YEAR 9 SKI CAMP

With the snow in their sights, 31 Rouse Hill students from Year 9 made the five hour journey South on the 2nd of August to Smiggins Hole for three days. We arrived bright-eyed and bushy-tailed at 5.30am at our accommodation, Cooba Motel, and glanced at the weather forecast; fresh dump of snow with blue skies ahead. Perfect! Once everyone had rugged up, eaten brekkie and boarded the bus, the excitement of our first day on the slopes began. Cheers went up as we caught our first glimpse of snow for the trip and spirits stayed high during the students’ first lesson. Skiers and boarders of all abilities enjoyed their lessons, all learning new skills to practise during their free skiing time in the afternoon. As the trip progressed, so did everyone’s confidence, which soon saw students comfortably racing down the mountain in style and tackling jumps in the terrain park. Snow fights were an ongoing occurrence (unfortunately these were usually aimed at the three staff members on the trip).
Year 9 Ski Camp cont.

On our last day at Smiggins, no-one was ready to board the bus and head home. We all wanted another day of perfect conditions to ski or board our favourite run one more time, land that jump or throw another snowball. Overall, our combination of stunning weather, enthusiastic students and fresh snow made for an unforgettable Year 9 snow excursion for 2014.
Success in Society and Culture

HSC Society and Culture students can breathe a sigh of relief at the completion of their Personal Interest Projects (PIPs). Worth 40% of their final HSC mark, the PIP requires students to select a topic related to the course, develop and apply appropriate methodologies and submit a 6000 – 8000 word project detailing their findings.

Methodologies that can be used may include surveys, interviews, content analysis, focus groups, participant observation and personal reflection. All students must support their findings with secondary research compiled by academic scholars and reference their sources using the Harvard method.

This year’s cohort selected a range of topics that provided some very interesting reading for Mr Adams and Ms Castle…..

Out Society and Culture teachers are EXTREMELY proud of the achievements of this group of students who each went above and beyond their own expectations.

Despite the challenges faced in completing such a mammoth task, it has been a very satisfying and rewarding experience for all Society and Culture students.
During July (Term 3) Year 7 Chinese classes have been taste testing dishes from different regions in China as they learn about the variety in Chinese food. They have sampled dumplings from Northern China, Fried Rice from Southern China, Spicy Minced Tofu from Western China and Red-cooked stewed pork from Eastern China. It has been a yummy and fun way to learn about culture!
The main focus of this term’s sport report is on the wonderful achievements of our students in athletics. Recently our students competed at the Sydney West Athletics carnival and the following students deserve a special mention.

Phoebe Young placed 3rd in the 100 metres, 2nd in the 200 metres, 1st in the long jump and was a member of the U12 girls’ relay team which finished 2nd. Other members of this team are Sarah Okunbor, Jamie Bradwell and Courtney Collins.

Mitchell Olbrich placed 1st in the 1500 metres and 3rd in the 3000 metres.

Rachel Pace placed 1st in the 100 metre hurdles setting a new Sydney West record, 1st in the 100 metres, 1st in the 200 metres and was a member of the U16 girls’ relay team which finished 1st. Other members of this team are Melissa Bello, Amanda Bello and Riva Pietersz.

These students will be going to the CHS Athletics Carnival starting on the 4th September 2014 at Homebush.

A special mention also goes to the following students for their amazing achievements in sport. **Chloe Arndt** of Year 10 who was selected for the NSWCHS Girls AFL team and then went on to win selection in the Australian team. **Rachel Pace** of Year 11 who has been selected in the Australian Youth Olympic team and will compete in the 2nd Summer Youth Olympic Games to be held in Nanjing, China. Rachel will be competing in her specialty event which is the hurdles.

We wish Rachel and Chloe the very best in their sporting ventures.
Chloe’s Continued Success

Chloe Arndt was selected to represent NSW in the Combined High Schools U16 Girls AFL Carnival held in Sydney between Friday 18th July to Sat 26th July inclusive. The teams had the opportunity to play on some of the best grounds around Sydney like the SCG, Spotless Stadium (GWS Giants Home Ground) and the Blacktown International Sports Centre.

With a mixture of wins and defeats, Chloe was selected best on ground for game 1 and was recognised for her overall achievement throughout the carnival with her selection in the 2014 All Australian Team.

This is a fantastic honour and achievement for Chloe who has played in an 'All boys' AFL team for the past 6 years at Kellyville. She has continued her form after representing NSW at the U18 AFL Championships in Canberra earlier this year. Her inclusion in the 2014 All Australian U16 girls team is an amazing achievement, particularly considering she is only 14. Congratulations Chloe on your success this year.
CAREERS NEWS
Ms K Henson - Careers Advisor

NATIONAL WHS GENERAL CONSTRUCTION INDUCTION

OH&S White Card Course

Rouse Hill High School students in Years 9, 1.0 & 1.1 who are interested in pursuing a career in the trades were given the opportunity to complete the WorkCover of NSW Statement of National WHS General Construction Induction Training. This enables them to work on trade sites and in particular a construction site.

Students were required to satisfactorily complete the mandatory tasks and assessments throughout the day and worked to the best of their ability. The qualified, experienced, registered trainer who delivered the course commented on their outstanding attitude and effort in completing the course. As a bonus for volunteering to demonstrate equipment in class, the trainer gave out free safety vests to some of the excellent students.

Students have been issued with certificates of completion for the course and the white card for mandatory use on Construction sites. If there is a loss of this card students are reminded that WorkCover charges a fee for a replacement card.

UNIVERSITY OPEN DAYS

Universities hold their open days in August and September. These days are generally held on a Saturday. The universities open their campuses, faculties and student bodies to provide information to all visitors.

This is a great opportunity for students to experience the different universities for consideration on attendance in the future.

Dates are available on each of the universities websites as well as on the UAC website www.uac.edu.au. The Careers Advisor has a copy of the UAC Guide in the Careers room which indicates dates of the open days in the inside cover of the handbook if students wish to access this.

UNIVERSITY APPLICATION

Students are reminded that University applications close Tuesday 30th September. It’s vital that the UAC Pin number is not lost as it is used in the application process.
CAREERS TRY-A-SKILL TRY-A-TRADE

Students in Years 9 & 10 who are interested in the trades attended the Try –A –Skill at Kevin Betts Stadium in Mt Druitt. The students were involved in many hands on activities in a variety of trades. The trades included: Automotive, Carpentry, Hairdressing, Welding, Plumbing, Paving, Electrotechnology, Bakery, Spray painting and Tiling.

The students enjoyed the activities and were given a sausage sandwich provided by Rotary.

Students were fine representatives of Rouse Hill High School and enjoyed participating in trade activities to further their career options.
Penrith Panthers Exhibition Marquee, Mulgoa Road, Penrith

Tuesday 2 September 2014
4:00pm - 5:30pm Ticketed Session
5:30pm - 9:00pm Free Public Entry

If you're interested in being an exhibitor, contact us at
expo@apprenticepower.com.au or call 13 72 77

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CARPARK / SAFE DRIVING
Parents are reminded that senior students who drive to school and park in the Bruce Purser car park are to exhibit safe behaviour at all times. The car park is a busy area with children walking to cars to be picked up and others crossing the exits to the car park. Primary school children also move through the area in the morning and afternoon.

If parents notice any poor behaviour in this area, please pass this information on to the school.

Parents collecting students in the afternoon are reminded to please continue through the roundabout and park in the parking area. This will dramatically improve the flow of traffic in the area.

LEAVING SCHOOL GROUNDS
Parents are reminded that students are not to leave school grounds at any time during the day. Parental permission does not alter this situation as the school must be aware of the location of students at all times and in case of emergency. Accessing personal items or food from cars parked in the Bruce Purser car park is not a reasonable excuse.

The exception is students who have signed out through the front office at the completion of their studies for the day having previously submitted parental permission to do so.

Students found to have left school grounds without permission will be issued with consequences for this behaviour.

BUSES
Parents are asked to encourage safe and respectful behaviour from their children travelling to and from school via bus. This reminder relates mainly to two specific parts of the journey.

Waiting to board buses
Students waiting for buses on Commercial and Withers Roads are reminded to wait a safe distance from the road and to keep their distance from the front of the bus as it pulls in to stop. Students should wait at least several metres from the roadway and wait until the bus has stopped before approaching.

On board buses
Students on board buses must remember that they are on display to the general public. The same high standard of behaviour that they exhibit at school is expected on the journey to and from school. Students should use appropriate language at all times and be respectful towards bus company employees and the general community.

Bus Passes
Information on bus passes is available from the administration office. The school distributes this information on behalf of the bus company but has no say in decisions about eligibility. Bus companies have recently informed the school that they will be tightening enforcement around the use of bus passes. If you wish your child to travel by bus please ensure they have a bus pass or the correct fare.

SUPERVISION
Rouse Hill High School provides supervision of students at all times throughout the school day from 8.45 am – 2.57 pm.

Supervision is provided in the school quad in the morning from 8.15 – 8.45 am and for departure at the school gate from 2.57 – 3.10 pm.
Gather your friends.
Know your facts.
Bring your sense of humour!

And save the date
FRIDAY 7TH NOVEMBER....

for our next
*** RHHS TRIVIA NIGHT ***

To celebrate Dare Week and our school links with the community, the RHHS P&C committee will be holding another enjoyable and entertaining Trivia Night for parents and friends.

A great success in the past, tables for the night are limited - so save the date and look out for tickets on sale soon!

Parents, as one of our most valuable fundraisers, the Trivia Night requires lots of great prizes so if your company can assist with any donations, please contact Nicole or Joanna at nicoletheissen@optusnet.com.au.

Thank you!!

Rouse Hill High School
P&C Association

Bus Zone. You cannot stop your vehicle in a Bus Zone unless you are driving a public bus.

Council’s Compliance Officers will be enforcing parking restrictions at your school! Penalty $311 & 2 demerit points.

For a complete list of school zone offences refer to www.rms.nsw.gov.au

The Hills Shire Council | Ph: 9843 0555 | www.thehills.nsw.gov.au

Meet your children on the school side of the road, preferably at the school gate.

NEVER call your children across the road to meet you

Be a good role model for your children - when crossing the road use a pedestrian crossing or traffic signals when possible.

Making an illegal U Turn in a school zone can result in a $415 fine and 4 demerit points. Council’s Compliance Officers will be enforcing parking restrictions at your school.

The Hills Shire Council
Telephone: (02) 9843 0555
www.thehills.nsw.gov.au

What do the parking signs around my school mean?

No Parking means No Parking

You can stop in a No Parking zone for a maximum of 2mins to drop off or pick up passengers. You must stay within 3 metres of your vehicle. You cannot leave your car!

The penalty for parking in a NO Parking zone is $173 and 2 demerit points.

The Hills Shire Council | Ph: 9843 0555 | www.thehills.nsw.gov.au

Strong educational leadership and dedicated teachers create a supportive, dynamic learning environment
Students from years 9 and 1.0 participated in the inaugural Speaking 4 the Planet event on Thursday 29th May.

Students attended Baulkham Hills Shire Council for a day of public speaking and eco-drama performance competition. The event is run as part of World Environment Day and asks students to consider sustainability issues in the local and wider community.

The theme of this year’s event was Think.Eat.Save, this being the same as the United Nations, World Environment Day. The event included over 40 students from local schools. The Mayor, Dr Michelle Byrne, opened the event, as well as judging each of the sections. Students were also privileged to hear from various members of the local community and council. One of the criteria of the event was to make the content and delivery ‘quirky’ and unique.

The three sections of the event were the prepared Speech, Impromptu and Eco Drama. Rouse Hill High School was well represented, with Ashlin De Luca presenting a wonderfully engaging prepared speech and Abby Greig and Kirstin Regel competing in the impromptu. Kirstin won her section and subsequently was asked to participate on 90.5 FM radio to deliver her winning speech.

Two drama teams competed on the day, comprising of Jarrad Christoffel, Miller Wintle, Charli Occleston, James Papadakis, Gabriel Alvarado, Jordan Harris, Courteney McLean, Chloe Andrews, Natassja Maruna, Rhonda Jodeh and Melanie Stedman. Jarrad, Miller, Charlie, James and Gabe won this section with a thoughtful and creative piece encouraging the audience to look locally to find solutions to our food sustainability issues.

Students collected a range of prizes on the day but most importantly, they represented the school and local community in an exemplary manner. The support from parents that attended the day and gave up their time was also very much appreciated. Rouse Hill High School look forward to competing again in 2015, defending their titles!
Rouse Hill High School students entertained family, friends and community members during the 60th annual Education Week Celebration. On the 22 July students took to the stage at Castle Towers drawing the attention of many casual shoppers. The training band began performing a mixture of pop, rock and film music arrangements, followed by the talented Year 7 and 8 dancers performing *Dark Angels*. The Year 9 and 8 rock bands then entertained the growing audience with both original and Top 40 material. The concert ended with a performance by the Year 10 music class who captivated the crowd with their rendition of INXS’ *Never tear us apart*. A special mention to Mr Camrass for his smooth saxophone solo and Jarrad Christofell who embodied the spirit of Michael Hutchence in his performance.

For many students this was their first opportunity to perform to a live audience beyond the school gates. They did an amazing job overcoming nerves and representing their school. Thank you to Miss Mitchell for her organisation of the event and the Year 1.2 students who have taken part in Education Week performances since 2009.

**Beauty and the Beast**

How better to experience a musical than live and on stage!

Year 9 Music travelled to the Riverside Theatre in Parramatta to see the opening performance of *Beauty and the Beast*. They will use this experience to form part of their research for their Term 3 project based learning task. Throughout this term they will work together to not only perform a musical but write and stage their own original work.
Rouse Hill High School - Future directions for our students
Kim Chapman - Principal

During the last eighteen months Rouse Hill High School has been one of 34 secondary schools across the state involved in trialling the Department of Education and Communities new school planning approach. This new approach will be mandatory in 2015 and all public schools will need to develop their strategic directions for the following three years.

The approach of the new school planning tool is for each school to develop three strategic directions and then outline how the directions will be achieved. The strategic directions are written at quite a high level and the detail for how the school will address these directions is found in the implementation part of the plan.

We have spent some time analysing our data and researching about the future of education and the skill set students need when they leave school. As a result we have identified three strategic directions and a purpose statement, or a 'why we believe this strategic direction is important' statement. Sitting underneath the strategic directions are a series of processes, the people skills required and the products and practices we would like to see at the end of the three years.

Shown below are our draft three strategic directions, with the purpose statement. We would love to receive some feedback from you about our strategic directions. If you would like to comment please send an email to the school with 'school plan' in the subject line. As we further develop the strategic directions, we will provide more detail and opportunities for feedback via the newsletter, website, P & C meeting and community seminars. Prior to each P&C meeting staff leading areas of the plan will be providing 'community seminars' to give further detail about our approaches and to also seek your feedback. The first one of these is on Monday 18 August at 6.30pm in the school library, Ms Zacharia will be talking about our approach to developing numeracy skills in students. It will conclude at 7.00pm, just in time for you to attend the P & C meeting!!

DRAFT STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS FOR ROUSE HILL HIGH SCHOOL

| Strategic direction 1 | Purpose:  
Student engagement in school life is reflective, resilient and future focused. To foster successful student participation in school life by investing in raising individual responsibility for learning and behaviour through a growth mindset approach. A focus on participation. Recognition, feedback and reflection by students and staff is required. |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Strategic direction 2 | Purpose:  
Student learning is dynamic, personalised and connected in a purposeful way. To deliver learning that is personalised for each student within a connected KLA approach. It is linked with real world project based learning and encourages students to: take ownership of and risks in their learning; challenge them in new ways; and move beyond ‘the known’ toward higher order literacy, numeracy and critical and creative skill development. |
| Strategic direction 3 | Purpose:  
Students thrive in a sustainable, accountable and engaged 21st century school. To enhance positive school experiences through the development of 21st century skills by supporting collaboration, technology, engagement with the wider community, supportive school structure and professional practices. |
Challenging and diverse learning programs providing excellent opportunities for individual success

Visual Arts
HSC Showcase

from 7:30-8.45 am
C Block Rouse Hill High

25th AUGUST 2014
16.

Strong educational leadership and dedicated teachers create a supportive, dynamic learning environment.

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NOTICEBOARD

DARE WEEK
The countdown has begun for DARE Week.... 3 - 7 November. All will be revealed throughout this Term but start marking your calendar as both the P&C Trivia Night and MADD2014 will occur during this week, not to mention many other great and exciting whole school events that the staff and students are planning.

ADVERTISING IN THE ROUSE HILL HIGH NEWSLETTER
If you are interested in advertising your business or community group in the next edition of this newsletter please visit www.rousehill-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/our-school/rules-policies/rouse-hill-high-school-policies and download a newsletter policy for requirements and procedures.

GET INVOLVED WITH THE P & C
If you would like to be added to the P&C email list, simply email the Secretary at nicoletheissen@optusnet.com.au or log on to www.rousehill-h.schools.nsw.edu.au and click on the P&C tab for information. Next meeting 18 August.

RHHS SKOOLBAG APP
Receive the newsletter straight to your smart phone or tablet. The school app is also used to send reminders about upcoming events and activities at our school. This is another part of our whole school communication strategies and is very easy to access. Open the App Store or Google Play Store on your device and search for Rouse Hill High School. After downloading the free App you can customise your experience by setting the year group you would like to receive push notifications about.

FROM THE EDITOR
Thank you to all the staff, students and community members who have contributed to this edition of the Rouse Hill High Newsletter.

THE ROUSE HILL HIGH NEWSLETTER EDITORS:
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Richard Medcalf
Kathy Henson

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Leadership and engagement programs that build confidence, resilience and success