**Coming events**

**Week 10**  **Beginning 14th September**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Events</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Year 11 Crossroads camp - Stanwell Tops (3 days)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Year 10 Debating State Quart</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Year 12 Graduation UOW 9:30am</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Year 12 Formal at Panorama House, Bulli Tops from 6pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Sport selections for Term 4 following lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Mr Zabell’s last day - Happy Retirement!</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Last Day Term 3</td>
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**Week 1**  **Beginning 6th October**

| Tuesday | First day of Term staff and students                                 |

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“**You don’t have to be someone special to achieve something amazing. You’ve just got to have a dream, believe in it and work hard.**”  
Jessica Watson

2010 was a year of many ‘firsts’ in Australian history. Jessica Watson became the youngest sailor to complete a solo southern hemisphere circumnavigation, Mary MacKillop was the first Australian to be declared a saint of the Roman Catholic Church, Julia Gillard became first female Prime Minister of Australia and our current graduating Year 12 students commenced Year 7 at Smith’s Hill High School. Looking back over the past six years, the journey has been one of ups and downs. Nevertheless, when we look at our students and all of the hard work, patience, commitment, success and failure that they have experienced over this time, we recognise that these experiences have shaped each one of them into who they are today.

The past six years have given parents and teachers alike an insight into the personalities, skills, talents and abilities of each of our students. The school reports, references and imminent HSC results will paint a picture of who they have become and what they have achieved. Yet, will their time at Smith’s Hill High School define who they will become or what they will achieve in the years to come?

In short; yes and no. Year 12, your identity is something that you are, and will be, and is constantly developing. It is not just “who you are,” it is a process that is ongoing and one in which you must be active. It’s not just imitating your parents or even the thoughts of your learned teachers. It is, now more than ever, about understanding yourself so you can become yourself. If you think that achieving something, that solving something, a career or a relationship will bring closure to this process; it will not. Change and uncertainty will always be part of your lives and it is the manner in which you interact with and manage this uncertainty that will be defining in the development of your future.

At times, the amount of change and uncertainty in life can be overwhelming. Over thinking the countless possible outcomes for every action can be debilitating and leave you second guessing your life decisions. The advantage of being young, however, is that you have time to try, experience and enjoy the depth and breadth of opportunities that come your way without locking yourself into a defined future. The most important mindset to have is to take every opportunity that presents itself and see where it takes you.

Positive friendships and relationships add richness and depth to our lives. So remember that as you move on from your secondary schooling experiences and, through your words and actions, fill the world with hope. Enjoy the highs and contemplate lessons learnt from the lows. Fall down. Make a mess. Break something occasionally. Know that your mistakes are your own unique way of getting to where you need to be. Remember that the story is never over and to enjoy the scenery as it changes around you.

David C Deitz  
Principal
SCHOOL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

As a school community, we all have the opportunity to contribute in a variety of ways to events and programs that improve learning outcomes for our students. We recognise that we have passionate, skilled and knowledgeable people within our student, parent and teacher bodies in a whole host of areas of endeavour. The school environment team are currently seeking assistance from students, parents and staff to develop and implement our School Environmental Management Plan.

Click on the following link to view the first draft of the School Environmental Management Plan and get involved. [http://www.smithshill-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/our-school/going-green](http://www.smithshill-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/our-school/going-green)

DEBATING AND PUBLIC SPEAKING

Debate USA Final

Last Saturday Sydney University held their Open Day and as part of the program they hosted the Final of the Debate USA Debating Competition. The final was between Pymble Ladies College and SHHS on the topic, ‘That America should block payments of ransom to ISIS from families of hostages’.

In a highly emotive debate where both sides were strong in case development and rebuttal...in a unanimous decision, SHHS was announced as the winners!

This is a first for SHHS and a significant win by a very deserving team. Elinor Stephenson, Charlie Gonzalez, Thomas Condon and Arin Tornyi-Aydin have worked very hard as a team over the past month to be well prepared for each debate.

There was an added incentive, however, as the winners did not receive trophies... but they did receive an iPad each!

Year 10 Regional Debating Camp

Last Thursday and Friday the SHHS Year 10 Debating team of Toby Shanks, Brendan Harris, Tommy Polden and Henry Kocatekin competed in the Regional debating finals at Bateman’s Bay at the Regional Debating Camp. All Zone winners attended the camp and participated in the final knockout rounds to see who would proceed to the Inter-Regional play offs and the State Quarter finals. SHHS defeated Nowra and Vincentia High Schools to meet Braidwood High School in the Regional Final. On the topic, ‘That we should become a Republic’, SHHS strongly showed that we needed to cut meaningless ties with England and develop stronger relationships with our regional neighbours to be ready for the Asian Century!

Woooo Whoooo!

At this camp, a Junior State Debating Squad is selected to represent the ISE in a separate elite competition to be held later in the year... I am pleased to announce that Elinor Stephenson and Henry Kocatekin were both selected onto a squad of 8. They will participate in some advanced training workshops and eventually a Squad of 5 will represent the ISE in the JSDC competition. Unfortunately, only one student from any one school can be selected.

An impressive achievement by a very talented Team!
Some very happy debaters...Ellie, Henry, Tommy, Toby and Brendan.

A special thanks needs to go to Mrs Sharon Shanks for not only partaking in a car swap so I could transport all students, but for her continued audience support on the day!

Inter-Regional Final

On Monday the Year 10 Debating Team of Tommy, Brendan, Tommy and Henry defeated The Henry Lawson High School in a video conference debate to go through to the State Finals to be held next term. Well done Team!

38TH ANNUAL AUSTRALIAN MATHEMATICS COMPETITION 2015 (AMC)

Results are now available for this competition sponsored by Commonwealth Bank. Hundreds of thousands of students in primary and secondary schools from around 40 countries sat the AMC on Thursday 30 July. This is one of the largest single events on the Australian education calendar which began in 1978 and has participants from Australia, the Pacific and South East Asia regions.

It is with great pleasure that the Mathematics department of SHHS would like to announce some outstanding results from the Mathematics competition.

Adem Benten – Year 7 – scored a prize
Adem was invited to sit for the Australian Intermediate Mathematics Olympiad (AIMO) which was held on Tuesday 8 September. The AIMO was a 4-hour exam (8 questions with integer answers and 2 proofs). We also have 3 other students who joined Adem in this competition. Ellen Zheng (yr 9), Nestor Prohm (yr8) and Jamie Douglass (yr 8). We are eagerly awaiting the results of their performance in this challenge.

Ellen Zheng – Year 9 – High Distinction
Nestor Prohm – Year 8 – High Distinction
Jamie Douglass – Year 8 – High Distinction
Jarrah Clark – Year 8 – High Distinction

We also achieved 36 distinctions

8 students from year 7
Maximillian Sanzozne, Allan Parkes, Amy Wearing, Josh Agarwal, Christopher Marsh, Gabrielle Marriott, Sierra Anastas, Philip Thomas

Allan Parkes also scored the ‘Prudence Award’ which is awarded to the student who receives the most correct answers consecutively.

10 students from year 8
Helen Soukhavong, James Turner, Nicholas Hoang, Sarah Bradley, Eva Lin, Christian Kairis, Griffin Doyle, Aranya Ghose, Eric Zhu, Jessica McDonnell

9 students from year 9
Savannah Mandakini Dissanayake, Savannah O’Connell, Sam Croker, Vincent Cummins, Uditha Jith, James Wearing, Leyla Meharg, Yishan Du, Cathleen Li

6 students from year 10
Alice Yang, Stephanie Lam, Henry Kocatekin, Spencer Martin, Johanna Then, Keira Takacs

1 students from year 11
Linfeng Xie

2 students from year 12
John Lim, Joshua Then

The above students will be awarded their certificates, when we receive them, at a whole school assembly to be advised.

A big congratulations also to all the other 55 students who participated and attained a Credit or Proficiency certificate.
SISTER SCHOOL VISITS
Term 3 has seen visitors from each of our 4 sister schools:
Lycee Robert De Luzarches High School (Amiens France) - 7 students for 5 weeks
Bad Neustadt High School (German) - 4 students for 5 weeks
Takarazuka High School (Japan)- 32 students for 8 days
Kitazono High School (Japan) - 43 students for 13 days

Thanks to all the host families who enabled these students to have wonderful experiences here. Without the kind and generous support of host families, these opportunities can't exist. Each and every student reported that their confidence in English had increased, and that they had encountered experiences here that just do not exist in their countries. Surfing lessons, walking distance from school, for example.

Japan Study Tour 2017 meeting
A meeting will be held for those Year 9 Japanese students and their parents who are interested in participating in the Japan Study Tour which has been planned for September 2017. It will be a preliminary meeting to give information about the Tour, and answer any questions before committing to participating.

Wednesday November 19, 2015
5:30pm - 6:30pm
School Library

Maths and Stats by Email is a free fortnightly email newsletter featuring maths news and activities.

Maths and Stats by Email contains:
• the latest news from the world of maths
• hands-on maths activities to try yourself
• curious and interesting maths websites
• puzzles to tease your brain
• news about the latest maths events
• occasional competitions.

Follow the link to this fortnight’s newsletter-
Mysterious number measures mass
EXPO NIGHT
Wednesday 7th October, 2015
6.00 p.m. - 8.30 p.m.

Smith’s Hill High School is a public selective coeducational high school catering for gifted and talented students.

Applications for Year 7 2017 close on November 16th 2015

Year 5 students and their parents may wish to take the opportunity to see the school with a view to applying for admission in 2017. Year 6 students who sat the entrance test for 2016 admission and their parents are invited to attend our Expo to view our facilities and programs. Phone enquiries directed to the school on 42294266.

WOOLWORTHS EARN & LEARN PROGRAM

As you know, our school has been participating in the Woolworths Earn & Learn program. The program has now finished for this year, so a big thanks to everyone who supported our school. We’re now at the important stage of the program where the Sticker Sheets are collected and lodged as our Earn & Learn claim. We will then be able to get new educational equipment for our school. The more we collect, the more we can redeem. So this week, please send in your Woolworths Earn & Learn Sticker Sheets and any loose Earn & Learn stickers you may have. Remember to check your handbag, the car glove box or they may be stuck on the fridge. Every little bit helps. Thanks again for all your support!

Todays count is over 13 500 stickers

New School Jackets and Blazers

The Uniform Shop now has new school Jackets and Blazers available
Jackets - $50.00  Blazers - $110.00

Uniform shop hours:
8am-11.30am Tuesday
10.30am-1.30pm Wednesday

CANTEEN ROSTER

WEEK 10
2nd Monday - 14/9/15 - T. Benton, G. Mettham
3rd Tuesday - 15/9/15 - K. Prohm, need 1 helper every month
3rd Wednesday - 16/9/15 - M. Marks, K. Vizgoft
3rd Thursday - 17/9/15 - N. Clough, J. Wilson, D. Al Salim, Julie Wilson
3rd Friday - 18/9/15 - L. Tutt, G. Sanzone, Need 2 helpers

WEEK 11
School Holidays

WEEK 1 TERM 4
Public Holiday 1st Monday - 5/10/15
1st Tuesday - 6/10/15 - L. Barone, Need 1 other
1st Wednesday - 7/10/15 - T. Abey, L. Bacic, V. Betts
2nd Thursday - 8/10/15 - C. Hewitt, F. MacRae, J. Anastas
2nd Friday - 9/10/15 - J. Lill, V. Douglas, S. Hepper

HELPERS DESPERATELY NEEDED
Can you please check the roster above if you and a friend would like to help please call Carmel on 4228 5912