"A place to learn, lead and achieve your personal best"

Find us at: Airds High School, 2 Briar Road, Airds NSW 2560

airds.h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Issue 6 – Term 3

September 2014

DIARY DATES

Fri 19th Sept       End of Term 3
Mon 6th Oct        Public Holiday
Tues 7th Oct       Staff and students return Term 4
Mon 13th Oct       HSC begins
Wed 22nd & 29th Oct Yr 7 2015 Support Transition Day
Wed 29th Oct       Aboriginal Numeracy Challenge
Mon 3rd Nov        Year 7-10 Yearly Exams
Thurs 6th Nov      HSC concludes
Wed 12th Nov       Yr 7 2014 Support Transition Day
Fri 14th Nov       Year 12 Sign Out
Wed 19th Nov       G&T Challenge Day
Mon 24th-28th Nov  Year 7 Swim Scheme
Thurs 27th Nov     Year 10 Wellbeing Day
Mon 1st-5th Dec    Year 8 Swim Scheme
Wed 3rd Dec        Year 12 Graduation 6pm
Fri 5th Dec        Year 6 Transition Day
Tues 9th Dec       Support Unit Jamberoo Excursion
Wed 17th Dec       Last day for students

AIRDS HIGH SCHOOL FETE

Airds High School Fete
When: Saturday 11th October 2014
Time: 10am - 2pm
Location: 2 Briar Road, Airds

CLO / P&C REPORT

It has been an extremely busy but very rewarding Term 3 here at Airds High School. Our staff and students have been involved in a large number of activities and events, providing a wide range of academic, sporting and social opportunities to everyone at our school. Our Year 12 students are nearing the end of their high school journeys and I wish them all the best with their upcoming HSC exams and every success along the paths they choose to follow.

Many hours and a great deal of effort have been spent by staff this term organising the Open Day and the Anniversary Dinner to help celebrate Airds High School's 40th year. Both events were excellent and showcased the talent and achievements of staff and students, both past and present. It was wonderful to see many former students at our school on Open Day, enjoying the performances by our students and looking back through the photos and other memorabilia from their time here at Airds High School. So many people had stories to share about their time at Airds, and they all seemed to be fond memories of enjoyable times and great experiences.

Thank you very much to all the former students, staff and community members who came to our Open Day and helped us to celebrate the wonderful place that Airds High School is. A huge thank you to the staff who worked so tirelessly to make this event a success and ensure that as much of our history as possible was represented in the various displays and photos. The library looked great and
it was wonderful to see the delight (and, at times, the embarrassment!) on the faces of those looking through the photos. Our school truly does have a very rich and successful past and this should be a great inspiration to us all to continue this tradition.

The 40th Anniversary Dinner was held on 6th September at Wests Leagues Club and was another great celebration of the achievements and spirit of Airds High School. It was wonderful to see so many past and present staff there, and very special to have a number of former students attend as well. Some of these former students have children who are currently attending Airds High School or have recently graduated, and it was great to see the next generation following in their parents’ footsteps. I believe it makes a real statement about the high quality of education on offer and the genuine care and commitment shown on a daily basis to the students at Airds High School. Those who were able to attend the dinner enjoyed a wonderful meal and were entertained by a very funny video message from our former head teacher of English, Mr Ryder, as well as enjoying the stories from former principal, Mr John List, who spoke passionately and very fondly of his time here at Airds High School. He was a truly inspirational man who obviously always took a vested interest in every one of his students and wanted the very best for each of them. His stories of the trials and tribulations, as well as the success stories of so many of the students attending Airds HS in his time made me feel very proud to be part of this amazing school and community. Thank you to all the staff members who worked so tirelessly to organise the event and make it such a memorable evening for us all.

The 2014 Parent Conference held at John Warby Public School on 29th August was another great success this year. The conference focussed on giving parents the skills and strategies to help and support their children to develop into strong leaders and productive individuals. The guest speakers and the workshops they presented were all very interesting and full of useful and relevant information. Once again, the Year 11 Hospitality students from our school catered for the lunch and did an amazing job. The dishes they provided were of a standard in line with a professional catering company, and their personal presentation was impeccable. Thank you and well done to Ms Vongsouvanh, Ms Coogan, Ms Mackie and all the students involved, for a delicious lunch to finish off a great day.

Throughout the day we were entertained by a number of performance groups, including the John Warby PS school choir, and the Thomas Reddall HS dance groups. All the performances were thoroughly enjoyable and once again showcased some of the amazing talent we have in our schools across the Macarthur region. It was great to see so many parents from Airds High School attend this year and benefit from such an enjoyable and informative conference. I would encourage all parents to try and attend these conferences in the future as it is a very positive day where parents who truly value quality education can share their ideas and learn valuable new skills.

Our P&C Father’s Day Stall was a great success once again this year. Our students and staff spent over $300 buying various gifts for the important men in their lives and we trust that this went a long way towards making their father’s special day a really great celebration. Our school truly values the importance of family, and the P&C is pleased to be able to support any special event that helps our students show their families just how special they are to them. We hope all the fathers, grandfathers, uncles and even older brothers who may have been thanked on this special day enjoyed their gifts and the love and gratitude that no doubt accompanied them. A very big thank you goes to the P&C members who assisted me on the days the stall was held at the school. To Maryanne, Judith and Kelly, thank you so much for your time and assistance that was invaluable in making this event a success.

It was brought to the P&C’s attention at our last meeting that some of our students are drinking energy drinks (such as Red Bull, V, and Mother) on their way to school in the morning or when they first arrive at school. This is a great concern for the teachers as these drinks have been proven to have adverse effects on people’s health, including the ability to be able to concentrate and focus on set tasks. Students who have these drinks in the mornings can often be disruptive in class and their learning is significantly impaired. As a parent, I would like to encourage you all to do some research into these types of drinks and talk to your children about the negative effects they could be having on so many areas of their lives. It would also be a good opportunity to talk with your children about the importance of having a good breakfast every
morning and the positive effects that can have on their concentration and learning at school. By educating ourselves and our children we are doing as much as we can to give them the best opportunity to succeed.

The Airds High School Fete is fast approaching, and is to be held on **Saturday, 11th October** from 10am to 2pm. This is at the end of Week 1, Term 4 and I would like to encourage all students and their families to come along and enjoy the celebration for our school’s 40th anniversary. There will be stalls, games and entertainment that will appeal to children and adults of all ages, so please mark the date in your diaries and be ready for a fun-filled day. The P&C will be holding a ‘thrift shop’ type stall as well as selling delicious pancakes on the day, so come along and pick up a bargain and satisfy your taste buds at the same time! Each year group is involved in running a stall or a game and they have been working very hard with a number of staff members in preparation for the big day. I’m looking forward to seeing as many members of our school and wider community at our fete to come together and celebrate the wonderful place that is Airds High School.

Finally, I hope all our students, staff and families have a safe, relaxing and very enjoyable holiday. I am looking forward to seeing everyone back here after the break fully recharged and ready for what I am sure will be an incredibly busy Term 4.

Melanie Cutts
Community Liaison Officer
P&C President

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**We are:**

**Safe**

**Respectful**

**Learners**

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**FROM THE PASTORAL CARERS DESK**

Term 3 has been a very busy time with much to celebrate and recognise as you will see in this edition of the Airds Announcer. It is good to see the end to what has seemed an extended winter this year with so many folk struggling with health issues. We will all benefit from some well earned rest these holidays.

However; **Year 12** will no doubt be busy preparing for the HSC, which is just a matter of weeks away now. We hope this isn’t too stressful a time on students and families and that everyone is able to maintain focus. Airds High School is fortunate to have such highly skilled and motivated staff who are prepared to make a difference in the lives of our students. They offer support in so many ways and especially at this time in the school year. The primary focus of the school is always on our students learning, safety and responsibility. And the key to individual success is through student involvement and the encouragement of independence. Here are some tips for your **health and wellbeing**:

- Healthy diet is essential for health and wellbeing (including a little comfort food)
- Regular exercise to develop fitness (sport, gym, training)
- Lifestyle choices with time for relaxation and stress relief
- Health care, consult a professional if there is a need
- Rest and sleep are essential for growth and development
- Spiritual wellness is your personal preference (And maybe I can help here...)

At AHS there are many people who work behind the scenes to ensure that day to day operations continue without drama. Helen Ingram our canteen manager has been a valuable asset to the school in recent years, and it is with sadness that we say farewell at the end of this term. Helen has implemented many successful changes in the canteen and has been a very effective manager; her bubbly personality will be sadly missed at the school. Thank you Helen for all you have done and our very best wishes to you and your family for the future.

I would like to remind everyone that I am at AHS on Wednesday and Thursday next term. If I can be of any assistance please do not hesitate to contact me.

Mr R Hodgson JP

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**PICLO REPORT**

Pacific greetings to all our staff students and their families.

Celebrations for our 40th Anniversary are well under way. The wonderful trip down memory lane display in the library during the schools ‘Open Day’ was a great success. Thank you to all those who were involved in the display it was very interesting and fascinating and obviously a lot of work went into it and to see many parents and past students and staff turn up for the event, it was a wonderful day and enjoyed by all who came.

A school fete has been planned for Saturday 11th October. We hope to have a Pacific stall and any ideas for that will be appreciated and also your helping hands on the day. We would love to be able to show what “Polynesia” is all about so if you have some free time on that day and would like to help out we would really appreciate it.

Thank you to those parents and students who bought gifts from our Fathers day stall, whether it be your Dad, Step dad or Grandad and (we did have a student buy a gift for all three of his Dads) which we thought was pretty cool. We do appreciate all the work our fathers have ever done for us and hope all the Dads out there enjoyed Father’s Day with their families. Thank you to parent Kelly Butters...
for your helping hands at the Father’s day stall. Kelly is also an enthusiastic member of our P&C and we appreciate all that you do for our school and students. If you too would like to be a member of the P&C come along to our monthly meetings first Wednesday of every month 10:15am, we would love to see you.

Our students from Years 11 and 12 had the opportunity to participate in a workshop with UWS Pathe (Pacific Achievement To Higher Education). They were able to look at and navigate around the UAC website and gain a better knowledge of the first stages of how to get to university. Students were shown how to fill out an application form which many found very helpful and have taken the initiative to look online themselves in their own time and some have decided to take that first step into tertiary education which is wonderful to see. The website is www.uac.edu.au/undergraduate

Thank you Pathe (Pacific Achievement for Higher Education) for all the wonderful and helpful workshops you have put on for our Pacifica students. Some students who are normally quite shy are starting to come out of their shell and taking the courage to speak up and ask questions. The Pathe workshops have given the students a sense of value and self worth and it is so encouraging to see our young people taking advantage of the opportunities Pathe has provided for them.

UWS Pathe co -coordinator Bernadette Stephens facilitating a workshop with our students.

The Pacific parent’s excursion to Macquarie University took place on Thursday 4th September. It was so good to see a large number of parents keen and excited about this outing. If you have ever thought about university as an option for your child or even yourself then this excursion was for you and it was Free!! Free bus!! Free food!! What more could you ask for!! ...It’s all about getting our children into tertiary education and building a foundation for a better future. Parents enjoyed the presentations from the various speakers and performances from Granville Boys HS.

The highlight would have to be hearing the amazing stories from current Pacific students and the barriers and struggles they had to overcome in order to make it to University. Their stories showed courage and strength and were an inspiration to all who were there.

Thank you Sam Pilisi for your dedication and commitment to Pathe and for allowing us to share in the stories of our young people on the day.

Thank you to Macquarie University, the ‘Make your Mark’ team and Donna Heemi for giving us the VIP treatment, we thoroughly enjoyed the day and the information shared was certainly an open window for parents and their families and it will help tremendously with any future family members who want to go to university, there were even suggestions of some parents taking up university which I thought was fantastic because you are ‘never too old to learn’.

Airds HS now have a smartphone app which you can download onto your phone by going into the Google Play Store or the iphone app store. Type in Airds High School and when it comes up then download it. To log on you need to type in a password, which is:

Username: community
Password: airdshs

The app is free and available to all parents and students. It is a great tool to use for keeping updated with all that’s happening in the school if you have any questions you can call Mr Wallace.

The Parents Conference at John Warby PS was also a success again this year. Excellent speakers and great information shared by all it was good to meet up with old friends and make new ones.
Thank you to the parents that came it was a great day and even more special because our Hospitality students did the catering for our lunch and they did an awesome job it was a really delicious meal and there were lots of compliments from the parents. Well done to the students for your fantastic work and also the Hospitality teachers. The students were given their well deserved certificates on the day handed out by Mr Miezio.

Our Junior Debaters have completed their three rounds of debates for the Premier’s Debating Challenge. What an awesome win against Thomas Reddall!! Congratulations to Mia Nurka-Smale, Dean Brown, Alyssa Gimbert, Zahraa Al-Khatify, Sophie Walsh, Fatima Saleh and Maria Lilomaiavo for their contributions to Junior Debating.

Mr Buckley’s Year Nine English class held a Shakespeare Convention in Week Nine as part of their Assessment Task requirements. I was impressed by the range of different booths, each occupied by a different student extolling the virtues of one of Shakespeare’s plays. They had prepared a range of materials, ranging from pamphlets and posters to Tempest-themed paper boats and wedding invitations straight from A Winter’s Tale.

Have a great holiday!

Ms N Barker
Head Teacher English

YEAR 12 REPORT

The finish line has been spotted off in the distance, as you are well aware our senior Year 12 students are getting down to the business end of their many years of education. I would like to congratulate all students who have successfully made it this far and hope to see all of you knuckle down for the final stretch.

Just recently we have had a most successful bake sale where we were totally cleaned out of stock within 20 minutes of selling the first item. A big thanks must go out to our baking team who are pictured below.
Ok the important dates:

Firstly we have a Wellbeing Day on the last Friday of Term 3 at Audley Weir which promises to be a great opportunity for our Year 12’s to unwind and bond within a school environment for what will almost be the last official school day of their lives. This day will cost $25 and will need to be paid to the front office as soon as possible. Please get behind the year group and encourage each other to attend this memorable day.

I would now like to reiterate the letter that went home to all students last week regarding our important dates and times along with students expectations.

HSC Exams
Students will have a study vacation period Week 1 Term 4 unless otherwise notified and are not required to attend school during this week. The commencement date for the HSC Exams is the 13/10/14 to the 5/11/14. An electronic timetable can be found from the following link: https://studentsonline.bos.nsw.edu.au/documents/hsc-timetable-2014.pdf

The timetable can also be found on the school app under documents and exam times and subjects have been added to the calendar.

Student expectations are as follows:
- Be in full school uniform without any hooded jumpers.
- 30 minutes early for the first day (external examiners will run through student expectations).
- Early to the New Hall by at least 15 minutes for all other exams.
- No unapproved electronic devices. Mobile phones are to be switched off in a bag.
- Respectful of all other student’s right to sit a fair examination without any disruptions.
- Remain in the examination room until instructed to leave by the external examiners.
- Follow all external examiners instructions.

Yr12 School Sign Out
The process for Sign Out will be:
- The Sign Out Day is Week 6 Term 4 on Friday 14th November 2014 during periods 1 & 2.
- To be able to sign out students must have all outstanding subject fees paid for and finalised, all library books and class text books returned, all laptop notes and unwanted laptops to be returned, all accounts for Jackets, Formal and other items finalised.
- Students can ask for a printout of any outstanding fees from the front office.
- All this must be done before the 14th of November 2014 to be able to officially graduate Year12.

Formal
This night is a celebration of the culmination of 13 years worth of schooling. It is a rite of passage that is meant to be a pleasurable and memorable occasion for our students. I hope that all of our students can attend this important celebration for it will be an evening that will be long remembered.

Time: 6:00pm-11:00pm
Date: Friday 28th of November 2014
Venue: City Beach Function Centre
The cost will be $100 which is to be paid at the front office no later than the 7th of November 2014.

Graduation
The graduation will be held at Airds High School in the new hall on the 3rd of December 2014 from 6pm. Students are asked to be there 45 minutes prior to the event so that gowns and formation can be worked out. A graduation rehearsal day will be on Wednesday the 12th of November 2014 from periods 4 to period 6. It is imperative that all students attend this for the smooth running of the graduation evening. There will be a $15 charge for the gowns which will cover the usage hire and dry cleaning of the gowns.

Students especially in the first week back next term and during exams can still access all teachers as long as they have an appointment. It is imperative that we do not have students just roaming around the school grounds unsupervised so we ask that you support us with this directive.

I look forward to this frantic roller coaster journey that is the end of Year 12 with you all. If we all work together and follow the above mentioned dates, times and expectations we will all arrive happily at the graduation night to send our students off the way they deserve to be sent off in a joyful and cheerful frame of mind.

I want to wish every student in my year the very best of luck and hope that you all get pleasing results in the HSC and continue on in life striving to achieve your very best always.

If you have any issues regarding payments and deadlines can you please not hesitate to contact myself or our School Administration Manager Ms R. Bain within a sufficient timeframe to better cater for your requirements on the above mentioned contact details.

Mr D Lightfoot
Year 12 Adviser

YEAR 11 REPORT
It has been a busy couple of weeks for Year 11 this term. We began the process of selecting our Year 12 jacket for 2015, which includes a photograph of the year group. The students were quite diligent in getting sized and paying their deposit. Just a reminder though, that in order to
receive your jacket next term, the full balance of $95 will need to be paid to the front office.

We then began the process of selecting School Captains for 2015 through nomination forms, a Curriculum Vitae and a speech in front of all staff and students. There were 7 students that put their hand up to be leaders and did a wonderful job in getting their applications in. Interviews will be early next term and I look forward to congratulating all students who are successful. There will also be a Year 12 Leadership Team for 2015, consisting of the remaining candidates as well as a number of other students who wish to help out in leading our student body. I am pleased with all those who submitted applications and look forward to working with such a valuable team.

Year 11 were also in charge of holding a barbeque on the school’s 40th Open Day Celebration. I wish to thank all those involved, from the students who helped us cook and serve on the day, to the wonderful entertainment that was provided whilst the food was being enjoyed. I would also like to congratulate the Year 11 students who performed on stage with the Briar Road PS students. They have been working tirelessly with the younger students and have proven to be great mentors. We also ran another barbeque the following week, with a few extra treats, and it would not have been possible without the willingness to help from the Year 11 cohort. I am truly humbled that by being part of the senior school, they have assisted me in raising funds for our cohort to help with any extra costs that may arise during Year 12. Excellent job team, well done!

Final Preliminary examinations will take place on the last week of term and if any unforeseen circumstances arise, and your child cannot attend, a doctor’s certificate will need to be provided to ensure an N Determination will not be issued.

Finally I would like to thank my wonderful Wellbeing Team. Our Head Teacher Mr Hennessey, and our other members Ms Radford, Ms Stoddart and Mr Halliburton, for assisting me and the students in a very smooth and successful Term 3. I look forward to seeing all students in full school uniform next term to begin our last year of schooling at Airds High School.

Best Regards,

Ms K Taylor
Year 11 Adviser

Mobile phones are not to be used during the school day

The Buckley Report
By M. Buckley, Year 10 Adviser

With Term 3 at a closing and our Year 12 students about to leave the cradling bosom of secondary education and face down the endless magic and wonder that is the real world, Year 10 have moved another rung up the ladder of seniority. That means that, as Year 11 assume the mantle of top dogs, it’s time for us to make the transition to being the second most senior cohort in the school, with all the glory – not to mention behavioural and academic expectations – that that entails.

I can almost smell the freshly-ironed white shirts from here.

This term, Year 10 have been busily preparing for two major events on the horizon – both the Formal Dinner, and our Wellbeing Day. Last things first: The Wellbeing Day – our last of junior school – will be an awesome opportunity to share one last hurrah as a year group before coming back as official, honest-to-goodness senior students.

We’ve also been lucky enough to have Ms Holmes take a leading role in preparing a Formal Dinner for us to celebrate the last four years of junior school. As you read this, deposits have hopefully been made to the Front Office, and preparations are well underway. If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact me.

Mr M Buckley,
Year 10 Adviser

Student Safety Alert – please only park in the allocated parking spots in the bus bay
SLSO REPORT

This has been an exciting term for our students. The focus has been on improving literacy and numeracy across all year groups. Supporting students in the classroom, Ms Hopwood and Ms Addamo have assisted teachers with deconstructing information to make it accessible to all students. Ms Addamo is responsible for assistance to Years 7, 9 and 11 and Ms Hopwood is responsible for assisting Years 8, 10 and 12. As SLSO’s they have the responsibility of supporting students and assisting them to maximise their potential. Often students just need to be provided with emotional support or a simple scaffold to meet class requirements and Ms Addamo and Ms Hopwood are willing to provide support whenever they can. With prior arrangements and written permission from their teacher, all students have the opportunity to receive individual attention and assistance.

SRC REPORT

The end of Term 3 has been quite busy for the SRC. Last week, the SRC ran their second Disco for the year. It was a hugely successful night, with close to 90 students attending – our highest attendance rate yet! It is very pleasing to see so many of our students following our school values in order to be able to attend the Disco.

I would like to congratulate all students who came on their behaviour on the night. Everyone in attendance displayed exemplary behaviour, which made the night enjoyable for all. It was also good to see so many students and staff dressing up for the Disco – standouts being Wendell French, Ms Fansa, Ms Zalewski and Ms Fitas!

From the Disco we were able to raise $386, which will be used to fund other SRC initiatives. A massive thank you needs to go to all staff who helped out on the night. Without the continued support of staff, events like these simply aren’t possible.

On the first weekend back, Airds High School will be running a Fete to celebrate its 40th Anniversary. Just a reminder that the SRC will be running the following stalls for the Fete:

- Year 7: Candy Bar – Can all students in year 7 please bring in a bag of lollies to support this.
- Year 8: Selling Hot Dogs
- Year 9: Skill Games – Can students/community members please donate anything that can be used as small prizes
- Year 10: Cake stall and selling balloon animals
- Year 11: Car Wash
- Year 12: Show Bags

It would be great to see as many students and community members as possible supporting this event!

During Week 9, Year 11 nominees for school captain gave their speeches to the student body. It was great to see so many Year 11 students stepping up to represent their school! The quality of the speeches was outstanding, and I look forward to working with such a stand out senior leadership team. Results from the selection process will be announced in the near future.

To help build on the leadership skills of these students, all members of the senior leadership team will attend a leadership conference in Term 4. The conference will help teach our students how to work as a team, and provide them with essential leadership skills. Details about this conference will be available shortly.

I hope that everyone has a safe and enjoyable break over the holidays,
Mr Wallace
SRC Coordinator
CAREERS REPORT

YEAR 12

- Please make sure you all have a tax file number before you finish school. If you are unsure please phone taxation office on 13 28 61.
- TAFE handbook for 2015 has arrived. Please have a look at the handbook (in my careers office) call 13 79 74 , check out their website: www.SWSi.tafensw.edu.au or visit your local college.
- TAFE applications are available for semester 1 2015: 19th January – 1st of February.
- TAFE applications are available for semester two 2015: 22nd – 28th of June.

CAPA
Dance, Drama, Music, Visual Arts

National Summer Art Scholarships 2015
20 October
Year 11. A week over summer (10th – 17th January 2015) at National Gallery of Australia: Canberra.
Contact: (02) 6240 6632 or Summerartscholarship2015@nga.gov.au http://nga.gov.au/SummerArtScholarship/index.cfm

International Screen Academy Open Day
20 September: 10.00am to 2.00pm
242 Young Street: Waterloo

AFTRS is now offering the following new courses: Intro to Film: which is 100% online: For more information: Ph [02]98056622 marketing@aftrs.edu.au

Coco Republic Field Notes
Gain inspiration on latest interior design trends and ideas from Australia and abroad.
http://designfieldnotes.com/

MATHS
International College of Management Sydney: Free Math General HSC Tutoring and Exam Tips
22 September to 26 September: 4:00pm to 6:00pm
151 Darley Road: Manly
Sessions first come first served.

PDHPE
Community and Family Studies, PDHPE.

Careers in Sport
Information on qualifications and pathways: available positions and courses.

SCIENCE
Macquarie University First Engineering Entry Scheme
HSC students who go into and do well in the FIRST Robotics Competition have chance to enter a Bachelor of Engineering.
http://www.mq.edu.au/study/undergraduate/parents_and_teachers/connect_newsletter/all_connect_articles/new_first_engineering_entry_scheme/

Sydney Observatory Spring School Holiday Programs
20 September – 6 October

TAFEnow Certificate II in Community Pharmacy

Enrolled Nursing TAFE Funding
There is an oversupply in Nursing. The health department no longer funds Enrolled Nursing courses at TAFE. Students are required to pay for the 1 year $17: 000 Enrolled Nursing Course. Once finished course you can earn $50:000 per year.

TAS

Coco Republic Field Notes
Gain inspiration on latest interior design trends and ideas from Australia and abroad.
IT Courses at the City of Sydney Library

Update your computer skills.

Computer Power Institute ECampus

The Computer Power Institute is a provider of specialised IT training and job placement opportunities. For full-time and part-time students.
http://www.computerpower.edu.au/

TAFE now Certificate II in Animal Studies

Great career starters that can be done online: together with a day a week work experience. Full details animal care course at http://tafenow.com.au/acm20110#units. Currently $267 a semester with Government subsidies. Talk to TAFE staff on 1300 823 669 for more information.

VET COURSES

1300 Apprentice Apprenticeship and Traineeship Intake Interviews

1300Apprentice have Interviews during the school holidays. Email resumes with name: contact details: email address and your apprenticeship or traineeship of interested: to resumes@1300apprentice.com.au

VET Entertainment Industry

AFTRS is now offering new courses: Intro to Film, Screen TV and radio: which is 100% online. For more information: Ph [02]98056622 marketing@aftrs.edu.au

VET Information and Digital Technology

IT Courses at the City of Sydney Library

Update your computer skills.

Computer Power Institute ECampus

The Computer Power Institute is a provider of specialised IT training and job placement opportunities. For full-time and part-time students.
http://www.computerpower.edu.au/

The Young Endeavour Voyage around the World

Apply ballot 1 September to 30 September

Set sail for a voyage around the world. With crews of 24 youth and 12 Navy staff. Ages 18 to 30 are encouraged to apply.

Marist Youth Care HSC Enrichment Workshops

Standard and Advanced English
24 September: 10.00am to 3.00pm: 22 Main Street: Blacktown

General and 2 Unit Mathematics Courses
25 September: 10.00am to 3.00pm: 22 Main Street: Blacktown

TAS/CAPA REPORT

Term 3 is over and what a term it was! It was pleasing to see our TAS and CAPA students involved in so many different school activities.

Our school Open Day was a huge success and it was a great opportunity for our TAS and CAPA students to show off their talents. We had Year 12 Music students wowing the audience with their wonderful performances. Well done to Ms Adair for her guidance and support for her students. Mr Wallace had his Year 11 Ceramics class gave a demonstration on how to use the pottery wheel and created some artistic pieces. Mr John and Mr Lightfoot displayed the skills of the Year 12 Construction class in the Construction Trade Training Centre by having students build a stud wall construction. Ms Vongsouvah’s Year 11 Hospitality students won our VIP guest’s hearts through their stomachs by catering for their morning tea. These students then followed this up by giving a demonstration on how to produce a delicious appetizer. Ms Drakefield and some of her Year 9 Child Studies students gave people the opportunity to decorate biscuits in keeping with our school’s 40th birthday theme. Overall, all of our students did a wonderful job of showing others the outstanding skills they have.

Ms Vongsouvah’s Year 11 Hospitality students took part in catering for the Parent’s Conference held at John Warby Public School. We had many people and parents comment on what a fantastic job these students did on the day. Well done to all the students involved in this function!

As this term draws to a close, we would like to request that any outstanding fees be paid and accounts finalised for this year if you have not already done so. If you are unsure of the cost or amount outstanding for your child’s fee then please contact us in TAS or CAPA and we will be able provide you with the correct information.

Our Year 11 students sat their yearly exams at the end of this term. Students are now aware of the requirements of the Preliminary course and we are certain that they will put in the effort required for the HSC course.

We would like to wish our Year 12 students all the best as they will be sitting their HSC exams at the start of next term. It is recommended that students book in a study time with their teachers to get any help they need before their exams. If you have any questions regarding your child’s exam then please contact our staff members who will be able to answer any questions you may have.

Have a safe holiday and see you all next term.

Ms N Vongsouvah HT
40th Anniversary Dinner
40th Anniversary Open Day
TERM 3 DISCO
**YEAR 7 REPORT**

Wow. What a busy term Year 7 have had. They have had the pleasure of celebrating Science week and looking at forces by going to Luna Park in Sydney. The majority of Year 7 have completed their vaccinations. I must comment on the bravery shown during this time of panic and discomfort.

Year 7 have also celebrated Airds High School’s birthday of 40 years, been involved in the Rock and Water program and had a Wellbeing Day. Congratulations Year 7 you have been absolutely fantastic, keep up the hard work.

**40th Celebrations with sporting activities**

We have just had a 40th Anniversary of Excellence in Public Education and our Year 7 students were entertained for the whole day. Period 5 allowed Year 7 to get together as a year group and work on team building and communication skills. We had students tied together at their ankles and a tug-a-war knockout competition. Year 7 had a great time and really involved themselves in the activities. Well done!

**Rock and Water**

Both males and females were put through the Rock and Water course during Week 9. Rock and Water aims to empower people and to grant them the skills needed to hold one’s ground in a fast-changing multicultural society.
Objectives of rock and water

- Become aware of your own body, attitude, emotions and response patterns
- Feeling strong in your own body, being allowed to and having the courage to have confidence in yourself and your power
- Feeling, experiencing your power and directing it from a calm standpoint
- Experiencing that you are strong and learning to convert this power into actions
- The use of mental strength tied to inner strength
- Dealing with stressful situations without losing contact with yourself
- Sensing and experiencing your own personal space, and being able and allowed to take the space, as well as having the courage to do so
- Learning to take action in paralysing situations

The 2 day program is design to empower students and prevent them from shutting off the world, becoming callous and using violence. We want students to respond by using one’s own, invulnerable inner strength.

Wellbeing Day Term 3

This day was focusing on students making an individual time capsule which they will receive when they graduate from Airds High School in 2019. Yes I know that sounds like it is ages away, but as I get older I really feel like the years are flying by.

All Year 7 students decorated their own box, filled in an information sheet all about themselves, wrote questions to their future self, positive comments to all students in their roll call group, video diary and decorated and collected various photos of themselves and their friends. In the afternoon students could pick from a movie or sport. Year 7 were absolutely fantastic on this day, they all worked extremely hard and I would like to congratulate all students for their participation. This is so great to see and I hope that it can continue into our future years together.
Thank you to the lovely and dedicated Year 7 Welfare Team which consists of Mr Miezio, Ms Vongsouvanh, Mr Wallace, Mr Latulipe, Mrs Drakefield, Mrs Addamo and Mrs Basman. I would like to thank Mrs Basman for all her hard work this year and wish her all the best for the new arrival of her first child. I would also like to welcome and thank the newest member of our Welfare team, Mrs Angel.

State Athletics
Congratulations to Maria Lilomaiva who finished 7th in NSW in the 12 years girls High Jump event. What a great achievement.

Information for events in Term 4
- Formal assembly – Friday Week 1, period 2
- Yearly Examinations – Week 5
- Swim and survive – Bradbury pools, all of Week 8
- Jamberoo - 12th of December

Ms N Tate
Year 7 Adviser

VET REPORT

VET Regional Awards
Ben Ling won 2 awards in Sports Coaching at the annual Public Schools NSW Ultimo VET awards at Revesby Workers Club on the 18th August 2014. He won the Macarthur Region and was the overall winner in Sports Coaching. This is an excellent achievement for both Ben and his Sports Coaching teacher Ms Simms. Congratulations on all the hard work you have done to receive these awards. The pictures below are of Ben and Ms Simms with his award on the night:

Work Placement Apprenticeship Offer
Work Placement is an important part of the learning experience of studying a VET subject. Congratulations to Year 11 Hospitality student Brock Baker for being offered an apprenticeship at Western Suburbs Leagues Club, Leumeah. He was offered the apprenticeship for his outstanding skills in the kitchen and his positive and enthusiastic attitude on his work placement. He will start his apprenticeship when he finishes Year 12. I would like to recognise Ms Vongsouvanh his VET Hospitality teacher for her hard work and dedication to her students for getting them work ready for their Work Placement.

Mandatory 70 hour Work Placement News
Year 11/12 VET students are now beginning their 2nd mandatory 35 hour Work Placements. It is important for students to complete the Work Placement to achieve their HSC. Please encourage your children to go to Work Placement and to complete the experience of working in a real life situation. If students are sick, they must obtain a doctors certificate and catch up on the days missed. The students need to complete the Mandatory Work Placement Journal, have it signed by all parties and hand back to their VET teacher. Students need to complete 2 Work Placements (70 hours) during the course of the 2 years of their HSC. If you have any concerns of your child’s Work Placement, please do not hesitate to contact their VET teachers or Ms Coogan (VET Coordinator).

MWLP News
Congratulations to the following Year 12 VET student Samuel Bowden studying Metal and Engineering. He has been nominated in the top 20 VET students for the 2014 MWLP Work Placement Honour Roll and the MG My Gateway Work Placement Student of the Year Award. This award rewards students in excellence for HSC VET Work Placement.
Good luck Samuel in your nomination and your excellent work and positive attitude during your Work Placement. I would like to recognise his VET Teacher Mr Lightfoot for his hard work and dedication to his students for getting them work ready for their Work Placement.

Campbelltown Trade Training Centre Trade Skills Day
What a great opportunity we had to head over to Eagle Vale High School for the Campbelltown Trade Training Centre Trade Skills Day where our students had a chance to showcase their skills and talents on a number of pre-determined Metals & Engineering Projects in front of several industry representatives.

Not only was it a chance to meet other students from Eagle Vale High School and Picton High School, our students were also able to converse with the industry representatives and bridge the communication gap between industry and schools which in the past has been inadequate. It was a fantastic day for all who attended and some of the standouts were comments like this towards our students from another teacher like "These students will not be working for someone else later in life they will be running their own business with attitudes like this". Also Angela Franks who tried her hand at jewellery making and also beat the boys in the car racing puzzle at the end of the day. I would like to congratulate the Year 10 and 11 Metals students who attended and commend them on their exemplary behaviour.

Student Fees
Fees for student’s VET subjects need to be paid as soon as possible, as this allows the teachers to buy the resources needed to complete the practical components of their subjects. Please contact your students VET teacher of current fees to be paid. Year 12 outstanding fees need to be paid as soon as possible to enable the students to graduate from school. If you have any concerns with the fee payments, please contact the office or their VET teacher.

Hospitality News
The following Year 11 Vet Hospitality students and Ms Vongsouvanh catered for the John Warby Public School Parents Conference. The students catered for 140 people. They did an excellent job preparing, presenting and serving a selection of meat, prawn, chicken platters, and a variety of salads and fruit platters to the teachers and parents. The students catering for the function were: Brock Baker, Khaled El-Tahach, Chloe Ellis, Bryant Li, Gabrielle Tuitea and Joshua Woodin. Below are some photos of the day. Well done, Year 11 Hospitality for your hard work.
Regards
Ms Coogan

If your child is absent from school, we need a note to explain the absence WITHIN 7 DAYS – this is a legal requirement otherwise the absence will be marked as unjustified. Thank you for your co-operation.

ADMINISTRATION

Please be aware that the school office now offers eftpos facilities, online payment is also available through the school website.

Keep in touch with what’s happening at AHS by downloading our school app. It can be downloaded from the Apple App Store or Google Play Store. Passwords to log into the app are:
username – community
password - airdshs

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL REPORT 7, 9, 11

Parent Conference - Creating Tomorrow’s Leaders

On Friday 29th August, Campbelltown Education Office and John Warby PS held a Parent Conference for Campbelltown and Macarthur schools. The theme of this year’s conference was Creating Tomorrow’s Leaders: Empowering parents to help and support their children to develop into tomorrow’s leaders. The aim is to provide parents with the mindset, skill set and tool set to help and support their children. It was very well attended with 140 parents. Airds HS had three student representatives on a leadership panel answering questions from the parents. I would like to congratulate Justin Peachey, Maria Lilomaiva & Caitlyn Vidovic-McCarthy on the way they conducted themselves and answered the questions.

Year 11 Important Information

Year 11 students start their Preliminary Course yearly exams this week. I wish them all the best and look forward to seeing them return in Term 4 as Year 12 students starting their HSC year.

The following is some information for students to explain what they will receive depending on when they leave school.

Here is a brief overview of what students will receive:

Successfully completing Stage 5 and leaving at the end of Year 10

These students will receive a RoSA listing their Stage 5 courses with an A to E grade for each course as well as achievement details for any completed Vocational Education and Training (VET) or Life Skills courses.
Leaving during Year 11
Students leaving during Year 11 before they complete any Preliminary courses will receive a RoSA that lists their Stage 5 courses with their results as well as a list of Preliminary courses they participated in and the date they left school.

Leaving at the end of Year 11
Students completing Year 11 will receive a RoSA listing their Stage 5 and Preliminary courses with their results.

Leaving during Year 12
Students leaving during Year 12 before completing their HSC courses and examinations will receive a RoSA listing both their Stage 5 and Preliminary courses with their results and also a list of HSC courses they participated in and the date they left school.

Completing Year 12
Students leaving at the end of Year 12 will receive their HSC with a list of their courses and results.

Students Online
Students Online is a purpose-built website for NSW senior students. All students from Year 10 onwards have access to their personalised Students Online account. This portal is managed by BOSTES and gives students access to their results for Years 10, 11 and 12. Students can generate an interim report known as a Student eRecord. A Student eRecord can be printed and shown at job interviews or to further education providers. Students should speak to their Year Adviser if they do not have access to their Students Online account.

Recording Extracurricular Achievement – up2now Learning Portfolio Website
The Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards (BOSTES) recognises that many employers and places of further education are interested in more than academic results and has developed an online resource as an adjunct to the Record of Student Achievement (RoSA) to help senior secondary students bring together evidence of a range of extracurricular activities.

The up2now – my ongoing learning portfolio website (https://www.up2now.net.au/people/login) allows Year 10, 11 and 12 students to record, organise and share evidence of their extracurricular activities, such as first-aid qualifications, involvement in extra-curricular activities or volunteer work. Using up2now provides students with the opportunity to develop skills in describing, organising and presenting their broader learning, community service and volunteering involvement, and other results, awards and achievements. Students can use up2now to share this information with prospective employers or use it to access other education or training pathways.

Students will receive a personalised email to their school email address which can be accessed through their student portal. The email includes an up2now invitation and their login credentials.

If students need support in using the site, please refer to the ‘How to’ section of the up2now website where they will find a user guide to step them through the process of creating portfolios. Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you have further questions about this project.

Reminder – Year 12 Graduation of Laptops
Year 12 students are in the process of completing the transfer of ownership for their laptops it is important they complete the form and return their laptops ASAP. Ownership of laptops will be formally transferred to students who have completed Year 12 in 2014. Laptops remain the property of NSW Department of Education and Training until transfer takes place. Information and forms have already been given out in year meetings. By proceeding to sign and complete the Transfer of Ownership Acknowledgement & Acceptance form, you will be acknowledging and accepting the transfer of ownership of your DER-NSW Lenovo ThinkPad Edge 11 ‘Green’ laptop.

Escalating a Situation through the use of Social Media
Since the inception of social media and the ease of access students have to it, it comes as no surprise when some people abuse this tool while others use it to their and others benefit. Most of the students use it well and for the benefit of them and others, while some use it to gossip, slander and ridicule others. I would like to place it on record that any student who escalates a situation through the use of social media will incur the same punishment as those directly involved. We expect more from our students in this regard. Take the option to not get involved or report inappropriate language and behaviour to a parent, teacher or the Police.

40th Anniversary Open day
The 40th Anniversary Open day celebrations were a huge success with the formal assembly, tour of the school and sporting afternoon. I would like to thank all those involved in the coordination of the day’s events. Well done!
Finally I would like to wish you all a safe and happy holiday and look forward to seeing you all for the last term of 2014 ready to achieve your personal best.

Mr J Miezio
Deputy Principal

School starts at 8:30am EVERY day. Please ensure your child arrives at school before this time EVERY day. If they are late, they MUST bring a note from you explaining the lateness. Thank you for your co-operation.
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL’S REPORT 

Term 3 has certainly been a busy yet productive term for all at Airds High School. Firstly, I would like to congratulate Year 12 on completing 13 years of schooling. I would like to wish all of them the very best in their upcoming exams and look forward to watching them graduate at the end of Term 4. I know Mr Lightfoot has sent a letter home explaining all of the important dates and events for Year 12 and I encourage all parents to read and be familiar with these dates. I would also encourage parents to be aware of when their child has an HSC exam on so that they can ensure they are at school on time. As a general rule, students need to be at school at least 20 minutes before the start of each exam. On the day of the first exam, they need to be here 35 minutes before. Finally, I would also like to take this opportunity to thank their Year Adviser, Mr Lightfoot, for all of his hard work at such an important point in their school lives.

Year 10 have made choices in the first round of subject selections for Year 11 2015. Whilst some students may have missed out on some subjects or may not want to study other subjects, it is important to understand that the lines that we came up with satisfy the majority of student choice. This means that most students have been satisfied. Changing the line structure in any way means that we end up not satisfying as many students.

Likewise, Year 8 have made their subject choices and we have selected the courses that will run as electives. Again, some students will not get all of their chosen subjects but we have tried to satisfy as many students as we can. Unfortunately, it is just not possible to run every subject. Students will find out what electives are running towards the end of Term 4.

Our Anniversary Dinner was a resounding success, with over 100 people there on the night, past and present students, staff, parents and community, all there to celebrate our 40th Anniversary. We had a performance from an ex-student, Byron Watson, who is now a well known Opera singer. Former Principal, Mr John List, gave an address and we had a video message from former student and substantive Head Teacher English, Mr Andrew Ryder. The dinner was such a success because of the efforts of many of our current staff. Whilst many members of staff played an important role, I really want to acknowledge Ms Tailby, Ms Robinson and Mrs Bain for all of their work leading up to the event and on the night. It was a wonderful night of celebration for our great school. Thank you to all of those who joined us, we really valued you being there.

On another note, I would like to thank Mr O’Neill who filled in as Deputy Principal for Weeks 8 and 9. In my absence, he has done an amazing job and I thank him for all of his hard work during what was a busy time at Airds High School. I would also like to recognise Ms Mak who filled in for Mr O’Neill as HT HSIE during this time.

Finally, as I write this article, it is SASS Recognition Week. We have the most amazing School Administrative and Support Staff that perform many important roles within our school. I would like to recognise all of our School Administrative Officers (Front Office, Library, TAS, Science), General Assistant, School Learning and Support Officers (T&L and Support), and community support officers (AEA, Norta Norta tutor, PICLO, CLO, Pastoral Care) for all that they do for our staff, students and community. I would also like to make a special mention to our SAM (School Administrative Manager), Mrs Bain, who not only makes a wonderful contribution to our school but oversees all SAS staff. Thank you for all of the work that you do every day, especially in SASS Recognition Week.

Wishing you all a safe and restful holiday,
Mrs J Fuller
Deputy Principal

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Welcome to the families and friends of Airds High School. On Tuesday 2nd September, we opened our school gates to welcome the community into our school as part of our 40th Anniversary celebrations. It was fantastic to see ex-students and their families wandering around our school, looking at the various displays and reminiscing of days gone by. The collection of photos will remain available for perusal in the school library. Mr Bryan Doyle, explained as part of his address during our formal assembly why our school logo has a ship. I will end the suspense now; it is because of our link to Governor Macquarie (Lord of the Isles) and his Scottish coat of arms.
On Saturday 6th September we held our celebration dinner at Wests Leagues Club. People had travelled from as far away as Tweed Heads and Queensland to be part of the evening. Over 100 people came together to share memories, good times and to recognise the valuable contribution AHS has made to public education over the past forty years. Thank you to Mr Byron Watson (a former student) for giving his time, sharing his immense talent and performing on the night. Well done to Ms Carol Jones, Ms Margaret Cumines and Ms Lee Bateman for cutting the cake, each of these ladies has worked diligently at our school for more than three decades. It is the quality of the people at AHS that have always made it a wonderful place to work and learn. The highlight of the evening was undoubtedly the heartfelt speech given by Mr John List (he was principal of AHS during the 1990’s).

Our school fete will be held on Saturday 11th October 2014 between 10.00 am and 2.00 pm. Staff and students have been busy organising activities to run on the day. It would be fantastic if members of our community got involved as well. If you have an idea, would like to run an event or are willing to help in any way please contact the school. Remember many hands might light work!

Year 12 are completing their final week of classroom learning at AHS. I would like to thank each and every one of these amazing students for the contribution they have made to our school and our community. Please support your child by encouraging them to spend the remaining weeks before the HSC examinations start, studying and revising course work. Our teachers are always willing to support and encourage our students, so do not hesitate to ask for help.

Our community has worked hard over recent years to improve our school image. The wearing of the correct school uniform has a significant role in the way our school and our community are viewed by the general public. The correct school uniform is available on our website, our school app and in our student diaries.

I wish everyone a relaxing holiday, good health and good fortune and I am looking forward to seeing you all next term at our school fete.

Mr S McGuire
Principal

COMMUNITY NEWS

Archery
School holiday Camp.

Wednesday 24th September: 8yrs-12 years
Thursday 25th September: 13yrs-16yrs
10am—2pm
Lunch will be provided!
$25 for members
$30 for non members
Bookings are essential

95 Minto Road, Minto 2566
Phone: 9603 8229
Email: Campbelltown@pvcnsw.org.au
Check our website: airds-h.schools@det.nsw.edu.au

A SUSTAINABLE EDUCATION BUILDS A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

Diploma in Community Services 2 days a week for one year
Diploma in Business 1 day a week for six months

Yet fees only apply when your income is over $33,000 per year.
The fees are paid back through your taxable refunds.
Register your interest in these life changing courses.

Phone Airds Bradbury Community Centre 4625 8212

Leave your details (name, address and phone numbers, Australian Tax File Number) and we will contact you for an introduction day when the course is full.

You must be an Australian Citizen to apply.
No Pre Education requirements are needed.

FREE
New Technology form Mums & Dads
TAFE accredited Certificate 2
Starting first week of Term 4
This Course will include:

* Use of Microsoft Applications including Publisher & PowerPoint
* Use of Digital Cameras & How to make flyers and Booklets etc.
* Technology to link Smart Phones to the Computer

Names are now being taken to fill this course to start in the first week of term 4 2014
It will run for 8 weeks 1 day a week 9.30 to 1pm and will contain 3-4 units it will be taught by a Qualified TAFE Teacher.

To put your name on the list please ring 4625 8312 or drop into the Airds Bradbury Community Centre 69 Riverstone Drive, AIRDOS

KIDS CAMPS

THE BEST HOLIDAYS HAPPEN AT CAMP

Choose from over 30 exhilarating camps at 10 locations across NSW these school holidays.

Our Sport and Recreation Centres offer over 40 activities for kids aged 5 to 16 years. Try your hand at fishing, mountain biking, kayaking, archery, crafts, cooking or flying fox. You’re sure to find a camp the kids will love.

www.det.nsw.gov.au/kidscamps 1313 02

WE WANT YOU

Stallholders Required
Airds High School Fete.
Saturday 11th October, 2014
10am - 2pm

$25 setup fee for stalls.
Stall holders take all profits made.

Contact Airds High School on 46 255 811 to book your place