Principal’s Report

As the end of term approaches rapidly, we can look back on the term very positively light. I have been most impressed with the Respect, Responsibility and Care shown by members of the student community.

Our seniors are setting good examples as role models for behaviour - Year 8 have impressed enormously as a settled and mature group Year 7 have earned over 1,000 RRC tickets and students in Years 9 and 10 are settled and working well.

Holidays are just around the corner, though there is still over a whole week until the end of term and the expectation is that students will work up until the last day. It is really important to finish the term well and take these positives into the holidays and Term 2.

AEO position: Mark Smith has accepted the position of Aboriginal Education Officer on a permanent basis following a merit selection process and considerable time working in the role on a temporary basis. Mark and Sharron Bulley are a wonderful team and the students of this school are fortunate to have them. I would like to thank AECG President Kerrie Walden as well as Narelle Spackman and Tina Heterick for their time and input as members of the panel.

More time at NHS: I am pleased to announce that I will be staying a bit longer at Narromine High School, as Mrs O’Callaghan has extended her leave until the end of May.

Start of Term 2: Term 1 starts on Monday 28 April for staff and Tuesday 29 April for students.

Top performances:
- Year 11 and 12 Hospitality students – who, under the guidance of Mrs Sue Wallace continue to impress, including as volunteers at the Matrons Ball - great Ambassadors for Narromine High School at an important community event.
- Year 12 English Studies – well organised and positive fundraising events as part of a unit of work to raise money towards their Formal and a present for the school.
- Alex Williams - Represented in the Oztag state cup in Wollongong
- Katlin and Aiden Butcher – who backed up their Little A’s Nationals form (mentioned in last fortnight’s Newsletter) with a solid effort at the state championships a week later. Katlin took out a silver medal for her age in javelin and Aiden a bronze in discus and a fourth place in javelin.
- Carlos Nikolyn and Caitlin Bayliss– off to State next week for swimming – all the best.

The key positive behaviour we are targeting for the remainder of the term is: ‘Active Listening’. This means watching with eyes and ears, remaining present during the lesson and listening when teachers are talking.

Thank you all for such a wonderful start to the year, have a safe and relaxing break.

Please give me a call me or drop by to discuss anything concerning your child and Narromine High School.

Mick Sloan
Relieving Principal

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CROSS COUNTRY AND ADIDAS SCHOOL FUN RUN

We will be holding an Adidas School Fun-Run as a major fundraising event this year. The event will coincide with our annual inter-house cross country run. It will be held on Thursday 1 May, starting and ending at Rotary Park.

The Adidas School Fun-Run is a healthy, fun and active fundraiser that ensures we send the right message to our students about getting active, having fun and maintaining a healthy lifestyle. The main focus of this event is on participation. All participants are awarded points for their house, regardless of their performance. Family support is most appreciated as we encourage all students to get involved.

All students have received a Sponsorship Form to help collect sponsorship on behalf of the school. The funds raised will be used to purchase school sporting equipment.

We ask all parents to read the Sponsorship Form and sign the front page to grant permission for their child to fundraise and participate in this event. Students who raise just $10 or more will receive a reward for effort. In the Sponsorship Form you will also find many other benefits like the chance to win a family holiday to Disneyland!

Students wanting to track their progress, and use online fundraising, can do so by logging onto schoolfunrun.com.au/students and creating a Student Profile Page.

Finally, we would like to welcome parents and family members to attend the Adidas School Fun-Run event day at Rotary Park on Thursday May 1 to help cheer on the students.

If you would like to volunteer and help out on the day please contact the school on 6889 1499.

Thank you, good luck and happy fundraising!

Josiah Hoyle

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Matthew Walsh
Graduating year - 2010

My post school achievements have been –

- 2011 and 2012 - Completed Certificates 3 and 4 in fitness, gained part time employment at the Narromine Sports Centre (NSC)
- 2013 - Completed level 1 & 2 P.I.C.P strength and conditioning coaching certificate, gained fulltime employment managing NSC.
- 2014 – Started my own personal training, strength and conditioning business “Ultimate Strength and Conditioning”.

The highlights of my time at NHS were the great teachers, sport, primary industries, Year 11 biology excursion to Cronulla, hospitality and our Year 12 formal.

STUDENTS VOLUNTEER AT MACQUARIE

MATRONS BALL

Thirteen students volunteered their time to help support the Macquarie Matrons Ball on Saturday 22 March. Not only did they give up their Saturday afternoon and evening but also displayed our school values of Respect, Responsibility and Care throughout the evening.

The Macquarie Matrons sent a message thanking these students. “This group was absolutely fantastic and we could not have done it without them. Their help was very much appreciated and they did a wonderful job. Thank you very much!!”

Once again, another example of the wonderful and caring students at Narromine High School. Well done!

Jan Davison
Tasma, Casey, Hunter, Dannielle, Fallon, Caitlin, Holly, Melissa, Prezlea and Emma

UNDER 15’s CHS NETBALL
The team travelled to Gilgandra on Friday 14 March to participate in the second round of the CHS knockout competition. It was the first time the majority of the girls played together and with more work they will combine to be a strong side. The girls faced an older and more experienced side and had a loss on the day. The Year 9 girls demonstrated a lot of respect and guidance to the Year 7 and 8 girls in the side. Thank you to Shelley Bayliss who transported students to Gilgandra and was Narromine’s referee. Well done girls.
Miss Althofer

Fallon, Lily, Brittney, Amy, Mollie, Rebecca, Tianna, Annabelle, Zoe and Caitlin

OPENS CHS NETBALL CARNIVAL
On Thursday 20 March, ten girls travelled to Dubbo to participate in the CHS Open Netball Carnival. The girls played really well and worked out some solid combinations with only one loss for the day. The girls came second in their pool. Their wins were over Warren 18-8, Wellington 20-1 and Delroy 28-13. Well done to the Under 15 girls Caitlin Bayliss and Fallon Attwater who stepped up and played for the Opens side, they certainly held their positions well. Thank you to the parents who transported the girls to the netball carnival and to Shelley Bayliss, our referee for the day, it is greatly appreciated.
Miss Althofer

ART CLASSES
Year 9 Art have been carving it up in art to create lino prints. After carving the lino, ink is applied and once the lino is pressed onto paper a print is created. Here are their designs based on Australian animals – Aussie Aussie Oi Oi Oi!!

Year 8 Art have begun the year with a great start. They have learnt about primary and secondary colours, hot and cold colours, the basics of design, the fundamentals of tone and the how to draw the human face.

IT'S FUN TO GET DOWN ON PI-DAY!
Miss Stanbridge’s Year 8 Math class enjoyed celebrating International Pi-Day which was Friday March 14 as Pi begins with 3.14. The students used Pi to calculate the circumference and area of tasty apple pies before eating them.
CLUB RED YOUTH AMBASSADOR PROGRAM
Narromine High School has registered for the Club Red online Challenge. The Club Red program is an opportunity for all kinds of groups across Australia to get together and do something special by regularly giving blood. This challenge encourages students and the wider school community to donate blood. We are asking parents and other family members (new and old donors) to register with Club Red and ensure your donation counts towards the school’s tally.

Ryan Richardson, Dylan Housden and Kristen Poulson attended the Club Red Youth Ambassador Training day in Dubbo. They learnt about the importance of donating blood and brainstormed ideas on how to encourage our school community to donate. They will be organising a blood drive and other activities later in the year. We are encouraging parents, students, staff and other family members to join the Narromine High School’s Club Red Challenge team. You can do this by either going online at www.donateblood.com.au/clubred and type Narromine High School into the group, complete and return the attached electronic registration form or fill in a Club Red slip at the centre when you donate.

Much of what students learn in Mathematics develops the problem solving circuits in their brain.

- When they are analysing Shakespeare they are learning not just about Shakespeare but to think critically and expand their point of view and broaden their experience of the world through examination of different lives, emotions and experiences.

The message is that everything learnt at school has purpose and value, even if students can’t quite see it at the time.

Reading at home – every student benefits from this. However the other benefits can’t be discounted:

- Developing independent working skills, establishing study routines necessary for learning in later years.
- Helping student’s master things they are struggling with and allowing parental involvement.

In secondary school homework has been proven to be an essential component of academic success in the senior years. The reality of Year 11 and 12 is that a large component of independent learning needs to be undertaken at home. This is why developing good habits and learning to do at least a solid hour a day of home study is essential in Years 7-10. It is also about developing the qualities of discipline and perseverance, both essential for senior studies. Students will not like every subject equally, students need to learn how to make themselves do the work even for their least favourite subjects.

STUDY SKILLS - WHY DO WE HAVE TO HAVE HOMEWORK?
Homework in secondary school serves many purposes.

- It could be to consolidate or check or extend the learning from the day or prepare for the learning to come in subsequent days. It could be to do with longer term work such as assignments or preparing for tests and examinations.
- Ultimately it comes back to what school is all about – learning.

Learning not just content, but learning and developing skills. At times students feel that the work they are doing at school is not relevant to their lives, however we need to look at the purpose of the learning exercise. At times the content will be a vehicle to teach particular skills.

Narromine High School
Respect, Responsibility & Care
So what can students do to manage their homework effectively?

1. As soon as you get home unpack your bag before you have a break and something to eat. Lay out all the work first. It’s easier to get started if everything is ready to go.
2. Before you start work, write a list of what needs to be done and decide what order you will do it. Focus on what is most important, not just what subject you like best! Also write down how long you think each task will take to do.
3. Keep in your mind that it is all about learning. Try and look beyond the actual content to what type of skill this homework might be developing in you—analyzing, critical thinking, writing skills, or problem solving skills for example.
4. Do your work in 20–30 minute blocks with no distractions during that time. So switch off the TV, turn off your phone for that 20–30 minutes. When you just focus on the work that needs to be done you’ll be amazed at how much work you complete. Of course if you are on a roll, you can keep going past the 30 minutes.

If there is a task you really don’t want to do then alternate this with a task you enjoy doing. For example 15 minutes on the homework you like, 5 minutes on the homework you don’t like. When you chip away at it you will be surprised how quickly you get through the work.

**FIX IT DAY FOR BIKES AND SCOOTERS!**
Come and join the after school fun for children 8 to 12 years. If you have something on your bike or scooter that needs fixing, please call by Monday 14 April as you’ll need to advise of the repair eg: tyre repair, chain degrease, bolt tightening etc. You can also call in on the day to learn new skills.
Cost – FREE
Where – Narromine Community Skills, 139 Dandaloo Street
When – Thursday 24 April – 9.30 – 11.00 am
For bookings and enquiries contact – Sam – 6889 1422 or samc@narrominecommunityskills.com.au

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**Hunt for blood donations to help cancer patients this Easter.**

This Easter and Anzac Day, you can help secure blood stocks for cancer patients.

Blood products called platelets, vital to the treatment of cancer patients, have a shelf life of just five days.

Long weekends can lead to a major drop-off in platelets, and donations are urgently needed in the lead up to and over the Easter and Anzac long weekends.

Cancer patients are the biggest users of blood in Australia, accounting for around 34 percent of the nation’s blood use.

Nearly every Australian has been touched by someone’s battle with cancer; perhaps without realising the role blood has played in that person’s journey.

Donors are needed at Dubbo Donor Centre, 150 Darling Street in the week leading up to Easter, 14 – 17 April and the week immediately after Easter 22 – 24 April, leading into the Anzac day weekend.

To donate call 13 14 95 or visit donateblood.com.au

Narromine High School is proud to be a part of the Australian Red Cross Blood Services group blood donation program, Club Red. As a Club Red member, we are supporting this initiative and encourage eligible staff, parents and friends of the school to give blood to help save lives in 2014.

Donate this Easter and join the Narromine High School group on Club Red online at www.donateblood.com.au/clubred to make your donation count. Alternatively you can ask to fill in a Club red slip when you go in centre to donate.

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**DUE TO THE STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED MONDAY 28 APRIL**

**THANK YOU**