

Forbes High School Newsletter



Part of the Lachlan Valley Community of Schools

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Term 4 - Week 9

Friday December 6, 2013

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

We are quickly moving towards Christmas. It is important that students remember that they are working up to the last day, Wednesday 18th December, therefore do not decrease your effort in class. We will be engaging in productive teaching until the end of the year. During the break it is also important that students continue to read and actively engage their minds to ensure that it is kept in practice for the following academic year. This can be done by finding something your child enjoys reading and making it available. Twenty minutes a day is adequate practice for them.

MY HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE FORTNIGHT:

The first of these occurred on Friday 22nd November at the Forbes Golf Club when our HSC Class of 2013 put on their formal attire and celebrated the culmination of 13 years of schooling with their classmates and families. Congratulations FHS Class of 2013 and all the best for your future endeavours. A special thanks to Ms Townend and Mrs Morrison for organising such a great night. The students looked amazing, the decorations were beautiful and the speeches and presentations were very inspiring. It is always a bitter sweet time as a teacher. I am always very happy and excited to see our students complete their HSC and make plans for the future, but it is always sad to see them leave. The emotion I felt principally on that night was PRIDE. As teachers we are very proud of their achievements, it was obvious that the students' parents and families were proud of them accomplishing such a significant milestone in their life, but every student was so happy, excited and proud of themselves. I couldn't stop smiling.

The second highlight which stood out for me was the school march in Forbes and the participation that followed at Victoria Park to celebrate White Ribbon Day. Domestic violence is a blight on our society and it was an important show of strength from our school both staff and students to display our support for a worthy cause that lifts the profile of what is sadly a growing social concern. Our students were again outstanding in both their behaviour and presence in positively contributing to this event.

The third highlight relates to the "Movember Games" that occurred last week. This was a fun opportunity where staff versus student games occurred all week to raise funds to support research for Prostate cancer. Many male staff also participated in the annual November month long campaign to grow moustaches (with varying degrees of success). Again the Beyond Blue campaign is another worthwhile cause that the school participates in to raise funds and lift the profile on the fight against what is a commonly neglected cancer affecting males.

PRESENTATION ASSEMBLY

The school will be celebrating the success of 2013 with the Presentation Assembly to be held on Friday 13th December commencing at 10am. We encourage parents and community members to come and support our students receiving awards for their great work throughout the year. Junior reports will also be issued to students later on this day.

ORIENTATION DAY

A successful Orientation Day for Year 6 into 7 took place on Thursday December 5 and we are confident that as a result of our transition program, these students will settle into High School in an effective manner. Ms Glynn will be Year 7 Student Advisor and I know she will do a very capable job in ensuring Year 7, 2014 are well looked after.



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Calendar

Dec

13 – Presentation Assembly
18 – Last day of 2013

2014

Jan

29 – 7, 11 & 12 return
30 – 8,9, 10 return



STAFF TURNOVER

A number of long serving staff are retiring or leaving to embrace new challenges and their collective contribution to all aspects of school life have been greatly appreciated by generations of students from our school. They have all served the school well and made valuable contributions. In alphabetical order these are:

Mr Peter Apps – TAS Teacher
Mrs Cheryl Barton – SLSO Support Unit
Mr Alan Blyth – Mathematics Teacher
Ms Renee Larcher – Support Teacher
Ms Kath McGeechan – Visual Arts Teacher
Mr Duncan Sharpe – Head Teacher Administration
Mrs Kerrie Sharpe – Support Teacher
Ms Anna Townend – Language Teacher
Collectively, I thank them all for their efforts in supporting our young people here at Forbes High School.

STARTING DATES 2014

Be advised that Term 1, 2014 starting dates are:
Wednesday 29th January – Year 7, 11 and 12 and
Thursday 30th January for Year 8, 9 and 10.

Thank you to all the parents for their support throughout the year. Some issues that develop can be very challenging both for parents, students and the school. We appreciate the partnerships that have been developed between home and the school, along with your continuing communication; we hope this continues into next year.

I hope your Christmas break is joyous and the New Year is one of hope and happiness.

DAVID HARRIS
Principal



SCHOOL SPECTACULAR 2013 – '30 SPECTACULAR YEARS'

Once again Forbes High School dancers had the fantastic opportunity to take part in the Schools Spectacular. The Schools Spectacular is an annual production showcasing the talents of students from NSW Public Schools at the Sydney Entertainment Centre. The show features over 3500 of the state's singers, dancers and musicians with the students rehearsing for many months in preparation for the four performances over 2 days and 2 nights.

This year Forbes High was represented by 8 students who participated in the Combined Dance. The students from years 9 and 11 performed in a segment titled 'Our Sporting Spirit' which was a representation of sport and the Olympics. The girls performed to *Hall of Fame* and *Absolutely Everybody*.

The group travelled to Sydney on November 26th and took part in major combined rehearsals before performing in four shows on November 29 and 30. The performances were broadcast on Channel 9 and can still be viewed online at www.jump-in.com.au.

All their hard work and preparation paid off as the group accompanied by Ms Townend, Mrs Jones, Kym Goodall and Anita Morrison had a fantastic time away. The dancers were impeccable ambassadors for their school and Forbes. As well as performing they also managed to squeeze in some all-important retail therapy, a movie, laser-tag and Teppanyaki!

A big thank you to Anita and Kym for their help, delicious food and creature comforts – you made the trip easier for us all.



Back row (L-R), Carly Morrison, Natasha Goodall, Molly Fuge, Eliza Woods. Front row (L-R) Nicole Morrison, Grace Quigley, Georgia Woods, Samantha Clifton



FHS - News

KOORIE KORNER

Well this is, the last newsletter for the year.

CONNECTING TO COUNTRY EXCURSION

Our Girri Girri students had the opportunity to go to some important places to learn about their history and culture. We started out at the mission, then we went to Rob and Jenny Schall Bogabigal farm to look at some Scarred Trees. It was then off to Manna Mountain to check out the carvings in the rock where Aboriginal people used to sharpen their tools such as axes, knives and Spearheads. The day was interesting and enjoyed by all. Thanks, goes to Joy for giving us some more knowledge of our Culture and to Mrs Little for organising the excursion.



GIRRI GIRRI



The guys in the AbEd office would like to give a BIG THANK YOU to Mrs Janice Little for taking on the Girri Girri students. The students enjoyed having Mrs Little as their teacher. These are just some of the comments that students have said, Monica Pascoe "the way she organised a lot of things for us. Her personality is really bubbly and caring and was really helpful throughout the year", Nadika Vidler-McKeown "her personality was easy going and was always there. Good to talk too and if you ever needed her for assignments she would be there" and Taylor Hague "she was a comfortable person to be around, very trustworthy, could always rely on her, helped me with all my assignments and just an all-round nice person".

The girls also mentioned that Mrs Little was amazing and very helpful to all the students involved in Girri Girri this year.

STRAPPING COURSE FOR GIRRI GIRRI STUDENTS

Last Friday our Girri Girri students had the opportunity to participate in a Strapping Course organised by Jason French from Sports and Recreation, held at the school. The course was run by Mr Ian Fischer, who is employed by Sport and Recreation in Orange and runs his own Central West Myotherapy and Massage. He also does a lot of the strapping for Orange Cymys and other footy sides. Students were able to be guinea pigs for their fellow students to strap them up. Students were able to get a lot out of the course and will be able to take it back to their own sports and all the students enjoyed it and recommend it to anyone who is interested in this type of area.



EARLY ENTRY FOR OUR YEAR 12 STUDENTS

Congratulations to some of our Indigenous Yr 12 students for gaining Early Entry into University. Here in the AbEd department we are proud of these students and hopefully they will continue their commitment to learning through to university. All the best guys, and keep putting in the hard yards.



DISABILITY GAMES



Aboriginal students were lucky enough to be asked to help run the Disability games this year at the Community and Youth Centre. They took part in some traditional Aboriginal games as well other activities that were on offer.

Well guys that's it for another fun packed year, Joy, Barry, Westy and Donna would like to wish everyone a safe and joyful Christmas and hope that 2014 is another year to remember. Take care and join us again next year to see what Forbes High School has in store.



**Merry Christmas
And
Joyous New Year**

Thank you

Forbes High School would like to acknowledge the on going support of our student programs from Woolworths Supermarket and Barrick Gold, Lake Cowal Mine. Without these partners many programs at Forbes High would not run.

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REGIONAL WORLD SKILLS COMPETITION

28th November 2013

Jessica Cowan and Amelia Callaghan from year 12 Hospitality were selected to compete in the commercial cookery section of the Regional World Skills competition held at Saint John College in Dubbo. Amelia and Jessica had to prepare and present four serves of an extensive three course menu over a four hour time frame. The three courses consisted of Caesar salad for entrée, chicken schnitzel, tomato concasse, turned potatoes and julienne carrots for main and poached pear with crème anglaise for dessert. On the day they competed against 16 other talented students from schools from across the region. Although Jessica and Amelia didn't gain a place in the top three they competed well and presented quality dishes.



STAGE 4 EXCURSION

On Tuesday 3rd and Wednesday, 4th December, 52 students from Years 7 and 8 (as well as 2 Year 10's) travelled to Dubbo for an excursion. After arriving in Dubbo and having lunch in the park, Ten Pin bowling was on the agenda. Students had great fun throughout the afternoon, with everyone joining in...even the teachers! After bowling, it was onto our accommodation and then we were headed to the Taronga Western Plains Zoo for our Twilight safari. After a lovely BBQ dinner provided by the zoo, students were involved in an information session that allowed them to get up close and personal with some animals. These animals included an echidna, blue-tongue lizard, shingleback lizard and a baby crocodile. Then it was onto our walking tour around the zoo which was fantastic! Students had the opportunity to see the animals being fed their evening meal. We saw the black Rhino, hippos and the giraffes. After our twilight safari, it was back to the accommodation for a good night's rest

Wednesday morning we returned to the zoo for a day visit. This enabled students to see all the animals on display at the zoo and enjoy the fantastic facilities the zoo has to offer. Students were driven around in the bus, hopping on and off to see the animals and explore. After a packed lunch, it was time to head home with a snooze on the bus trip home I'm sure! I hope the students had a fantastic time and I would personally like to thank Mr. Byrne, Mrs. Sharpe and Mrs. Barton for also attending the excursion ☺

Miss Northam (Year 7 Advisor)



SCHOOL WEBSITE

The school website is constantly being updated with new photos, calendar dates and information. Visit www.forbes-h.schools.nsw.edu.au to find photos and information about our wonderful school.

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CANTEEN NEWS

"The SNACK SHACK" will be keeping stock to a minimum to avoid waste at the end of the year so we may run out of certain items on the menu. Your patience and understanding would be greatly appreciated. Chris and Robyne would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support and patronage in 2013 and wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

P&C MEETING REMINDER

The last general meeting of the P&C will be held next Tuesday 10th December 2013 commencing at 6.30pm at the Forbes Services Memorial Club. We will be having a short meeting from 6.30-7.00pm followed by a two course meal and social get together. Cost is \$30 for the meal and if you would like to join us please let Anita know as soon as possible on 0405364512. We will be wrapping up 2013 and planning for 2014. Thank you to everyone who has assisted during the past year and we look forward to seeing you again next year. We hope you and your families have a safe and happy Christmas and New Year. Please come along and bring a friend.

P&C FUNDRAISER

A very successful and enjoyable Trivia fundraiser was held in November raising \$1000. Everyone got into the theme and dressed up for the night. There were some great outfits but Rowan Woods took out the Best Dressed Award in his count Dracula attire complete with detailed makeup, which I am sure his daughters helped him with. The Hemming's table display was outstanding and there was no question that they were the best dressed table with all members wearing matching capes. The winning table for the night was organised by Toni Edwards and it was only fitting that a table of our schools educators took out the major prize for the night. Is it any wonder our children are excelling at school. This team generously donated the entire prize money back to the P&C which was greatly appreciated. A huge thank you to all who attended the night and made it such a success. A special thanks is also extended to the Year 7 PE class who helped to decorate the hall and organised a table for the night.

RELAY FOR LIFE – FORBES HIGH SCHOOL TEAM FUNDRAISING EVENTS

Relay for life was a fantastic community event to be involved in and the Forbes High School Team joined forces with the Forbes Shire Council and Pretty Little Paces teams for a delicious dinner. FHS and FSC entered a beach volleyball team and performed exceptional well missing out on the Grand Final by a whisker, and very cold feet.

INTERNATIONAL OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

Forbes High School is continuing to support community events with their support of the International Day of People with Disabilities held at the Forbes Youth and Community Centre on Tuesday 3 December. The day was well attended and the students assisted with all of the activities as well as with catering and clean up. The Girri Girri Sports Academy students provided modified Indigenous Games which were great, it was a pity it was so hot on the day as there would have been more participation if the weather had have been a little cooler. Forbes Shire Council was thrilled with their involvement and hope that they can continue to strengthen this partnership.

MULTICULTURAL DINNER

The end of year Multicultural Event was also held on 3 December at the Youth Centre and featured a shared dinner and fantastic Sushi making display.

Year 9 student Molly Cowan provided some musical entertainment which was enjoyed by everyone. Afterwards she was showing a few of the attendees how to play the guitar and chatted with many of the local migrant families who were there.



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FORBES HIGH TURNS 50 SHADES OF PURPLE!

Forbes High School celebrated another successful year of Positive Behaviour for Learning (PBL) on Friday December 6 with our annual Purple Day celebration. The PBL program is integral to supporting students at Forbes High School and in 2013 we have continued to promote our four core values of respect, responsibility, honesty and doing your best. This has been achieved through regular PBL lessons and rewards including Purple Slips, major prize draws and our annual PBL excursion.

Purple Day represents the culmination of the PBL year. Staff and students are invited to come to school dressed in purple to celebrate PBL and once again the response was excellent as the school was awash with purple! The day included prizes for best-dressed, a free BBQ lunch, a staff verse student volleyball match, music in the COLA and the major prize draw for Term 4. With an iPad Mini up for grabs a record number of purple slips were entered into the draw. After much anticipation the winner was announced – congratulations goes to Blake Huntly. This year we also rewarded a teacher for supporting the program and Mrs Sharpe was delighted to receive her prize.

Thanks go to all Forbes High staff for their support of the day and PBL throughout the year. We'd also like to thank Col Borger and Tip Top for kindly donating the bread for the BBQ.



SUCCESS AT COWRA

Once again a great number of yr 10, 11 and 12 Art and Photography / Ceramics students entered works in the Annual Cowra Regional Gallery Youth Art Awards. The opening took place last Saturday afternoon. While all the works at the show were of an amazingly high standard showing a wide variety of subject matter, the one work titled ' Looking Forward, Looking Back' by our yr 11 student Chloe Caines, took the judges eye, winning 1st place in the yr 11 section. The judge, Lisa Van DeDolder made comment of the high technical skill exhibited in the work and was amazed by the attention to detail.

So congratulations everyone and particularly Chloe for all the hard work and effort.

RYPEN CHALLENGE

The Forbes Rotary Club organises two students each year to attend the Rotary Rypen Challenge. This year Emily Godden and Toni Li of Yr 9 were given the opportunity to attend the weekend of the 30th November at Borambola Sport and Recreation camp near Wagga Wagga. The camp aims to extend students horizons and challenge them in areas they might not have experienced before. Both Toni and Emily camp back from the camp, very excited by what they had done which involved rock climbing, raft building and many other team and individual activities. The School would like to thank Rotary on behalf of our students for this great opportunity and a special thankyou to the parents and other individuals who assisted in making it all happen.