From the Principal... Janette Scott

Thanks to all parents who dropped in on Sports Day on Monday 21 March. Our school ovals were a sea of blue, green and red because the students and staff really got behind their new houses. I was very impressed with the efforts made by all students, who participated in the athletics and novelty events or were assistants on the day. There are some photographs in this newsletter, which have captured some of the students’ competitive spirit, their energy, the colour and fun of the day.

Each year on Harmony Day, our school takes time to reflect on how we work together as a community, and how we build strong connections and respect for each other. Congratulations to Mrs Surman and her Dance students who performed recently at both the Harmony Day and Sports Day Celebration assemblies. The students excelled as well as entertained the whole school at both events.

Thanks to all staff and student who help to make these days special for our school. Our next whole school assembly is on the 15 April and will commemorate ANZAC Day, which occurs in the school holidays.

My sincere thanks to staff and the Year 11 Peer Support students who made sure that the Year 8 Camp at Victor Harbor was so successful in supporting the Year 8s’ transition to high school.

Our 2015 Annual Report has just been uploaded to the school’s website. Please have a look and see what a successful year it was for our students.

Term 1 reports will be available for parents and care-givers to pick up from the library, from 3.15pm Wednesday 13 April. Care Group and subject teachers will be in the library to talk about your son or daughter’s report until 6pm. I hope to see you there.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the dedication and wonderful contribution that Bob Seedsman has made to PHHS

Parent Teacher Interviews

Wednesday 13 April at 3.15pm—6.30pm
2.00pm DISMISSAL
Friday 15 April

FAREWELL ROBERT SEEDSMAN

Thank you Bob or 29 years of service to Para Hills High School.
Best wishes for a healthy and happy retirement
LUKA LESSON SLAM POETRY PERFORMANCE

Our Year 9 and 10 students were extremely fortunate to attend a performance by Luka Haralampou, aka Luka Lesson on March 1st. Luka is a spoken word poet and Hip Hop artist with two years international touring, 11 Writer’s Festivals, 7 years of workshop experiences and 10 years of writing. He has performed in many places including China, South Africa and New York.

He was the Australian Poetry Slam champion of 2011 and the Melbourne Overload Poetry Festival slam champion of 2011. His performance for our students was truly inspiring. The students thoroughly enjoyed it and clapped, clicked their fingers, asked questions and called out answers to Luka’s questions. Their behaviour during the performance was exemplary.

Every student I spoke to afterwards, was enthusiastic and positive about the performance. Comments from students included:

“Best poetry I’ve ever seen or heard” Jaime Year 9
“It was unique and awesome and I learnt” Matthew Year 9
“More of it, please!” Conor Year 9
“It was fun to watch and I learnt a lot” Hayley Year 9
“Amazing, showed me a part of poetry I didn’t know about” Enass Year 10
“It was inspiring and he made me like poetry more than before” Tewi Year 10
“I saw a part of poetry that I never knew existed and he could inspire anyone wanting to write poetry” Corey Year 10
“Inspirational!” Courtney Year 10.

Jenny Fantinel
English/ Humanities Coordinator

YEAR 9 CAMP AT MYLOR

Year 9 Camp is happening! At MYLOR ADVENTURE CAMP! The year 9’s will be taking part in a variety of adventure based challenges in Term 3, Week 3, Mon-Wed. Thank you to all those students and their families for paying the deposit. If you haven't already paid, please pay anytime at the front office. More information to come next term. If you have any questions, please feel free to phone Filomena Mercurio or myself.

Thank you.

Melissa Rossi
Year 9 Manager

www.facebook.com/para.hills.high.school
TRAFFIC LIGHT MONITORING SYSTEM

Continuous monitoring of student performance allows teachers to improve the support that is offered to those who are underperforming as well as providing feedback and assurance to those who are ‘on track’.

This year we have implemented a ‘Traffic Light’ Student Monitoring process where teachers of Years 10-12, make judgement calls on how students are performing in their subject. This review process will occur in Week 5 of every term and complements the end of term formal report process.

For each subject studied students will be allocated a Traffic Light colour:

- **Green:** The student is performing well in the subject.
- **Amber:** The teacher has some concerns and will keep monitoring.
- **Red:** The student is not performing to expectations and intervention is required.

Any student who has 2 or more ‘Red’ subjects will have a meeting with their Year Level Manager and Assistant Principal to discuss progress and to develop an Action Plan to support student achievement.

Progress letters have been distributed in Caregroup and meetings with students have begun. If you haven’t received the progress letter or would like to discuss it further please contact your child’s Caregroup teacher on 8285466.

Gillian Higgs  
Maths & SACE coordinator

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MATERIALS & SERVICES CHARGES & SCHOOLCARD

Reminder to all families that Materials and Services charges must be finalised by the end of term 1, 2016. Payments can be made by cash, EFTPOS, BIZGATE CENTREPAY and cheques (made payable to Para Hills High School). Payments can also be paid over the phone by VISA.

Families must enter into an agreement to pay fees before the end of term 1. Please contact the finance officer to negotiate payment.

If no agreement is entered into, all outstanding monies will be referred to DECD DEBT Collection Agency to take appropriate action to collect all monies owed to the school.

School Card Applications MUST be applied for every year. We are here to help. Contact us if you have any questions.

Heather Long (School Admin Officer)  
Andrea Nemeth (Finance Officer)

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ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

In Week 8 of this term, the Year 11 Design class and Year 10 Art class were very lucky to participate in workshop sessions with Adelaide-based Illustrator, Writer and Designer, Doris Chang.

The sessions allowed students to explore techniques in hand lettering using ink and illustration using watercolour. The focus was not on the result, but the process, which enabled students to be creative with their ideas and generate some pieces beyond their own expectations.

Doris was a great example to students of how to be successful in the Art/Design market in Adelaide, sharing with students her range of greeting cards, printed artworks and other products she has created under the label Little Sister Co.

Rachel Hall and Laura White  
Art / Design Teachers
On Monday of Week 8 we held our first House based Sports Day with our brand new houses the Nakudla Sharks, Tarnta Kangaroos and the Wirlu Eagles. Students embraced the house system and dressed in a variety of creative red, blue and green outfits to support their House. The weather was perfect and it was great to see some parents come along as well. Congratulations to the following age group winners:

Year 8: Brandon Marx and Janielah Rosell  
Year 9: Aiden Luke & Andrea Oluic  
Year 10: Espoir Mbanguka & Shyanne Giammona  
Year 11: Mitchell Jarrad & Nicole Madronio  
Year 12: Kasim Al Fenjan & Crystal Giammona  

Congratulations to all members of the Nakudla Sharks for winning both the Athletics Shield and the Overall Sports Day Championship shield.

A fantastic effort by all students.
Over the first few weeks of term one the Unit has been transformed into a menagerie of colourful, unusual and marvellous animals.

They have been steadily popping up on all the windows around the unit. There are dinosaurs, prehistoric animals, colourful bird life and marine species.

Thanks to the creativity of our art teacher, Petra Dolezova-Troyn, students’ imaginations have been brought to life. They have demonstrated their creative skills in numerous ways, culminating with the spectacular art work that now adorns the windows of the classrooms in the special unit.

Sue Spears
Unit SSO

WHAT HAS HAPPENED IN THE SPECIAL EDUCATION UNIT?

A few new, exciting changes have been occurring in Music this year. The first change is the implementation of a new VET Certificate II in Music in Years 10 and 11. This will mean that after a full year of Music, students will walk away with a Vocational qualification and 30 Stage 1 SACE units (3 semesters’ worth of Stage 1 Music).

In addition to that, there are two new extra-curricula Ensembles starting: The African Drum Ensemble and The Ukulele Ensemble. The African Drum Ensemble’s first performance was at the Harmony Day Assembly and is expanding to allow more students to join. This ensemble rehearses at Lunchtimes on Wednesdays. They will also work with several West African Drummers to learn authentic rhythms later in the year. The Ukulele Ensemble will start later this term and rehearsals will be at Lunchtimes on Fridays. Ukulele Ensembles are all the rage in the USA and UK, allowing students to learn to play rhythm and lead ukulele while developing their vocal/singing skills.

If you would like to know more about the Music programs at Para Hills High School, please contact Daniel Roberts.

Daniel Roberts
Arts and School Promotions Coordinator
Music Teacher
**Vision Issue 2 2016**

**MONTY PRIOR VISITS YEAR 8 STUDENTS**

On Wednesday 23rd March Monty Prior performed for the Year 8 students and also the Year 7 students from Para West Primary School.

Monty Prior is a multi-talented performer who enthrals students with his many humorous stories. He is also an accomplished didgeridoo player who has performed with the Brisbane Symphony Orchestra, and for the Pope and Michael Jackson. Our students were treated to a display of his exceptional talent.


Overall our students thoroughly enjoyed Monty Prior’s performance.

Some comments from our Year 8 students:

“*It was some of the best story telling I’ve heard so far as it was great humour and very enjoyable*” Cayla

“*He’s a great person who has achieved lots in his life, and has a great sense of humour*” Jaxon

“*His stories were inspirational and funny*” Tyson

“*He was really funny and a good role model to look up to: exciting to watch*” Skye

“*I loved the way that he told stories*” Bryce

*Jennifer Fantinel*
*English/ Humanities Coordinator*

**WHERE ARE THEY NOW?**

**Eric Dennis** graduated from Para Hills High School at the end of 2013. As part of his SACE, Eric completed a School Based Apprenticeship in Carpentry and Joinery with Tonkin Shutz Design Build.

At the end of year 12 Eric had a tough decision to make; either study at University or take a chance on himself and start his own construction company. Eric chose the latter and started Top Dekk Constructions. The appeal of being his own boss and determining his own hours was too attractive.

Since starting his business, Eric has been working on home renovation projects and has designed and is currently building a house from the foundations up. He is also completing the Certificate IV in Construction. Once completed, he will have his Building Licence and be able to employ his own apprentices. Eric has recently shared his passion for construction, mentoring current Para Hills High School VET Certificate III Carpentry students while on placement with his company.

Check out his website [www.topdekk.com.au](http://www.topdekk.com.au) if you’re looking for a builder in the future!

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**Para Hills High School**

Community Corner

Research Advertisement
You are invited to participate in the research project entitled:

Adolescent Sleep, Daytime Functioning and Cognitive Performance

Who can participate?
To participate you must be between 13-24 years of age.

What happens during the study?
Participation in this study will involve completing questionnaires (e.g., around general health, perception of sleep and levels of daytime functioning) and computerised memory and attention activities (e.g., recalling a series of numbers) at the Flinders University Sleep Laboratory. Participants will also be asked to complete a 7-day sleep diary and wear a wrist actigraphy device (e.g., similar to a fitbit, to measure sleep and activity during the day) for a period of one week.

How long will it take?
The sleep diary and actigraphy recording will be completed by participants (e.g. in their own home) over one week and will take up to 20 minutes in total. The questionnaires and memory and attention activities will be conducted in the Sleep Laboratory and take up to 60 minutes to complete. Participation will take 90 minutes in total. Participants will be offered a $25 gift card for any inconvenience and expense.

How can I express my interest in participating?
Cele Richardson (PhD Candidate)
Phone: 8201 5122
Email: cele.richardson@flinders.edu.au

This study is conducted by Flinders University and is not a DECD/School project.

REMINDER TO FAMILIES
Please advise school of any change in personal information, in particular mobile phone contact and email address. These are the school’s main communication methods with families.