



ECHO



No. 1 Week 3, Term 1 2009 Tel 02 9834 3536 website: www.erskinparkhs.com.au

HSC—WELL DONE

A fine effort from all students and staff in the 2008 HSC examination. Our highlights included our galvanising of strong proportions of students in the Bands 5 and 6. TEN Band 6 results were very pleasing and sets a standard for even better performance at the top end in future years. Equally we have dramatically reduced the number of students below Band 3. Our school has a powerful ethic of *Band 3 and Beyond* in all public examinations.

Alex Soare was our Dux (UAI 98.9) while Shuai Zhang (UAI 98.6) and Rhiannon White (UAI 95.4) were some of our highest performers. Our Standard English results (87 students) were above State Average as they were in the very highest levels of Mathematics at the school: Mathematics Extension 1 and Mathematics Extension 2. These also eclipsed State average performance. We continue to have great challenges ahead and are positioning ourselves for a continuation of the remarkable work from 2008.

STAFF CHANGES FOR 2009

Every year in schools you celebrate the achievements of staff and recognise that in a workforce as large as ours that staff seek promotion, transfer and other challenges. The following changes will occur in 2009:

- Michelle Paulley has secured a transfer to Katoomba HS, a position much closer to home for one of our longest serving staff members. Brooke Barty replaces.
- Jade Vardon will replace Michelle Paulley as a permanent member of the CAPA staff.
- Sandra Hockings (Head Teacher CAPA) will move on transfer to Northmead HS. Lisa Keaton replaces her. Gennaro Serra will relieve as Head Teacher CAPA.
- Bellinda Boyd will continue on

- maternity leave across 2009.
- Pushpa Navaratnam has moved interstate and will be replaced by Ms Robin Smith.
- Mick Nolan will continue his position in Support.
- Natali Radenkovic has been appointed as a permanent replacement for Simon Ware.
- Andriani Fam has been appointed as a permanent replacement for Ben North who moves to another school..
- Sarah Chalk joins us in English as a permanent replacement for Mick Devlin.
- Sarah Haigh—will join us as an additional mobile staff member in English in 2009 as Georgina Lindsay continues on maternity leave.
- Ms Tue Moy and Ms Alison Billiards return to us from maternity leave and will continue to share a Science position. Ms Saleh will cover the other Science position.
- Bernadette Attard continues her position replacing Joanne Cooper who is on maternity leave.
- Lucy Chen, a Chinese teacher for our thriving initiative with our feeder primary schools, will become a permanent member of staff two days a week.
- Fay Paul becomes Head Teacher Mentor replacing Janine Marcus who moves to another school.
- Michael Burke replaces Corey Galea who is on leave for Terms 1 and 2
- Diana Jusic, our school counsellor, leaves soon for the birth of her first child.

NEW SCHOOL

ADMINISTRATION MANAGER
Late in 2008, Mrs Rita Coman was confirmed as our new School Administration Manager, replacing Mrs Julie Pozoglou. We congratulate Rita on her hard work and

ATTENDANCE

We need **EVERY** parent to help us in lifting expectations of student attendance at school:

Explaining EVERY absence and REDUCING student absences to single figures across the year.

“DRAW THE LINE AT NINE”

(Nine absences MAX. per student per year)

accomplished achievement.

CHRISTMAS WISH

Through the fantastic leadership of our SRC and Senior Leadership Team— under the guidance of Mrs Berry, our school generously provided many, many Christmas gifts



2009 P&C MEETING DATES TO PUT IN YOUR DIARY:
Monday 23/2, 30/3, 27/4, 25/5, 29/6, 27/7, 31/8, 28/9, 26/10, 30/11 7.00pm in School Admin. Block

UNIFORM SHOP

The School Uniform Shop is open during Term times:

Tuesdays 8.30am—1.30pm AND

Fridays 12.00pm—1.30pm

(Shop is located at the front of the hall near to the canteen)

Phone number: 1300 553 832

Fax number: 1800 739 832

(Pick up your uniform supplies—or have your son or daughter do it— after phoning in advance or after faxing an order in advance)

for the local community. A wonderful, spirited show of strength.

CANTEEN

Please be aware that all students who attend every day across the term are eligible for the School Canteen's 100% Attendance Award to the value of \$50 which is drawn on the morning of the last day of term each and every term. If not present—redraw! We thank Lisa and Roslyn for their generosity in rewarding our very best attenders! There are TWO awards EVERY Term.

FRIDGE MAGNET CALENDARS

Our 2009 version will be made available again through the school foyer. Please pick one up when you are next in the school.

TARYN VENTURA (YR 12)

Taryn (pictured below) has recently received a prestigious Science award—the Victor Chang Cardiac Research Fellowship. Taryn has also



recently received a separate scholarship from the University of Western Sydney (UWS) for her tertiary studies as well. Congratulations!

LATENESS TO SCHOOL - CRACKDOWN

I am particularly heartened by the immense support of parents concerning our 2009 school target of improving attendance and student lateness to school. This is a **strong indicator of likely academic success** and something valued highly by the school and the staff.

Again this year, if students are late to school, they will be given two chances and on the third and any subsequent time they are late they will complete a half lunch detention for this, supervised by a Head Teacher. If it is a genuine instance of lateness we require a note on the day from parents. Thanks.

SCHOOL MANAGEMENT PLAN 2009

The P&C have recently ratified this plan for 2009. We are focusing on some key system wide areas of development. Further details are available on our website:

- Literacy –
- Enriched Culture of Higher Achievement
- Numeracy –

Enriched Culture of Higher Achievement

- Student Engagement and Retention – Greater Proactive Student Welfare/ Middle Years Engagement
- Aboriginal Education and Training
- Teacher Quality
- Connected Learning – Strengthened Curriculum/ Learning Community
- Connected Learning – Enhanced Use and Delivery of Technology
- Enhanced School Environment

Please help us elevate student attendance patterns. We have some serious improvement required here to improve student results. Together we can make it happen.

NEWSLETTER—ON LINE

All school newsletters will be sent on-line through our website mailing list. Please register on the website and look for this icon:



A few copies only will be available in the school foyer. Have a great term.

Tim McCallum (Principal).