

# Smith's Hill High School

PROMOTING EXCELLENCE IN A SPIRIT OF TRUST AND UNDERSTANDING

Newsletter 4

16th March 2009

## Coming events

<b>Week 8</b>	<b>Beginning Monday 16 March</b>
Monday	P&C Meeting 7.30pm
Wednesday	Years 7 - 10 Vaccination Program Tertiary Study Afternoon 4pm - 6.30pm
Thursday	Selective Schools Test Furukawa High School students arrive
<b>Week 9</b>	<b>Beginning Monday 23 March</b>
Monday	School Council Meeting Music Camp - 3 days
Wednesday	Year 10 Reports Luncheon in Citadel
<b>Week 10</b>	<b>Beginning Monday 30 March</b>
Monday	Australian Geography Competition

## SWIMMING SUCCESS

Congratulations to the following students on their selection in the regional swimming team; Dane McKeen, Cihan Bagdatli, Karri Ryan, Sasha Ryan, Brendan Shain, Julian Badman, Benjamin Brooker, Alexander Gillis, Lachlan Moodie, Scott Ryan, Taylor Bell and William Edmonds.

## HSC and SC SPECIAL PROVISIONS

The Board of Studies provides special examination provisions to students who have a special examination need which may be related to a physical condition, visual impairment, hearing loss or trouble expressing our ideas in writing. Provisions include such things as special coloured paper, larger print size, extra time to rest, writers or readers and other provisions depending upon the nature of the problem the student is experiencing. If you feel that this applies to your child, or yourself as a student, please contact Ms Mearing for the information sheet and application form. It is important to do this as soon as possible since applications close on April 9.

## P&C NEWS

Congratulations to the new P&C Executive President Baz Simmons; Vice Presidents David Dawson and Jennelle Rodgers; Secretary Primrose Hutton; Treasurer Jane Edwards; School Council Representatives Jennelle Rodgers, David Dawson, Janelle Rodgers and Sharon Mantzakos.

## COFFEE AND CAKE FOR PARENTS

**May 6** Casual get together for all interested parents at Piato Grande Cnr Corrimal and Market Streets 7pm RSVP Ros 4225 2748 or Rhonda 0412234810. Feed the kids and come for coffee and cake to meet some new and interesting people.

## SCHOOL PLAY - 'The Big Box' has Closed!

Last night I stepped into the wonderful world of H Block to witness the final night of our 2009 school play, The Big Box.

From the moment the socially moral narrator popped his head out from behind the black curtain the audience was hooked. Not only did Ribbit Up Productions' latest hit entertain us with its witty and borderline cheesy banter and disco ball dancing, but it also instilled in us a sense of ethics and a desire to stand up for the small guy (no matter how small that guy in question may be).

The cast did a fantastic job with a professionalism rarely seen in high school productions. Our actors delivered truly memorable performances, with students from Year 8 to Year 12 combining as one to display the commitment, skill and enthusiasm that truly reflects the spirit of Smith's Hill. Behind the scenes, our tireless crew was simply magnificent.

For those who didn't see the play due to reasons unspecified, SHAME ON YOU! However, that decision can be rectified by the purchasing of The Big Box DVD from the English staffroom, so you can enjoy the amazing talent of our students for years to come.

The frog suit has been put away for another year, eagerly awaiting its return for the next Ribbit Up production.

*Brittany Pike*



*The Big Box - Opening Night*

## TERTIARY STUDY AFTERNOON IN THE MPU

When: Wednesday 18th March 2009  
Times: 4.00pm to 6.30pm – Year 10, 11 & 12's and their parents

To obtain information and get advice on tertiary study from universities, as well as TAFE and private colleges. There will also be representatives from each of the departments here at Smith's Hill and other personnel from outside organisations and government departments involved in vocational assessment and career related services to youth.

*George Barbaro*

## **CAREERS**

### **For Aspiring Medical Students**

In 2008, AMA (NSW) hosted a Medical Careers Exhibition for medical students and junior doctors with exhibitors from most of the major learned Colleges and corporate sponsors. The event was very well received by all attendees including the 300 medical students and doctors who came along on the day.

AMA (NSW) has decided to hold another Exhibition in 2009. This year, they have again opened the exhibition up to Year 12 High School Students, as they have a number of the major University Medical Faculties exhibiting on the day.

This is an ideal opportunity for Year 12 high school students who are considering medicine as a career to have all their questions answered by Universities and Colleges all under the one roof.

**The exhibition is FREE.**

The event will be held on Saturday 4 April 2009 in the Shannon Room in the AJC Convention Centre at Randwick Racecourse.

Students interested in attending the expo should visit the website, [www.medcareerexpo.com.au](http://www.medcareerexpo.com.au) and complete the online registration form.

### **Local Air Force Cadet Opportunity**

No. 314 (City of Wollongong) Squadron Australian Air Force Cadets (314SQNA AFC) are conducting a recruiting period between the dates of 1st March 2009 and the 24th March 2009.

The Australian Air Force Cadets is a youth development organisation that is predominately run by volunteers that are dedicated to training young Australians aged between 13 and 18 years.

The AAFC develops qualities of leadership, teamwork, self reliance, confidence, communication, task orientation, prioritisation and time management. All of these skills are applicable to life situations such as school and work.

Cadets also have the opportunity to obtain certificates such as Certificate 3 in Business (Frontline

Management), Aero skills certificates, Pilots and Gliding licences and many more.

Students who are interested are to see me at school, or you can ring for more information on 4261 2639 and speak to Shane Gauci.

## **CAREERS IN SOCIAL WORK**

Each year Westmead Hospital arranges two careers days in May for high school students who are interested in a career in social work.

This year the dates are 11 and 19 May, from 9am to 3pm in the special functions Room in the Level 1 Education Block at Westmead Hospital.

The cost will be \$10 per student. If you wish to attend please phone 98456699 to RSVP prior to April 8

Numbers are limited to 40 per day and preference will be given to those who reside in the local area. There is a maximum of two students per school.

*George Barbaro*

## **SCIENCE NEWS**

### **Harry Messel International Science School**

This will be held 12 – 25 July 2009 and will involve 142 top science students from all over the world. It is open to Year 11 and 12 high achieving Science students. Details: [www.sciencesschool.usyd.edu.au](http://www.sciencesschool.usyd.edu.au). See me for an application form. Dadar attended this event last year and loved it.

### **Australian Museum Eureka Prizes**

Several competitions are involved here - \$30 000 worth of cash and prizes up for grabs. Details: [australianmuseum.net.au/eureka](http://australianmuseum.net.au/eureka).

*Greg Carlon*

## **WATER POLO**

Congratulations to the following students who were such excellent representatives of our school. The boys' team won two games and lost one and the girls' team had a win, a loss and a draw. Well done to both teams.

**Boys:** A. Skorulis, N. Davidson, M. Evans, W. Edmonds, J. Wallace, A. Skorulis, M. Burns, A. Gillis, J. Li, C. Bagdatli, S. Bagdatli.

**Girls:** E. Bonin, J. Brisbane, B. Browse, C. Flood, E. Hopkins, Z. Luckhurst-Lane, R. Lancaster, G. MacKinley, R. Niehaus, C. Romelingh, S. Ryan, K. Ryan, M. Sears, K. Wilson, E. Wuestner.

*Greg Carlon & Jim Walker*

## MOOTING

Mooting: a peculiar term that is defined as a verbal argument more sophisticated and requiring an order of thinking higher than that needed for debating. In reality it is a hypothetical legal case argued by two sides before a court.

This year the Smith's Hill High mooting team consisted of Stephen Dodd and Timothy Blomfield, the most learned senior and junior counsel, along with Venura De Zoysa and myself, Lily Butler, both acting as the supporting solicitors. We are all Year 12 Legal Studies students keen to see some of the theory learnt in the classroom put into practice.

We have been eagerly preparing our case with Mr Bill Dalley a Barrister at Hargrave Chambers who is kindly mentoring us. The actual moot is on the 4th or 5th May in Sydney and we hope for success to take us to the grand final at Bond University in Queensland although the competition will be tough.

*Lily Butler*

## ANTARCTICA

Antarctica is the last unexplored continent on earth. It is a vast wilderness of snow and ice that has enticed people's curiosity for 100 years.

Over the summer holidays I was privileged to have the opportunity to fly over the expansive continent as part of an anniversary celebration of 100-years since Shackleton became the first person to reach the magnetic South Pole. I was part of the Young Science Ambassadors program run by the Royal Society of Victoria. I stayed, along with 51 other students from all over Australia, Finland, UK and Canada, at the University of Melbourne for the week.

The week was composed of many different activities including lectures, demonstrations and experiments by scientists who have travelled to Antarctica. The week inspired me to explore areas of science outside the useful chemistry, biology and physics taught at school.

We finished the week off at the Australia Day celebration at Government House and with photos with Kevin Rudd, a unique experience. I really enjoyed the whole week and learnt a lot and would like to thank Mr Carlton and Mr Walker for giving me this wonderful opportunity and organising everything. *Lily Butler*

## JAPANESE VISITORS

This Thursday the school will host 18 students and one teacher from Furukawa Reimei Junior High School, located north of Tokyo. In advance I thank very much those families who are hosting students. We are having two or three more groups of Japanese visitors in Term 3. If you would like to be involved in this program, please let me know.

*Caroline David - Language Teacher*

## DOYLEY'S DEBATING...

On Monday 9th March SHHS had a wonderful start to the debating year when the Senior Team travelled to Sydney Parliament House to support Solange Handley.

Solange was selected to participate in the Commonwealth Debate between a Team from the Public System against a team from the Private System. Incidentally Solange was the only student selected from outside the metropolitan area, as well as being the only girl!

The topic was, 'That the Commonwealth @ 60 needs a facelift.' The Public team lost the toss to automatically become the negative, and they very confidently showed that the aims of the Commonwealth were still relevant today and in fact they were still being met, so there was no need for a 'facelift!'

It was a great WIN for Public Education!

*Kerry Doyle*



Adjudicator Mike Munroe  
congratulating the winning team

## IMMUNISATION

### Wednesday 18th March

Year 7 Girls – 1st Dose of Hep B, HPV

Year 7 Boys – 1st Dose of Hep B

Year 10 Girls and Boys – Tetanus, Diphtheria and Whooping Cough

H Block 9.30am – 11.00am

## THE LIBRARY ROOF

Work has commenced on the C Block roof. Preliminary works will include scaffolding and relocating the airconditioning units. It is anticipated that the work will take 8-12 weeks depending on the weather. When the roof section is to be done we will not have access to the Library or classrooms and offices on the top floor of C Block. Alternative arrangements will be made for study areas.

# Smith's Hill High School

PROMOTING EXCELLENCE IN A SPIRIT OF TRUST AND UNDERSTANDING

## EXCHANGE OPPORTUNITIES

Southern Cross Cultural Exchange, an Australian not-for-profit organisation specialising in international student exchange programs, is seeking volunteer host families for high school students scheduled to arrive in Australia in July 2009 from Germany, Italy, France, Holland, Austria, Spain, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Finland, Japan, Brazil, Canada and the USA. To enquire, call Southern Cross Cultural Exchange now toll free on 1800 500 501, visit [www.scce.com.au](http://www.scce.com.au) or email [scceaust@scce.com.au](mailto:scceaust@scce.com.au)

*Caroline David - Language Teacher*

## STUDY SKILLS SEMINARS

Year 10 and 12 students recently attended the Enhanced Learning Services workshops at school. The speaker gave students some excellent tips on improving their results through focussed study. Any Year 10 student who was unable to attend can pick up a copy of the handouts from Mr Treleaven.

## STUDY SKILLS TIP FOR MARCH

Our school's subscription details to the online study skills website for high school students are:

Site: [www.studyskillshandbook.com.au](http://www.studyskillshandbook.com.au)

Our User name: forsmithshillsonly

Our Password: 46worksmart

Do you ever find yourself procrastinating? You mean to start work on an assignment, but you just keep putting it off until it ends up being a mad rush the night before. The Overcoming Procrastination Unit at: [www.studyskillshandbook.com.au](http://www.studyskillshandbook.com.au) looks at the reasons why students procrastinate and what techniques they can try to overcome this common problem.

*Caroline David - Head Teacher, Teaching and Learning*

## CANTEEN

Please check the canteen pricelist on the school website as there have been some changes.

## HASSETT CUP CRICKET REPORT V BULLI HS

### SHHS defeated Bulli 175 to 117.

An excellent all-round effort saw our team overcome the pugnacious Bulli boys in an entertaining game played at Dalton Park. Winning the toss, captain Alex Peetz decided to bat. This was a good choice as openers Chris Moore and Paul Counsell manipulated the Bulli bowlers with careful stroke play and excellent running between the wickets. Our other batters followed with the same techniques and scored freely resulting with our team scoring 175. Later batters needed to focus their attention to calling runs and running between wickets as we had 2 run-outs recorded against us and we failed to bat out our 40 overs. Still, 175 was a challenging total set for Bulli.

Excellent opening bowling spells by Chris Moore and Mario Fernando were followed by penetrating and accurate spells by Josh David-Wright and Nicholas Hennessy, who used his "J" factor to good effect. Star bowler, Mitchell Jones then showed how to bowl "in the corridor" and cleaned up the Bulli batters taking 4 wickets. Excellent bowling and fielding against the aggressive Bulli batters saw plenty of pressure put upon them and saw them dismissed well short of the target for only 117.

Well done boys. Good luck in your next game against Woonona HS on the 5th March.

*D. Ransom, Coach*

## COMPUTERS IN SCHOOLS

The latest news is that the first round of computers which will arrive in the Commonwealth Government program will not be allocated to Year 9. Their computers will arrive later in the year. The first set will be used to supplement the computers already in the school to make access available more readily to senior students in particular.

There has also been an announcement that computers will be supplied to staff under this program to facilitate their use of the available technology.