

# Smith's Hill High School

PROMOTING EXCELLENCE IN A SPIRIT OF TRUST AND CO-OPERATION

**Newsletter 6**

**4th May 2009**

## Coming events

<b>Week 2</b>	<b>Beginning Monday 4th May</b>
Tuesday	National Mooting Competition - Sydney
Wednesday	Year 11 Biology Ecology Excursion
Thursday	ISE Regional Performing Ensemble Yrs 7 - 11
Friday	Senior Debating Day
Saturday	Year 12 Drama to 'Star of the Sea' Production of 'Ruby Moon'
<b>Week 3</b>	<b>Beginning Monday 11th May</b>
Monday	School Council Meeting - 7:30pm Common Room
Tuesday	Careers Expo - Public Session 4pm - 6.30pm
	Naplan Tests Years 7 & 9 - Language & Writing
Wednesday	Careers Expo - Years 10 & 12 Excursion P1 - 3
	Parent/Teacher Meeting Years 8, 9, 10 & 12
	Vaccination Program Yrs 7 & 10 - Varicella, 2nd dose HPV and catch up Tetanus & Diphtheria
	Naplan Tests Years 7 & 9 - Reading
Thursday	Naplan Tests Years 7 & 9 - Numeracy
Friday	Years 9 & 10 Debating Day - Lecture Theatre
<b>Week 4</b>	<b>Beginning Monday 18th May</b>
Monday	P&C Meeting 7:30pm Common Room
Tuesday	School Athletics Carnival
	Plain English Speaking Competition

## NAPLAN TESTS

Tests will occur for Year 7 and Year 9 in Week 3 from Tuesday - Thursday. Students are advised to take particular note of the instructions and the criteria upon which their work will be judged.

## CROSS COUNTRY CARNIVAL A SUCCESS

Congratulations to Mr O'Brien and Mrs Royle on the carnival which was run at Dalton Park on the zone track. It was a testing course but was completed in good time. We have 60 students moving on to the Zone Carnival and we wish them well this Friday.

## WELCOME BACK TO TERM 2

Mr Carlon, Mr Crookham, Mrs Uitterlinden and Mrs Nickolas are on leave and are being replaced by Ms Senff, Ms Schroeder, Mrs Morris and Mrs Bollard. We look forward to a very productive term.

**Parent Teacher Night.** Unfortunately our parent teacher night clashes with the scholarship Awards Presentation at the University of Sydney which I will be attending. If you are seeking an appointment with me please contact the school office and arrange an alternative time.

*Mrs Rae Mitchell*

## HOMEWORK - HOW MUCH SHOULD YOUR CHILD BE DOING?

There have been some questions from parents to Year Advisers this year about how much homework students in each year should be doing. I would urge parents to re-read our policy as it appears in the Student's Diary issued to all students this year. While actual amounts of time are not specified you might also like to use as a guide the times that are recommended by Prue Salter. Prue has conducted Study Skills seminars for our students here at school, on camp and is the author of the Study Skills online handbook that we subscribe to.

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

**User name: forsmithshillsonly**

**Password: 46worksmart**

Prue recommends;

\* JUNIOR YEARS: In the first years of high school students usually do at least half an hour to an hour each day. In many schools it is around 1-1.5 hours on average.

\* MIDDLE YEARS: In the middle years of high school it should be at least an hour. In many schools the average is around 1.5-2 hours.

\* SENIOR YEARS: In the final years of high school students do at least 1.5-2 hours a day – and this will increase as students approach the end of their schooling. Most Year 11 students do 2-3 hours per day and in Year 12 around 3-4 hours.

We encourage teachers to negotiate due dates with their classes so as to avoid overwhelming them, however, students need to also be assertive and speak up when dates are being set for class homework and assignments when they may already be struggling with current demands. There is always room for negotiation. We do not wish to stress students unnecessarily.

*Sharon Mearing - Head Teacher Welfare*

## ILLAWARRA CAREERS EXPO 2009

### The Big Questions!!!

Do you really know what to do when you leave school?

Have you considered alternatives?

Are you prepared?

To help you answer these and other questions, we have organised the **Illawarra Credit Union Careers Expo** at the Illawarra Credit Union Sports Stadium, Waples Road, Unanderra on Tuesday 12th and Wednesday 13th May, 2009.

N.B. The ONLY public session is Tuesday 12th – 4-6pm.

The Illawarra Credit Union Careers Expo will feature representatives from:

- Most TAFE Departments
- All Universities in NSW and ACT
- Many private training providers
- Major Employers
- A wide variety of jobs
- Various help agencies

The Careers Expo is organised for the benefit of students in Years 10 to 12. All Year 12 students need to attend to find out about tertiary study options. Now is the time for this! When applications are due later in the year, you may be too busy with your studies to do the research required.

All Smith's Hill Year 10's & 12's that have handed in their permission note and money (\$4), will be attending on Wednesday 13th May between 9 & 10am. They will be transported from school to Unanderra by coach at approximately 8.45am and will be back at school in time for period 4.

### PRIZES

Four lucky visitors to the Careers Expo will win \$100 each, Thanks to the Illawarra Credit Union. These will be awarded on the basis of an entry form submitted at the Careers Expo.

### Organised by the Illawarra Careers Advisers

*G. Barbaro - Careers Adviser*

## SCIENCE COMPETITION

The cost is \$6 and must be paid at the Front Office by Friday 8th May. All science accelerants must enter the competition. It is important that Year 7 students enter the competition as their results are used as one indicator for possible acceleration in Science in the future.

*B. Hayes*

### EXCHANGE OPPORTUNITIES, BOTH GOING TO JAPAN, AND HOSTING JAPANESE STUDENTS

1. FACE Oceania is offering 20 students from Australia the opportunity to live and go to school in Japan for 10 months in 2010. Scholarships are also on offer. For more information, see their website at <http://www.facejapanexchange.org.au>.

2. Last Year AFS allowed the school to allocate 5 \$8000 scholarships for a 14-day exchange to Japan. The students who participated all reported a very deep and rich time in Japan. This year, each student is required to apply directly, online, to AFS. This program will occur in December, and is open to all students who are 15-18. You do not need to be studying Japanese. This is an excellent program, and students are encouraged to start their applications quickly as competition for places is expected to be intense. More information is included in this newsletter. Applications can be started at [www.afs.org.au](http://www.afs.org.au).

3. The three groups of students coming to Smith's Hill next term have all confirmed their dates. If you are interested in hosting students from any of these groups, please see Ms David in the TAS staffroom for an application form. If you have already handed one in, you do not need to do so again.

1. Takarazuka Senior High School (our sister school in Osaka)  
Term 3 Week 1  
Monday July 27 – Fri July 31 (4 nights)
2. Gyoda City (this group also came last year)  
Term 3 Week 2  
Saturday August 1 2pm – Tuesday August 4 (3 nights)
3. Kitazono High School (our sister school in Tokyo, also came last year)  
Term 3 Week 3-4

Thursday August 13 – Wednesday August 19 (6 nights)

*Caroline David - Language teacher*

### **ZONE NETBALL**

The Zone Netball carnival will be held on Friday of next week at Fred Finch Park. Good luck to both our boys and girls teams.

*Caroline David - Netball coach*

### **SUPPORT FOR YOUNG CARERS**

The undertaking of domestic duties and running a household is a task that we as adults find daunting at times. Imagine, though, if these responsibilities were placed on a child. Imagine someone as young as eight years old trying to balance what goes above and beyond normal chores at home with the demands of school, friendships, sport, and all things many children take for granted. Far from being something to be imagined, it is estimated that there are around 380,000 (Australian Bureau of Statistics, 1998) of these 'Young Carers' in Australia, with 128,000 residing in NSW. A young carer is defined as a person up to 25 years of age who is the main provider of care and support for a parent, partner, child, relative or friend, who has a disability, is frail, aged or who has a severe mental or physical condition.

Apart from the obvious physical and emotional strain placed upon Young Carers by their caring duties, they are also at risk of not completing secondary school or equivalent education. This is where the Young Carers Project steps in to provide support. The Project is funded by the Australian Government and auspiced by the Southern Councils Group in the Illawarra region. The aim of the project is to work with the young carer and their family to provide support and give the young carer time to have a break, study or socialise, time which may otherwise be unavailable to them.

If you or someone you know is a Young Carer, please contact Rob at the Illawarra Commonwealth Respite & Carelink Centre on 1800 052 222 to learn more about this service. Also, the Centre can provide free and confidential information on community aged care, disability and other support services available locally, interstate or anywhere within Australia.

### **AFS AUSTRALIA - GO JAPAN**

AFS Australia is the country's leading provider of intercultural experiences and learning programs. Have you always been fascinated with Japan?! Can't wait to dive into the Japanese world and brush up on your language skills? Here's an opportunity you can't miss!

At AFS we strive to build a harmonious world through student intercultural experiences and we are delighted to offer 11 full and partial scholarships for high school students in Australia to fulfill their Japanese dreams! These scholarships are open to all high school applicants (some in specific regions) proudly supported by JENESYS, Japan-Australia LNG ("MIMI") and J-Power.

#### **Who is eligible?**

High School students in Australia: who are aged between 15 and 18 at the start of the program who meet the AFS application guidelines for Japan whose family is willing to host an AFS Japanese student for the duration of the exchange program (this condition only applies to applicants for four full year JENESYS scholarships only)

#### **More questions?**

To learn more about AFS or for more information about the scholarships go to our website or call 1300 131 736

### **ROCK EISTEDDFOD (PREMIER DIVISION)**

There is a Rock Eisteddfod working bee this Saturday 9th May from 10am to 1pm. As usual painters, sewers etc. are required. We also need set builders to help Mr Dileva with his new set of stairs.

### **STUDY SKILLS TIP FOR MAY**

This month in the handbook: another 2 new modules are online (Overcoming Procrastination and Developing Motivation), more submissions from students, a podcast on home study environment, chocolate maths, ergonomics, laughing club videos and more! Visit the What's New page for details.

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

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We encourage all students to spend time now and then working through the units on the [www.studyskillshandbook.com.au](http://www.studyskillshandbook.com.au) site to improve their own personal study skills.

*Caroline David - Head Teacher, Teaching and Learning*

## THE ARCADIAN CHILDREN'S THEATRE

Presents....

### MAN OF STEEL

Produced with permission by Maverick  
Musicals  
Written By Simon Denver and Ian Dorricott

The story of the Man of Steel trying to save the Lovely Linda Street who has been kidnapped by Olga Volga, (one of the most evil Criminals in the world), and her Henchmen.

**15th – 17th May 2009**

Dates	Tickets
Fri 15th May 7pm	Adults \$12
Sat 16th May 2pm & 7pm	Conc. \$8
Sun 17th May 2pm	Groups 10+ \$8

## Berkeley West Public School

### 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

Berkeley West Public School will be celebrating its 50th Anniversary during Education Week 2009.

An open day will be held from 10.50am on Thursday 28th May inviting all past students, parents and staff back to school to enjoy a morning tea, photo display, student performance, art display and picnic lunch. A commemorative frame is also available for past students and staff to sign.

Please contact the school on 4271 1478 for more details.

## SMITH'S HILL HIGH SCHOOL REUNION

**Saturday 20th June 2009**

You are invited to attend the 20-year reunion of students who attended Smith's Hill High School between Year 7, 1984 and Year 12, 1989

**Venue:** Wollongong Golf Club, 151-161 Corrimal Street Wollongong 2500

**Date:** Saturday, 20th June 2009

**Time:** 7pm – midnight

**Dress:** Smart Casual (Club Regulations Apply)

**Partners:** Optional

**Cost:** \$30 per person (pre-paid by 29/5/09)

**Details:** Ticket includes cocktail food service and function room hire. Drinks available for purchase at the bar.

**RSVP:** Friday 29th May 2009

**Photos:** Zoran Marjanovic has kindly offered to make banners to display on the night. If you have any photos of school days that can be scanned in please email to either

[smithshillclass89@hotmail.com](mailto:smithshillclass89@hotmail.com) or direct to Zoran at [sales.htg@gmail.com](mailto:sales.htg@gmail.com)

**Enquiries:** Email [smithshillclass89@hotmail.com](mailto:smithshillclass89@hotmail.com) or call Stephanie on 0417 657 686 or Jenni on 0413 824 178