



# ECHO—2009



Student Highlights Across 2009

Tel 02 9834 3536

website: [www.erskinparkhs.com.au](http://www.erskinparkhs.com.au)

## **NSW TALENTED ATHLETE PROGRAM**

Rebecca Walker (Year 11) was selected for the second year in a row for netball. This camp is an exclusive nomination from the State Age Championships and successful participants are then notified. Well done Rebecca!

## **ZONE BASKETBALL EXCELLENCE**

A huge well done to both Daniel Ramirez (Year 7) and Amin Najafi (Year 9) on their selection in this representative basketball team.

## **REGIONAL FUTSAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Well done to Cameron Walton, Robert Loucos, Jayden Harper, Aaron Clavell, Jarrod Keating, Aaron Campbell and Ashley Green (Year 11) on their participation and success in their annual tournament

## **SYDNEY WEST BASEBALL EXCELLENCE**

Both Luke Harris (Year 11) and Josh Evans (Year 10) were selected for the Sydney West baseball team.

## **TENNIS EXCELLENCE**

Alex Papadony (Year 10) made the Werrington Zone Tennis Team. Well done Alex on this great achievement!

## **UNICEF JUNIOR ROUNDTABLE ASIA-PACIFIC FORUM**

Congratulations to Christian Jeffries and Jasbinder Singh (Year 11) on their nomination and selection to represent our school in this Australia-wide at NSW Parliament House.

## **MARTIAL ARTS—TAE KWON DO**

Cassandra Thomson (Year 10) represented in the Victorian Championships for Martial Arts in March and did so with great distinction.

## **21 ARMY CADET UNIT PENRITH**

Well done to Billy Maybury (Year 9) and Michael Wolter (Year 10), Luke Donohue (Year 11) who represented in

*the catafalque and escort party with the 21 Army Cadet Unit at the annual ANZAC Day service in St Marys.*

## **REGIONAL ENSEMBLE MUSIC TOUR—NINGBO**

Congratulations to Daniel Hines (Year 10, saxophone), Ashleigh Cullen (Year 10, percussion/ drums), Brooke McElhinney (Year 10, base clarinet and clarinet), Jake La Ferla (Year 8, tuba) and Amber Brown (Year 7, clarinet) who were selected for an ensemble tour to China in October 2009. Well done to all—and also to their teacher and mentor, Mr Craig McGown.

## **ASHLEIGH BRISTOW**

Congratulations to Ashleigh Bristow (Year 11) on her selection into the UBS Young Women's Leadership Academy and residential programme in the April school holidays. A wonderful effort.

## **STUDENT LEADERSHIP EQUITY FORUM**

Congratulations to both Ashley Issacs (Year 9) and Arianne Zaragoza (Year 9) who were invited to this Western Sydney Regional Student Forum as leaders in May 2009.

## **WESTERN SYDNEY STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM (WSSLT)**

Well done to Jasbinder Singh (Year 11) who was elected by her student leader peers from across Western Sydney schools to the Western Sydney Student Leadership Team in 2009.

## **ANZAC DAY PRESENTATION**

An outstanding showcase of our student talents and leadership was evident at the ANZAC Day Dawn Service at St Marys RSL. Allara La Ferla (Year 9) led the gathered in two hymns and the national anthem and did so with great distinction. Katherine Mead (Year 8), on behalf of the St John's Ambulance Service, read a prayer with wonderful clarity and meaning. The school was represented at the Wreath Laying by Michelle Ryan, Beatrice Javier, Nathan Papadionisiou, Jacob Brenner, Charley

Earl (Year 12) and Christian Jeffries, Jasbinder Singh (Year 11) and Daniel Hines (Year 10). Thank you to all students and their families for their support of this highly significant community and civic occasion.

In addition, Beatrice Javier, Michelle Ryan, Charley Earle, Jacob Brenner (Year 12) and Daniel Hines (Year 10) all bravely represented the school in pouring rain in the ANZAC Day march through the streets of St Marys.

## **EDUCATION WEEK FLAG PARADE**

Ben Mills and Ben Gray (Year 8) represented the school at the annual Education Week Flag Parade at CUA Stadium. A fantastic representation of the school and its image. Well done!

## **AUSTRALIAN LITTLE ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS—SUPERB PERFORMANCE**

Taylah Sengul (Year 8) won the U/13 Shot Put, Discus and Javelin at the Australian Championships as a member of the New South Wales team. A tremendous achievement making Taylah the best athlete in these events for her age group in Australia! Congratulations too to her family for their outstanding support of her talents.

## **ALL SCHOOLS NEW SOUTH WALES SWIMMING**

Congratulations to Josh Bright (Year 7) who competed as a Sydney West representative in the CHS 100m Breaststroke and came third and was then chosen for the 50m Breaststroke event at the All Schools state titles, representing CHS.

## **STATE SRC REPRESENTATIVE**

Well done to Jasbinder Singh (Year 11) for her achievement in being elected by her peers into the New South Wales State Student Representative Council (SRC). Jasbinder represented the Sydney West region in this position. The school has never before had student leadership representation at this



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level.

## LARISSA RYAN—KARATE SUCCESS

Congratulations to Larissa Ryan (Year 11) on her success in being placed first in the Junior Grade Kata, first in the U/18 Female Kata, second in the Open Female Kata and first in the U/18 Female Kumite (Sparring) at the Japan Karate Federation (JKF) Australian National Championships. She was rewarded with selection in the Australian team to compete in the JKF World Championships in Japan.

## WESTERN SYDNEY REGION PULSE CONCERT FEATURED ARTIST PERFORMERS

Rachel Joynes (Year 12) and Allara La Ferla (Year 9) were selected as individual featured artists at this prestigious concert at the Opera House in August. This is an outstanding achievement and worthy of high congratulations.

## ZONE ATHLETICS—ZAC CAMPBELL AND ROBERT VUKOVICH (YEAR 7)

Congratulations to Zac Campbell (Year 7) who came first in U/12 100m, 200m, long jump, discus, shot put, high jump and second in 80m hurdles and 800m. Zac was awarded U/12 Age Champion for 2009.

In addition, Robert Vukovich (Year 7) came first in U/13 200m, discus and second in 100m, shot put and third in long jump. Robert was awarded U/13 Age Champion. A fantastic achievement by both boys!

## ZONE ATHLETICS RECORDS — TAYLAH SENGUL

Congratulations to Taylah Sengul (Year 8) who also broke the Zone Athletics records in U/14 discus (throwing 42 metres) and shot put (throwing 14metres, 21 cm).

## TITRATION COMPETITION SUCCESS

Three teams of students (Taryn Ventura, Mnique Som and John Lau; Adrian Casey, Matthew Layton, Amanda Dunscombe; Mary Gacuma, Amanda Ryan, Laura Morrison) from Year 11 and 12 were involved in a competitive problem solving day against other schools from Western Sydney and some fifty senior students. Amanda Ryan was placed second in the Individual Category. A magnificent achievement!

## STAR READERS PROGRAMME

Jamie Weston (Year 8) was awarded the STAR Reader prize for her excellent short written piece. Other students involved in this project include Brooke Clark (Year 8), Thomas Grenell (Year 7), Kaizad Mehta (Year 8) and Michaela Gigg (Year 8). Congratulations to all students!

## DANCING SUCCESS

Congratulations to Christine Rosina (Year 12) who was selected to participate in an International Dance Tour to Beijing this year through the National Institute of Youth Performing Arts.

## ALLARA LA FERLA—FEATURED ARTIST AT 2009 SCHOOLS SPECTACULAR

Congratulations to Allara La Ferla (Year 9) on achieving an incredibly prestigious opportunity as a featured artist at Schools Spectacular. Her talent, dedication and drive have been duly recognised and rewarded. Allara performed a song called *Welcome To Country* written by Matt Doyle and performed sensationally.

## REGIONAL GYMNASTICS REPRESENTATIVE

Well done to Kaitlyn White (Year 9) who participated as an excellent performer in the State gymnastics carnival at Newcastle this year. Kaitlyn participated in Level 6/7.

## REGIONAL ATHLETICS—ZAC CAMPBELL (YEAR 7), ROBERT VUKOVICH (YEAR 7), TARRA-JANE FORNO (YEAR 9) and TAYLAH SENGUL (YEAR 8)

Congratulations to all of these students who were selected to represent Western Sydney Region at the State Athletics titles at the Homebush Olympic Athletics Stadium.

## SYDNEY WEST SOFTBALL

Congratulations to Luke Harris (Year 11) who was selected to represent Sydney West in Softball. Luke is a proven high achiever in this sport and in baseball. Congratulations!

## PREMIER'S DEBATING—YEARS 7 and 8.

Congratulations to Grace Chambers (Year 8), Emily Lucas (Year 8), Jonathan Stankowski (Year 7) and Thisuri Peiris (Year 7) who defeated Baulkham Hills High School in their enthralling debating match up. This then led to a Zone Final and they

## CHS SUCCESS—TAYLAH SENGUL

Taylah Sengul (Year 8) achieved first place in Discus, Shot Put and Javelin at this statewide prestigious carnival. A phenomenal achievement!

## AUSTRALIAN (ALL SCHOOLS) NATIONAL ATHLETICS CARNIVAL—HOBART

Taylah Sengul (Year 8) represented NSW at the All Schools National Athletics Carnival in December at Hobart and came first in Discus, Shot Put and Javelin. An outstanding performance of monumental proportions!

## DEPARTMENT FAIR TRADING MONEYSTUFF COMPETITION

Congratulations to Stacey Aranha, Danielle Sammut (Year 10) on their successful website entry in this competition. They were selected as finalists and have won cheques for



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\$200 each. They also won \$2000 for the school! Outstanding!

## **INDOOR ROCK CLIMBING**

Congratulations to Michael Urquhart of Year 9 who won second place in the 'Difficulty' category and first place in the 'Speed' category at Australian Youth Nationals for Indoor Rock Climbing. He represented at the Oceania Rock Climbing Cup in October. Michael, achieved first place in the 'Speed' and 4th in the 'Difficulty' category for his age. A tremendous performance where his amazing speed has been an exemplary feature of his achievement!

## **VICTOR CHANG CARDIAC RESEARCH INSTITUTE AWARD**

Amanda Ryan of Year 11 has been successful in winning the prestigious Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute award for 2008 for her tremendous achievement in science areas of the curriculum.

## **JEFF GRIFFITHS—CAREERS ADVISER OF THE YEAR**

Congratulations to Mr Jeff Griffiths who was announced as the winner in the 2009 NSW Careers Adviser s Association of The Year Award. Jeff is an outstanding contributor to the school and to our students and thoroughly deserves this prestigious accolade.

## **PIERRE DE COUBERTIN AWARD WINNER—JOSHUA MEEHAN**

Congratulations to Joshua Meehan (Year 12), who has been successful in receiving the prestigious Pierre de Coubertin Award.

The Pierre de Coubertin Awards is a major program of the Australian Olympic Committee Schools Education Strategy, which provides young people with an opportunity to share in the true spirit of the Olympics.

The Awards, named after the founder of the modern Olympic Games, promote the importance of participation in sport and physical activity. They recognise students who demonstrate initiative, teamwork, sportsmanship and fair play through participation in a variety of sports, qualities which are consistent with the fundamental aims of the Olympic Movement.

## **WESTERN SYDNEY REGIONAL AWARD WINNERS—MRS BERRY**

Mrs Berry has been successful in winning the highest award possible in our Region for her leadership in Numeracy within our community of schools. In addition her outstanding work and inspiration in Student Leadership has been honoured as well.

## **WESTERN SYDNEY REGIONAL AWARD WINNERS—MR MCGOWN.**

Mr Craig McGown has also received a prestigious Western Sydney Region Award for his exceptional efforts in the area of Creative and Performing Arts. The outstanding quality and range of student centred performance, training and cultural opportunities offered by Mr McGown has seen his dedication, commitment and high standards deservedly rewarded.

## **WESTERN SYDNEY REGIONAL AWARD WINNERS—JAKE LA FERLA**

Jake La Ferla (Year 8) has been successfully recognised as a highly talented, involved and committed Aboriginal student in our school community. His tremendous balance of leadership, example and focus are a great tribute to him.

## **HSC ARTEXPRESS SHORTLISTING—AND ULTIMATE SUCCESS**

Congratulations to Taryn Ventura (Year 12) whose HSC Major Work artwork had initially been shortlisted for inclusion in the prestigious HSC ArtExpress exhibition. Ultimately it was accepted for inclusion in the final exhibition, making it a work in the highest echelons of student HSC achievement in 2009.

## **SYDNEY WEST REPRESENTATIVES 2009**

Congratulations to Taylah Sengul (Year 8) in Athletics, Tarra-Jane Forno (Year 9) in Athletics, Zackary Campbell (Year 7) in Athletics, Robert Vuckovich (Year 7) in Athletics and Swimming, Jennifer Bennett (Year 7) in Soccer, Luke Harris (Year 11) in Baseball, Adam Kelshaw (Year 11) in Swimming and Jourdyn Manning (Year 10) in Netball. All of these students were Sydney West representatives in these sports.

## **NSW COMBINED HIGH SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVES**

Congratulations to Taylah Sengul (Year 8) in Athletics, Zackary Campbell (Year 7) in Athletics, Robert Vuckovich (Year 7) in Athletics who represented so well at this outstanding level of sporting excellence.

## **ZOE RANKMORE—NSW NETBALL METROPOLITAN LINK PROGRAMME**

Congratulations to Zoe Rankmore (Year 10) on her wonderful achievement in making this elite Netball talent identification programme.

## **ST MARYS STAR—DESIGN AN ADVERTISEMENT**

A huge well done and congratulations to Daaniel Rehman (Year 10) for his First Place and Monique Googh (Year 7) for her Third Place success in this highly competitive local competition. This competition requires a hand designed advertisement of a local



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business, incorporating their logo, slogan and business details.

## NSW AND AUSTRALIAN BAND CHAMPIONSHIPS

Amber Brown (Year 7), Ashleigh Cullen (Year 10), Ben Gray (Year 8), Daniel Hines (Year 10), Bien Javier (Year 8), Jake La Ferla (Year 8), Lachlan Manning (Year 9), Brooke McElhinney (Year 10), Katherine Mead (Year 8), Ben Mills (Year 8), Rachel Tapping (Year 9) were placed fourth in Australia and second in NSW in this elite competition as part of the Western Sydney State Schools Concert Band. An exceptional performance!

## PREMIER'S READING CHALLENGE

In our best ever response since the inception of the Premier's Reading Challenge, eighty four students successfully completed the demands of the competition. Amber Brown (Year 7), Chace Brown (Year 7), Jessica Dorman (Year 7), Amye Naylor (Year 7), Naila Ahmad (Year 8), Pradeesha Ranatunge (Year 8) and Matthew Thrush (Year 9) have all been awarded Gold Awards for four years of involvement in this programme. Outstanding!

## AUSTRALIAN SCHOOLS MATHEMATICS COMPETITION

**Credit**—Sesi Adams (Year 9), Jack Ault (Year 9), Christopher Bakic (Year 7), Aaron Beattie (Year 7), Tarek Bieganski (Year 9), Jed Bonne (Year 8), Mary Cao (Year 9), Trae Grenfell (Year 7), Felicity Hunt (Year 9), Darwin Peczek (Year 9), Pradeesha Ranatunga (Year 8), William Song (Year 7), Blake Stein (Year 7), Hayley Thrupp (Year 9), Brendan Walton (Year 7), Kaitlyn White (Year 9)

## CONQUESTA—MATHEMATICS COMPETITION

**Platinum**—Christopher Bakic (Year 7), Felicity Hunt (Year 9), Ambrose Lau (Year 7).

**Diamond**—Aaron Beattie (Year 7), Stephen Cull (Year 7), Rhys Hall (Year 7), William Song (Year 7), Blake Stein (Year 7).

**Gold**—Sesi Adams (Year 9), Joel Goodwin (Year 7), Trae Grenfell (Year 7), Bethany Keen (Year 7)

**Silver**—Lauren Coates (Year 7), Christina De Paz (Year 9), Amy Lennon (Year 7), Taylor Mainwaring-Bold (Year 9), Emily Ryman (Year 7), Matthew Thrush (Year 9), Brendan Walton (Year 7), Chelsea Wodhams (Year 7).

## NSW VIKINGS FUTSAL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Congratulations to Ricky Szuch (Year 8) who was selected for an U/14's representative Futsal team for the NSW team at the National championships in Sydney in January 2010.