



PICNIC POINT HIGH SCHOOL

61 Kennedy Street Picnic Point

Phone 9772 1700

Fax 9792 3960

Email picnicpt-h.schools@det.nsw.edu.au

Web site www.picnicpt-h.schools.nsw.edu.au

DECEMBER
2008

Principal
Mr Wolly Negroh
B Ed, Dip Teach

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Thank you to Cheryl Best School Education Director for East Hills, Darryl Melham Federal Member of Parliament for Banks, Alan Ashton State Member of Parliament for East Hills, Julie Robinson President of the P&C, Michele McGregor President of the School Council, Sandra Palmer Principal Panania Public School and Cameron Phelps ex student and previously with the bulldogs and now playing for Wigan in the English competition for assisting with the official opening of the school's **multi purpose sports complex** that was funded by the Federal Government through the **Investing in our schools program**.



The day was a **celebration** and **culmination** of over 2 years of planning, developing and organisation. The **Investing in our schools** project at PPHS was launched in **May 2006** through an application made to the Federal government to **improve the school's facilities**. An application was made by our previous Principal, Sue Holden in conjunction with our Head Teacher PDHPE, Mr Millican.

Some recent school successes;

- Congratulations to the student leadership team. The excitement and positive response from students and staff at the leadership camp was overwhelming.
- Elise Hawke, Courtney Bale, Daniel Domenici, Matthew Hudson, Alex Jones, Kelly Smith, Joshua Ward-Brown, and Joe Waskiw achieved **High Distinctions** in the State History competition.
- Well done to our talented students who performed at the Schools Spectacular and Ms Pratley and Ms Cody for their support of the students.
- Maddie Pirie, Samantha Abbott, Samantha Flood and Sean Nagle qualified for the Pacific Schools Games held in the ACT this year. Maddie has done it again with more personal bests and new Pacific

School Games records in winning the 100 and 200 metres finals. Samantha Flood achieved 9th place in the finals of the walk and Samantha Abbott gained 6th place in the 200 butterfly. Sean also gained 6th place in the 1500m final.

- Rhiannon Dick has been awarded a NSW CHS Blue for Cricket and Blake Guthrie received a NSW CHS Blue for AFL.
- Congratulations to coach Sparks and the girl's water polo team-they have now reached the final 8 in the state.
- Andrew Lloyd and Blake Guthrie were presented with a Sydney South West Regional Blue Award in Squash and AFL respectively.
- Well done to the music and VET Entertainment staff and students for an amazing evening of music. Performance at PPHS has now moved to a new level.



As this is the final Pic news for 2008, I thank all members of the community for their dedication and focus on learning throughout the year. I continue to be impressed and grateful with the commitment of staff, parents and students working together to achieve the best learning environment possible.

I wish every one a very safe and relaxing Christmas break and look forward to your healthy return in the New Year.

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PIC-NEWS

DEPUTY PRINCIPALS REPORT

This PIC News brings to a close our communication on a fantastic year at Picnic Point High School.

Term 4 has been a constant flow of success and acknowledgement for our students as they have achieved accolades within the school community and beyond. School Certificate results show further improvement advancing on our school's impressive results from previous years. This academic achievement is also evident in the results from end of year assessments in all year groups. School reports will be distributed early next week and I encourage all parents to share their pride in their children's successes by acknowledging their achievements. Of course some students will have room for improvement and their report will indicate areas for focus in 2009.

Beyond the classroom there has been a world of opportunity for our students which they have successfully taken, bringing kudos to our school. I have been fortunate enough to see our students in the Schools Spectacular, drama performances, music performances and regularly hearing of our ongoing sporting success - most noticeably of late in cricket and water polo. I visited the leadership camp where our students developed teamwork, vision and the sort of skills that adult leaders are still mastering. Rarely have I seen staff members as impressed as the leadership staff on their return from the camp. The school is buzzing with new ideas and events being devised and implemented by the student body.

The final rewards day is next week and all of our highest achievers for the year will be honoured at the School Presentation Day. The welfare team have spent time reviewing the point system implemented this year and we are due to see bigger and better things next year.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a safe and happy break over the New Year period. I feel privileged to have been able to join the Picnic Point High School community this year and look forward to working with the students, staff and parents to ensure a wonderfully successful 2009.

Adam Baczynskyj
Deputy Principal



**EAST HILLS JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE
FOOTBALL CLUB**

The original bulldogs require players from U/6 to Open age for 2009.

Registration is on
31st January, 7th & 14th February

Each player receives free shorts and socks

Checkout our website: www.easthillsbulldogs.com.au
or phone Gary McAndrew – 0423 765 599

HISTORY

I'm pleased to be able to report that our school has once again achieved outstanding results in the state wide history competition. The following students should be congratulated for achieving High Distinctions – Elise Hawke, Courtney Bale, Daniel Domenici, Matthew Hudson, Alex Jones, Kelly Smith, Joshua Ward-Brown, and Joe Waskiw. Congratulations to the 12 students who gained distinctions in the competition as well as the many credits that were awarded. The History competition is undertaken by students across the state and in 2008 approximately 12,000 students participated.



Given the size and prestigious nature of the competition, Picnic Point High School students can take pride in their achievements. It is History Faculty policy to offer the opportunity to compete in the competition to all our Year 10 students.

Finally, all the best for Christmas to our parents and carers from the History Faculty and remember the History text, "One Land Many Stories" will be needed by all Year 9 History students in 2009.

Kokoda Memorial Track



As in the past, Year 9 visited the Kokoda Memorial Track at Concord and undertook a guided tour of the track with veterans.

This activity is linked to the mandatory syllabus topic "Australia at War 1939-45" but more importantly our students were able to speak to and learn from veterans from conflict.



PRESENTATION DAY

YEARS 7, 8, 9 & 11
FRIDAY 12th December
9.30am
SCHOOL HALL

BANKSTOWN COUNCIL

2009 TALENT ADVANCEMENT PROGRAM

Calling on talented local young people to audition for places in the 2009 Talent Advancement Program. The program gives students the opportunity to develop their musical abilities through workshops and public performance opportunities.

The auditions will be held on 11th & 12th December.

Those interested in taking part in some great music workshop activities with current industry experts should contact 9707 9447 to book a place.



Michel's (Revesby) Student Of The Month For October

	Name	REASON FOR THE AWARD
7	Nicholas Sim	Excellent classroom participation
8	Lenore Gurney	Excellent effort with the year 8 leadership group and her helpful nature
9	Daniel Cvetkovski	Excellent and consistent work in all classes
10	Ryan Bayliss	Excellent effort and behaviour in class
11	Mitchell Yates	Excellent results in all subjects at the Yearly Exams



WHAT'S ON TERM 4 - 2008

Wed	10/12	Yr 11 Trivia Day
Fri	12/12	Yr 7/8/9 & 11 Presentation Day
Mon	15/12	Yr 10 Presentation Day
Mon	15/12	Yr 9 Elective History Walk
Wed	17/12	Term 4 Rewards Day
Fri	19/12	Term 4 Ends



**Merry Christmas and have a Safe
 New Year**

Year 7, 11 and Year 12 return Term1 2009
 on
 Friday 30th January

Years 8, 9 and 10 return Term 1 2009
 on
 Monday 2nd February 2009



REMINDER TO PARENTS-PUBLISHING STUDENT WORK, PHOTOGRAPHS AND OTHER MEDIA

The school occasionally uses student photos, videos and work samples in teaching and learning materials developed for the school and in promotional materials distributed to a wider audience. This material may be distributed through the school newsletter, books, CDs, video/audio cassettes on the intranet or on the internet. In the event that you do not give consent for inclusion of student work and photographs, videos in such publications could you please advise the school?

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of the month'
award.

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LOTE

Japan Trip

Thank you to those families who have indicated their interest in participating in the Japan Trip next year. All families who have been successful in their application, or placed on the waiting list, have now been notified. We will hold a more detailed information evening early next year, where we will discuss all official documentation and fundraising.

Preparing for 2009

The Japanese teaching and learning programmes for 2009 are now being finalised. All students in Year 8 next year will complete their mandatory 100 hours of Japanese through a single period of Japanese per week. It is **essential** that students who are currently in Year 7 **keep all of their Japanese books** from this year because we will be continuing to use them throughout 2009. Any books that become lost over the holidays will have to be replaced at an additional cost to families!

Students who have elected to study Japanese in **Years 9 & 10** should also keep all of their Japanese Workbooks as we will continue to use them throughout the School Certificate courses.

Students in Year 11 and 12 will purchase new workbooks at the beginning of 2009, but should keep all of their previously used workbooks as materials for revision.

We would like to thank our students for their hard work during 2008 – we have enjoyed watching you make progress in Japanese! We wish all students and their families a safe and happy holiday, and look forward to working with everyone in 2009.

Mrs Irons and Miss Marquis

Tanken Centre

On November 18th, the Year 9 Japanese class took an exciting excursion to the Tanken Centre at Kirrawee High School, which was a great experience.



To make it to the Tanken Centre, we had to catch a train from Padstow station to Wolli Creek, where we got off and only had a quick 3 minutes to make it to our next train to Kirrawee, and thankfully we did, phew!



Once we got to the Tanken Centre, we had to follow the Japanese traditions and were greeted by the nice hosts who only spoke Japanese to us the whole day. While there we played many fun & exciting games, in Japanese of course, and learnt new things about the Japanese culture & language, such as new katakana, and various common Japanese household items. Overall, it was a great day, everyone had fun, and we even managed to understand what the hosts were saying, even though we didn't know some of the words, which was great !!



ST CHRISTOPHER'S SOCCER CLUB 2009 REGISTRATION DAYS

Outside Jesters Panania 10.00am to 12.30pm
Saturday 24th January
Saturday 31st January
Sunday 8th February

We have teams from kindies, under 6's to 35's
for all boys and girls

PEER SUPPORT

Year 7 Peer Reading Tutors

Our Peer Reading Program has been a fantastic success as the Year 7 Leadership group members contributed in a big way. They all are very impressive young people who demonstrated amazing qualities as they dedicated their own time to assist others with reading. Their help was much appreciated and enjoyed by our students. We hope to see you working with us next year!



In the photo from the left:

Joel Moseley, Christopher Edwards, Dan Wilson, Natalie Westren, Maddie Guthrie, Madeline Strachan, Madi Rowe, Iesha Gledhill, Brittany Gill, Stephanie Deering, Shaylee Bron, Julia Panovski, Belinda Anderson, Kirsty Garner, Analise Imparato, Van Nguyen, Christi Forster and Thomas Walther.

Peer Support Training

Congratulations to all 47 Year 9 Peer Support Leaders who successfully completed their training last month. Year 9 are now looking forward to working with Year 6 on Orientation Day and throughout Term 1 in 2009.



Peer Mediation

On Monday 17th and Tuesday 18th November in term 4, a group of Year nines and tens were trained as peer mediators.

Peer mediation is the process of sorting out small scale conflict among peers by considering alternatives and coming to an agreement that will accommodate the participants' needs.

This course consisted of a variety of methods that helped us to learn and train to be a peer mediator. These were ice breakers, identifying problems amongst peers and role-plays.

The two days were very successful. It helped us learn to deal with situations and to be a great peer mediator. We all received a Certificate of Achievement Award for completing the program.

We would like to thank Ms Stavros, Mrs Kean and Ms Marquis for hosting the days and providing us with delicious morning teas and helping us to learn to help peers with their problems.

Rebecca Strickland and Taylor Farrell

Year 9

Year 7 Leadership Group Report

The year 7 leadership group would like to thank the parents, students and the staff for helping with our fantastic "Donut Day". We raised over \$500 which will be going towards the gift for the Year 6 students when they arrive next year. We are planning on purchasing PPHS drink bottles for each student.

We also organized the Year 6 Orientation Day which was on Thursday the 4th of December. The leadership group helped by guiding the year 6's around the school showing them all the exciting things they can look forward to next year and to inform them of the changes and differences of high school compared to primary school.

We hope the students found this day as exciting as we, the Leadership Group did.

We hope that we were helpful to year 6 and we are glad the day was a great success.

Daniel Wilson & Joel Moseley

Year 7 Publicity Committee



Year 8 Leadership Project

The year eight leadership group has been working on a project to do with the theme, Power of Participation. We decided to work together to raise the funds to help a charity.

We chose to raise the funds for the Cancer Council. Everyone contributed with the ideas: a barbecue and the sale of Cancer Council merchandise was eventually agreed on.

At the next meeting we discussed when to have our Barbecue and chose Friday the 7th of November. Preorders were a big factor as we needed to know how many sausages to order. Unfortunately many people didn't preorder but luckily Mrs Irons ordered some extra sausages.

The day of the barbecue was readily approaching and many people volunteered to start selling the merchandise. Most of the sales were to the teachers but many students also bought ribbons, pins and wristbands.

Finally it was Friday and everyone had their jobs to do. We served all the preordered sausages first and then we had 75 extra sausages to sell. Every sausage was gone before the half bell rang and we ended up raising more than we expected.

Altogether we raised **\$455.40** for the Cancer Council through the **Power of Participation**. We would like to thank everyone who participated in either buying sausages or merchandise. Also a big thank you from the Cancer Council to the year eight leadership group consisting of:

Vanessa Albrecht
Grant Bradshaw
Chris Gavrialatos
Kelsie Higgin
Hazel Klimzak
James Leedow
Katie McBay
Patrick O'Riley
Jyles Reynolds
Caleb Tall
Ruby-Leigh Tonks

Chris Bale
Tahlia Clark
Lenore Gurney
Sam Host
Andrew Lee
Hannah Mantle
Tayla McGregor
Jenny Quah
Blake Stevenson
Adrian Tolhurst

Leadership Camp

On Monday, 24th November, 59 students and 4 teachers, Mr Schomberg, Ms Marquis, Ms Stavros and Mrs Irons went to Stanwell Tops for leadership camp. We arrived there around 9:30 and took our luggage to our cabins after a brief talk in the meeting room. We then had 30 minutes to settle in and then made our way to lunch. After lunch, we went to the meeting room and split into 3 groups. Firstly for my group, group 2, we headed past the volleyball court to do some team building skills. We played many games, including one where we had to transport 20 people about 15 metres using only 4 small squares. We did these activities for just under 2 hours. After that, we had 45 minutes to do whatever we wanted before afternoon tea. We then completed a session run by our teachers that followed up on our leadership workshops from earlier in the year. Afterwards, we made our way to dinner.

After dinner, we had 45 minutes to get ourselves cleaned and head to the meeting room where we did our first night activity. We had a trivia night, and my group came second. We then went back to our cabins and had 30 minutes before lights out. The next day, we had to wake up at 7:00 am to go to breakfast. We then went into the meeting room where we were greeted by Bec and Steve from Rising Generations. They talked to us for about 4 hours and we learnt some great leadership skills and as a group came up with our new leadership motto, "United big

and small, we will stand tall". We then had our first proper day activity. My group had Zoom. We were each given a card and without showing anyone, we had to sort out the sequence in which they went, by only describing them. After this, we had afternoon tea and then free time before our next activity. My group then headed off to Survivor. We split up into 2 groups of 10, and competed against each other in 4 different and unique challenges. My team 'Snake' won all four challenges against the 'Black' team.



We then made our way back to our cabins where we got ready for dinner. After dinner, we had our games night. We split up into groups of 9 or 10 and had to encounter different tasks. One of them was an aerobics lesson, which my team excelled at. Again, my team came 2nd.



On our final day of camp, we had to be up and ready by 7:30 to have breakfast. After that, we went to our final activity. My group had **Mission Impossible**. We had to trek through the bush and uncrack codes to open boxes in order to get the next clue. After wasting half our time walking through parts of the bush that our instructor had never seen before, we rescued Ralph (a dummy that had recently been a spy for us) and detonated the bomb with just over 2 minutes remaining. We then made our way back to our cabins to collect our luggage and put it in the meeting room before heading to lunch. After lunch, we collected our bags and made our way home. Overall I think it was a great camp and I'd love to have the chance to go again next year.

Chris Bale

SOCIAL SCIENCE

Towra Point – Geography

Students studying Geography for the HSC attended a fieldwork day at Towra Point, Kurnell. Towra Point is an intertidal wetland located 16km south of Sydney on the southern shores of Botany Bay. Students visited the area as part of their studies of 'ecosystems at risk'. The area is significant as it is internationally recognised area for the breeding and protection of migratory water birds. Some of the birds travel from Siberia to tourist in Australia. It has RAMSAR status.

The area is at risk from a number of human activities, and Australia has an obligation to manage the area to minimise those risks.



Student fieldwork was conducted by an environmental officer from the Botany Bay Environmental Centre. John was able to give information from years of study and visits regarding risk factors and the operation of the ecosystem. The fieldwork will become the subject of an assessment task.

The weather was great, the girls enjoyed wading through the muddy water, the facilities were first class, and we had a rewarding day. Thanks for an enjoyable day.

Mr Sparks

SPORT REPORT

Our cricketers have continued on in the State Knockout with the Open Boys joining the Open Girls in the last 16 in NSW. The boys had a great win against East Hills Boys in the Regional Final. Batting first we scored 181 with Dean Picklum the standout with 60 and Ryan Caffrey a hard hitting 34. We bowled and fielded extremely well, getting them all out for 73. Gavin Young removed their 2 key batsmen within 3 balls of each other and that set us well on the way to victory. We now play the winner of the Riverina region for a spot in the State Quarter Final.

The Mark Waugh Shield boys progressed to the semi final after an easy win against Liverpool Boys. Taylor Pedone took 4-14 and Chris Bale 4-10 to set us a target of 46 which we got without losing a wicket. Aaron Greening and James Murphy batted extremely well in a partnership of 50. Unfortunately, we were beaten by East Hills Boys in the semi final in a very close game. Chasing 114 we were cruising at 2-75 with Chris Bale and Jackson Okunbor doing really well, but a middle order collapse saw us fall

10 short. This is our first loss in Mark Waugh Shield for 3 years so we have had a pretty good run. Losing three players the day before the game due to inappropriate attitude at school was a valuable lesson learned by all.

Congratulations go to Rhiannon Dick for her award of a CHS Blue for Cricket and Blake Guthrie and Andrew Lloyd who received Regional Blues for AFL and Squash respectively.

We also would like to congratulate Samantha Abbott, Samantha Flood, Sean Nagle and Maddie Pirie for their participation and performances in the Pacific Schools Games held in Canberra. A fantastic achievement.

Mr Millican

Year 7 & 8 Girls Touch Football State Finals

On Friday 14th November, the year 7/8 girl's touch football team got up bright and early to play their State Touch Finals at Kingsway Playing Fields, Penrith.



With an early start, all the girls met up at school and made their way to the field. With our war paint on and our determined attitude, we were ready to play.

In our first game, all girls put in 100% and tried their hardest, but unfortunately lost.

Second game, we were determined to win and even though we were getting beat, the girls never once gave up and always went for the chase and skilfully used all their techniques they were taught; again we unfortunately lost.

Third game, again the girls never gave up and used all their energy. Our first try of the day, Maddie Pirie sprinted down the field and the opposition had no chance of catching her, by this time it was one all. Unluckily the opposition fought back and put the score to 2-1. Fourth game we had a bye, so we sat down and had a long rest.

It came to our last game of the day. Even though the girls hadn't been successful so far, they still didn't give up. Another brilliant try was made by Maddie Guthrie, who dummied the ball and quickly dived in and scored; this made us 1 point behind. Giving it all they could and trying their hardest, we unfortunately lost, but it was another very close game.



All the girls would like to thank our coach, Mr Smith, for giving up his time in the morning to coach us and teach us new drills.

We would also like to thank our Year 10 coaches, Cass F, Amber, Cass P, Laura and Ellen. Thanks for coming every Wednesday morning to train us and giving up your Tuesday sport to come down to Neptune Park and coach us; you girls made it a lot of fun.

Along with all our training, the girls had so much fun playing touch, learning new drills and all had a really fun day.

Nat Westren

Waterpolo

Picnic Point entered teams in both the boys and girls U15 Waterpolo knockout competition, with the preliminary rounds played at the Macquarie Fields Swimming Centre.

The boys played 3 games. The team played well and defeated both Prairiewood High and Ingleburn High, but were narrowly defeated by Bass High School 5 – 4. Bass proceeded to the next round.

The boys displayed good team work, but missed too many goals they should have scored. Leading at half time they lost discipline and made simple errors that cost them the game. There is a lot of potential in the team to improve. Thanks for a great effort.



Luke Allington
Slade Carnegie
Brett Denford
Chris Gavrielatos
Harley Munro
Daniel Stone
Glen Violantzis
Daniel Cklamovski

Brendan Carmichael
Trent Colquhoun
Mark Mansillo
Andrew Sanders
David Scognamiglio
Cameron Taylor
Daniel Wilson

The girls are a mix of experience and newcomers. Five members of the team gained selection to the Regional team that competed in the State Carnival at Mittagong recently.

The girls played 4 games convincingly defeating the other teams. The experienced players dominated and assisted the newcomers in a very positive way. Passing, defending and shooting were a feature of an impressive display, especially in the last game where potential match winners on the opposing team were shut out of the game. Picnic Point Girls as winners of the region then had to play the winner of South Coast region, Bulli High to proceed to the final series in Newcastle.

The girls played Bulli High at Wollongong University Pool on Tuesday. Again the girls shut down the opposition from the start and with effective counter attacks scored 3 quick goals before Bulli scored their first. The eventual score of 11 –1 indicated the dominance of our team even though we were missing some players. It was fantastic to see how well the new team members played, keeping good pool position and marking strongly. A special mention to Erin who played in goal, a difficult position. Erin played confidently and made a number of excellent saves.



Sam Abbott
Vicky Kartalis
Andrea Gavrielatos
Brooke North
Shannon Caffrey
Belinda Anderson

Nicky Cooper
Cas Flood
Kaylee Nettleton
Natalie Westren
Erin Barnes

Good luck in the final series.

BLUES AWARDS

8th December at Liverpool Catholic Club



Blake Guthrie receiving his Regional Blue Award for Australian Football from Matt Keating of Parramatta Eels.



Andrew Lloyd receiving his Regional Award for Squash from Amy Wild of the NSW Swifts.

BANKSTOWN
sports

**Bankstown Sports Club
are proud sponsors of
the school's
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CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS

Visual Arts



This term in Visual Arts, our class has been working on appropriating famous artworks with a cow or chicken to change the meaning.

First of all we sketched our ideas into our Visual Arts Process Diaries, and then when we were sure of what we wanted to do we then would draw our final idea onto A3 paper.



We are now up to the stage of painting our artworks and presenting them to the class. When we are painting our artworks, we need to paint it in the same style as the original famous work. We are leaning about the different types of brush stokes artists use to create their painting.

Our class has been enjoying this term of Visual Arts with our new teacher Ms Cremona and we also can't wait to present them.



Eleni Tsingas, Alise Imparato and Megan Nettleton
Year 7

Music Performance Night

Once again the bar has been raised. The students and staff have outdone themselves by providing an exceptional evening's entertainment. There were many acts featuring our talented students from all years. The show featured new and familiar faces in a format never seen before. The audience was able to view the show from multiple angles thanks to the live feed camera work done by the VET Entertainment students.



Timothy Easterbrook & Natasha Raptis

The evening showcased a wide variety of instrumental talent including drums, guitars, bass, vocals, piano, violins, clarinet, flute, saxophone and the triangle! We thank all those who attended this event and we look forward to your ongoing support at our future events at Picnic Point High School.

Mr Andrews & Year 11 Music



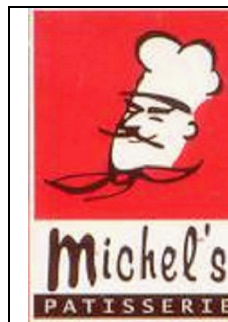
Year 9 Music



Jack Slater, Costa Damaskos & Peter Meredith



Lloyd Jenkins



Many thanks to Michel's Patisserie. They have been loyal and outstanding supporters of the popular "Student of the Month Award". This is now the second year in succession that Bassam at Michel's has sponsored this award.