From Our Principal...

Welcome to 2016
I would like to extend a very warm welcome to our Year 7 students who have settled in so well to high school life. The students are going to camp next Monday and I wish them all the very best as they make new friends, get to know their teachers and experience the exciting activities at the Great Aussie Bush Camp in Tea Gardens. I would like to also welcome the new families who have joined the South Sydney High school learning community from different parts of New South Wales and even interstate. We are privileged to have a number of international students who have chosen to attend South Sydney High School, from countries like China, Belgium, Germany, Vietnam and France.

World Challenge
Welcome back to our World Challenge students who travelled to Laos and Cambodia. The students were an absolute credit to themselves, their families and to South Sydney High School. I would also like to publicly thank Ms Wilson and her husband for giving up their time to accompany our students in their own holidays. Later in this newsletter you will read an article about the trip which was featured in the Southern Courier this week.

Evacuation
This week the school received threats and you may have seen the news or read online that a number of the state’s top public schools were targeted. The school took precautionary measures to ensure the safety of students and the police attended as a precaution and all students were issued with a note to take home explaining the situation. I would like to acknowledge the excellent behaviour and maturity shown by all students on Monday, particularly our new Year 7 students. If you receive a message from your child during evacuation, please be assured that the safety of all students is paramount and they will only return to class once all necessary steps have been taken. If your child needs to be picked up you will be contacted directly. Unfortunately this is causing a huge amount of disruption across Sydney and we appreciate your support in this matter.

P&C Welcome Night
If you are new to our school, please make sure you come along the P&C’s Welcome night which will be held on Tuesday 16 February from 6-8pm. Drinks and finger food will be provided in the Courtyard. Please note this is an adult only night. There will be more information later in the newsletter and all Year 7 parents and carers, homestay carers and all new parents are invited to attend. Please RSVP to Pam Bregonis (P&C Vice President) at pbregoni@bigpond.net.au or 0409607896.

UNSW Awards
These annual awards evening recognise supervising teachers in schools who have made an outstanding contribution to the development of UNSW teacher education students. The nominations for the awards are made by the teacher education students. The UNSW selection committee selected three supervising teachers from South Sydney High School. Congratulations to Ms De Paor, Ms Sainty and Mr Szallasl, who received these awards for their excellent leadership and mentoring of teacher education students. Well done to these outstanding teachers.
Staffing
We are fortunate to have very few changes to our staff this year as you can see from the following update to our teaching staff for 2016:

**Technological and Applied Studies (TAS)**
Mr Doyle is our new permanent TAS teacher appointed to our school and Mr Ivison is back this year, five days a week.

**Maths**
Welcome back to Mr Winstone and Mr Yasaman replacing Mr Anderson and Ms Brady.

**English**
Ms Roberts has joined the English faculty replacing Mr Ward.

**Library**
Ms Blair will continue in her role with the Department of Education, Ms Wilson will be wearing a few hats – librarian, Year 11 adviser and transition coordinator.

**Sport**
Sports Coordinator (Years 7-8): Mr Spencer
Sports Coordinator (Years 9-11): Mr Wood

**Communication**
If you have any questions, please contact your child’s Year Adviser and they will be able to assist:

Year 7: **Ms Graham**
Year 8: **Mr Wagg**
Year 9: **Mr Hutchinson**
Year 10: **Mr Tipple**
Year 11: **Ms Wilson**
Year 12: **Ms Touchard**

Supervisor of Girls: **Ms Mifsud**

A reminder that **Ms Walton** is in charge of Year 8, Year 10 and Year 12 and **Mr Haggart** is in charge of Year 7, Year 9 and Year 11. Our School Counsellor, **Ms Markus** is available on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. Our Student Support Officer, **Alison Maynard** is here five days a week and is able to assist with new students enrolments, connecting parents with community resources and coordinating whole school programs.

**School App and Facebook**
Our school app continues to be a great way to inform parents and students about up and coming events so please download the free app as we continue to use this as one of main means of communication. We entered the social media space so make sure you like us on Facebook and keep up to date with good news feed.

**Building works**
Our school buildings continue to be upgraded with H block receiving an external makeover, G Block has a new roof and a stairwell glass window has been replaced in A Block.

**Expectations for 2016**
South Sydney High School provides an academically challenging, yet nurturing learning environment. It is also a welcoming school for all members of the school community, including students, parents and school staff.

We had some outstanding HSC results last year, with 87% of students gaining entry into the pathway of their choice. At this stage 56% of students have gained entry into university after first round offers. We expect many more students to follow.

On a final note, we have high expectations for all of you, but most of all, strive for your personal best and be the best you can be.

Kind regards, Ms Robyn Matthews
The P&C would like to welcome back all returning parents to the school and wish a warm welcome to new parents to the school.

The P&C meets every second Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm. Meetings are usually concluded by 9pm at the latest.

We warmly welcome all parents to attend—even if you have never been to a meeting before. Light refreshments are provided.

Meetings are held in the common room (enter via the car park off Paine Street and through the side gate beside the hall)

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 9 February 2016.

We would also like to invite new parents and carers to our Welcome Night on Tuesday 16th February 2016 from 6pm to 8pm also in the school common room. Drinks and finger food will be provided in the courtyard. So come along and enjoy some great company, meet teachers, executive staff, other new parents, and of course your P&C!

Please RSVP to Pam Bregonis on pbregoni@bigpond.net.au or 0409 607 896.

If you have any queries or require further information please call Debbie Ross on 0424 986 574. We look forward to seeing you all soon.

---

P&C Uniform Shop

If you wish to purchase any pre-loved uniform items at a reasonable $3 per item, the P&C Uniform Shop will be open on Friday afternoons from 2:45pm to 3:30pm during term time.

Please see Debbie Ross in the school office.

We are also happy to accept any items you no longer need.

---

School Uniform Shop Opening Times

The uniform shop is open each Tuesday and Friday morning from 8am—10am during school terms.

However, the Uniform Shop will **NOT BE OPEN** on **Friday 19 February 2016** as this is the Swimming Carnival Day. It will instead by open on Thursday 18 February 2016.
South Sydney HS Production, 2016, ‘Midsummer Night’s Dream’

We are very proud of our wonderful cast of ‘Midsummer Night’s Dream’ actors as well as those students supporting them behind the scenes. These talented individuals spent two days while the rest of the school was enjoying summer holidays busily rehearsing for our 2016 South Sydney HS Production of Shakespeare’s ‘A Midsummer Night’s Dream’. The school community is strongly encouraged to demonstrate support for this wonderful creative endeavour that will offer audiences at our school a chance to enjoy one of Shakespeare’s most popular plays. Evening performances will be held at 6.00pm on Tuesday 1 March and Thursday 3 March in the courtyard of the Visual Art Block. This space will be transformed into the forest of Athens and the court of Duke Theseus and his bride-to-be, Hippolyta. The ticket price is a very affordable $5 and bookings can be made online:

http://www.trybooking.com/KGBD

Book soon as audience capacity is limited!

International Women's Day Art Prize 2016

Each year Randwick Council celebrates International Women's Day by running the women’s only art prize. This provides a platform for women who live, go to school, or work in Randwick City to showcase their achievements and creativity. This event is the Council's way of recognising and celebrating the important contribution women make to families, workplaces and communities.

Artworks may be of any medium but must be an original recent work. Maximum size is 1 square metre or 5 kg. There are specific hanging requirements for some artworks.

Please see Ms Hardy or Ms Kite for more information and entry forms.

The presentation ceremony will be held on Saturday 5 March 2016.

What are the 2016 deadlines?

Entries close, submit art to Randwick Community Centre Monday 29 February, 2pm to 6pm.
Award ceremony and morning tea Saturday 5 March, 10am to 1pm.
Exhibition closes. All artwork must be collected Friday 11 March, 2pm to 6pm.
Exhibition Best of IWDAP 2016 opens at Bowen Library Tuesday 15 March, 10am to 9pm.
Exhibition Best of IWDAP 2016 closes. All artwork to be collected Wednesday 20 April, 2pm to 7pm.
Term 1 Sport

By now all students in Years 7 to 11 should have chosen their sport for this term. Year 7 will be training with their coaches for their Gala-day sports, while all other year groups will be participating in their chosen sport each Monday (Year 7+8) or Wednesday (Year 9-11).

Students will also be receiving an information note to take home which outlines the cost for some sports and how they can be paid.

Uniform:

Students are expected to wear their correct sports uniform on the relevant day. If they are unable to do so, they should wear their normal school uniform and bring a change of clothes for sport with a note from home explaining the reasons why. Tights are not an appropriate item of clothing for school and these should not be worn at sport.

Leaving early:

Sport makes up a compulsory part of the school curriculum. It is not an appropriate time for students to make appointments other than specialist appointments or family reasons which are unavoidable. Regular doctor, dental and orthodontic appointments should be made out of school and sport time.

Should a student need to leave early for a valid reason they must bring a note from home explaining the reason for leave. This note must be shown to Mr Wood and their relevant deputy.

Swimming Carnival:

This year’s swimming carnival will be held on Friday 19th February (Week 4) at Botany Pool. Students will meet at the venue for roll call at 9am with events expected to start at 9:30am. A note will be sent home in the coming weeks.

Important information about injury and accidents at school sport.

Medical Insurance

In the event of injury, no personal injury insurance is provided by the Department of Education and Communities in relation to school sporting activities, physical education lessons or any other school activity. Parents and caregivers are advised to assess the level and extent of their child’s involvement in the sports program offered by the school, school sporting zone, region and state school sports association when deciding whether additional insurance cover is required. Personal accident insurance cover is available through normal retail insurance outlets.

The NSW Supplementary Sporting Injury Benefits Scheme, funded by the NSW government, provides limited cover for serious injury resulting in the permanent loss of a prescribed faculty or the use of some prescribed part of the body. Further information can be obtained from the following link - NSW Supplementary Sporting Injury Benefits Scheme:


NSW Ambulance Cover

In 2012, the Department of Education and Communities has contributed to the School Contribution Scheme administered by the NSW Ambulance Service for every departmental school and activity. Cover is provided from the time the student arrives at school to the time they leave the school premises. Provided a teacher is in charge, students involved in school excursions, sporting activities in non-school venues and camping activities are also covered by the Scheme.

School students are covered by Ambulance Cover when they participate in school activities in most Australian states except Queensland and South Australia. Schools travelling to Queensland / South Australia should make parents aware of this situation and manage the risk.

(All of the information outlined above is as per the Department of Education School Sports Unit webpage as at 2nd February 2016)
The Rock and Water Program

We are excited to announce that South Sydney High School will be running the ‘Rock and Water’ program for year 8 in 2016. This program is designed to provide students with self-confidence and self-control through self-awareness activities and personal strategies against bullying, and will be delivered across all year 8 classes in 2016. 8 Blue will be participating in the program in Term 1.

The Rock and Water Program will be conducted during 1 lesson per week for approximately 10 weeks (1 term). Ms Mifsud and Ms Maynard are both accredited Rock and Water facilitators and will lead the groups.

Sports uniform is required and all students will be expected to participate in all aspects of the Rock and Water Program, including physical activity, discussion and written responses.

Why Rock and Water?

Rock is the symbol used in the program for standing fast for what you feel is right and worth defending.

Water is the symbol of strength through cooperation and communication.

Program Summary

Students will develop, through a self-defence format using physical exercises and strengthening drills, a growing awareness of themselves on their path to adulthood. They will develop self-control, self-reflection and self-confidence. Parents and guardians are encouraged to discuss Rock and Water lessons at home with their children.

For more information on the Rock and Water program you can access:

http://www.rockandwaterprogram.com/

Please contact Alison Maynard, Student Support Officer, or Brendan Benischke, Head Teacher Welfare, if you have questions or concerns about the program.

Tournament of Minds

TOM will be happening again at South Sydney High School in 2016. Interested students will meet regularly under the direction of a facilitator and work towards developing stronger critical and creative thinking processes and collaborative learning skills. A selected team will then represent the school in August and present a finished product to a panel of judges in late August. The opportunity will exist for students to progress further in the competition at the national and international levels. Students in Years 7,8,9 and 10 will be able to participate.

More information will be provided later in Term I. See Ms Tilby for details.

Jennifer Tilby

Aboriginal Education Open Afternoon

Aboriginal students and their families are invited to attend the South Sydney High School Aboriginal Education Open Afternoon on Tuesday 16 February at 2pm in the school library.

There will be an overview of the new and exciting programs on offer to our students in 2016.

We will also take this opportunity to complete student Personal Learning Plans.

Mr Hutchinson
SUN SAFETY

At South Sydney High School we take sun safety seriously. The school has provided each student with a school hat. Years 7 – 10 have already received them and in the next fortnight we hope that Year 11 and 12 will have them too. We recommend that all students wear a hat and sunscreen while outside, recess or lunch times, while at sport or doing PE and also on Assemblies.

Teachers, parents, carers and visitors to the school all have a role to model sun safety, for example, wearing a broad brimmed hat for school activities held outside.

Encouraging children and young people to practise sun safety is a shared responsibility. Whether in the backyard or on the beach, children and young people should wear a sun safe hat and sunscreen. By practising sun safety at home, parents and caregivers support the messages taught at school about sun safety.

Children and young people will come to appreciate the importance of sun protection not only during their schooling, but also throughout their life.

Much of the sun exposure that causes skin damage occurs in childhood and adolescence. By the age of 15 many children have developed irreversible skin damage from exposure to the sun.

While skin cancer is the most common cancer in Australia, it is estimated that 95% of skin cancers can be prevented through reducing exposure to ultraviolet radiation from the sun.

Effective sun safety involves the school community working together

By reducing exposure to the sun and increasing the uptake of sun safe strategies South Sydney High School can make a significant contribution to community efforts to reduce skin cancer and related skin damage.

We attempt to support students through PDHPE classes to understand why sun safety is important and to take action to protect themselves such as:

- wearing sun safe hats, clothing and sunglasses
- seeking shade during peak UVR times during the school day
- wearing SPF 30+ (or higher) sunscreen.

D.Haggart

Have you moved or changed your phone number?

Please update your details via forms which can be obtained from the front office, however, we have attached a form (last two pages) to this newsletter for your convenience. You can also download a form using the following link. Completed forms should be returned to the front office.

The year has begun with a wonderful burst of enthusiasm! We are already preparing for activities and programs that will positively impact our students and community. Beacon Student Ambassadors have been elected and will be preparing for the strong leadership task ahead of them in 2016. This will catapult them into a mindset of finding opportunities and success. Leadership Training will take place on the 23rd of February and our customary group photo shot will appear in the next newsletter- so stay tuned.

The Volunteering program has also commenced and any student wishing to participate in volunteering activities should see Mrs Stell for more information. Volunteering is a great opportunity to be involved in the school community and learn leadership skills. The program known as the NSW Premiers Volunteering Program is focussed on Year 9 and 10 students, but eager Year 7 and 8 students are welcome. This is a great way of building relationships within the school and the community as well as demonstrating leadership that will hold all participating students in good stead when applying for future leadership roles. We wish all our students a great year with all their endeavours!

Helen Stell
Beacon & Opportunity Coordinator & Volunteering Coordinator

Writing News

The Whitlam Institute’s WHAT MATTERS?2016 writing competition is now open. Students are invited to submit a typed 400-600 opinion piece on an issue that concerns them. The students should focus on a matter or issue of significance, expressed with passionate conviction. They also need to articulate, with an appropriate and effective use of language and logical cohesion. Prizes are available in each learning stage. Closing date is 6th May, 2016. See your English teacher or consult the Whitlam.org website for details.

Jennifer Tilby (English)
Above: This is an excerpt from the local paper, The Southern Courier, about the South Sydney High School students visit to Cambodia with World Challenge.

**MAROUBRA**

On mission to help Cambodian youth

**STUDENTS TAKE PART IN WORLD CHALLENGE**

Rebecca Franks

STUDENTS from South Sydney High School in Maroubra, made the trip of a lifetime when they visited Cambodia to help out a school for child victims of domestic violence and abuse.

Eleven students from Years 10, 11 and 12 took part in the 24-day World Challenge expedition after fundraising $6000 each over 18 months, and organising flights, accommodation, transport, activities, food and cooking.

Teacher Jenny Wilson, her husband and a World Challenge organiser led the group, which visited a school in Battambang, temples and cultural sites in Laos, and undertook a three-day trek through a national park where they slept in tents under the stars.

“It is completely self-run by the children. They decide where to go,” Ms Wilson said.

Ms Wilson, who has led three World Challenge trips, said students were given a brief itinerary and had to organise all the details themselves, living on a budget of $12 a day for accommodation and $9 for food, which was a typical local wage.

The students made 19 cement hydroponic garden boxes to grow fruit and vegetables at the school, helped with English classes, played games with the children and presented them with soccer balls, and other items, which they had fundraised to buy.

“From there, we went into Laos, which was a 12-hour bus trip,” Ms Wilson said.

“They did not complain, they just did it. Watching their personal growth is the most amazing thing.”

Parent Debbie Ross, whose 15-year-old son took part in the trip, said: “The children all came back with a changed attitude.

“They realised they have got so much when these children have nothing.”
Dear Parents,

School photographs are scheduled to be taken by advancedlife Photography. Whilst an envelope and flyer will be distributed shortly, if possible it is our preference that ordering be completed online to reduce administration and potential security issues related to the return of cash and envelopes on photo day.

Orders for packages and sibling photographs can be placed securely online at www.advancedlife.com.au using our school’s unique 9 digit Online Order Code. Portrait and group package orders are due by photography day.

Should you wish to purchase a sibling photograph online, the order must be placed no later than the day before photography day. Sibling photographs will only be taken if an order has been placed.

Should you have any queries concerning school photographs or online ordering, please direct them via email to enquiries@advancedlife.com.au

Ted Noffs Foundation is a youth organisation specialising in providing support in drug and alcohol, mental health, sexual health, accommodation, employment and more.

In-school support

The Youth Homelessness Services (YHS) is a free service offering early intervention and prevention support to young people aged 12-25 who identify with issues such as school disengagement, family conflict, mental health concerns, drug and alcohol abuse, or accommodation crisis, which may lead to homelessness. We are currently offering mentoring, counselling, case management, and specialised school groups such as girls or boys group, counselling group, leadership group, drug and alcohol group, social media and cyber safety group, and more. Facebook or email YHS@noffs.org.au or call 02 9305 6627 for more information or support.

In-treatment support

Program for Adolescent Life Management (PALM) is a residential treatment program for young people aged 13-17 to address drug and alcohol, mental health, family dysfunction, and criminality issues. The services provided include counselling, family therapy, group work, living skills training, and recreational activities. There is also an after-care service, Continuing Adolescent Life Management (CALM), which helped young people through their recovery for up to five years post-treatment. For more information or referral please contact 02 9305 6235.
For any recent changes to your child’s contact or medical information, please complete this form and return to the school via:

**fax:** 93497384  
**email:** ssthysydney-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au  
**post:** South Sydney High School, O’Sullivan Avenue, Maroubra, 2035  
or drop off to the front office. Thank you for your assistance.

### Student Information Sheet

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Child’s Name</th>
<th>Date of Birth</th>
<th>School Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Parents / Carers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parent/Guardian’s Name 1</th>
<th>Parent/Guardian’s Name 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Home Phone</td>
<td>Home Phone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobile Phone</td>
<td>Mobile Phone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work Phone</td>
<td>Work Phone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>email address</td>
<td>email address</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home address</td>
<td>Home address (if different)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suburb, State, Postcode</td>
<td>Suburb, State, Postcode</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mailing address (if different)</td>
<td>Mailing address (if different)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Currently in paid employment?</th>
<th>Y</th>
<th>N</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Details for parent/carer not living with this student

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parent/Guardian’s Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Home Phone</td>
<td>Mobile Phone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work Phone</td>
<td>email address</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please turn over...
### Emergency Contacts (Other than Parents)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Emergency Contact Name 1 (other than parent)</th>
<th>Emergency Contact Name 2 (other than parent)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Relationship to Student</td>
<td>Relationship to Student</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Home Phone</td>
<td>Home Phone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobile Phone</td>
<td>Mobile Phone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work Phone</td>
<td>Work Phone</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Medical Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Medical Condition (Asthma, Allergy etc.)</th>
<th>Medicare Number</th>
<th>Expiry date</th>
<th>Child No. on card</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Doctor Name</td>
<td>Doctor Address</td>
<td>Suburb, State, Postcode</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone number</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date