

Cromer Courier

Northern Beaches Secondary College Cromer Campus 120 South Creek Road, Cromer NSW 2099



Telephone: 9981 1155 Fax: 9982 5398 Email: nbsccromer-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

website: www.cromer.nsw.edu.au

Term 4 Issue 1

Friday 10 October 2014

From the Principal

Welcome back to Term 4. I would like to acknowledge the commitment and dedication of our retiring Principal, David Pickering. Over the last four years David has focused on improving student outcomes at Cromer Campus as well as updating our facilities and grounds. We wish him all the best for his retirement.

It is anticipated that I will be in the role of Relieving Principal for Term 4, with the new Principal being appointed for the start of 2015. Mrs Sherille Sullivan is Relieving Deputy Principal for Years 8, 10 and 12 and Ms Michelle Golding, Relieving Head Teacher, Integrated Studies. We can be contacted through the school office on 9981 1155.

During the holidays I have been involved in the LEAP (Leading Educators Around the Planet) and have spent ten inspiring days at Maxwell Heights High School in Toronto, Canada. This is a self-funded program where school leaders have the opportunity to develop a strong understanding of different education systems around the world. Our School Director, Dean White, and College Principal, Neil Worsley, also members of LEAP were in Finland. As part of the program all participants complete action research, the focus of my research was effective professional learning to improve student outcomes. During my time in Canada I had the opportunity to participate in a number of professional learning activities focusing on improving literacy outcomes as well as visiting the Ontario Principals' Council, talking to teachers and school executives and collecting educational resources. My final school visit was at High Tech High in San Diego. High Tech High combines challenging academic curriculum with project-based learning, performance-based assessment, digital portfolios and internships for all students. 99% of students attending the school gain entry to college, where the norm for California is 30%. It was inspiring to hear passionate teachers sharing their knowledge and expertise and students who could clearly articulate their learning. I will be sharing my experiences and resources with the Cromer staff as we start to plan for 2015.

The last term of the year is always very busy, especially with the focus on exams and student reports. The Higher School Certificate commences on Monday 13 October and all exams will be held upstairs in A Block. I wish Year 12 all the best for their final exams. We look forward to the HSC Morning Tea on Thursday 18 December where we will celebrate their successes. Year 7 complete their exams in Week 5, Year 8 and 9 in Week 6 and Year 10 in Week 7. Students will receive their exam timetables two weeks before the start of the exam period. All reports are posted home in the final week of Term 4. Presentation Night is Monday 15 December, 7pm in the school gymnasium. On this evening we will celebrate the success of our students in Years 7 -11.

Over the last five years there has been ongoing consultation with staff, students and the wider school community regarding day structure. Many staff, students and parents have voiced their concerns that 75 minute periods are too long as students struggle to concentrate for a long period of time and teachers only see classes three times a week and would prefer to see them more regularly. The decision has been made to move to six 53 minute periods per day from the start of 2015. Further consultation will occur this term on roll marking, assembly, sport for Years 7 -10 and pastoral care programs.

Our Cromer Courier is emailed to parents each fortnight via subscription but we have good news stories to celebrate each week. From this Friday afternoon we will be emailing a mini newsletter containing a good news story regarding

students and staff at Cromer Campus. Please share these with family and friends so we spread the news regarding all the successful initiatives which are happening at Cromer. If you need to update your email contact details so you receive our mini newsletter, contact the office on 9981 1155.

Mrs Lynda Peters, Relieving Principal

GUIDED SCHOOL TOURS

last Monday of every month

Meet at 9.30am at the school Admin Office

P & C MEETING Tuesday 14 October 7.00 pm in the Staff Common Room

Deputy Principal Years 8, 10, 12

Year 12

The HSC begins on Monday 13 October with English Paper 1 from 10.20am – 12.30pm. The exams are held in A Block and students should arrive 15mins before the scheduled start of each exam. All students can access their individualised timetable on the Students Online website http://studentsonline.bos.nsw.edu.au/ They require their student number and password to access this information. I would encourage your child to print off a copy and place it on the refrigerator so parents are aware of the exam times. Each year we have a number of students who do not read their timetable carefully and arrive late for exams. Students who have studied cross campus courses complete all their exams at Cromer Campus. Students also need to be aware of the equipment requirements for each exam. Students should use a black pen when completing exam papers. If students are unable to attend an exam for any reason the school must be notified as soon as possible. An illness and misadventure provision can be applied for through the Board of Studies. Mrs Peters, Relieving Principal will complete the paperwork and submit to the Board of Studies for approval.

Useful website as year 12 prepare for the HSC

http://www.hsc.csu.edu.au/

NSW HSC online has a section for parents and includes information on getting ready for the examinations, living with an HSC student, application procedures for tertiary



<u>study</u>, <u>results</u> and <u>life after the HSC.</u> There are also tutorials in all subject areas. These tutorials can be used to supplement information given to students in the classroom. Students can work through these tutorials as part of their revision program.

2014 HSC Rules and Procedures guide

The Higher School Certificate Rules and Procedures guide must be read by all students entered for an HSC course. IF YOUR CHILD HAS NOT ALREADY READ THIS, Download a PDF copy: 2014 HSC Rules and Procedures guide (PDF) from www.boardofstudies.com

Students need to understand the following sections:

- 6.4 Examination attendance rules
- 6.5 Equipment for the examinations
- 6.6 Examination room procedures
- 6.7 Conduct during the examinations
- 6.8 Illness/misadventure applications

New HSC Test Yourself App

The Minister for Education, Adrian Piccoli recently released a Higher School Certificate (HSC) Test Yourself App using multiple choice questions from past HSC exams. The App's content comes direct from BOSTES and is based on the most

current HSC syllabus for each course and uses.

It is a mobile app that works on Android phones and tablets, iPhones and iPads so students can access the tests whenever and wherever they want, on the bus or train travelling to and from school, for example.

There is no cost to download the App from either Google Play or Apple's App store and once downloaded students can test themselves with a free set of questions, then decide which subjects they want to download. The download will indicate how many questions are available for that subject and the price for the subject pack. The cost ranges between \$1.99 to \$3.99 a course.

The App contains 2010 - 2013 exam questions from popular HSC courses including: check out the full range of subjects from Students Online.

Once students have completed their final HSC exam they must sign out of school. This involves bringing in all textbooks and library books and seeing all head teachers to sign out of each subject. Once this is complete students will receive their school reference.

Important Dates for Year 12:

Students receive HSC results Wed 17 December
Students receive ATAR Thursday 18 December
HSC Morning Tea 10.10am Thursday 18 December All students welcome

Year 8

Parents should have received in the post a letter regarding their interview time for their Year 8 child. The focus of these interviews in Week 2 is to discuss electives choices for Stage 5 as well as the goals students set for their learning this year. Ideally we would like a parent to attend with their child. If you need to reschedule your interview time, contact Ms Fiona Bird on 9981 1155.

This term Year 8 students will be engaged in project based learning in all subject areas. These projects will be explicit to each subject area and will culminate in a Celebration of Learning during Week 8. Parents will be invited to this event. More details will follow in the next Cromer Courier.

Year 10

Year 10 yearly exams are in Week 7, November 17 – November 21.

A team of students will be involved in Australian Business Week in Week 8. This project is being coordinated by Ms K Lee and Mr Pawley and will be held at Freshwater Senior Campus.

All Year 10 students are expected to attend school till 19 December.

Mrs Sherille Sullivan, Relieving Deputy Principal

P & C NEWS

P&C AGM Change of Date

Due to the P&C Golf Day being held on Tuesday, 11 November 2014, the P&C AGM will now be held the following Tuesday, 18 November at 7pm. Please note that ALL positions will be vacant. If you would like further information, please feel free to contact Mark Henderson, President: mark@mhcarpets.com.au or Nicole Bowyer, Secretary: Nicole.m.bowyer@bigpond.com

P&C 5th Annual Golf Day

Come and support your school by getting a team together for the Cromer Golf Day. A four person, 9 hole, Ambrose format, Tuesday 11 November with kick off at 4pm. A great day had by all. For further information, please email Nicole Bowyer, Secretary on Nicole.m.bowyer@bigpond.com

Deputy Principal Years 7, 9, 11

Large Format Printing At Cromer Campus

Cromer Campus just recently took delivery of a new, very, very large printer. The Hewlett-Packard Designjet Z5400 is a 44-inch (1118-mm) multi-roll ePrinter which can efficiently produce high-quality, long-lasting prints—including posters,



photos, canvases, backlit prints, indoor signs, line drawings, maps, and more.

The use of this printer will add another dimension to the great work our students already do in subjects such as Design & Technology, Visual Arts and Multi-Media. However, it' uses are not limited to these subjects. We will be utilizing the printer for the production of signage and information posters around the school, as well as the production of teaching and learning resources for classrooms.

At a fraction of the cost of having images printed at commercial outlets such as Office Works, this printers brings affordable, quality production to Cromer Campus on a diverse range of printable media.

Year 11 Interviews

Currently we are in the process of interviewing all of our Year 11 students in preparation for the commencement of their HSC Courses. Families of Year 11 students should have received a notification of interview times via mail during the holidays. If you have not received your notification, please contact the school on 9981 1155 to find out when your appointment has been scheduled. Similarly, please contact the school to arrange an alternative time if you are unable to make the scheduled interview.

Can I please encourage you to attend these interviews as they are critical in setting the pattern of study for the HSC and discussing what lays ahead on the road to the HSC. These interviews also provide an opportunity to discuss any issues that might be faced by students and their families during the HSC year and look at what support options we can offer.

Cromer Campus Website

If you have not done so yet, can I please encourage you to take a look at our new school website;

http://www.nbsccromer-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/

An effort is being made to provide you with up-to-date information about the goings on at Cromer Campus, as well as providing information about the school for the wider community to view. News articles on the front page are regularly updated in addition to NSW Department of Education & Communities articles for parents and students. If you are reading a printed copy of this newsletter and would like to receive the electronic version or know someone who would like to get the Cromer Courier via email, please use our online subscription page at; http://www.nbsccromer-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/our-school/newsletter-subscription



1010 - World Mental Health Day

Today is Mental Health Day. Mental illness is something that affects a large percentage of our population these days. Of particular concern to schools and parents is the statistic that one in four kids over the age of 12 has significant depressive symptoms, and those are only the ones we know about. For help, please visit or call some of the organisations below.

Headspace: http://www.headspace.org.au/ 1800 650 890 Lifeline: https://www.lifeline.org.au 13 11 14

Reach Out: http://au.reachout.com/

Kids Help: http://www.kidshelp.com.au/ 1800 55 1800 Suicide Call Back Service: https://www.suicidecallbackservice.org.au/ 1300 659 467

For more information about World Mental Health Day visit https://1010.org.au/ or for more information from the NSW Department of Education & Communities on managing depression in children, please read the article on the Cromer Campus website at http://www.nbsccromer-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/news/central?news=news/managing-depression-in-children

Mr James Laird, Deputy Principal

From the English Department

Year 12 2015 are discovering what it takes.

The new Area of Study for 2015 is Discovery.

Year 12 Standard and Advanced English will be making lots of discoveries over the next four terms. Some discoveries will be sudden and unexpected; others will be carefully planned and deliberate. They will make discoveries that are confronting and provocative and find new worlds and values. They will discover the power of their own imaginations.



There is no doubt that Year 12 will possibly be one of the most difficult periods of your child's life. Not only is this a stressful time for young men and women, parents also tend to ride a roller coaster of emotions throughout this 12 months. While we can't sit their exams for them, there are things we can do to reduce their pressures and help them achieve their best!

Nurture them and support them. Talk to them about the discoveries you have made about yourself, your family and the world. Encourage them to read and write every day and discover at least one new thing every week. You can help by watching *The Life of Pi* if your child is in Standard and watching or reading *The Tempest* if they are in Advanced and talking about the discoveries made. Be an active part of this next journey.

What will you discover over the next twelve months?

Elizabeth de Montfort Head Teacher English

Cromer Photo Album of the China Tour 2014

Twelve happy Cromer Campus students have just returned from an amazing 12 days exploring China over the September holidays. This year our students once again joined Epping Boys and Chatswood High to explore the history and culture of this incredible country. We spent two days in Hong Kong (days before the uprising of The Umbrella Revolution), then onto eight days in Beijing and two in Tianjin. Each city visit has so many highlights, and trying to capture all of them in photos was a challenge. Students have all returned energised with lifelong friendships and a better understanding of the history and exotic culture of this ancient country.







Day Two- Hong Kong Technology Museum , Harbour Visit and SHOPPING!









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Day 3 – Visiting Tiananmen Square and the Forbidden City





Day 4 – The Great Wall





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News from Integrated Studies

Welcome back to all Integrated Studies students and families for our final term in 2014. As usual the year is flying past. We are saying farewell to our three Year 12 students in Jessica Anderson, Joshua Surace and Stewart White. Our current Year 11s have now started their first term of being a Year 12 student. With this in mind it is important these students continue to set a fine example in their behaviour of being positive role models to the younger students.

UNIFORM

I would like to remind all students that we are a uniform school and we will be encouraging all students to adhere to the uniform expectations of the school. The boys' uniform is either grey shorts or grey long pants, jeans or track pants are not acceptable. Students also need to bring their sports clothes to change into for PE lessons. At the end of the lesson they then change back into their regular school uniform. On Wednesdays students are allowed to wear their sports uniform of black shorts and red shirt to school. Hoodies are not part of the school uniform. Footwear is black leather school shoes and white socks. I am happy to report that the majority of our students are always in full uniform and thank parents for supporting us in developing this standard of school pride.

Some of the students in Integrated Studies students have been involved in painting the beautiful mural on the wall in the International Garden. It is really taking shape and looking bright and beautiful. We will further be developing that area with native plants, if you are cleaning out your garden and have any tree ferns, bird's nest ferns or other "soft" looking ferns in particular we would be very grateful to add them in.

In Term 4, Mrs Sullivan will be in the Relieving Deputy Principal role and I will be relieving as Head Teacher Integrated Studies.

Mrs M Golding, Relieving Head Teacher Integrated Studies



Cromer Calendar

TERM 4

Week 2B

Monday 13 October

Monday 13 & Tuesday 14 October

Tuesday 14 October

Wednesday 15 to Friday 17 October

Friday 17 October

Saturday 18 to Monday 20 October

HSC COMMENCES

Year 11 Interviews - F Bird I/C

P & C Meeting 7pm

Year 8 Interviews – L Peters I/C Student Leadership Conference

Year 7 Swim Program – J Hanna I/C

Bronze Duke of Ed qualifying hike at Somerset

Week 3A

Monday 20 October

Saturday 25 to Monday 27 October

Sapporo Kaisei High School visit – L Peters I/C Bronze Duke of Ed qualifying hike at Somerset

Week 4B

Monday 27 to Wednesday 29 October

Friday 31 October

Year 9 Leadership Camp – J Laird I/C

Year 7 Swim Program – J Hanna I/C

Week 5A

Monday 3 to Friday 7 November

Friday 7 to Monday 9 November

Year 7 exams

Silver Duke of Ed qualifying Pack & Paddle at Somerset

Week 6B

Monday 10 to Friday 14 November

Year 8 and Year 9 exams

Year 8 ESSA Library Stocktake

Tuesday 11 November Friday 14 November From Friday 14 November P & C Golf Day 4pm Cromer Golf Course Year 7 Swim Program – J Hanna I/C

Naha Nishi High School Visit – L Peters I/C

Week 7A

Monday 17 to Friday 21 November

Year 10 exams Library Stocktake

Monday 17 to Wednesday 19 November

Tuesday 18 November

Thursday 20 November

Naha Nishi High School Visit continued – L Peters I/C

Year 11 Road Safety Day

P & C AGM 7pm

Premier's Sporting Challenge Phase 1

Week 8B

Monday 24 & Tuesday 25 November

Thursday 27 November

Performing Arts Immersion Day – F Bird I/C

Celebration of Learning Matinee – Primary Schools and Parent Evening

F Bird I/C

Thursday 27 & Friday 28 November

Friday 28 November

Schools Spectacular

Year 7 Swim Program – J Hanna I/C

Week 9A

Tuesday 2, Thursday 4 & Friday 5 December

Tuesday 2 December Wednesday 3 December Friday 5 to Monday 8 December P & C Christmas Party Year 7 2015 Orientation Day

Gold Duke of Ed Qualifying Hike at Kosciuszko National Park

Lifesaving at Dee Why and South Curl Curl 9am to 2.30pm

Week 10B

Wednesday 10 December Term 4 Rec Sport finishes

Week 11A

Monday 15 December Presentation Evening 7pm
Thursday 18 & Friday 19 December Staff Development Days