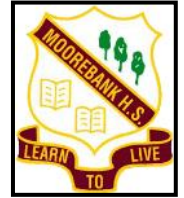


MOOREBANK HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



June 2018
Issue 3

[MHS WEBSITE](#)

Principal's report

It has been a very busy start to term 2 with numerous excursions across year groups and faculties, NAPLAN, school and zone cross country carnivals and various student leadership initiatives. I would like to thank all the teaching and non-teaching staff and students that have made these programs and initiatives possible for all to participate. I am thrilled to be back after a terms absence and I would like to take this opportunity to thanks Mr Greg Horsley for relieving for me and the support he received from the staff in particular, Dr Susan Griffin, Ms Cassandra Debreczeni, Ms Cassie O'Connor and Ms Shannon Jones.

On commencing term 2 I received a letter from Murat Dizdar, Deputy Secretary, School's Operations and Performance (DoE) congratulating Moorebank High School staff and students on our outstanding HSC results. I have attached the letter to share with our Moorebank High School Community.



Dear Vally

I am writing to congratulate you and your staff on the outstanding performance of your students in the 2017 Higher School Certificate.

In particular, as a high achieving high school with a substantial increase in the proportion of students with two or more results in the top bands (from 2013 to 2017), Moorebank High School has a tremendous demonstrated level of excellence belonging to only a handful of schools across New South Wales for HSC 2017.

The spirited connection and collective strength required of staff and students to deliver on this partnership of success, is a great credit to you all.

Please pass on my sincere congratulations to your staff and students for the exemplary standards reached at Moorebank High School.

Your leadership as principal in ensuring that the school is moving strongly in the highest areas of HSC achievement is warmly applauded.

Your emphasis and articulation of the energy, drive and desire for excellence is inspiring your staff and students.

I commend you for the resolute determination and enthusiasm for student betterment which is igniting student self-belief and shared high expectations schoolwide.

The collective, collegial hard work with staff has set the school and students on an impressive school performance trajectory of which you should be rightly proud.

If required, your Director Public Schools NSW can provide further support and advice for you as they too join with me in recognising your schools fantastic achievement.

Yours sincerely

Murat Dizdar PSM
Deputy Secretary, School Operations and Performance
Department of Education
10 April 2018

- English Faculty
- Online payments
- Origami Club
- Careers News
- Healthy Canteen

Bangalow Ave, Moorebank
Ph.: 9601 3999 /Fax: 9822 5096 Email to: moorebank-h.school@det.nsw.au

ENGLISH FACULTY

Our public speakers, capturing unspoken thought of the masses

This year Moorebank High School hosted the Plain English Speaking Award for the second year running with several schools within the Western Sydney Region attending. Year 10 students, Kristian Mizdrak and Akhila Jaimes participated in both the prepared and impromptu section whilst their peers watched on in awe.

Kristian, influenced by his study of Wilfred Owen poetry explored the controversial topic of war, with Akhila honing in on the issue of child marriage, which still greatly affects young girls in impoverished countries.

Wearing the school blazers with pride, our students Kristian and Akhila set the stage on fire and were praised by the adjudicator for their witty words and mature representation of ideas.

The local newspaper "Liverpool Champion" further featured the event and students in an article.

<https://www.liverpoolchampion.com.au/story/5419593/students-raise-their-voices-and-beliefs/>

Congratulations to our public speakers for their dedication and effort this year.



ENGLISH FACULTY

Moorebank's debaters are arguably impressive

Desmond Tutu, human rights activist who went on to win the Nobel Peace Prize once wrote "Don't raise your voice, improve your argument". This year, Moorebank High School's Junior and Senior debating teams who are involved in the Premier's Debating Challenge have been doing just that - improving their argument one round at a time.

The enthusiastic students from Years 7-11 have been exploring a colourful selection of topics ranging from Media, Politics, Environment, Education and Sport. The 9/10 Debating Team won their first round against Cecil Hills High School, arguing the controversial topic "That teachers should be able to search students' bags". The adjudicator praised the students on their cohesion of arguments and their strong ability to rebut the ideas of the affirmative team.

Congratulations on their achievements and best of luck to all of our teams participating in the 2018 Premier's Debating Challenge.

Online payments

Attention Parents / Carers,

When making payments online a permission "excursion" note must be supplied to the front office the next day.

English Faculty Semester 1 and 2 Awards

The prestigious inaugural English Faculty Award will be introduced for the very first time at Moorebank High School with the aim of recognising proactive learners in the classroom. The award is designed to increase the proportion of students demonstrating active engagement with their learning.

Criteria will be based on:

- Student attitude to learning is positive and is committed to excellence by achieving their personal best.
- Student actively participates in team or individual class activities with enthusiasm.
- Student displays a developing awareness of equality and welfare in others by being positive role model to others in class.

In recognition of their achievements student awards will be displayed in the F Block display board and awards will be given out during year group assembly.

Congratulations to the following students in receiving this award:

Year 7

Atalay Durson



Khoder El-Aboud



Year 8

Aiden Linday



Jacob Sanderson



Year 9

Jessica Zaharidis



Jennifer Flemming



Year 10

Jessica Bian



Katherine Truong



Year 11

Sara Downie



Liam Hudson O'Farrell



Simrita Hossain



Year 12

Lan Nguyen



Shelley Saunders



Abdo Mehyo



MHS ORIGAMI CLUB



Our Origami club combined with our Interact group to support the Cancer Council.

The Origami club enlisted students to make 1000 paper cranes to send to a local hospital.

The crane has long been a symbol in Asian cultures representing good health, longevity, truth and fidelity. When 1,000 cranes are folded as a group, they are known as a senbazuru. Constructing 1,000 paper cranes shows support for people suffering from a serious illness, in this instance, Cancer.

Students from Interact then held a cake stall at recess and a pizza stall at lunchtime to raise money for the Cancer Council's Biggest Morning Tea. Altogether they raised \$408.70 which is a great effort.

In other Origami club news – a competition was held in term 1 and the winner was Brendon Hunt of year 10 with his creation "Toothless".

Brendon Hunt Yr. 10
with Toothless



Ethan Le
with his
Crane



Careers News

Year 10 Work Experience:

Year 10 students should be well under way with their planning for Work Experience which will run over 1 week from 30th July through 3rd August 2018 inclusive (week 2, term 3).

Work experience is part of the school's educational program where students experience working life, often for the first time. It is the short term placement of secondary school students with employers, to provide insights into the industry, and the workplace in which they are located. Students are placed with employers primarily to observe and learn – not to undertake activities which require extensive training or expertise. It is undertaken at the employer's premises and has enormous benefits for students as it gives them a chance to:

- Work alongside adults as part of a team gaining an understanding of work
- Develop and practice a range of new skills
- Become more independent and confident
- Relate the school curriculum to the workplace
- Increase motivation to continue their study and/or undertake further training
- Explore career options

How can parents / care givers help?

There are several things you can do to assist with this:

- Help your child understand the employers' goodwill in offering the placement.
- Encourage your child to have realistic expectations about the type of work they will be undertaking. Your child will not be able to do hands on work, but can do simple tasks after proper induction and always under supervision. The hours may be longer than a school day and students are expected to work the employer's normal hours up till 5pm if required.
- Complete the Student Placement Record form accurately and return it to the school promptly.
- Advise the school of any health matters that may affect your child's work experience.
- Talk to your child about the importance of Work, Health and Safety and their responsibilities.
- Help your child organise safe travel to and from work experience.
- Discuss your child's work experience placement and help with any potential or perceived difficulties.
- Notify the school immediately if your child is absent from work or is having difficulties with the placement.
- Talk to your child about work and careers. Encourage them to consider as many options as possible.

Completed Student Placement Records should have been returned to the Careers Adviser by Friday 15th June, 2018. Please return asap if they have not been already returned.

Year 12 Careers

Shortly I will be meeting with Year 12 students to discuss post school destinations during L2L. During this time I will also be discussing important cut off dates for HSC students, UAC (University Admissions Centre) application process, Early Entry Schemes, Bonus Point Schemes etc. for University students.

A number of lunchtime talks have been arranged for students to explain what they offer for school leavers. Talks will be given by:

- University of Sydney
- University of NSW
- University of Technology, Sydney (UTS)
- Western Sydney University
- University of Wollongong (who now have a Liverpool Campus)
- TAFE
- Defence Forces

I encourage Year 12 students to make an appointment with me to plan post school destinations, pathways and "Plan B" options. Please call into my office to schedule an appointment.

Peter Lewis / Careers Advisor

Careers News



Recently, one of our year 9 students, Ruby Walker (pictured above), was successful in gaining a work experience placement at the Sydney Opera House. These placements are competitive and much sought after. During this week, Ruby had the opportunity to be involved in many parts of the everyday operations of the Opera House.

Special Mention



Congratulations to Caitlin Morgan and Kali Rowe on their recent selection into the Gili Dance Ensemble. The girls participated in a two day dance workshop at the Sydney Dance Company. They were two of the talented eight chosen into the dance team out of more than thirty Sydney students. This is a fantastic opportunity for the students to explore more about their Aboriginal culture. The school is extremely proud of these two amazing performers.

In addition, Kali has also been selected into the Voice Identification Program (VIP) for singing. She will be performing at the upcoming education festival at Casula Powerhouse. Kali will also be provided with an opportunity to record songs this year through this highly regarded program.

Photos of Thomas Hamilton Yr. 9 representing NSW as part of the state team at the 2018 School Sport Australia Triathlon Championships, held at Sydney International Regatta Centre, Penrith during the April holidays.



Healthy Schools Canteen Strategy

Moorebank High School has made positive steps towards complying with the NSW Department of Education's (DoE) new Healthy Schools Canteen Strategy. The strategy aims to reduce incidence of childhood overweight and obesity by 5% over the next 7 years. Three-quarters of all food and drinks sold in canteens must be considered "everyday foods". The remainder of foods and drinks will be characterised as "occasional foods". Occasional foods must meet certain nutrition requirements. As such, confectionary items, soft drinks, sports drinks, ice-creams and other foods that are high in sugar, salt and saturated fat will no longer be available. The criteria for Everyday and Occasional food and drinks is set out in the table below:

Everyday	Occasional
At least $\frac{3}{4}$ of the menu.	No more than $\frac{1}{4}$ of the menu.
No Health Star Rating (HSR) cut-off.	Health Star Rating (HSR) of 3.5 stars and above.
Portion limits for flavoured milk, juice and ready-to-eat meals.	Portion limits for all Occasional food and drinks.
Display, favourably price, promote and advertise Everyday choices.	Occasional food and drinks not promoted at point of sale.

Some benefits of a nutritious diet include:

- Strong bones and teeth
- Provide the body with vitamins to help fight illness
- Reduce the risk of lifestyle diseases in the future
- Improved energy levels
- Support positive self-esteem and mental health
- Improved concentration

The canteen is providing students with nutritious snacks and meals. A revised menu is taking place with some changes already having been introduced. If you would like to know more about the Healthy Schools Canteen Strategy visit the official website at <https://healthyschoolcanteens.nsw.gov.au/>

National Triathlon achievement

Congratulations to Thomas Hamilton who recently came 14th in the junior males National All Schools Triathlon Championships held at Penrith International Regatta Centre. This is a fantastic achievement by Thomas who always demonstrates excellent sportsmanship and commitment in a variety of sport contexts.

Application for travel in during the school term

School attendance is extremely important to student success. If students are not present for instruction and collaborative practice with peers, then in-depth understanding is difficult to achieve and learning suffers. The Department of Education encourages parents to take family holidays during school holiday periods to avoid disruption to a child's learning. Please reconsider the need to travel during school terms. As per Department of Education requirements, absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child's total absences for the year. If travel is considered necessary you are required to complete an 'application for extended leave-travel.' These application forms are available from the office. Please ensure you provide supporting documentation, particularly for urgent travel. **Four weeks' notice is the expected time frame for the school to process the application** and, should the application be approved, arrange for class work through the year adviser and subject head teachers. Approval is not automatic. Principals are required to assess each application on its merits and consider if the travel is in the child's best interest.



URGENT
FOSTER CARERS NEEDED

The Department of Family and Community Services will be hosting a FREE information session to talk about the urgent need for Foster Carers in this region.

Please come along to find out more about foster caring.

WHERE: LIVERPOOL LIBRARY (Silver Room)

170 George Street Liverpool NSW

WHEN: 27/06/2018

TIME: 5:30-7:30pm

RSVP by 25/06/2018 by calling Miryana on 8713-7805 or

Email: southwestfostercare@facs.nsw.gov.au

LIVERPOOL CITY LIBRARY | **LIVERPOOL CITY COUNCIL**



The role of the Anti-Racism Contact Officer

Information for parents and carers

The NSW Department of Education rejects all forms of racism and is committed to the elimination of racial discrimination.

As part of the department's commitment to anti-racism each school has an Anti-Racism Contact Officer (ARCO). The role of the ARCO is to:

1. receive the suggestion, complaint or allegation regarding racism
2. assist the complainant to write the complaint, if required
3. advise the complainant of their rights and the process to be followed in lodging a complaint
4. refer the complaint to a member of the school executive who will be responsible for resolving the complaint.

Telephone Interpreter Service

If you need an interpreter to assist you to speak to the ARCO on the telephone or to make an appointment for a meeting with the ARCO, ring the Telephone Interpreter Service on 131 450 and ask for an interpreter in your language. Tell the operator the phone number you would like to ring and the operator will get an interpreter on the line to help you with your conversation. This service will be free of charge to you.

Further Information

The ARCO at Moorebank High School is Ms Patricia Paring.

Contact details :

Phone: 9601 3999

Email: patricia.paring@det.nsw.edu.au