Welcome back to Term 3. We have been off to a very busy start with student feedback via reports and our parent/teacher night as well as subject selection. The concept of running parent/teacher night and subject selection events on the same evening worked well. Thank you to Mr Skeoch and Mr Szymkow for organising these events. These were attended by many parents who were able to gain valuable feedback on student progress and information on subject selection for next year. All students will have received their reports and many are making sound progress and are to be commended for their achievement, some students however need some extra encouragement as they are not working to their potential. Reports, good or bad provide students, parents and carers with valuable feedback on which areas need to be modified for improvement. Students need to implement the feedback and advice provided by staff to make their achievement even greater next semester.

Stage 6 as we refer to them in educational terms includes years 11 and 12. Year 11 are in the last term of their preliminary studies and will begin their HSC studies next term. It is extremely important for all year 11 students to ensure their work is up to date and all the course requirements and assessment tasks have been completed. If these requirements are not met, students may not complete either their preliminary or HSC year and will not receive their accreditation. Non award reviews are regularly held by the executive, students are supported by staff and parents are notified of unsatisfactory completion of tasks. The school must notify the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards (BOSTES) of any students with non-completion of course requirements, this is due on the 28th of August for year 12 and the 9th of October for year 11. Please ensure your students have completed any outstanding tasks. If students are unsure, they need to check with their Classroom Teacher or Head Teacher. If parents require further information please speak with the relevant Deputy Principal.

This is the last term of formal study at Kingswood High School for our current year 12 students who are currently sitting in their trial HSC exams. HSC markers will be visiting the school over the next few weeks to examine students studying subjects with a practical component and other students will be preparing works to send to the marking centre. All students should now be engaged in study to review course content, the last few months preparing for the HSC can be difficult so it is important for students to get the right balance between study, work, family and social life to ensure they get plenty of sleep, exercise and healthy meals. The HSC exam timetable is available on the BOSTES site below.


Is someone in your house preparing for the HSC? Here’s some practical advice on everything from writing an essay to helping the rest of the family stay supportive (and sane) while your teen works towards their final exams. Find out more:


On a more serious note we have been concerned recently to see the sending of provocative or sexual photos, messages or videos between students. While sharing suggestive images or text messages may seem like innocent flirting to a student, “sexting” as it is termed can have serious social and legal consequences. In addition to the cybersafe programs we
implement at Kingswood High School, I would encourage you to have a conversation with your child to discuss the seriousness of such behaviour and the effect this can have on the wellbeing of persons involved including themselves. Although done in ignorance or presumed trust when such sexual images are created and/or distributed this constitutes the production and/or distribution of child pornography which is a criminal offence. As you may be aware Department of Education staff are mandatory notifiers and must report any concerns in regards to student safety and wellbeing, this includes reporting such cases to the local police. What we are most concerned about as educators after the immediate situation has been resolved, is that once posted online or shared via many users, these images can be used inappropriately or may appear down the track and impact on the future pathways of our students. Many employers now hire staff to complete online background checks of future employees.

This term we consider the incoming Year 12 and make choices regarding prefects and captains for the coming year. Year 11 students will be working through the prefect nomination process over the next few weeks and the new leadership positions will be announced soon.

Science week is nearly upon us and students from primary schools will be visiting to participate in experiments that are prepared by year 10 students. The highlight will be open night on Wednesday 19th August, with lab displays and other exhibitions. We hope to see you there.

Miss D Thommeny
Relieving Principal

Below is a letter of recognition for one of our staff Sue Frost. I am including it here not only to acknowledge the wonderful efforts of Sue and her coordination of the Year 12 New Zealand Tour but because this letter exemplifies the goodwill and commitment that dedicated teaching staff contribute.

To whom it may concern,

Please ensure that this letter reaches the school Principal and also Sue Frost as I strongly believe that Sue deserves full recognition for her fine efforts.
I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Sue Frost and her team of teachers for organising and arranging the year 12 New Zealand tour 2015.
My son, Russell Miles was one of the 12 students that went to New Zealand from 10th April to 20th April 2015 with Kingswood High School.
If it wasn’t for Sue Frost and her team, these children wouldn’t have had the most memorable times during this tour that would certainly last a life time and an experience that some might not have had the opportunity to have if it wasn’t for Sue. She put in long hours, numerous calls, text messages, emails and always kept in contact to let us know what was happening, she made sure all the required documents were submitted to the education department and spent countless hours making sure all paperwork was completed, she even arranged for a male teacher from another high school to travel with them so this trip could be considered. She gave up a lot of her time both with her work and family especially during school holiday time to make sure this trip could happen.
Sue arranged a full programme to make the most of the 10 days in which the children experienced a whole range of activities which included their first time overseas, first time in a plane, overnight cruises, sulphur spas, jet boating, cultural evenings just to mention a few. These are the things that these children (young adults) would never have experienced and might not have the opportunity to do so again.
The children that went on this trip during their last year at high school would appreciate the break from study during their holidays and get to know their peers and teachers in a more relaxed environment which is what some needed prior to the stress of the HSC.
Once again thank you and I’m sure that all the children that went on this trip will cherish every moment they had and be forever grateful. Sue is one of a kind teacher that puts a lot of time and effort into those that she cares for, for that we would like to thank you.

Kind Regards
Alouise Miles
I hope many parents took advantage of the recent Parent Teacher meeting which took place on the 28th July. The advantage of such meetings is that parents can find out first-hand how their child is performing in each of their classes. If for some reason you were unable to see all of the staff or you were unable to attend the evening could I encourage you to contact either the individual teachers or your child’s Year Adviser to organise a mutually convenient time to speak with the staff.

By now all students should have received their first semester reports. If you have not received a copy of your child’s report please let the school know. Reports provide vital feedback to assist the student and parents to see areas that require attention or improvement. It also provides positive feedback to recognise the students’ progress during semester one. If parents have any concerns or clarification required about a subject report please contact the Head Teacher of that subject.

Many parents would be aware that the safety of our students is a primary focus for the staff at Kingswood High School. Unfortunately, young adolescents can engage in potentially risky behaviours. Currently the behaviours often relate to actions which take place online. Recently the school was made aware that some of our students had been receiving sexually inappropriate images from other adolescents. Fortunately some of these students have alerted staff and as a school our response is to investigate the incident and involve the Police. The transmission of any such images to others is known as Sexting and is a criminal offence. Our School Liaison police officer has been to school to lecture students warning them of engaging in such practices. I would ask all parents to monitor their child’s behaviour online including their mobile phone. A bad judgement call posting, commenting or transmitting material by a young person today will be online and available for everyone to see forever. It is impossible to remove such images from the internet as they are shared often immediately by the person receiving them.

I cannot over emphasise the importance that a good well-rounded education makes to the long term prospects and success of our students. Not every student will excel as an academic; however all of our students have talents that extend beyond the classroom. We make every effort to recognise school related achievements at whole school assemblies or year assemblies. However, if your child is involved in some form of outside extra-curricular activity please let the school know so that we might in some way recognise and celebrate this achievement.

On the theme of communication I mentioned in the last newsletter, could I ask that all parents ensure that their contact details are up to date and on file at the front office. On some occasions it is necessary to contact parents to discuss an issue relating to your child’s well-being. Sometimes contact directly is not possible because phone numbers, address details or secondary emergency contacts have been altered. Could you please notify the front office of any changes to these details.

Mr G Skeoch
Many parents have been asking for further details on Connect. APPlY. Inspire for 2016. In particular, specific details about device specifications and best suppliers have been requested. We would like to advise parents that we are currently working very hard to negotiate the best possible price and package through one of our many contacts here at the school. By parents making purchases through the school it means that we are able to utilise bulk purchasing power. We will be looking for low prices that include a protective pouch, reasonable warranty, Chrome management licence and flexible payment options. The purchase method, via a dedicated KHS web-link (portal), will be made available in Term 4.

Additionally, purchasing through the school means that the rollout of the devices to students is much more manageable, meaning less administration issues and more time spent learning. Devices need to be connected and managed on our system which requires a Chrome management licence. This licence enables the school to configure network and device access, manage class groups and learning experiences, track devices, preload and restrict apps, obtain statistics and customise features. Even after looking at the inclusions we are requesting, we are confident that the price we obtain will be lower than what some people have been paying for a device on its own from a local retailer.

We must be very clear that there is absolutely no financial incentive for the school or Department of Education, in purchasing these devices. The school and students benefit greatly from having a quality BYOD program in place which is well designed and forethought. We are confident already, that our model is far superior to that of many other schools who already have a BYOD model in place.

Further information can be obtained by speaking with Mr Simon Szymkow, Deputy Principal Special Programs.
Year 10, 11 and 12 School Leavers

The Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards NSW (BOSTES) has developed optional Literacy and Numeracy tests for students who intend to leave school before the HSC.

The tests have been designed to provide these students with reports detailing their level of skill in literacy and numeracy.

Discussions with employer groups reveal that the ability to provide tangible evidence of these skills is highly regarded when they are making a decision to employ.

The tests focus on the literacy and numeracy skills required by school-leavers for employment and further education and consist of a range of short-answer questions that relate to aspects of everyday life such as reading a recipe, preparing a quote and providing directions to a location.

They are prepared and marked by the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards NSW (BOSTES). Students will sit for the tests online and under supervision at school.

Test results will be made available shortly after the tests conclude. Interim Literacy and Numeracy test reports can be downloaded via the BOSTES portal Students Online for presentation at job interviews or to add to a résumé.

BOSTES will issue all participants with formal Literacy and Numeracy Test Reports when they leave school.

If you have a son or daughter who is thinking about leaving school before the HSC, I ask that you raise with them the option to take these tests as the experience will be of particular benefit for future employment or further education.

If your son/daughter would like to take one or both of these tests, please have them enrol via http://goo.gl/forms/V2lpqyk9gM or complete the slip below and return to Mr Simon Szymkow, Deputy Principal Special programs.

Please enrol ________________________________ of Year ____ to participate in the test for:

- Literacy Yes / No
- Numeracy Yes / No

The intended date/time for leaving school is: ________________________________

The destination upon leaving school is: ________________________________
On Friday the 26th of June, our year 11 Drama class performed in Flannofest, an annual area school arts competition, at the Joan Sutherland centre. In the weeks before, many ideas were tossed around about what we wished to cover and how we wanted to approach it. We worked alongside a professional drama practitioner to develop the performance. Our final piece was called Total Technology Takeover, which was about the positive and negative effects of social media and its impact on both individuals and society as a whole. The whole thing was an enjoyable experience that brought our class together and allowed us to see the importance of collaboration. It also allowed us to gain additional knowledge about group performances and build self-confidence. It was a very rewarding experience and we received the award for script writing.

Learning Support Team

*Does your child require additional support to cater for their needs?*

Students in regular classes who experience difficulties in learning, regardless of the cause, are supported through Learning and Support resources available at school.

Students do not need a formal disability diagnosis to access support through these resources. It includes support for students with significant learning difficulties, mild intellectual disability, language disorder or delay and behaviour needs. Students with autism spectrum disorders or mental health disorders who have lower level needs are also supported through these school based resources.

The Learning Support Team at Kingswood High School is led by the Head Teacher Welfare. Other members include Deputy Principals, Learning and Support Teachers (LaSTs), Transition/Careers Adviser and Counsellors. The Learning Support Team can assist with the identification of additional learning needs to ensure that the educational needs of your child are being met.

The team:

- meets fortnightly to evaluate referrals made by teaching staff, parents and students regarding cognitive, social/emotional, physical and sensory needs and to identify any concerns;
- determines what type of support your child may need;
- plan, implement, model, monitor and evaluate teaching programs for students with additional learning and support needs in conjunction with regular classroom teachers;
- model exemplary classroom practice when tailoring adjusted learning programs for students with additional learning needs;
- plans, implement, model, monitor and evaluate personalised adjustments for learning where required, with the classroom teacher, student and/or parent or carer; and
- reviews students' progress and adjust types of support.

If you have any concerns regarding your child's needs please contact the school on 47361201 and speak to Sue Clarke (LaST), Stacey Carroll (LaST) or Caterina Meduri (EALD) English as an Additional Language/Dialect.
**Homework Club**

**No excuse** for missed homework or assignments because "It was too hard," or "I didn't know where to start"

**Come to the Homework Club!**

Homework is regularly set by classroom teachers in order to develop students’ ability and extend on their skills. The Learning Support and English as an Additional Language/Dialect Teachers provide support to our students’ who may be having difficulty completing their homework or assignments. This is a service that all students can use. The Homework Club is located in classroom C4 where there is at least one teacher every Recess and Lunch to help with Homework and assignments.
In mid-Term 3, a number of students from the SRC went on a Leadership Camp at the Great Aussie Bush Camp in Kincumber. They spent 3 days participating in fun and challenging activities including canoeing, Leap of Faith, archery and giant swings. Students did the ‘Survivor challenge’ and worked together to help their teams reach an island without falling into the murky water—all went well until someone decided it was more fun in the mud! Needless to say, the whole team went down—even Ms Pham was not spared. We also worked through anti-bullying and self-defense workshops, doing skits/role plays and trivia challenges. Camp would not be complete without us keeping warm by the campfire, telling ghost stories and roasting marshmallows. Overall, we had a massive amount fun and learnt a whole heap on the side.

At the beginning of Term 3, the SRC organised a Red Cross Blood Donation drive and arranged for the big red bus to come to the school for the convenience of students and staff. We had a number of Year 11, Year 12 and teachers/staff sign up and donated on the day. We are very proud of everyone who pulled up their sleeves and helped out as each blood donation can potentially save three lives. Well done, Kingswood!

It will be a busy Term 3 and the SRC is currently organising the Adidas Fun Run/Activity day which is happening on the 28th of August. We will also find out our new Year 12 Prefects for next year as elections are held later this Term. We are looking forward to these upcoming events!

Ms Pham (SRC Coordinator)
**SPORT UPDATE**

**Athletics Carnival Results**

The house points total and age champions for the carnival were as follows:

1st - Bohra

2nd - Wyamba

3rd - Gayadari

4th - Dinewan

12 yrs - Lydia Alderton / Benjamin Eyre

13 yrs - Brea Cunningham / Michael Stubbings

14 yrs - Shariyah Platt / Luke Donohue

15 yrs - Susan Falconer / Reece Pospishil

16 yrs - Grace Tamaruksa / Tristan Brennan

17 yrs - Montana-Maree Ojeda / Jaiden D’ugo-Paepaerei

**Cambridge Park NAIDOC Celebrations**

During week 2 a group of students attended the NAIDOC celebrations held by Cambridge Park High School. Melba Secondary College from the ACT also attended and enjoyed presentations by members of the Indigenous Community, including current and former Penrith Panthers first grade rugby league players. The students also enjoyed a game of ‘Buroinjin’ against the other schools. This was a fantastic day and was enjoyed by all who attended.

On Friday 31st August over 30 students from Kingswood High School attended the NSW Futsal Gala Day for students from Support Units all over Sydney. Kingswood High students have been training at Penrith Stadium, every Friday for months, with Mr Lang. He has assisted every student in the unit with their passing, dribbling and shooting; this meant that by competition time the students were keen to challenge the best teams possible. Kingswood High entered three great teams.

**TEAM 1A**
This team included Jayden Eyre, Joseph Filikitonga, Gary Donoghue, Katelan King, Kassandra Pearce, Josh Slater, Dominic Burnett, Steve Tietie and Dejan Raketic. These students were brilliant all day and won most of their matches. Many of these students were playing against more experienced opponents but used their natural athleticism and Mr Lang’s skill development to perform incredibly well. Players that deserve a special mention for their outstanding performances are Jayden Eyre, Gary Donoghue and Katelan King.

**TEAM 1B**
This team included Brenden Dennis, Lachlan Montgomery, Brooke Machut, Jack McKechnie, Jordahn Whitton, Shannon Richardson, Chad Smith, Libby Crean, Ruby Popko, Bradley Kirkman and Daniel Duivenvoorden. These students battled it out in a very tough group and showed excellent skills, sportsmanship and goal scoring ability in winning all but one game. Their coach, Miss O’Keefe, said she saw some amazing performances by all the students with a special mention for Lachlan Montgomery, Brenden Dennis, Bradley Kirkman and Brooke Machut.
Support Futsal

TEAM 2
This team included Edward Sales, Ben Grey, Jonathan Tomiello, Aaron Bricknell, Harrison Schmidt, James Down, Sean Skeels, Bodhi Groves and Jessica Swinnerton-Slee. This team was brilliant; they won two games and were narrowly defeated in their third game. The students scored lots of goals and only conceded a few, as their coach it was thrilling to see the effort and enthusiasm they showed all day. A few standouts in a team of champions were Bodhi Groves, Aaron Bricknell and Sean Skeels who were instrumental in the teams wins.

All the staff and students of the Kingswood High School Support Unit would again like to thank PD/H/PE Head Teacher Mr Lang for all his time and energy this year. Every year he devotes his free time to train our students and they greatly appreciate all his energy and support.

After a great 2015 we are already looking forward to another great year of Fustal in 2016.
Karl Erickson
Support Teacher.

Mathematics News

I am proud to announce that 4 students from year 7 – 10 participated in an Enrichment Program extending their problem solving skills for three weeks during the beginning of Term 2. Well done to Holly Epps, Mihajlo Zivcic, Robyn Marshall and Declan Cooper and a special congratulations to Mihajlo Zivcic for achieving Credit. This program is run by the Australian Mathematics Olympiad.

I would like to convey my appreciation to twelve students who participated in Annual Mathematics Competition held during week 3 of this term.

A friendly reminder to parents, students must have a scientific calculator with other equipment and book for this Mathematics lesson.

Mrs Srinath
Head of Mathematics
Activities Include:

- The Fizzics Education Nitrogen Show!
- UV puppet show
- Play Around With The Shadow Wall!
- Come and see the UV room (wear your fluoro colours)
- Win Prizes In The Science Treasure Hunt!
- Have A Go At The Smoke Vortex!

Check out our lab displays!

BBQ & Beverages on the night
What’s happening in Science and Agriculture?!?

Term 3 has started off for Science with preparations for Science Week, amongst some great learning about the wonderful world we live in.

**Year 7** is currently learning about Earth and Environmental Science. Talk to your kids about places you have visited like Wave Rock or Uluru. Next time you go on a bushwalk have a look at the rock formations around. Ever been to Kiama to see the Basalt Columns or Blowhole? Classes used their computer skills to make mini booklets on the three types of rocks.

**Year 8** has been learning about the systems of the body. The digestive and skeletal to name a few. Students have had fun noting the journey of food from the “gum to the bum”. They have dissected the heart, lungs and kidneys.

**Year 9** is currently looking into the fascinating invisible world. Learning about waves and the electromagnetic spectrum. The technology we use today and of the future relies on the world we cannot see. Ever think about the mobile phone message gets through to you?

**Year 10** are learning about Motion and getting a taste of senior **Physics**. They have been crashing trollies and learning about Isaac Newton and his Laws of Motion. As new learner drivers, talk to your kids about inertia and the safety features of the car. Students will be required as part of their assessment to build an “eggmobile” that we will crash. Only the strongest will survive!
Agriculture. The students of Agriculture have been preparing the Ag farm for the introduction of new animals. They have learnt to manage the properties of the Ag farm to cater for the animal’s needs. The arrival of three Dorper ewes has been exciting, along with Peanut the cow.

As of last week we have five baby lambs. Special thanks go to Ms. Marita who has been working tirelessly with the new animals and training the students in her recess and lunchtimes.

If you’re going to the Penrith Show at the end of the month, make sure you go see our Show Team.

We wish our seniors good luck in their Trials and Yearly Examinations.

Week 6 is SCIENCE WEEK! The theme this year is LIGHT! So much to see and do!

Students in 10S1 and 10S2 have been preparing scientific concepts to teach Year 5 from the local primary schools. We will welcome them up to the school on Monday 17th August.

Open Night is Wednesday 19th August. From 6-8pm the Science Labs will be on display with Light Themes. Wear your fluoro colours and play in our UV Black Room!

We have a liquid nitrogen show in the Hall to amaze you and we welcome again the Penrith Aero Club with their miniature planes. It will be a fantastic night. Check it out on Facebook or see our photos from previous years on the schools website.

A reminder that your child has FORTNIGHTLY homework in Science. This should be presented to the teacher in a SEPARATE homework book.

Talk to your children about what they have been doing in Science and share the wonderful world we live in.

See you all at OPEN NIGHT!

Elaine Sadler
Head Teacher Science
UWS Walking Tall Together

During the April holidays over 40 year 9 and 10 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders from Greater Western Sydney gathered at the UWS Hawkesbury campus for a three day camp. KHS sent seven students. The program was an opportunity to motivate students to start thinking, understanding, seeing and actually being a part of tertiary education. They engaged in a range of workshops across four campuses across different cultures and faculties. In order to participate in all activities students had to demonstrate a level of commitment to academic workshops, before being allowed to explore subjects such as forensics, nursing, creative writing, business, law etc. Students could experience the university lifestyle, with different local Aboriginal elders, Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal UWS academics, while connecting with peers their own age from other schools.

UWS Pathways to Dreaming

Aboriginal Students from Years 8 to 12 have had an opportunity to be a part of a program called “UWS Pathways to Dreaming”. This is a collaboration with UWS that allows students to receive a sample of university life, while meeting other students from different schools who share similar cultural backgrounds. Once a month, a handful of university students come to Kingswood High School as mentors where they facilitate sessions and lead the students into a group project that they can implement at KHS or the local area. Students are currently in the process of organising Indigenous school jumpers and a local Indigenous sports event with other schools.

Part of UWS Pathways encourages and allows students to go to UWS and other sites around Sydney with other students from different schools. So far this year, the Year 9 students have had their orientation day up in the Blue Mountains, while year 8 had their first opportunity to meet other students on campus at Kingswood.

Here is an idea of what students think of the program from the Year 9 experience day:

Tayla- “We went walking through many bush tracks that were scattered all through the park, we went to the huge cliff and she told us about the ageing of the rocks and what it meant. It was a good opportunity to meet other students from different schools who share our culture”.

Brewongle Stand Tall

Three students were selected from KHS to participate in an ongoing project with Brewongle Environmental Education Centre, Tayla Dangerfield (9), Ellen Becus Munro (9) and Blake Bannister (11). These students will be involved in six sessions onsite at the Brewongle Centre in Sackville, Taronga Zoo, the Botanic Gardens and finishing at the YES summit at Sydney Olympic Park in October. Students will be working closely with less than 20 students selected across from Western Sydney, local Aboriginal elders and community members to learn leadership skills, while gaining cultural knowledge.

These programs and many more will be running again next year at KHS. Should your students want to participate, I will place a notice again early in the year in the newsletter, so talk and encourage your child/children to come and talk to myself for more information.

Miss Meduri       Aboriginal Coordinator.
SCHOOLS FOR SUSTAINABILITY

On the 30th and 31st of July, a number of students attended the Schools for Sustainability conference at Penrith City Council. While there, the students undertook a number of workshops and heard from speakers who have travelled the world examining environmental and sustainability issues. The students were also able to see and sit in a solar car, which will feature in Top Gear. The students will now have the chance to apply for a grant from UWS to create sustainable programs our school. Congratulations on a successful conference!

Year 9 Building and Construction

This year cohort of prospective ‘tradies’ are one step closer to their ambitions of a job in the industry, having just completed the first tasks in their Industrial Technology – Building and construction course. This carpentry module involves vital skills such as marking out, cutting, sanding and assembling. The students took great pride in their tool boxes and carefully decorated, painted or lacquered the finished jobs to a high standard. Now happily taken home, we hope that they are now brimming with family tools ready for their next adventure on the worksite. Well done year 9 Building and Construction.

Mr Taylor – Class teacher
Try ‘A’ Skill Senior Support Excursion

Our initial introduction to Try A Skill for the Senior Support students this year was Mr Rance, begging for hot coffee as he was standing in the freezing cold rain directing traffic into Blacktown Sports stadium where the event was being held this year. After parking the bus and car then walking in the rain to the halls, we also were soaked and cold and could at least sympathise with Mr Rance.

The first hall held much of the trades that we have viewed in past years, which seemed to relax our students, as they were more at ease to venture forth and approach the stall organisers to ask questions and try the different tools on offer to attempt various tasks.

Dallas held an electric drill with a socket attachment to loosen and tighten the lugs on a wheel. Jack assisted with pasta making at the Bakery stand; while John enjoyed watching the butcher make and cook hamburger patties which he reported, “Were delicious!” Jonathan and Scott both made badges to wear that stated that they were “Awesome”. Benjamin learnt how to paint and stated, after talking to the tradesman, “It is not easy to get a job once you leave school in this line of work”. So he took himself off to Nova Employment Agency to discuss his future plans and to ask them to help him get a job when he leaves school. “Great initiative”! Alex and Brendan planted seeds in a pot at the Bunnings stand to take home and nurture. We’re not sure about the survival rate of Alex’s as she promptly dropped it on the ground and had to scoop it back into the pot. Taylor walked around the exhibits with curiosity and watched from a respectable distance.

The other halls contained the more academic and scholarly pursuits; more for those students who wish to attend University and private college courses upon the completion of their Higher School Certificate. The halls were a bustle of students vying for the attention of the stall holders. Many had small give aways like lolly bags, pens and badges to entice students to stop and chat.

The Beauty Stall was a hub of excitement as Dakota was allowed to use the hot hair styling tongs. Sophie sat calmly and trustingly as Dakota set to curling her hair. In the end, Dakota did an excellent job and Sophie looked sensational with the soft curls down her back. Joshua tried his hand at spray painting and with some advice and minor adjustments produced a great looking piece of art.

The hot sausage sizzle was more than welcome at the end of the day as it provided a nice hot meal to warm us up. Unfortunately, the added extra weight, and not as rumoured Miss Cass’ driving skills, had the school bus bogged in soft mulch. Once the students were off the bus, the young men were able to dig away the mulch and after several attempts, Jayden falling on the ground and Scott yelling, “Push! Push!” from the warmth and safety of Ms O’Keefe’s car, the bus was finally free and we were on our way back to school to replenish the lost energy with hot chips for lunch.
Information for VET Students and Parents/Carers

Unique Student Identifier (USI)

General Information

As of the 1st of January 2015, everyone who undertakes nationally recognised training must have a Unique Student Identifier (USI). The USI is required so that students can be issued with a credential outlining their VET achievements. This requirement also applies to students in schools who are undertaking a VET course as part of their study.

It is the student’s responsibility to provide a Registered Training Organisation (RTO) with their USI and the associated personal information that will allow the RTO to verify their USI. The RTO for students enrolled in a VET course being taught at your school is Macquarie Park RTO 90222. Schools will support students in this process. However, if the student does not provide their USI and the correct personal information they will not be able to be able to receive a nationally recognised credential. Where the school is the training provider failure to provide this information may put the student’s HSC at risk.

The Unique Student Identifier (USI) will allow students to access their own online USI account where all their training records will be stored. A student’s results from 2015 will be available in their USI account in 2016.

A USI is made up of ten numbers and letters. It will look something like this: 3AW88YH9U5. The student will use the same USI for all the training that they undertake throughout their life.

The Benefits of the USI System

The USI has many benefits for students including:

- Being able to get a complete record of their Australia-wide VET achievements from a single, secure and accurate online source from a computer, tablet or smart phone anywhere and anytime

- Immediate access to all their VET records. This means they can be quickly given to employers, training organisations and others as proof of VET achievements

- It will be easier for training organisations to assess students’ pre-requisites, credit transfers and Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL). This can result in students taking less time to complete training and potentially reduce training costs

The USI Student Declaration and Privacy Notice

Students will create their USI and Macquarie Park RTO 90222 will provide the Board of Studies Teaching and Educational Standards (BOSTES) with the USI of any student undertaking a VET course. This will allow BOSTES to provide students with any VET credentials that they have achieved, from full certificates, to individual units of competency.

Protecting student’s privacy is important. The student and a parent/carer must sign a privacy notice (Document B) and return it to school. By signing the privacy notice the student and parent/carer acknowledge that they have been advised of how their personal information will be used and protected and how to make a complaint if they feel their privacy has been breached. The signed privacy notice will be kept in the student’s file at their school.
If students have already created their own USI or have had another organisation create one on their behalf, the school still needs to capture the student’s USI and verify that the USI given is correct and belongs to the student. The USI Student Declaration (Document C) will allow the student to provide their USI if they have one or record it if they create their USI during class time. The Student Declaration will be destroyed once the USI has been verified and school records updated.

Creating a USI

In most cases students will create their own USI as per school notification.

Students must:

- Students must read the USI information for Student and Parents/Carers (This document)
- Read, sign and return the USI Privacy Notice (See Mr Szymkow)
- Create the USI www.usi.gov.au use an acceptable form of ID, print and hand to Mr Szymkow
- Insert USI Number into the Student Declaration, complete form and hand to Mr Szymkow

The Student’s USI Online Account

As part of the online process to create their USI, students will be asked to set up access to their USI by providing a password and answering secret questions. Once the students have received their email notification of their USI, they can log in to their account from the student page on the USI website, www.usi.gov.au

Once a student has logged in to their USI account they will be able to:

- Give their USI to each training organisation they study with;
- View and update their details in their USI account;
- Give their training organisation permission to view and/or update their USI account;
- Give their training organisation view only access to their transcript;
- Control access to their transcripts (official results notice); and
- View online and download their training records and results in the form of a transcript.

Further information can be found on the USI website www.usi.gov.au

Alternatively, students may report to Mr Szymkow, Vocational Education and Training Coordinator at Kingswood High School to receive paperwork and guidance.
Parents are reminded that the school car park is for staff only. Please drop off and pick up your children in Smith Street or in front of the school on Bringelly Road. Parents are not to drive into or drop off students in the school bus bay. The police have booked parents who have illegally parked. Thankyou for your cooperation.
Dear parents

We are updating our records, please enter your email addresses below and have your child return to the front office as soon as possible.

Family email address

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**STUDENT MEDICAL FORMS**

During Terms 3 and 4 we will be updating our medical records systems to ensure we have the most up-to-date information on your child’s health.

If you have a child with a medical condition you will receive a copy of the new forms in the mail and will need to fill them out and return them to us as soon as you can.

The good news is we have already started collecting some of this information, which means less for you to do.

The new forms will help us collect your child’s important medical information and the introduction of new systems will mean we’ll be able to better manage the daily and emergency health needs of your child.

We appreciate your support as we start collecting the information, and if you have any questions please call.

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**UPDATING EMAIL ADDRESSES**

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**CALENDAR EVENTS**

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<th>TERMS 3 &amp; 4 2015</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
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<tr>
<td>10th September</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 12 Formal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
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<tr>
<td>18th September</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 12 Graduation &amp; Photos in the garden</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
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<tr>
<td>18th September</td>
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<tr>
<td>Last Day of Term 3</td>
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<td>Monday</td>
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<td>5th October</td>
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<tr>
<td>Labour Day Public Holiday</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
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<tr>
<td>6th October</td>
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<td>School Resumes for Students</td>
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<td>12th October</td>
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<tr>
<td>HSC Exams Begin</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
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<td>4th November</td>
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<td>HSC Exams Finished</td>
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<td>Monday</td>
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<td>16th November</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 8 Camp</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
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<td>18th November</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 8 Camp</td>
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<td>Year 7 2016 Orientation Night</td>
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<tr>
<td>18th December</td>
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<tr>
<td>Last Day of School 2015</td>
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