



Para Hills High School Newsletter

From the Principal



Term 1 is almost finished and I think we can all agree it almost went in a flash. One term in for me, a few of the things that define the identity of the school have become apparent and I would like to share these with you.

I am impressed by the strength of our spirit and the way the school rallies as a community. We take pride in the way we support each other – students, staff and families together - through both good and bad times.

Earlier this term we mourned the passing of Alex, one of our year 12 students. His legacy is embodied in the positive impact he had on everyone he came in contact with. The strength of the extremely supportive relationships between our students and staff really came to the fore at this difficult time and this reinforced what a great community spirit our school really has and how much we care for the individuals within our school. We will remember Alex and honour his positivity, his wit and charm. His legacy will be enduring. To help sustain it, however, the ongoing duty of our staff, students and parents, as we go through the years, will be to focus on having a positive impact through everything we do. It will require hard work and determination, relentlessly striving to be the best we can be.

My challenge to the whole school community is to 'be the change you want to see in the world'. We need to be actively pursuing opportunities and take the lead in our own learning journey always helping each other along the way. We all need to embrace the expectation that we will receive support when we need it, but also the responsibility for bettering ourselves.

We live in an ever-changing world, where advances in artificial intelligence and digital



Alex's mother, Danielle, joined us for the World's Greatest Shave.

technologies are changing the landscape of work and education. Our children learn in different ways and master skills that less than 15 years ago were not required. In this new, connected world the children of today have access to content and information like never before in history. This access is instant, but it takes a different level of skill to filter through information and decide what's real and what's not. Our students will increasingly need to master the critical and creative thinking space, and the art of 'knowing what to do when you don't know what to do'.

Over the coming year we, the staff, will be focusing on sharpening the way we adapt our teaching to support the students' making accelerated progress in these areas. We ask that you support us by asking your child about their learning, minimising absence from school and talking to teachers about ways in which you can support the progress of your child at home. There is a great opportunity to start the conversation about this in our upcoming parent-teacher interview on Wednesday.

I wish you all a great holiday at the end of this week while and look forward to starting with renewed strength in Term 2.

DIARY

Parent Interviews and Report

Collection.....10/04/19

Year 12 Aquatics11 & 12/04/19

End of Term 1.....12/04/19

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REMINDERS

**Parent / teacher Interviews &
Report Collection
Wednesday 10/4/19
3:15 to 6:30pm**

**End of Term 1
12/4/19
Early Dismissal 2.00pm
Term 2 begins Monday 29/4/19
at 8.40am**

WORLD'S GREATEST SHAVE

On March 4th, our school community was saddened by the passing of a much loved year 12 student Alex Hockey-Kuyomba. With Alex's mother's knowledge, his friends and schoolmates came together on March 20th to raise funds through The World's Greatest Shave, for the Leukaemia Foundation.

Thanks to many of you who have sponsored 'Team Alex' on the Leukaemia Foundation webpage. You can still do so until the end of May.

There has been an amazing response for an amazing young man with, over \$8,000 raised to date, through 42 brave students, staff and parents shaving their hair. In addition to this, 92 students and staff coloured their hair.

There was a gold coin donation for the casual clothes day and BBQ at lunchtime. Those proceeds are going to the Michael Rice Oncology Unit at the Women's and Children's Hospital where Alex was so well cared for through his illness.

Alex's mother Danielle thanks everyone for their support.

Leonie Roberts
School Counsellor



SPORTS DAY

Sports Day was held on Tuesday of Week 6. It was a day of mixed emotions as students demonstrated their resilience and ability to support each other throughout the day. It was great to see so many active students throughout the day, trying their hardest in a variety of events. We also welcomed approximately 140 students from Maddison Park Primary and Para Hills West Primary to compete in a reduced athletics program. Congratulations to all Year Level winners:

Year 8: Alisina Hamidi & Sima Najafi

Year 9: Samie Alizada & Zainab Rezai

Year 10: Sajjad Ali Hakimi & Emilie Childs

Year 11: Zaky Afzali & Helena Madronio

Year 12: Bailey Spackman & Stephanie Madu

Thanks to all Staff for your help on the day, especially to Simon Roney for the fantastic grounds and help on the day, and to the PE faculty for the early start to set everything up. Thanks also to all student volunteers and to all of the parents and caregivers who came along to support their children on the day.

Lauren Semmens
Sports Coordinator



THE ARTS

Students at Para Hills were fortunate to participate in a Dance and Art workshop hosted by SANAA, a multi-arts festival run as part of the fringe. Ugandan Street Artist, Sparrow entertained students with his break dance and Art skills. It was an entertaining afternoon and students enjoyed working with an international artist, learning how the language of dance and art can be shared across the world.



As part of the Adelaide Festival a group of Music, Drama and Dance students also were given a fantastic opportunity to attend the dress rehearsal of the Komische Opera Berlin's performance of Mozart's opera The MAGIC FLUTE. For many students this was their first time attending such an event and the feedback was nothing but positive.

Trudy Surman
Coordinator Arts and Culture / Dance Teacher

YEAR 8 CAMP

Oh my goodness! What an awesome three days of camp.



The excitement began at Urumbirra Wildlife Park where students petted koalas, wandered through the aviary, fed greedy kangaroos and discovered that the crocodiles in the enclosures were real. After settling in at the Toc H camp facility, year 8 students climbed back onto the bus headed to Encounter Lake. Wetsuits and water activities abounded. After squeezing themselves into their wetsuits, students took the opportunity to develop, practice and discover their skills at kayaking, snorkelling, partner rescue, baton racing, and paddle-

boarding. Emily M and Ramon went head to head-to-head racing for the final baton, cheered on by staff and peers. Back at camp, students enjoyed the spectacular talents of their peers and teachers at the Talent Show, before testing their memory with a Quiz Night – how much do you know about your school?

The first day came to a close with students tucked quietly into their beds by 11:15pm (a camp record!) while the teachers enjoyed a rowdy game of ten of cards – until we were sure the young ones were definitely asleep!



The second day opened with an Anti-Bullying Session where year 8s learnt about the effect their words and actions have on others. Students engaged respectfully with the content and enjoyed trying to put toothpaste back into the emptied tube, learning that: *we need to be mindful of how we use our words and actions, as some damage is irreparable.*

Following some free time to hang out, the Circuit Activities began. Students grouped up for a bit of rotating fun in the form of guessing jellybean flavours, volleyball, cricket, tug-o-war, basketball, pin the tail on the donkey, competitive Uno, mindful colouring, memory step, brainteasers and the photo booth. It was great to see everyone enjoying themselves; creating memories to last a lifetime.



After lunch, students hiked down to the beach for some healthy competition. They worked together in teams to be the first to fill up their bucket on shore with water collected in a cup from the ocean. Tired of running back and forth and dodging teachers, students settled into a camp tradition: the Sand Sculpture Competition. Creative minds came to life as groups of students, teachers and peer support leaders moulded the sandy coast according to their imaginations.

The day came to a close with a few games of lawn bowls at the local club, where retirees took the time to mentor our year 8s in aim, precision, prediction and competitive skill. Returning to camp, the Mystery Auction took place with two

“visitors” enticing and selling fun knick-knacks to students for ominous amounts of Toch H dollars.

The final day of camp dawned and the students with it, getting up early to pack their things, tidy up and grab breakfast before one last activity – surfing! Down at Middleton Beach students squeezed back into wetsuits and headed to the beach with their boards to take on the waves. Some paddled, some stood and some even managed to surf a wave. It was a great way to end a great camp experience.



A big thank you to all those who attended the Year 8 Camp and to the Year 11 Peer Support Leaders who organised and ran many fun activities for the year 8s to enjoy.

It's going to be a great year!

Tina Beer
Year 8 Manager



WORK AND LIFE SKILLS

The STAR class have worked extremely hard this term in their topic "work and life skills", to create a fundraising BBQ at our Sports Day. We contacted lots of local shops to see if they would support us with donations. We were very fortunate to get donations from Woolworths, Foodland, Brumby's and Bakers Delight for our stall. We sold lots of food and drinks and managed to raise over \$700!

Our fundraising efforts will help us rebuild/update our court yard. This will include equipment to help support our physical development and emotional regulation for all students, kitchen garden, walking track and new concreted area for students to play ball sports.

Thank you to everyone who bought from our BBQ.

Emma Hall
Unit Teacher



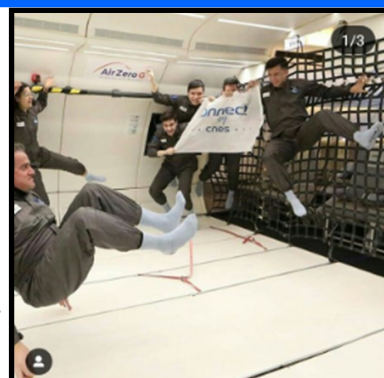
REACHING FOR THE STARS

Last year we shared news that Bez Mohammadi, a 2014 graduate of Para Hills High School had won an international competition. Recently Bez travelled to France to collect one of his prizes; a zero gravity flight. What an amazing and unforgettable opportunity. Well things keep getting better for Bez, just recently he was part of the winning team in a Blockchain Challenge, collecting \$50,000 in prize money. Congratulations Bez.

SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS

It's hard to believe that for our year 12 students they have nearly completed a third of their year's workload. Progress is checked regularly and interventions are starting to be put in place to support all our students to achieve success and their preferred future. Term 1 reports are being prepared for collection after school on Wednesday 10th April.

I encourage parents/caregivers to use this time to meet with your child's subject teachers to further discuss progress.



VOCATIONAL EDUCATION TRAINING PROGRAMS:

Year 10-12 students enrolled in VET courses have settled into their courses for 2019. VET courses contribute to the students SACE completion and provide them with the opportunity to participate in a range of experiences that enable them to make a successful transition from school. Students participating in VET courses have a responsibility to:

- Attend school and training as negotiated, arrive punctually and take only the allocated break times.
- Wear full school uniform and be prepared with any safety clothing as required by the trainer.
- Comply with WH&S relevant to the work and training program.
- Consistently meet all assessment deadlines unless prior negotiation has occurred with the teacher.
- Use study time at school, work and home productively complete VET and school work.
- Notify both the school and trainer by phone of any absence from training.

Sally Stewart
Senior School Leader-Career Development /VET / Senior School

VIVO—DISABILITY UNIT

What is Vivo?

Vivo is a Disability Unit wide behaviour management platform which nurtures and encourages positive behaviour. This is the key to developing confident, enthusiastic and motivated students. We aim to catch students doing the right thing.

How do we use Vivo?

Students and staff worked together to set up reward categories linked to our school values. A sample of what students can achieve points for include

Respect – Helping others 10 points

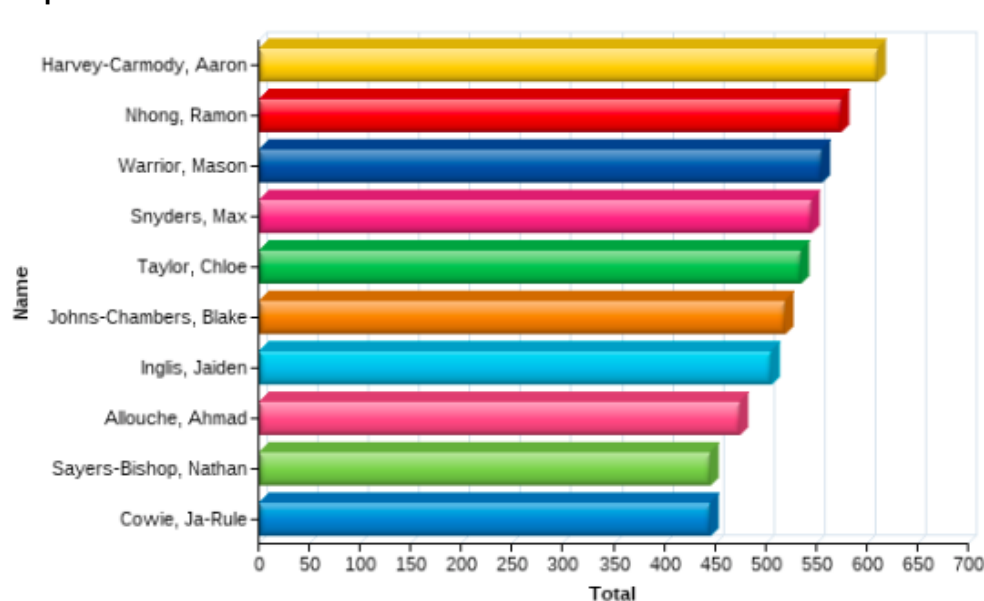
Responsibility – Using my calm down strategies (asking a teacher for help) 15 points

Rigour – Saying yes to new things 20 points

Staff give students Vivo points daily and students can then use their points to purchase items from our shop.

The shop is managed by our STAR Class as part of their work skills curriculum.

The top 10



How can you help?

We are looking for donations of new items for our shop. Popular items include stationery, gifts for mother's day/father's day, lunch boxes and drink bottles.

If you are able to help in anyway, please contact me in the Disability Unit or via email

emma.ramke706@schools.sa.edu.au

Emma Ramke

Senior Leader – Disability Unit

OPEN NIGHT 2019

Tuesday the 19th of March saw the school hold it's annual Open Night, inviting families from our local and the wider community into the school to get a sense of the learning and programs provided. This year saw a shift from a time in early term 2 to late term 1 to capture daylight savings and engage with prospective families earlier in the year.

As is always the case the school was presented via some fantastic presentations and I would like to thank learning area coordinators and their teams for showcasing the best of what our school has to offer. Parents also had the opportunity to meet with our new Principal Ms Alina Page providing them with a sense of our schools direction, and parents were able to ask questions.

Families that were unable to make the evening, or any that would like further information or to see the school in action are invited to book a principals tour which can be made through our front office by ringing 82585466

Aaron Struck

Transition Coordinator

TRINITY COLLEGE INTER-SCHOOL EQUESTRIAN GYMKHANA



Julie-Jayne (Boo) Edwards participated at the Trinity College Interschool Equestrian Gymkhana on Friday 8th March. There was a large turn out this year and Boo did extremely well in her classes coming home with a 3rd and 4th place. She paired up with a year 9 student from Clare High School to participate in the pair of hacks, the final event of the day coming home with another 2nd place ribbon. She attended last year in a lower level class and did not place at all, however this year she rode in the highest level class to achieve 3 ribbons. We were very proud of her and Whiskey.

Para Hills High School received a third place in the Team on Parade for the Iris Stephenson Memorial Trophy. This is a huge feat for Boo and your school as every school represented at the gymkhana takes part in this parade, and the awards usually go to the well attended schools such as Scotch College and Seymour College etc. so for our school to be placed in this line up is a great achievement.

Boo was very pleased and more than a little "nose in the air" since she was a solo student from the school. This shows that her presentation on the day and that of her horse was a high standard.

Iris Stephenson Trophy (Best Secondary School on Parade)

1st place: Faith Lutheran School (Second year in a row)

2nd place: Cornerstone College

3rd place: Para Hills High School

3rd place Scotch College

Jo Edwards
Parent



ENTERTAINMENT BOOK

LAST CHANCE!

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enjoy these
bonus offers

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NOW**



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*\$20 off your total shop when you spend \$220 or more at Woolworths online
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Hurry! Bonus Early Bird Offers. LAST CHANCE!

Your support really helps our School, so we're thrilled to let you know about special bonus Early Bird Entertainment Membership Offers for loyal supporters.

Pre-order the NEW 2019 / 2020 Entertainment Membership and receive bonus offers you can use right away!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Para Hills High School

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