



Para Hills High School Newsletter

From the Principal... Janette Scott



What a busy month we have had! Here are just some of the major events that our staff and students have been involved in over the last few weeks.

Term 1 Snapshot reports were issued in week 5 and students discussed them with their Care Group Teachers and parents to work out what improvements they need to make before the end of this term.

Sports Day preparation and pre-activities, such as the 1500m runs, tug of war heats and high jump competitions were held during weeks 5 and 6. The day itself Tuesday 6 March, was fantastic thanks to Aaron Struck, Mel Rossi, Mike Tanner, Arden Herr, Novi Palmer, other staff, students and all parents, who dropped in. Our school ovals were a sea of blue, green and red because the students and staff really got behind their houses. It was great to see the effort put in by all students, who participated in the athletics and novelty events or were assistants on the day. It was also terrific to see how much students from Madison Park and Para Hills West Primary Schools enjoyed being part of our Sports Day.

Thanks also to Jodi Hastings for her hard work and to the host families and buddies, who have been looking after our 11 Japanese students from Matsumoto Agatagaoke High School. Matsumoto is a beautiful city near snow covered mountains, north west of Tokyo.

Sincere thanks to Leonie Roberts, Ryan McGlade, other staff and the Year 11 Peer Support students, who made sure that the Year 8 Camp at Victor Harbor was so successful.



Sports Day 2018

More about the year 8 camp in the next newsletter.

On Monday 19 March, we celebrated Harmony Day. Each year, 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. Thanks to Mrs Surman who, with help from many staff and community-based people, developed a half day of cultural workshops for all Year 8-11 students to participate in. Also thanks to Mrs Stewart's Year 11 Catering students. More about Harmony Day in the next newsletter.

Our 2017 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. We are holding our AGM at 7pm on 21 March to elect our 2017 Governing Council.

Finally, Term 1 reports will be available for parents and care-givers to pick up from the library, from 3.15pm Wednesday 11 April. Care Group and subject teachers will be in the library to talk about your son or daughter's report until 6pm.

DIARY

Gov. Council AGM	21/03/18
Good Friday.....	30/03/18
Easter Monday.....	02/04/18
Report Collection.....	11/04/18
Term 1 Ends 2.00pm... ..	14/04/18

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**Report Collection
&
Parent Teacher Interviews
Wednesday April 11
3.15 pm in the Library**

**PHHS GOVERNING COUNCIL
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Wednesday 21 March 2018
7pm in the Staffroom
ALL WELCOME**

STEVEN HERRICK 'POETRY TO THE RESCUE' YEAR 8 ENGLISH PERFORMANCE

Our Year 8 students were extremely fortunate to attend a performance by Steven Herrick on 28th February.

Steven Herrick is a renowned and respected poet and author for young people. He has written 22 books and won numerous awards, including the NSW Premier's literary Award. He is widely recognised as the pioneer of verse- novels for young people. Indeed, one Year 8 English class has been studying one of his verse novels, *The Spangled Drongo*, this term.



His performance enraptured our students. They were thoroughly engaged and captivated by his performance, which was humorous and energetic. Steven involved the audience and showed them many techniques to help them write, especially poetry.



Students were asked to write a comment on Steven's performance and these included:

"I enjoyed his rap and how he made poems using kid's names. I enjoyed everything he did, except the part when he had to go." Christina

"I didn't really like it when Steven Herrick left, because I really wanted to hear more of his funny poems. I wished it went longer." Bella

"I really enjoyed Steven's stories about growing up and his poetry on the spot with names. Steven told fantastic raps that he made up himself." Fabiano

"Steven Herrick's performance was fun and very funny. I enjoyed every minute of it. My favourite bit was when he told us a poem about ten things parents and teachers would never say, which was very funny. It was awesome." Brianna

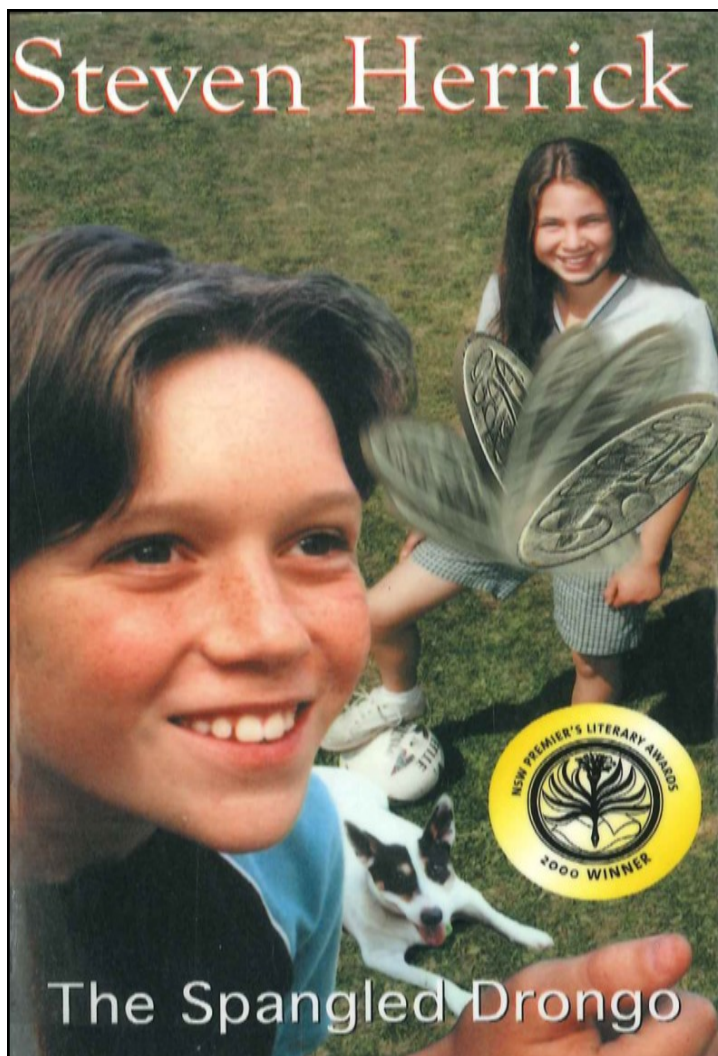
"I really enjoyed how Steven presented what he was talking about and how he used his voice. I enjoyed how he did his rap at the end. I enjoyed how he did poetry on the spot with names." Ashton

"Steven Herrick shared his books, poems and even did a rap for us. I really enjoyed everything Steven did because he was very funny and interesting to listen to. Steven Herrick is awesome!!" Emily

Jenny Fantinel
English/ Humanities Coordinator

SUMMER

On Sunday
Goose came over
and we played shots in the backyard.
Goose had five shots
and scored every time.
No matter how much I dived
I could never get near his
powerhouse drives.
Once, just before he kicked
I thought of yelling "hey Herman"
but I wouldn't do that
to my friend, would I?
Me and Goose talked about
school and food and
long summer weekends without soccer
which, as you may have guessed,
we're both obsessed with.
We talked about lots of things
but
neither Goose nor me
had enough heart and strength
to mention yesterday's game.
Yesterday wasn't yesterday anymore.
It was last season.
We talked about next season!



'Summer' a poem from his book of poems

JAPANESE STUDENTS VISIT, 11 - 22 MARCH

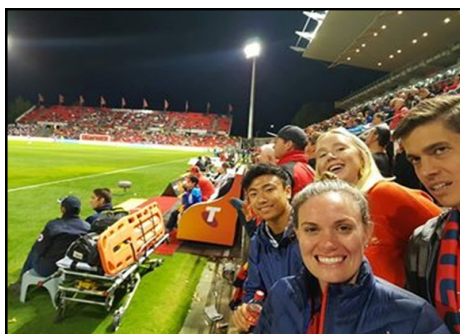
On Sunday, March 11th we welcomed 11 Japanese students from Matsumoto Agatagaoka High School. Since their arrival, these students have participated in many activities, both at school and with their host families. As well regular English lessons with Kay Brindal, the group has been involved in cooking, technology with Derek Fuller, PE with Aaron Struck, Art with Petra Troyn and Dance with Trudy Surman. Thank you to these staff members who offered their time to create fun activities for the students.

On Wednesday, March 14th, the group visited Gorge Wildlife Park, Melba's Chocolate Factory and Hahndorf. They have also had two excursions to the city to see Central Markets and Rundle Mall, and have met with students from Adelaide University. Harmony Day provided another opportunity for the Japanese students to join in. They assisted Amy Nairn and Jodi Hastings with Japanese cultural activities, and made a presentation at the assembly.

We wish Matsumoto Agatagaoka students all the best on their return to Japan on March 22nd. Thank you to the wonderful host families who provided so many amazing experiences for their student. Para Hills High School appreciates the kindness and generosity of those families in our community willing to support our school programs, such as the Japanese visit.

If you would like to host a Japanese student in 2019, please contact the school.

Jodi Hastings
Amy Nairn
Japanese Teachers



MUSIC

This term the Year 9/10 Music class has got off to a great start. Students have selected which instrument they are going to study for the semester or year, with a choice of guitar, bass, drums, keyboards and vocals. They have now formed three smaller rock groups and are building their repertoire while developing life skills such as team work, communication, conflict resolution as well as their instrumental skills.

Vocalists have also dedicated their Friday lunchtimes to form a Choir under the direction of Nicola Beveridge.

Daniel Roberts
Year 10 Year Level Manager
Music/History Teacher



COMMUNITY SERVICE TRAINEESHIPS

Congratulations to 5 of our students who are about to start traineeships in Community Services. Isiah Rigney, Siobhain Wright, Brittany Ward, Badur Afghani and James Sheridan will soon start their school-based traineeship one day a week, based at a community-based organisation. Over the next 12 months students will gain a Certificate III in Community Services, valuable work experience and also get paid for their time on the job.

All students had to complete an application and sit an interview prior to being accepted into the traineeship.

Sally Stewart
Head of Senior School



PARTNERSHIPS WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE

This year we will begin working closely with the University of Adelaide, starting with fortnightly visits to our school to work with our Year 12 students in care group time and private study lessons. The program will see University Ambassadors spending time with students, working on their Research Projects, but also demystifying university and answering any questions our students may have about pathways after school.



Our Year 10 students will also have the opportunity to visit the campus in Term 2 to experience elements of university and explore careers of the future. University of Adelaide Thinklab residence may also be working with our Year 9 students in Term 2.

Some genuine opportunities we are excited to be exploring for our students.

NB: This is in addition to our Senior Science students participating in the University of Adelaide's Academy of Science activities.

Sally Stewart
Head of Senior School

VALANGA KHOZA 'OUT OF AFRICA' PERFORMANCE



Our Year 8 History and all our Year 10 students were extremely fortunate to attend a performance by Valanga Khozaka on March 8th.

Valanga Khoza is an author, musician and speaker. He left South Africa in 1976, exiled with many other young people because of their struggle against apartheid. He has performed at many music events and in many schools across Australia and the Pacific. Valanga has recorded six albums of music and written two children's books, "Gezani and the Tricky Baboon" and "Demazi and the Yellow Lion".

Since moving to Australia in 1976, Valanga has been telling stories and singing songs about his homeland, South Africa.

He spoke about growing up under the apartheid system, which forced him to leave South Africa, and how sharing stories from his homeland through performance and song keeps his culture alive.

Our students were enthralled with his stories, shocked by some of the struggles he endured, and captivated by his music, particularly the "biscuit tin guitar". They laughed, cried and joined in with his singing. At the end of his performance, students asked many questions about Valanga's life and also some very insightful questions about racism.

Students were asked to write a brief comment about the performance and some of these are included below.

The show was extremely enjoyable and had me laughing all the time. Brad

I thought it was one of the best performances I have seen. It was humorous and inspirational about his culture. Elahn

I thought he was very funny and inspirational. I would listen to his stories again and again. It was most enjoyable. Tahlia

He was inspiring and was very real and truthful with his words. Valanga gave great advice and was very motivating. Jacqueline

Jenny Fantinel
English/ Humanities Coordinator



SPORTS DAY 2018



SPORTS DAY 2018



Community Corner

FEMALE FOOTBALL FOR ALL AGES

FEMALE
FOOTY
@ MFC

@ MODBURY OVAL
Hazel Grove, Ridgehaven

MODBURY
HAWKS
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NEW
PLAYERS
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FRIEND



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Saver Plus is an initiative of the Brotherhood of St Laurence and ANZ, delivered in partnership with Berry Street, The Benevolent Society and The Smith Family and other local community agencies. The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government Department of Social Services. Go to www.saverplus.org.au for more information.



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