Barbaro, Mr O'Connor, Mr Carlon, Mr Hayes, Mr Sjostedt and their tireless parent supporters, Mrs Chapple, Mrs Hutton and Mrs Romelingh. While not placed in the top five, their enthusiasm was evident and the use of fabric, puppets and drama produced a vibrant and colourful view of the effect of oil spills on the ocean. They gained the award for costuming and also a very special award, the Gemma Dale Award, which was voted on by all the teams present. It is awarded to the school who demonstrates the true spirit of Rock Eisteddfod, being friendly and supporting and encouraging other teams – we are so proud of them.

WEEKEND EVENTS.

Rock Eisteddfod is on this Friday evening and will be reported on in the next issue We wish the Team every success with Guernica. All indications are that it will be a spectacular production. Tournament of Minds is on at the UNSW on Sunday and we wish the Social Sciences team every success. They have been training hard by practising preparing a solution to the problem in the three-hour time frame.

DIGITAL EDUCATION REVOLUTION

The computers for Year 9 students are due to arrive next week but cannot be distributed until we have a Technical Support Officer in place. This is expected to happen in the near future since interviews have already taken place and the appointments are currently awaiting staffing approval. Because this is a new procedure we are planning to hold an information evening for Year 9 and their parents to explain the procedures which surround the issuing of the computers and the usage agreements that students and parents will be required to sign. A separate invitation for this evening will be issued to Year 9 next week when we finalise the arrangements.

THE HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE.

Year 12 students have commenced the final stage of their HSC with Language aural examinations, Drama performances and the collection of major works for Visual Arts, Extension 2 English, Design and Technology and Society and Culture. Year 12 will graduate on October 2 at Figtree Anglican Church where we are able to seat the whole school and guests for the graduation. Students will be transported to the church by bus.

STUDENT WINS NATIONAL "MAKE YOUR MARK" COMPETITION

Ross Wiech of Year 11 must be congratulated on winning a major Art Competition. The "Student Exchange Australia- Make Your Mark" national competition invited students to submit designs for a T-Shirt design. First place went to Ross Wiech for his design "The Torch Bearer".

You can see Ross's design and those of other students on the website - <http://www.makeyourmark.org.au/>

A panel of judges from Student Exchange Australia chose "The Torch Bearer" from the Top Ten designs which had been decided by popular vote by users of the site. The panel commented that "The Torch Bearer" was a creative and symbolic

design which made clever use of Obama's inauguration speech to help differentiate the design. The design had also proven extremely popular with the users of the site. Ross wins a \$3,500 scholarship toward a year exchange program or \$2,500 toward a semester exchange program or a laptop computer. He also gets a Dick Smith Electronics voucher valued at \$100 and a Lonely Planet guide book.

Well done Ross! This shows that you must take up opportunities that arise and anything could happen! Student should keep their ears open for more competitions to show of their special talents.

Ms. Sharon Mearing - Head Teacher Welfare & Visual Arts

STUDY SKILLS TIP FOR SEPTEMBER

For many students a block of examinations can be daunting. Some students have no idea where to start and what they should work on. The first thing to do with examinations approaching is to find out what topics will be tested. The next step is to make study notes on these topics if you haven't been doing this throughout the year (hopefully you have!). Then it is time to start learning the notes (testing yourself on them over and over) and doing practice questions to make sure you can apply your knowledge to different types of questions.

If you have a number of weeks prior to the examinations, it is a good idea to make a plan in your diary of what subjects you will study when. Try and allocate each subject once or twice each week, depending on the number of examinations you have. The Preparing For Examination Blocks unit at www.studyskillshandbook.com.au will explain how you prepare a plan for exams – including a powerpoint on making a study timetable from one of this month's competition winners. Senior students facing final examinations may also want to download this month's podcast which looks at dealing with final blocks of exams.

Also this month in the handbook: another 2 new modules, some thought-provoking videos on challenges facing the students of today, a new game, a section on fitting a school backpack correctly and a new extra unit on what to do if you are being bullied at school.

Our school's subscription details to this online study skills website for secondary school students are - *User name: forsmithshillhsonly*
Password: 46worksmart

LITERARY LUNCHEON

Have you ever indulged in a "Literary Luncheon"?

If you have you would have come away from it satiated by an entree and main course of the "beauty and artistry" of great literature.

I was honoured to accompany Phoebe Johnson of Year 11 who represented our school at the inaugural Illawarra Literary Luncheon held at St Joseph's Catholic High School in Albion Park on Wednesday 2nd September.

Students had to speak about a culturally significant text which they believed could be included in the Senior English Curriculum. Phoebe spoke on the "beauty and artistry" of Oscar Wilde's writing in his famous novel, *The Painting of Dorian Gray*. She spoke so eloquently and beautifully in a most sophisticated and perceptive manner with many in the audience, including myself, fully believing they were listening to a speech made at an international conference of scholars on Oscar Wilde.

Phoebe placed second and received book vouchers and a cheque for \$50.

Congratulations Phoebe. We are very proud of your achievements.

Mr Trickett - Head Teacher English

CERTIFICATE AND LETTER OF APPRECIATION

A Certificate and Letter of Appreciation from Australian Red Cross Blood Service says, "The Australian Red Cross Blood Service would like to thank you for your participation in the 08-09 Vampire Shield Competition."

Smith's Hill High School is one of many schools within NSW/ACT who regularly participate in making blood donations to The Red Cross. A Letter of Appreciation and a Certificate were received by the school from The Red Cross Blood Service. The school is pleased that so many of our students participate in the Youth Donor Program and hope they continue with this worthwhile exercise.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY "TASTE TESTER" WORKSHOPS

School Holiday "Taste Tester" workshops at 313 - Cnr Fox & Miller Streets Coniston, Ph 4227 5913. More details www.313.com.au

313 is a Registered Training Organisation that focuses its training and education in Music, Radio, Television, Computing, Hospitality, Business and Retail. We offer a range of nationally recognised full-time/part-time courses, non-accredited short courses and workshops.

Workshop 1: Radio Presenting
Tuesday 6th October to Friday 9th October
Time: 9am - 11am
Fee: \$80

Workshop 2: Using Photoshop
Tuesday 6th October to Friday 9th October
Time: 11am - 1pm
Fee: \$80

Workshop 3: Recording Studio Techniques
Wollongong
Tuesday 6th October to Friday 9th October
Time: 1:30am - 3:30pm
Fee: \$80

Nowra:
Tuesday 6th October, Wednesday 7th October, Friday 9th October
Time: 10am - 12pm
Fee: \$60

Second Week of the October School Holidays:
Workshop 1: Lighting
Wollongong:
Monday 12th October - Thursday 15th October
Time: 9am - 11am
Fee: \$80

Workshop 2: Video Production
Wollongong:
Monday 12th October - Thursday 15th October
Time: 11am - 1pm
Fee: \$80

Workshop 3: Video Editing
Wollongong:
Monday 12th October - Thursday 15th October
Time: 1:30pm - 3:30pm
Fee: \$80

Ms. Sharon Mearing

Head Teacher Welfare & Visual Arts

CANTEEN NEWS

My thanks go to all my wonderful volunteers but a special thanks go to the ladies who were available to work at short notice on our three big days in the last two weeks. We are short of helpers due to work or health issues so if you are available to fill in on any of the following days of the month, please phone me on 4228 5912.

1st Wednesday

1st Friday

2nd Tuesday

2nd Wednesday

2nd Thursday

4th Thursday

C. Kriss - Canteen Supervisor

COMMERCE CATERERS BBQ

Commerce caterers are holding a BBQ on Tuesday Week 10. There will be a fantastic food frenzy comprising of:

Sausage Sandwiches

Soft Drinks

Baked Cakes

AND KRISPY KREMES!



Australian Government
Australian Sports Commission
NATIONAL TALENT ID AND DEVELOPMENT

GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY

Do you have students or club members aged between 12 and 25 years of age?

Do you think they have what it takes to represent Australia at the 2012 Olympic Games?

The University of Wollongong has joined forces with the Australian Sports Commission's National Talent Identification and Development (NTID) program to offer young people the opportunity to participate in talent identification screening.

Anyone who demonstrates above average potential in the tests may be invited to participate in the NTID program.

Next test session on 3rd October is FREE!

To find out more visit ausport.gov.au/etid

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SOCCER (EUR09) DAY

Soccer Day, or Eur09 Day, kicked a winning goal in late August. The combination of Soccer, and European handball, along with social justice stalls, and delightful food from the language staff ensured happy faces for all. The participation this year was higher than ever, and once again Smiths Hill has succeeded in promoting a spirit of excellence, not only in sport, but also in organisation and co-operation. As always, the event was run, for very little profit, by the SRC.

SRC/P&C Variety Night

On Friday the 28th of August, in a joint effort between the P&C and SRC, Smith's Hill held its first Variety Night, which was a resounding success. Featuring a wide range of acts, with teachers, students, and parents performing a variety of music, speech and drama performances. The venture raised over \$2500 for the school, and was a fun night for all involved. Without the support of the P&C and SRC in organising, the sponsors for the many wonderful prizes, the Music and Drama faculties for providing a venue and equipment, and of course the performers, the night could not have gone ahead and have been such a success.

RAW

