From our Principal

This is going to be a slightly different newsletter this week as I would like to celebrate our wonderful South Sydney High School inaugural Open Day.

It was a true indication of the collaboration which exists at our school. There were well over 500 people who came to see the school in action. Classrooms, outdoor areas were open for everyone to see quality teaching and learning in action in all areas of school life. All of the Science staff attended to showcase Science to the local community. A laboratory was open to visitors with 20 different stations. There were various activities involving models, magnets, microscopes, chemical reactions, sound, generating electricity and the interactive whiteboard. Visitors were encouraged to engage in the activities as a scientist and make observations. Students were able to assist our visitors with the experiments and explanations of the observations. The Science Show was a very popular attraction. The audience was entertained with some of our more spectacular demonstrations.

Technological and Applied Studies were hard at work everywhere. In the Commercial Kitchen, the TAS faculty supervised students who assisted children in flipping and making their very own pancakes. Some of the parents even had a go. Topped with fresh plum jam made by Year 12 Food Technology students and whipped cream, the pikelets were a hit. Platters of finger foods were served around the school by our wonderful Hospitality students. PDHPE staff turned the quadrangle into an array of different sporting activities. The faculty, wonderfully supported by Year 10 PASS students and members of the School Netball teams, demonstrated games of Trolley Hockey, ran interactive Netball drills, and games of Table Tennis and Badminton. Parents had the opportunity to explore the venues that we have here at school and ask a range of questions about PDHPE and Sport at our school. The English faculty presented an audio-visual display of student work including Poetry Slam, demonstrations, Visual Responses, Found Poetry, Speeches, and Tournament of the Minds performances. Thank you to all the students whose exemplary work we showcased. Teachers also provided examples of the many great texts students have the opportunity to study in English. The HSIE faculty was transformed into a Medieval Castle for a day with a knight in chain mail joining us for the day. Visitors had the opportunity to feel the weight of the chain mail and to try on the knight's helmet. Students and carers tested their knowledge of Geography, History and Commerce with interactive Kahoot quizzes and games on the IWB and laptops. Everyone was a winner.
In Maths, Ms Watkins ran an outdoor hands-on "guess the volume of the different prisms and pyramids" where participants guessed then filled different solids with water discovering the relationship between the volume of prism and pyramids. This proved to be very popular amongst children and adults in the hot Saturday weather.

Mr Hart played a number of games of chess, in one game a Year 4 child from Maroubra Bay PS almost taking the win! In F2, Ms Bacon and Mr Winstone had a number of activities running, the first gave parents and students a chance to vote on their choice of favourite movies of 2015 and then compare data with international data. IMBD statistics ranked, Room, Spotlight and The Revenant as the 3 most popular movies in 2015, the South Sydney High Local community voted Star Wars, Mad Max and The Martians. Parents were also able to sit and relax and enjoy a gelato while their children participated in an interactive quiz and code breaking activity!

The Visual Arts block was alive and happening with opportunities for visitors to explore a wide variety of materials and create their own artworks. This, along with displays of student work, gave the parents and prospective students a real sense of a working art room. Ms Kite and Ms Hardy were kept busy with questions about course content and positive feedback about what is happening in Visual Arts at our school.

Drama had video clips of A Midsummer Night’s Dream showing on a number of screens throughout CAPA as well as the Pop up theatre space open for viewing. Students in Basel masks and fairy wings roamed throughout the spaces. The Drama room was open and Ms De Paor fielded many questions from interested parents.

Ms Sainty was extremely busy conducting the School Band while overseeing two outdoor performance spaces. Our music students rotated through the spaces entertaining the crowds with a variety of instruments and musical styles. The quality of these performances was a reflection of the experience and dedication of our Music teachers.

The P&C worked hard on the BBQ and answered many questions about the school. There were displays about our Opportunity Programs, Overseas trips, Duke of Edinburgh program and our new UNSW Hub project.

The jumping castle and balloons added to the festive flavour of the day and many thanks to Genworth and in particular, Lyn Stroud for her ongoing support to our school and donating the stand free of charge. Souths Cares were well represented with Beau Champion and Nathan Merritt assisted with the ball throwing competition.

Our Year 7 student speakers, Noah Hockey and Hope Winter were very articulate when they spoke about their high school experiences and Penny Ingle provided an insightful view of the school from a parent perspective.

Ms Walton did an extraordinary job of overseeing the whole day and I would to publicly acknowledge her for this. Many thanks to all staff and students who helped.

Our school was full of happy faces, smiling parents, enthusiastic staff and students. We look forward to your continued support in spreading the good word about South Sydney High School.

Kind Regards
Ms Robyn Matthews
Natash Zimucha has been accepted into the Bachelor of Construction Management at Western Sydney University. Career opportunities from this degree include; building surveyor, estimator, quantity surveyor, building economist and construction manager.

Alice Raba has been accepted into Bachelor of Environmental Management at UNSW. Alice gained 3 extra ATAR points from participating in the U@UNSW Program. Alice is also a scholarship recipient of $3,000 and has a personal peer mentor to assist with her University studies.

Nikhil Singh has been accepted into Bachelor of Engineering (Honours)/Bachelor of Medical Science at University of Technology Sydney. Career opportunities include areas of biotechnology, medical technology, environmental protection, molecular biology and materials technology.

Taylor Minslow has been accepted into the Bachelor of Policing at Western Sydney University. Major studies include criminal justice, criminology, policing theory and practice.
Irakli Divali has been accepted into the Bachelor of Business degree with Think Education. Major studies in this course include; accounting, business law, economics, finance, human resources and marketing.

Celine Winata was accepted into Macquarie University though the Schools Recommendation Scheme. This application allows Universities to offer a place to students based on their school performance, aptitude and community engagement. Celine was accepted into the Bachelor of Business Administration.

Kenneth Liong was accepted into the Bachelor of Media (Public Relations & Advertising) at UNSW. Major studies in this degree include media innovation, communications, media theory and history.

Sevim Esmek has been accepted into the Bachelor of Science degree at Macquarie University. Major studies include biomolecular sciences, geophysics, climate science, biology and spatial information.

Ata Audesh has been accepted into the faculty of Health at the University of Technology Sydney to study Bachelor of Nursing. This course includes extensive nursing practice and professional experience and clinical placements.
Student Ambassadors put the leadership training into practise!

Three of our Student Ambassadors were invited to address the staff at Genworth in North Sydney as part of the Genworth Corporate Volunteering Campaign. The students were; Ketti Ketmontri, Serafina Accetta and Leo Charnas. They were not only eloquent and commanding of a room full of about seventy corporate professionals, but they were convincing and appreciative for the opportunity to address them on behalf of our school. I looked on and felt very proud that I was working with these students as the room congratulated them and signed up most enthusiastically to volunteer at all the programs that we have running this year. Well done Ambassadors!

Mrs Helen Stell
Beacon & Opportunity Coordinator SSHS

Online Payments Now Available

We have launched a new online payment portal linked to our school website to make it easier for you to pay for school related payments. This is a secure payment page hosted by Westpac.

You can pay:

- Voluntary School Contributions
- Subject Contributions
- Excursions
- Sport
- Creative and Practical Arts
- Other

Log onto the website at [www.ssth-sydney-h.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.ssth-sydney-h.schools.nsw.edu.au)

Click on Make a Payment and follow the prompts to make a payment via Visa or MasterCard.
Teacher quality triumphs at South Sydney High School

“Educational research confirms something that teachers have probably always known: the teacher is the single most important driver of student achievement, after family background. According to John Hattie, what makes the greatest difference in a student’s achievement is the teacher, accounting for about 30 per cent of the variance in student achievement.”

*Teachers Make a Difference. What is the research evidence?*
John Hattie, University of Auckland Australian Council for Educational Research, October 2003

The UNSW School of Education Annual Awards recognise the outstanding commitment of those in schools working to improve teacher quality in NSW. South Sydney High School scooped the awards with three out of the thirteen winners coming from our school.

The UNSW School of Education’s Annual Awards Evening recognises supervising teachers in schools who have made an outstanding contribution to the development of UNSW teacher education students.

Please enjoy reading these citations:

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**Nominated by Stephanie Livera - Teacher Melissa Sainty**

Melissa has made an outstanding contribution to my professional development through her role modelling of teacher excellence. Her qualities of excellence include: her ability to create relevant and quality resources which include arrangements of contemporary pieces with individual parts which cater to the abilities of individual students, the extra hours she spends with students in rehearsal and tuition which reflects her deep commitment to music education, her personal approach to classroom management which encourages a safe and comfortable learning environment for students, and finally, her professional and fruitful relationships with her teaching colleagues.

One of the most striking qualities of Melissa’s teaching is her genuine care for students and a belief in them which compels her to provide them with further opportunities to thrive. Melissa has supported my individual journey as a teacher, she has given me room to experiment with materials and lesson structures. She has provided me with very practical advice and wisdom, which reflects her 20+ years of teaching experience. Melissa has left me feeling inspired and hopeful.
Nominated by Rubee McManus - Teacher Aine De Poar

Aine made the most wonderful contribution to my learning as a teacher education student. I felt so supported, welcomed, and encouraged to take control of a class and was given the freedom to call it my own. Aine also provided me with opportunities outside of 9-3pm by giving me tickets to key events within the drama teaching community such as the State Drama Festival or for the Australian Theatre for Young Peoples season launch. This allowed me to see the nature of the need for networking outside of the school context and how the subject extends beyond the classroom and into the field of performance art. She appointed me as the assistant director for the school’s production of ‘A Midsummer Night’s Dream’ which opened and closed last week and was a beautiful success. She took the time to approach the Principal of the school to keep me at the school post professional experience in a paid position so that I could follow through with the production. She did this so that I could have the opportunity to experience one of the many challenges a Drama teacher would face if employed at a school, as they are usually the ones who run the school’s performance events; an expectation beyond their teaching load.

This I feel is a golden opportunity for me so early in my career and I’m so happy and thankful to be given the opportunity to continue with the students and who flourished, shone and zip, zap, zipped on the final night.

Aine modelled quality teaching practices through her strong commitment and knowledge of the subject. Students responded well to her and she would incorporate the use of student-centered group work, explicit teaching and maintained high expectations of her students when practising quality teaching methods.

I feel I’ve also made a friend and mentor out of Ms. De Poar and what a treat to have been paired up with her for 9 weeks and beyond!

Nominated by Samantha Hallal - Teacher Don Szallasi

Don was an excellent supervising teacher who provided me with extremely detailed written and verbal feedback on a daily basis. He allowed me to concentrate on improving my classroom management skills by teaching me a few techniques he uses, like positive reinforcement. Don always gave me a target to aim for, so that there was something specific I could work towards. For instance, he suggested that I aim to make at least five positive comments to students in one lesson to start off with. Don was also extremely helpful in guiding me towards useful resources and made my professional experience a very rewarding one. He deserves to be commended for being an outstanding supervising teacher.
Who are our School Leaders?

Isabelle White – Prefect

Biggest fear. Losing expensive stuff
Hobbies and interest. Film writing, photography, drama
Describe yourself in three words? Ambitious, creative, unathletic
Ideal holiday destination? Tokyo or Canada
Favourite movie/TV show? Game of Thrones
Favourite sporting team? East High Wildcats
Future goals? To be successful in whatever career field I enter.
Favourite memory so far at SSHS? Year 11 Camp and World Challenge
Inspirational leader? George Lucas
Inspirational quote? “Moonlight drowns out all but the brightest stars” – J.R.R Tolkien

Jacqueline Loh – Prefect

Biggest fear. Cockroaches
Hobbies and interest. Writing and reading
Describe yourself in three words? Awkward, kind, optimistic
Ideal holiday destination? Tokyo, Japan
Favourite movie/TV show? The Imitation Game
Favourite sporting team? N/A
Future goals? Finish high school and enter university
Favourite memory so far at SSHS? Year 11 school camp
Inspirational leader? Amandla Stenberg
Inspirational quote? “You have to be odd to be number one”
Johnson Walker - Year 12
Prefect

Biggest fear. Spiders and snakes
Hobbies and interest. Going out with my friends,
   Gym with my dad.
Describe yourself in three words? Young, funny, chilled
Ideal holiday destination? Italy
Favourite movie/TV show? Teen Wolf
Favourite sporting team? All Blacks
Future goals? Go to University and get a Business degree
Favourite memory so far at SSHS? Year 11 camp
Inspirational leader? Connor McGregor
Inspirational quote? “Hard work beats talent, when talent stops working hard”

Josiah Walker - Year 12
Prefect

Biggest fear. Being unable to fulfil my goals
Hobbies and interest. Going out with my friends,
   sport and music
Describe yourself in three words? Fun, approachable,
   (could only come up with two)
Ideal holiday destination? New York
Favourite movie/TV show? Spirit
Favourite sporting team? All Blacks
Future goals? Travel and study overseas
Favourite memory so far at SSHS? Year 11 camp
Inspirational leader? Connor McGregor
Inspirational quote? “I am obsessed”
Screenwriting Competition

Year 11 student Ira Friedberg takes second place in SBS screenwriting competition. Ira signed up for 'Job Jump' to receive alerts about career paths in which he is interested. Two days prior to the closing date for the competition, Ira received a link to the SBS competition page and he got straight to work. After a day of planning, Ira frantically started typing from the early hours of the morning until even earlier the next day. Just a couple of hours before the deadline, he submitted the script. Just a few weeks later he received a call from SBS informing him that he'd won second place - $250 and a DVD of the Family Law signed by the creator. The competition was run in conjunction with The Family Law drama and was judged by a panel at SBS and Benjamin Law.

Well done Ira.

Happy Easter

Happy Easter to all our students and their families.

Just a reminder that the School will not be open from Friday 25 March to Monday 28 March.

School resumes on Tuesday 29 March.
Regional Swimming Carnival – Sydney Olympic Park Aquatic Centre

Congratulations to the 16 students from South Sydney High School who qualified for the regional swimming carnival held this week in the top class facility that is Sydney Olympic Park.

Students gathered from early morning at 7am to be there for the event and spent the day cheering on their team mates and swimming each of their respective events. The group were supervised by Mr Tipple on the day and several parents attended to support the school and students.

The group were great ambassadors for South Sydney High School and showed great sportsmanship and courage racing against some stiff competition. A number of records were broken on the day demonstrating the high level of competition at the event.

Students who participated include –

1. Haley Wells
2. Declan Parkee
3. Liam Parkee
4. Andrew Klimentev
5. Robert Spencer
6. Simon Mravec
7. Sandie Makowski
8. Liam Mungovan
9. Brendan Wardrop
10. Easton Churchill
11. Jake Aguilar
12. Tim Bohnert
13. Jessica Hausman
14. Shira Arakawa
15. Baylei McGuigan
16. Samuel Vaja
WANTED!

performers artists musicians

to participate in Culturefest

Saturday 9 April - midday to 4pm
Coogee Beach

If you are a creative young person (14 to 24 years of age) who lives or studies in Randwick city and want to perform or present in your local area, then we want to hear from you!

Culturefest is our way of showcasing the diverse talent and creativity that youth in Randwick City have to offer. Culturefest is about inclusion and respect for diversity and we are looking for performances and activities to promote these values.

Complete the following and return this form to: tania.krasinski@randwick.nsw.gov.au by Friday 24 March. You will be contacted the following week to discuss your involvement.

Tell us who you are, what you do and what you may need to do it. Also a video link would help . . .

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<th>Contact name:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Contact number:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Email:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Name of performance or band:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Description:</td>
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<td>Description of proposed activity(ies) / involvement:</td>
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<td>No of people involved:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Liability Insurance?: yes / no (pls indicate if applicable)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Suburb of residence or school / college / university:</td>
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<td>List resources required:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Link / share of film clip of your performance / activity:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Where did you hear about this?</td>
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<td>Other (pls indicate):</td>
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For more information or assistance with this expression of interest, contact Tania on 0419 846 910.
Ms Robyn Matthews  
Principal  
South Sydney High School  
O'Sullivan Avenue  
Maroubra NSW 2035

Dear Ms Matthews,

Community Workshop to design our new Pagewood Youth Plaza & skate park  
Thursday 31 March 2016 - Hillsdale Community Centre 6pm

On Thursday 31 March 2016 the City of Botany Bay will launch the Pagewood Plaza Youth & Community Space concept for Mutch Park, Pagewood, at 6.00pm in the Hillsdale Community Centre, 236 Bunnerong Road, Hillsdale.

My elected colleagues and I take a lot of pride in engaging with the youth in our community and this is one such measure.

Stage one of the proposal is an outdoor skate park and council invites your school community - parents, students and teachers - to come along and have their say. This is an exciting new initiative for our local youth and active adults. The more people involved the better the project’s outcomes.

The workshop will be run by Enlocus Landscape Architects on Council’s behalf. I attach a flyer that discusses the occasion.

So we are prepared on the night I would encourage you to register your interest in joining us by phoning Christine or Linda on 93663666.

I look forward to meeting your parents and students on the night.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

STAN KONDILIOS  
DEPUTY MAYOR
YOUR BOTANY COUNCIL INITIATIVE

PAGEWOOD SKATE PLAZA

DESIGN WORKSHOP

6PM THURSDAY MARCH 31 2016

Hillsdale Community Centre
236 Bunnerong Road, Hillsdale

A NEW SKATE PLAZA FOR THE CITY OF BOTANY BAY. GET INVOLVED WITH THE DESIGN & HAVE YOUR SAY!

YOUR COUNCILLORS

Ben Keneally
Mayor
P 02 9366 3600

Stan Kordilos
Deputy Mayor
P 02 9366 3600

George Glnatsis
P 041631930

Brian Troy
P 041631931

Christina Curry
P 0417 242 066

Greg Mitchell
P 0416 131962

Mark Castle
P 02 9366 7669

Please call Christine or Linda on 9366 3666 for enquires and to register your attendance at the workshop.

City of Botany Bay
Dr Annemaree Bickerton (Child, Adolescent and Family Psychiatrist) and Toni Garretty (Clinical Coordinator)

*Family and Carer Mental Health Program, Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District presents:*

>An intervention for families, foster families, friends and unpaid carers

*“Staying Connected When Emotions Run High”*

This **FREE** workshop will be extremely relevant if you support someone who experiences any of the following:

- Has relationship difficulties
- Demonstrates changing emotions and strong overwhelming feelings
- Displays impulsive and destructive behaviour e.g. cutting

**Date & Time:**
Tuesday 22 March 2016  
9:15 registration  
9:30am – 3:30pm

**Venue**
Randwick Town Hall  
(full venue details will be provided on registration)

*Venue, morning tea and lunch is proudly sponsored by: Carers NSW and Randwick Council*

**RSVP essential to:**

Please contact the Mental Health Respite: Carer Support program via email mhrcs@carersnsw.org.au to RSVP or phone the Carers NSW Carer Line on 1800 242 636.
Year 10 Subject Selection & Information Evenings -
REGISTRATIONS NOW OPEN

Year 10 nights now open for registration

Three dates available in May - register via whatson.unsw.edu.au
Dear Students,

We’d like to let you know that the 2016 Year 10 Subject Selection & Information Evenings are now open for registration.

These evenings are the best place to start for students who are thinking about starting university in 2019. The evening will cover a number of relevant topics including subject selection, bonus points, what the difference is between assumed knowledge and prerequisites and how the uni admission and scholarships application process works.

As these events are always extremely popular, we encourage you to share the link with your students so they can register as soon as possible. You are also welcome to register and attend as an educator.

Students can visit What’s On to select a date and register, or you can share this short link with them directly - bit.ly/2016UNSWYear10

Visit registration page

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**Year 10 Evenings.**

**MAY 05**

Yr 10 Subject Selection & Info Evening
6.15pm - 7.30pm
John Niland Scientia Building, UNSW Kensington Campus

Register

**MAY 10**

Yr 10 Subject Selection & Info Evening
6.15pm - 7.30pm
John Niland Scientia Building, UNSW Kensington Campus

Register

**MAY 18**

Yr 10 Subject Selection & Info Evening
6.15pm - 7.30pm
John Niland Scientia Building, UNSW Kensington Campus

Register
Foster Care Information Session
IMMEDIATE PLACEMENT PROGRAM

This program is designed to reduce trauma and provide a sense of home and security for children and young people living in an otherwise uncertain world.

IF THIS SOUNDS LIKE YOU, COME LEARN ABOUT THIS EXCITING NEW FOSTER CARE PROGRAM LAUNCHING IN YOUR LOCAL AREA THIS MARCH!

WINDSOR, MAROUBRA, MITTAGONG & BLACKTOWN

14 MAR Windsor RSL Club, 6pm
15 MAR Juniors @ the Junction Maroubra, 6pm
21 MAR Mittagong RSL Club, 6pm
23 MAR Blacktown RSL Club, 6pm

RSVP to Rachel Preston on 02 4621 8500 or Rachel.Preston@challengecommunity.org.au
Nationally consistent collection of data on school students with disability – 2016

Our school is participating in the collection of nationally consistent data on school students with disability. We will be collecting information already available in the school about the support that is being provided to students with disability. Better data will help the Government plan for students with disability. The data collection will have no direct impact on your child and they will not be involved in any testing process.

The NSW Department of Education will provide data to the Australian Government from all NSW public schools in such a way that no individual student or school will be able to be identified. In this way, we will ensure the privacy and confidentiality of all students.

All information is protected by privacy laws which regulate the collection, storage and disclosure of personal information. Information about the Australian Government’s Privacy Policy can be found here: http://education.gov.au/condensed-privacy-policy. Information about the NSW Government’s privacy policies can be found here: http://www.ipc.nsw.gov.au/

If you do not want your child to be counted in the data collection you must complete the attached form and return it to the school before the end of Term 2, 2016.

A decision to exclude your child will not affect the support they currently receive. Further information about the data collection can be found on the Australian Government Department of Education website: http://education.gov.au/nationally-consistent-collection-data-school-students-disability

If you have any questions about your child being included in the data collection please contact Mr Brendan Benischke at the school on 93493868.

Kind regards

Ms Robyn Matthews
Principal

If you do not want your child to be counted in the data collection, please complete below and return it to the school before the end of Term 2, 2016.

-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
Nationally Consistent Collection of Data on School Students with Disability – 2016
I/we ____________________________________________________
Name of parent/carer
do not wish my child ______________________________________ to be counted
Name of child

for the purposes of the collection of nationally consistent data on school students with disability.

Parent/Carer signature: ____________________________ date: __________