From our Principal

It has been an incredibly busy start to the term with quality teaching and learning taking place in classrooms and numerous activities occurring across the school, adding to the positive and vibrant culture within the South Sydney High school community.

On another note, congratulations to Rose Jennings in Year 9 for her selection in the 2016 NSW Youth and Junior Athletics Championships. Well done Rose!

High Achiever’s Assembly

At our morning assembly on Tuesday 1st February, Ms McNeil organised our High Achiever’s assembly and we were able to acknowledge and celebrate the 2015 HSC results. Anthony Leong and Harry Friedberg shared the position of Dux with an ATAR of 95.05 and reflected on their experiences of their journey through school to the HSC. Congratulations to all students who were acknowledged on this assembly and many thanks to those family members in attendance.

Midsummer Night’s Dream

Ms de Paor and her team of supporters are working extremely hard as the performances on Tuesday 1st March and Thursday 3rd March for Midsummer Night’s Dream are getting closer. These performances are a wonderful collaboration of staff, students and parents working together in true South Sydney High School spirit. Please make sure you purchase your tickets online at Trybooking.com/KGBD as there is only limited seating available. The cost of the ticket will go towards covering performance costs and refreshments.

Welcome Night for Parents/Carers

On Tuesday 16 February, the SSHS P&C and SSHS hosted a welcome night for all Year 7 parents and new families. Thanks very much to those parents and teachers who attended as it was wonderful opportunity for people to network and connect with each other. I would like to acknowledge our wonderful music graduates from 2015 who provided some beautiful background music.
Year 7 Camp
On Monday 8th February, Ms Graham, Mr Spencer, Mr Francis and Ms Maynard accompanied our Year 7 students and to camp in Tea Gardens. Congratulations to all students for their excellent behaviour, resilience and good spirits to ensure everybody had a great time, particularly the teachers!

Open Day Saturday 12th Match – save the date
We will be holding our Open Day on Saturday 12th March between 11.00 am – 1.00 pm.
Please encourage your neighbours and friends to attend this special event and see a slice of high school life.
There will be student displays, information about the Enrichment Stream for Year 7 2017, sausage sizzle, gelato machine, a jumping castle and school tours.
Please bring the whole family and see the South Sydney High school community in action.

Kind Regards
Robyn Matthews
Principal
Who are our School Leaders?

Over the next three newsletters we will be profiling our 2016 School Leaders. Our Student Leaders will be coordinating and implementing some fantastic initiatives this year. Stay tuned for further information.

Mr Benischke and Ms Parker.

Haley Wells – School Captain

Biggest fear. Crickets and nursing homes
Hobbies and interests. Swimming, surf lifesaving, science
Describe yourself in three words? Open-minded, active and blonde
Ideal holiday destination? Maldives, Bora Bora, Italy, Greece
Favourite movie/TV show? Titanic
Favourite sporting team? I love watching swimming comps, Stephanie Rice was my hero. But if I go for a footy team, South Sydney.
Future goals? Go to university and do some sort of science degree, be super healthy and fit, travel, get married and be happy
Favourite memory so far at SSHS? Still to come...
Inspirational leader? Usain Bolt
Inspirational quote? “Be somebody who makes everybody feel like a somebody”
“If it doesn’t challenge you, it doesn’t change you”

John Hemans – School Captain

Biggest fear. Needles
Hobbies and interests. Gaming and guitar
Describe yourself in three words? Honest, nerdy, considerate
Ideal holiday destination? Japan
Favourite movie/TV show? Game of Thrones, Walking Dead
Favourite sporting team? South Sydney Rabbitohs
Future goals? Climb mountains in Nepal or Bungee jumping in New Zealand
Favourite memory so far at SSHS? Meeting the friends I have
Inspirational leader? Shia LeBeouf
Inspirational quote? “Don’t let your dreams, be dreams” – Shia LeBeouf
**Kagara Maling – School Vice-Captain**

**Biggest fear.** Ghosts

**Hobbies and interests.** Sport, games

**Describe yourself in three words?** Cool, funny, sporty

**Ideal holiday destination?** Fiji

**Favourite movie/TV show?** Man of steel, Flash, Arrow

**Favourite sporting team?** Penrith Panthers

**Future goals?** Professional boxing or professional rugby league player

**Favourite memory so far at SSHS?** Meeting my friends and favourite teachers

**Inspirational leader?** My mum

**Inspirational quote?** “It’s not how hard you hit, it’s how hard you can get hit and keep moving forward”

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**Kylie Wessels – School Vice-Captain**

**Biggest fear.** Flying cockroaches and huntsman spiders

**Hobbies and interests.** Horse riding, camping and hiking (Scouts), Junior Guide Leader

**Describe yourself in three words?** Bubbly, driven, peace keeper

**Ideal holiday destination?** Backpacking around Europe – I love submerging myself in different cultures and places

**Favourite movie/TV show?** Burlesque (Christina Aguleria!)

**Favourite sporting team?** N/A (Although I love watching competitive equestrian events)

**Future goals?** Surviving the HSC, getting a scholarship for university (to study medicine)

**Favourite memory so far at SSHS?** Being a student Beacon ambassador in year 10.

**Inspirational leader?** Katy Perry – empowering young people (especially females)

**Inspirational quote?** “Work hard, stay humble”
SPORTS NEWS

Rose Wins Silver!

Congratulations to Rose Jennings in Year 10 who recently competed at the 2016 NSW Youth and Junior Athletics Championships. Rose competed in the U16, 3000m Walk finishing second. This result sees her qualify for the Australian Junior Championships to be held in Perth from March 8th to 13th.

The whole school wishes her the best of luck at the National Championships.

Mitchell to Represent Sydney East Again

Mitchell Driver in Year 11 will once again be representing the Sydney East School Sports Association at the Combined High Schools (CHS) Baseball Championships in March. After a very successful 2015, Mitchell will once again have his sights on representing NSW at the School Sports Australia Championships to be held in Perth in May.

Knockout Sports

It’s that time of year again when all of the Knockout Sports teams need to be formed and get training. Netball, Touch Football, Basketball, Rugby League and Soccer are all kicking off. All students should check the Sport Notice Board for more information about training times and the teachers involved. This information has also been advertised in this edition of the Newsletter.
SSHHS SPORT TEAM TRAINING TIMES

Tuesday Mornings @ 7:45 to 8:30 on the Netball Court
With Ms Graham

Wednesday Week A and Thursday Week B @ 7:45 on the School Oval
With Mr Wood

Wednesday and Thursday @ Lunch time in the Gym
With Mr Wagg

Coming Soon......

With Ms Touchard
With Mr Haggart and Mr Benischke
On 28th December, 2015 11 students and two teachers departed Australia to spend 24 days in Cambodia and Laos.

We arrived in Siem Reap and spent a day travelling around the amazing temples such as Angkor Wat, Angkor Tom, Bayon and Ta Phrohm.

We then travelled to Battambang to our project (Ptea Teuk Dong). This was an NGO shelter for women who were escaping violent homes and the sex industry. Now it has become a school for the local community to learn English, hygiene and nutrition.

The students all worked extremely hard building 19 cement vegetable boxes from scratch. These will be used to grow vegetables for the students to teach them about nutrition. The weather was extremely hot and humid and trying for us all. We also worked with the students teaching them English and playing many sports. It was extremely satisfying and rewarding. A donation of $1500 USD was made to help this poor community. Most of this donation was fundraised by the students.

Next we travelled into Laos. After many long bus rides we started our trek in the Phou Khao Khouay National Park where we trekked for three days through beautiful countryside.

Our next stop was Vientienne before arriving in the beautiful town Luang Prabang where we had a few well-earned days of sightseeing and immersing ourselves in the culture.

It was an absolute privilege to accompany this outstanding group of students. They displayed great personal growth, leadership, hard work and empathy towards others and were a great credit to the school.

Jenny Wilson
Tell Them From Me student survey

The Tell Them From Me student feedback survey

I am delighted that this term, our school, like many others in the state, will participate in a Department of Education initiative: the Tell Them From Me student feedback survey. The survey aims to help improve student learning outcomes and measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.


The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide our school with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the Tell Them From Me survey to help improve how they do things at school.

I want to assure you that the survey is confidential and school staff will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between 14 March and 8 April. Participation in the survey is entirely voluntary.

A consent form for parents/carers about the survey is being sent home with students. If you do not want your child or children to participate, please return the consent form to Mr Haggart by Friday 26 February. The FAQs and copies of the consent form, including translated consent forms, are available from the website above.

WRITING NEWS

Students are encouraged to enter the Whitlam Institute’s WHAT MATTERS? 2016 writing competition. Students must submit a typed 400-600 opinion piece based on an issue that concerns them. Entries close 6th May, 2016. Interested students should see their English teacher and/or refer to the Whitlam.org website for further details.

Jennifer Tilby (English)

TOURNAMENT OF MINDS (TOM)

TOM will be returning in 2016. This involves problem solving activities that help nurture creative and critical thinking processes and collaborative learning skills. A team (or teams) of seven will represent the school at a regional final on a weekend in late August and then may have the possibility of presenting at national and international levels later in the year. Students will need to commit themselves to attend weekly workshops when the program has started. The program is open to students in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10. See J Tilby (English) for details.

Jennifer Tilby
Facilitator
Encouraging and developing creative aptitude is the main focus of our gifted program at South Sydney throughout term 1 of 2016. The expressive talents of students from years 8 to 11 are soon to be showcased in our school’s production of ‘A Midsummer Night’s Dream’.

However it is also encouraging to see year 7 students drifting in to the Drama room on a Monday to play chess and discover what SSCIM club is all about. We will soon have news of our chess program for 2016 that will include both lessons at school as well as opportunities to enter inter-school chess tournaments. We will also be shortly revealing details about this year’s SSCIM Camps. Our senior SSCIM camp will run in term 2 of 2016 while the junior SSCIM camp will run in early term 4.

Parents are reminded that the final date for students at South Sydney to enrol for ICAS exams in 2016, 1 March, is fast approaching. Permission notes and fees for these exams need to be lodged at the school’s student office.

Aine de Paor
Gifted & Talented
Co-ordinator

HOW DO I MAKE A PAYMENT?

Statements of Account will be posted home shortly. There are a number of ways you can make payments:

**Come in to the school office** - with cash, credit card, EFTPOS or cheque. We accept Mastercard & Visa *(sorry, no American Express)*. Cheques should be made payable to South Sydney High School.

**Over the telephone** - you can call the school office on 9349 3868 and provide credit card details to the receptionist.

**Post** - if it is more convenient, you may post your cheque to the school.

We will also accept school fees in instalments. Please make regular payments using any of the above methods.

From time to time students are also required to pay for things like lockers, calculators or excursions. Students should bring payment to the **student office** so that they can take their receipt to the appropriate teacher.
Stellar group of Student Ambassadors for 2016

Thirteen amazing students were selected to represent our school in a special leadership role. They are Ketti Ketmontri, Miya Thornton, Serafina Accetta, Leo Charnas, Riley Bregonis, Maria Tatarin, Sonia Wessels, Brent Mendoza, Liam Collins, Inna Baskova, Zaiden Minslow, Claudio Albornoz, and Jessica Summons. These students will assist me to promote and organise the various opportunities, activities and programs that we have planned this year. These activities are precisely what makes this school stand out of the crowd. Leadership training is first on the program, and this is happening Tuesday 23rd February.

Drama Beyond the Classroom

Our senior Drama students have hit the ground running as the 2016 academic year begins. Year 11 Drama students are rehearsing round the clock for our school production of ‘A Midsummer Night’s Dream’ while in class they are learning the skills of realist acting. To support their coursework these students attended a performance of ‘The Voices Project’ at the Australian Theatre for Young People on Friday 5 February. This allowed them an opportunity to enjoy outstanding realist performances of recently developed monologues written and performed by young people not much older than themselves.

Meanwhile year 12 Drama students intent on making short films and writing scripts as their HSC Drama major works attended, ‘Writers Onscreen and Onstage’ at the Seymour Centre on Wednesday 10 February.

Aine de Paor, Drama teacher
Year 7 Camp

On the 8th Feb Year 7 went on camp to the Great Aussie Bush Camp. We were up nice and early in the morning, all tired without our sleep in as we got onto the coach. We all had a chat and watched a movie. But when we arrived we were astonished at all the activities that we could see in the distance in this large camp. Camp was home to some of Australia’s native animals, we saw lots of kangaroos hopping around the campsite, and enormous lizards that would climb up the trees in the morning for warmth.

In our first night time activity we played commando, it was pitch black in the bushes. The aim of the game was to save the hostages who were hidden in the bush, without getting caught by the teacher’s flashlights. The funny thing was when we all thought we were safe, a teacher came out of nowhere and scared the living daylights out of us. It was a great game but in the end unfortunately the teachers ended up winning.

Mud world was extremely fun but at the same time extremely messy as we were all hot and dirty. The fun part was when you had to go under the obstacles and hold your breath in mud. At the start the teachers splashed mud all over us to throw us off the obstacles, but in the end we got our payback and drenched them in mud.

On the last night we had a challenge night, we had to complete all sorts of random, weird, funny and crazy challenges. Like: climbing around and under the table without touching the ground and managing to get back up on the other side. Getting shaving cream off someone else’s face with a paddle pop stick while your hands are locked behind them. At the end of our challenge night we tied, so we had a tie breaker challenge, which was the plank. Everyone was dropping like flies until only one team had their last planking.

The giant swing was one of our favourite activities, it’s a great way to push past your comfort zone and limits. At the top the swing was 17 metres high, imagine 5 elephants stacked on top of each other, that’s approximately how tall the swing was. It was a bit scary getting up but in the end it was worth it.

After all those great activities and fun we had, we hopped onto the bus exhausted and some of us had a long, long sleep. Camp was exceptionally fun and taught us some very important lessons, it taught us to always try your best and push past your boundaries.

By Jake. A & Liam.M
What’s happening in Science?

Student engagement is important in the achievement of learning outcomes. In Science we engage students through our ‘Science by Doing’ philosophy. Learning experiences in the classroom centre around tasks in which students are encouraged to investigate and find solutions to problems.

As part of their study of Energy, Year 8 have constructed circuits using solar cells and determined the energy value of some types of food. Year 9 students have had the opportunity to examine a sheep’s brain and models of the human brain as learn about coordination systems.

Some classes have been issued with assessment task notifications. Year 7 will submit their safety poster next week and Year 10 are working on their Student Research Project.

Students are encouraged to apply to participate in the ICAS Science competition. They need to enter by 1st March.

Mr Szallasi is conducting a tutorial group on Wednesday morning for interested HSC Biology students. This is a great opportunity for students to review class work and improve their exam technique.

Memorial for Melissa Dunn on her 21st Birthday

On Thursday 18th February a memorial was held for Melissa Dunn a previous student of South Sydney HS. A lovely garden along with a plaque has been erected in her honour at Coral Sea Playground. The playground was also named after her.
On Tuesday 16 February, South Sydney High School welcomed back the school’s High Achievers from the 2015 HSC. These students achieved a Band 5 or 6 (a mark of 80 or above) in one or more of their HSC subjects.

Harry Friedberg and Anthony Leung, both of whom achieved an ATAR of 95.05, delivered inspiring speeches to staff, students and parents, sharing their philosophies and strategies for success.

On behalf of the SSHS community I would like to congratulate the following students for their outstanding achievements in the 2015 HSC:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Band</th>
<th>Subjects</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ata Audesh</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Biology, Business Studies, Mathematics General, PDHPE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sebastien Auriat</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Spanish Beginners</td>
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<td>Ronaldo Budiman</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Music 1</td>
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<td>Yew Siang Chieng</td>
<td>E3</td>
<td>Mathematics Extension 1 and 2</td>
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<td>Wei Sean Chong</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Biology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Katie Clarke</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Visual Arts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yukun Dai</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Mathematics and Physics</td>
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<td>Jonah Diano</td>
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<td>Music 1</td>
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<td>Flaviah Edelkoort-Bonacci</td>
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<td>Chemistry, Legal Studies, Mathematics General</td>
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<tr>
<td>Asli Ekinci</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Liam Hillier</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Atika Kusuma</td>
<td>5</td>
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<td>Kenneth Liong</td>
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<td>Mathematics General</td>
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<td>5</td>
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<td>Taylor Minslow</td>
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<td>Daniel Notaras</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Gabriel Phillips</td>
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<td>Alice Raba</td>
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<td>Sukhvir Sambhi</td>
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<tr>
<td>Andrea Stoican</td>
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<td>Music 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jamie Tyson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Natasha Zimucha</td>
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<td>Tiana Noy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nitin Singh</td>
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<td>Mathematics General, Band 5 Biology, Information Processes and Technology, Physics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nikhil Singh</td>
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<td>Nancy Muir</td>
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<td>Lin Yiu Leung</td>
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<tr>
<td>Harry Friedberg</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Economics and Mathematics, Band 5 English Advanced and Spanish Beginners, E4 English Extension 1, Mathematics Extension 1</td>
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A Midsummer Night’s Dream  
Pop-Up Theatre, South Sydney High School

South Sydney High School is about to have its first ever pop-up theatre event as midsummer madness takes over the CAPA department. Ms Sharon Hardy our Head of Creative and Performing Arts has been busily painting the settings for ‘Midsummer Night’s Dream’ in her Art Room’s courtyard. This will soon be South Sydney’s very own pop-up outdoor theatre for a magical performance under the stars of one of Shakespeare’s most beloved plays. Behind the scenes parents have been generously making costumes, props and generally providing wonderful support. Our year 8 to 11 actors have been showing their dedication to their craft during rehearsals conducted during school holidays, lunch times and after school on Tuesdays. Soon however our school community will get to reap the rewards of this hive of creative activity. Come to South Sydney’s pop-up outdoor theatre on Tuesday 1 March or Thursday 3 March to enjoy what promises to be a special performance!

Tickets must be purchased online at Trybooking.com/KGBD
Limited seating available.
All money goes toward costumes and supper.

Aine de Paor, Drama Teacher

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Donation from Redback

Redback Boots are 100% Australian made and owned. The Cloros family who operate the business are 4th Generation boot makers. Family members work hands on in the factory every day, to ensure the highest standard of production quality.

On behalf of South Sydney HS I would like to thank Jenny de Boer from Redback boots who has donated 10 pairs of safety boots for students in the Year 11 construction course.
Attendance Issues

Thank you for ensuring that your child attends school on time every day. We ask that you phone or text our office staff if your child is running late. Students with unexplained lateness are expected to attend a lunchtime detention with the Deputy Principal.

Improvements to our attendance monitoring processes

We have been working hard to ensure that we have strong partnerships with families to support student attendance. This ensures that students are well on track to achieving the best possible educational outcomes.

If your child is continually late to school, you may be contacted by our Office staff or Year Advisor to offer support. We will be following similar processes to assist students with high levels of

SMS Text messages

You will receive a text message if your child is late or absent from school, usually after 11 o’clock each day. It is vital that we have accurate contact details so that our systems work effectively; updates can be provided via the forms on the school website. If we have technical issues and are unable to send these messages, we will advise you and ask you to contact the school office if you have any concerns.

Please do not hesitate to contact Cathy Walton, Deputy Principal on the school’s number if require further information.

Music Groups at South Sydney High School

CONCERT BAND: meets in A13 on Tuesdays at 8am.
SINGING GROUP: meets in A12 on Monday and Wednesday at 8:15am
VIOLIN ENSEMBLE: meets in A12 on Thursday at 8:15am
South Sydney High School will be conducting an extra-curricular snow trip for students in Years 8 – 12 in the Term 2 holidays. The program will run from Thursday 15 July to Sunday 17 July 2016 (travelling overnight on Thursday 15 July, arriving at Bungarra early Friday morning)

WHAT’S INCLUDED IN YOUR PROGRAM?

ACCOMMODATION:
• 2 night’s accommodation at Bungarra Alpine Centre - Junction West Lodge

CATERING:
• Friday - Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner (Hot lunch @ Thredbo)
• Saturday - Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner (Hot lunch @ Thredbo)
• Sunday - Breakfast & Lunch (Hot lunch @ Thredbo)

ON SNOW:
• 3 days Lift & Lesson pass for all operating lifts at Thredbo (Fri, Sat & Sun)
• MORNING LESSONS: 2 hour group lesson for all levels each morning (Fri, Sat & Sun)
• AFTERNOON LESSON: 2 hour group lesson – Day 1 afternoon (Friday)
• 3 days entrance to the Thredbo Indoor Heated Pool
• ALI Snow staff to run the program and assist on snow each morning

ALI Public Liability insurance

HIRE:
• 3 days SKI Hire (skis/poles/boots & helmet)

Please Note: Snowboard & Clothing Hire are optional

The cost per student is $550.00 and is based on a minimum of 20 and maximum of 36 students.

On top of the $550.00 students will need to pay for transport (approx. $165 – this is dependent on the number of students attending) and any other optional extras.

Therefore, the total cost including transport will be approximately $715.00. The total cost will depend on the number of participants.
A Midsummer Night's Dream
By William Shakespeare

2016
The 400th anniversary of Shakespeare’s death

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM
A SOUTH SYDNEY HIGH SCHOOL PRODUCTION

This production is brought to you by the SSHS community.

Venue:
Walsh Ave, Maroubra
Visual Arts block. SSHS

Tickets:
$5 per person (evening performances only)

Dates:
Tuesday 1 March
Evening: 6 - 8pm
Wednesday 2 March
Matinee: 11am - 12.30pm (By invitation)
Thursday 3 March
Evening: 6 - 8pm

Book at www.trybooking.com/KGBD
NSW SCHOOL VACCINATION PROGRAM 2016

NSW Ministry of Health offers all school students free vaccinations recommended by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC). These vaccines are important and protect students through to adulthood.

At your school all Year 7 Students will be offered the following vaccines on the following dates:
- Visit 1: Thursday, 3 March 2016
- Visit 2: Tuesday, 7 June 2016
- Visit 3: Tuesday, 11 October 2016

All Year 7 Students will be offered:
- Diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis (whooping cough) vaccine - 1 booster dose. This dose was previously recommended at 15 years of age. Your child will only be offered this vaccine in year 7- see information package.
- Varicella (Chickenpox) vaccine - 1 dose. If your child has already had chickenpox disease or been vaccinated, they do not need this vaccine- see information package.
- Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine - a 3 dose course offered to boys and girls- see information package.
- (a Catch up Course will only be offered to year 8 male and female students who didn’t complete it in year 7)

Consent Forms
Please read the information provided with the consent form to understand facts about the vaccines that will be offered and the diseases that these vaccines protect against before you sign the forms. Please note that the consent forms for year 7 students, will need parent/guardians signature for each vaccine requested. The nurses will not be able to vaccinate your child if this is not done.

A Record of Vaccination will be provided to each student vaccinated after vaccination. Keep this vaccination records in a safe place, as they will be required for future work or travel.

Immunisation Records
Childhood vaccination records for children born after January 1996 can be checked by calling the Australian Immunisation Register on 1800 653 809.

If you have questions about the program at school please contact Brock Mifsud on 02 9349 3868 or the Immunisation Unit, Public Health on 9382 8333.

(For translated material on the School Vaccination Program for parents/guardians, please go to the following website, but only fill out the English version: http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation/Pages/school_vaccination_language.aspx )