

High School Highlights

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Issue 7 2013



DUX 2013 JOEL MARTIN



Runner- up Dux
Benjamin Sing

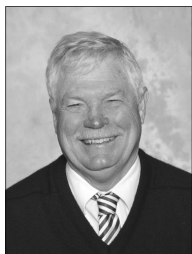
Presented by Mrs Harris



VET Dux
Mitchell Walker

Presented by
Mr Quartermaine

Check out our web page for all the latest news - www.nshs.wa.edu.au



Our Year 12 Presentation Evening was held on Friday 24 October. This was a wonderful event where the Year 12 cohort was acknowledged as a great group of young people.

The exceptional achievements of the individuals in this group were also recognised. This particular group of Year 12s will be remembered for being friendly, positive, kind and compassionate.

Always willing to 'have a go', they provided excellent leadership and role modelling for other students in the fields of academia, arts, culture and sport. This year's students have been characterised by their strong sense of MATESHIP. Whether it was in supporting each other at school, helping staff or assisting with school and community events, they have met the challenge. Their bonds of friendship have become stronger as they have progressed through Senior Schooling.

My very best wishes to all Year 12 students who will be sitting the WACE examinations from 1 November and who, no doubt, will be eagerly awaiting their results towards the end of December.

Western Australian Monitoring Standards in Education (WAMSE)

Congratulations to our Year 9 students for their excellent performance in the 2013 Science and Society and Environment WAMSE tests. It was pleasing to see that 54% and 57% of our Society and Environment and Science students finished in the top 20% of the state.

Educational Reform

Further to my comments in our last newsletter, I will take this opportunity to provide you with an update on the funding changes as well as what it means for our school. I wish to reassure you that Narrogin will continue to work very hard to provide a quality education for each and every child.

We have been informed that there are two aspects to the new funding arrangements.

The first is the reform to the way that public schools are funded. This reform is planned to take place in 2015 and will see the introduction of a student-centred funding model. Details of the impact of this model for 2015 are still to be advised.

The second aspect of the change to funding has been the cuts to school staffing and other baseline grants for 2014. Based on our current enrolments, we estimate that our school funds will be reduced by about \$280,000 next year. This is made up of two major items: approximately \$180,000 for staffing reduction and about \$28,000 for a Long Service Leave Levy, with the balance comprising a number of support grants.

These funding reductions will impact on the way we operate our school. We do not envisage losing any permanent staff as a result of these changes, however:

- there may be some staffing adjustments in the future as we will find it difficult to run classes with small student numbers. We are constantly reviewing the viability of running classes with small student enrolments.
- there will be a reduction in some of our numerous support programs offered by staff.

We have minimised the impact on our core teaching and learning programs, however we will review and may scale back a number of support programs, incursions and excursions that 'value-add' to a child's overall educational experience.

At this stage, I am working with our school administration team and School Council to manage the changes to our resources for 2014 and beyond.

On the upside, we were recently informed that we will receive additional funding allocated for the Year 7 intake in 2015. A cash establishment grant will be provided to all schools that in 2015 will have Year 7 students for the first time as secondary students. The grant is to assist these schools in purchasing additional resources for these students. Eligible schools will receive the grant of \$250 for each Year 7 student enrolled at the February 2015 census.

Facilities Update

This year we have seen the official opening of our new Hospitality Trade Training Centre and in the next few months we will see the completion of our new Performing Arts, Music and Administration Centre. The Administration Centre will be ready for the commencement of school in 2014 and the Performing Arts and Music Centre should be available for use in March 2014.

Education Awards

In the past eighteen months to acknowledge their wonderful contribution we have nominated six of our staff for various education awards. Congratulations to Ms Campbell who is a finalist in the 2014 Graduate Teacher Award. We wish her well.

Teacher Development School - English

Congratulations also to our English staff. Their expertise has been acknowledged in Narrogin's selection as a regional Teacher Development School – English for Year 6-8. This means that we will be able to build on our partnerships with schools in our region, as our staff work with other local teachers in implementing the Australian English Curriculum.

Alby Huts

After a great Year 12 Dinner and a very smooth Presentation night, we turn our attention to the WACE exams and the Year 11 school exams. We wish our year 12s the best of luck and look forward to seeing their great results.

Year 11 students are completing their courses and beginning to revise for their exams. Now is the time to learn good study habits and exam techniques which will put them in good stead for next year.

Subject selections for 2014 are continuing to be refined to suit the changing needs of the students.

Thank you to Mrs Castle, Ms Melchiorre and their band of helpers who gave up a lot of time to ensure that the year 12s had a great send off. Ms Kerrigan also gave up her time for all the Year 12 events and the Spring Festival.

Mrs Wilkie and Ms Melchiorre have also done a great job in reviewing progress and motivating students and all staff have been very supportive in enabling Year 12 students to complete outstanding work to achieve graduation. In 2014, I expect the new group of Year 12 students to focus from the beginning of the year.

Mr Steve Quartermaine



Senior School Deputy

Uniform Blitz

Now that the warmer weather has arrived, we expect all students to adhere to NSHS dress code.

Girls are required to wear one of the following items: black shorts, black pants or a black skirt. Boys also need to be wearing black pants or black shorts. If the weather becomes cool again, students may wear the school jacket or a white long sleeved white top/skivvy under the school polo shirt. Footwear must be closed and predominately black.

If your child is unable to wear the correct uniform for a short period of time, they need to collect an 'out of uniform' card from the Student Services Wing prior to the beginning of the school day.

If your child continues to wear incorrect uniform a letter will be sent home to inform you of the changes your child needs to make to ensure they adhere to the Narrogin Senior High School dress code. We thank you for your support in this matter.

Attendance

During Semester 2, the number of students attending school 90% of the time has decreased significantly. To achieve an attendance rate of 90 %, students need to have 10 or less days absent from school per semester.

At NSHS, we understand that there are times when students are not able to attend school for acceptable reasons. We are however mindful that going to school every day is important for young people to develop the skills, knowledge and values needed to achieve their potential.

.Students who are regularly absent from school are at the greatest risk of:

- feeling insecure in school
- having gaps in their knowledge and understanding of basic concepts
- placing themselves at risk of harm during times of absence
- dropping out of school early
- becoming long-term unemployed
- becoming welfare-dependent
- being involved with the justice system
- being socially isolated

Once students have begun to develop patterns of poor attendance and lateness, there is potential for the pattern of absences to continue in their latter life at school and in the work place.

If you child is sick or has a medical appointment and is unable to attend school, please let the school know within 3 days. You can do this by sending a note to your child's form teacher.

At NSHS we also have a SMS notification system. If your child does not attend form and you have registered for SMS notification, you will receive a text saying your child is absent. It is important that all students attend form. Please support us in this matter and encourage your child to attend school unless they are unwell.



*Samantha Smith, Caylah Batt,
Amy Bowden, Slobhan Lyneham*



*Joshua Pomykala &
Emma Potts*

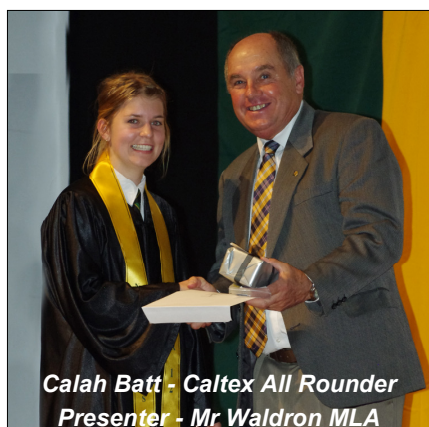


Juwan Storey & Che-Anne Turvey



*Courtney Bartlett, Amy Bowden,
Mikayla Young*

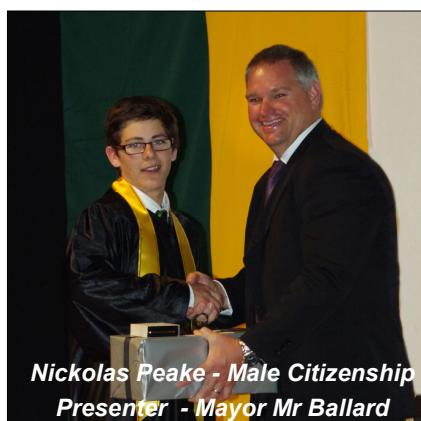
Presentation Evening



*Calah Batt - Caltex All Rounder
Presenter - Mr Waldron MLA*



*Valedictorian - Natasha Hansen
Presenter Mr Lally*



*Nickolas Peake - Male Citizenship
Presenter - Mayor Mr Ballard*



Corey Vogel



*Emma Potts -
Long Tan Leadership Award
Presenter Mrs Mahar*



*Tayla Mason -
Female Citizenship
Presenter -
Mayor Mr Ballard*



*Thalia Davison - VET Award
Presenter - Mr Quartermaine*



*Katie Evans - Sportswoman
Presenter Mr Borthwick*



*Shaun McKay -
Sportsman Award
presented by
Mr Borthwick*

NSHS Presentation Evening Farewells Class of 2013

Over 500 family, friends and community members filled the Narrogin Senior High School gymnasium on Friday 25 October to celebrate the completion of thirteen years of schooling for the Year 12 class of 2013.

Master of Ceremonies, Clyde Goodenough opened proceedings by commenting, "In 2009 we had the pleasure of guiding a lively group of students through their first year of High School. New friends have joined them along the way, and looking at them now, it is almost hard to believe that they are the same group of students. This evening allows us the opportunity to acknowledge the significant achievement of these young adults completing their Secondary Education. It also signifies the last time we celebrate together as members of the Narrogin Senior High School community with the Year 12 Class of 2013."

Music teacher, Melanie Kerrigan, led the Narrogin Senior High School Concert Band, who entertained us with several musical interludes throughout the evening.

Head Boy and Girl, Joshua Pomykala and Emma Potts, addressed the Narrogin Senior High School community for their final time as leaders of the student body. They thanked staff for the invaluable teaching and support they provided for all Year 12's and acknowledged the role of their parents who were always there to guide them through their schooling years. Joshua and Emma also showed their appreciation towards the Leadership Team, thanking them for ensuring a safe and enjoyable environment throughout their schooling.

Two talented Year 12 musicians, Nyssa Pullen and Taylah Mason, entertained the audience with a musical interlude. Nyssa was the lead vocalist and played guitar, whilst Taylah played keyboard with vocal harmonies. They performed "Radioactive" by Imagine Dragons.

The Principal, Mr Alby Huts gave students his warmest congratulations for completing their schooling, commenting on their strong sense of mateship. He talked of the significance of the evening, "a culmination of years of hard work and the acknowledgement of successes achieved".

Narrogin Senior High School would like to thank the many local businesses and local government bodies who generously donated to support the Presentation Evening, and gave up their time to present prestigious awards.

Major Award Winners

Dux- Joel Martin

Runner Up Dux- Benjamin Sing

Vocational Education and Training Dux- Mitchell Walker

Caltex Best All Rounder Award- Emma Potts

Westscheme Division of Australian Super Awards for Excellence in Vocational Education and Training- Thalia Davidson

Valedictorian- Natasha Hansen

Citizenship male- Nickolas Peake

Citizenship female- Taylah Mason

Sportsperson male- Shaun McKay

Sportsperson female- Katie Evans

Brodie Melchiorre

Yr 12 Year Leader

Oh no it's happened again! You may recall this time last year there were a couple of murders in the bush adjacent to Narrogin SHS. Now another three gruesome murders have been discovered! Fortunately, as they did last year, the murders have coincided with the Integrated Science topic, Forensic Science. Mr Barr's crack team of highly skilled students analysed the fingerprints, handwriting, shoeprints, blood, clothing and hair left at the scene. Within a few days they were able to solve the crime and the perpetrators are now behind bars. Is this the last murder we will see in the bush? Something tells me there is a good chance it might happen again around the same time next year!

Murder in the Bush

Michael Barr



Netball Foundation Coaching Course



Ayla Smith, Nova Garnier

On Wednesday the 30th October, eleven Year 10 Netball Academy students attended a Netball Foundation Coaching Course. The course was conducted by Anne Parsons who is the Netball Development Officer for the Great Southern Netball Region.

To be a Netball coach in the Narrogin and Districts Netball Association, you must have this first level of coaching accreditation, so it was a great opportunity for the students.

Thank you to the Health and Physical Education Department and the Sports Academy Supporting Parents Group for subsidizing the cost for the students.

The course involved lots of practical activities analysing all the skills associated with Netball. The students were shown how to teach the specific skill, the coaching points behind the skill and how to look for and correct errors.

I look forward to seeing these students use their new coaching skills in the near future.

*Mrs Sarah Corner
Netball Academy Co-ordinator*

Hockey

On the first Friday of term seventeen students and three parents travelled to the Perth Hockey stadium to watch the International Super 9s Hockey Tournament.

This exciting version of the traditional hockey games includes: larger goals, less players on the field, and positional limitations regarding defending.



Pictured are those students who attended. A big thankyou to the Sports Academy Parents, who subsidised the excursion by paying for the bus. to Mr Rowley who drove the bus and to Mr Corner for organising the trip.

Andrew Corner

English Teachers Achieve Regional Recognition



*Denise Lavan, Joan Armstrong, Clyde Goodenough
Loraine Byatt, Manoj Kuriakose, Maryline Hollanda*

Last week, The English Learning Area at Narrogin Senior High School achieved the prestigious status of Teacher Development School (Wheatbelt Region) for Years 7 – 12 English.

Mr Huts commented, "This is a testimony to the quality of the delivery of English at Narrogin Senior High School. The English Learning Area has consistently maintained standards across both their WACE and NAPLAN results. This year in NAPLAN, we attained 1.3 standard deviation above the mean in grammar and punctuation which is an outstanding result."

The Teacher Development Schools (TDSs) initiative acknowledges that teachers learn best from other teachers. Primary and Secondary TDSs provide practical teaching and learning support for classroom teachers of all phases of learning, the implementation of the Australian Curriculum and selected senior secondary courses. They are a school-based system resource that provides opportunities for teachers to share expertise and classroom innovation across networks, alliances and professional learning communities (Department of Education).

As the only Senior Secondary Learning Area in Regional WA to achieve this status, TDS Coordinator and Wheatbelt Positive Behaviour in Schools (PBS) Trainer, Denise Lavan said, "This is such an exciting time! This opportunity will now enable us to share what we know, and are still learning, about the delivery of English with other schools across the region."

As an important component of the Education Department's support system, the TDS aims to improve student achievement through improving classroom instruction and the best way to build teacher effectiveness is through learning from the best practice of other teachers.

Acting HOLA and Regional Trainer for Years 6-8 Australian Curriculum, Joan Armstrong stated, "We have such a wealth of academic knowledge and professional experience within our Learning Area. In English we are innovative and enthusiastic teachers who are happy to share what we know with others. Becoming a TDS will enable us to enhance other teachers' successful practice whilst continuing to improve our own. It is the most fantastic opportunity!"

"Yr 12 Farewell Dinner a Bright and Happy Affair"

Last Wednesday, the NSHS Year 12 students created another happy "school days" memory when they attended the Year 12 Farewell Dinner. Year 11 Prefects, led by Mrs Castle, Ms Armstrong & Miss Melchiorre worked hard to put together a lovely "Spring" affair. The tables in the Senior Citizens hall were brightly decorated with lovely hessian covered pots filled with white daisies and rosemary, and old fashioned lanterns. Prefects hung yellow and white paper daisy fans around the walls and students happily viewed a chain of photos of the year's happenings.

The students were served (by the Year 11 Prefect Wait Staff) a scrumptious 3 course meal, prepared by Teacher/Chef Ms Campbell and her trusty team of hospitality students. The MCs for the evening, Year 12 Prefects Tim Holt and Samantha Smith, kept the evening flowing as students enjoyed musical items from Chevy McBride on guitar and Taylah Mason and Nyssa Pullen also on guitar singing a duet. Another of the highlights of the evening was the "Ode to the Yr 12s", the annual fairy tale written by Mr Hall where all of the Yr 12 student names are cleverly woven into the script.

Lilyan Stevens delivered the Runner Up Valedictory speech to the group, remembering staff and students with affection.

Year 12 Leader, Ms Melchiorre toasted the Year 12 group and the Prefects toasted the School.

It was a wonderfully happy evening, where students and staff reminisced and laughed together.

Sue Castle

Technology & Enterprise

The Technology & Enterprise teachers have been very busy ensuring that the Year 12 students completed all of their certificate and WACE courses this year. The certificates offered in our area are numerous and range from Business, Hospitality, Metals, Textiles and Wood. (just to name of few). A very big thank you to all teachers involved in ensuring our Year 12 students leave school with these qualifications and WACE grades



Yr 12 Dinner - dessert

The hospitality Year 11 students along with their teacher Ms Campbell must also be congratulated on their efforts at graduation in producing and catering for the Year 12 dinner. Also the Year 12 Food Science & Independent Living students along with Mrs Shepherd & Ms Sivyer who provided a delicious supper for the Year 12 Graduation, a big thank you for your efforts.

*Diane Quartermaine
Holo of Technology & Enterprise*



Braeden Sprigg busily welding his coffee table in Yr 10 Metal work.



YR 12 FAREWELL DINNER



Year 9 Canberra-Sydney Tour 2013



On Friday the 20 September, the Year 9 students set off on their Canberra Sydney tour. It was a relaxed 10am departure and with Mr Johnson driving the coach, it was sure to be an interesting ride to Perth. Excitement was in the air and a buzz inside the Coach. We picked up some additions to our party who met us in Perth. It wasn't long before we were up in the air and for some, it was an experience of a life time! The landing in Canberra was a little bumpy but we landed in one piece to start our adventure. It was very late when we made it to our accommodation so it was time to find a room and get some shut eye for the big day ahead.

On the second day we had some weary faces but they soon perked up after some breakfast. We soon departed for the Australian Institute of Sport and the atmosphere was electric. We spent a great morning taking a tour of the facilities and testing our skills at lacrosse, European Handball and Gaelic football. It was a very quick break for lunch then off to Questacon, the Science Gallery, for the afternoon. A few very brave souls that afternoon managed to complete a 360° turn on one of the contraptions and experience a free fall. After our brains were bursting and the day nearly ending, we ventured to our last stop, ten pin bowling, for some night time entertainment.



We were up early on day three of the tour to travel a few hours to the snow. It was a quiet ride with both students and teachers catching up on some much needed nap time. Just



outside of Cooma we visited the Snowy Hydroelectric Visitors Centre which was fascinating to hear about. Then it was time to get us suited up for the snow. All dressed in our thermals and our new gloves and beanies we were ready to hit the slopes. It was such an amazing experiencing playing around in the snow even with snow balls being pelted from all directions! We took the ski lift to the top to admire the view. It was a spectacular sight!

The morning of day four was spent holding an election for different fruits and learning about our electoral system. We also had a tour of the embassy district and practised our Indonesian language skills at the Indonesian Embassy. After lunch it was off to Parliament House for a tour and to participate in a role play. Last stop for the day was Geoscience Australia where we learned about seismographs. It was a quick dinner

and refresh break then it was off to a night at the museum. We went on torchlight tour of the National Dinosaur Museum which was very exciting.

Day five was a very hot day in Canberra; we started the day at the National Museum checking out the works interesting exhibits. Following this, we made our way out to the Governor General's House. We were very lucky to actually see and wave as Quentin Bryce left for the day. It was a beautiful house with an amazing history and was a highlight of our tour. After some much needed lunch and a quick break it was off to the National Gallery to explore the works of art. Late in the afternoon we visited the Australian War Memorial and stayed to be a part of the Service. We laid a wreath to remember the fallen soldiers on behalf of our school. It was a very rewarding experience. The evenings entertainment was a torchlight tour of the Botanic Gardens where we saw some furry friends at night.



Our Canberra leg of the trip was soon to end. On day six we packed up our coach ready for the drive to Sydney. On the way we even stopped in at Summer Bay for a picnic lunch before heading to Taronga Zoo for the afternoon. We checked into our new accommodation that was situated right next to the Sydney Harbour Bridge in "The Rocks". In the evening after dinner, we went to the Sydney Aquarium and spent a few hours in tranquillity.

Our day began with a historical tour of "The Rocks" district which ended at the South Pylon of the Sydney Harbour Bridge. We then climbed the Pylon to experience the view before walking the length of Sydney Harbour Bridge. After a picnic lunch, looking across at the picturesque Sydney, we travelled to the Sydney Opera House for a guided tour. We enjoyed a night tour by bus around Sydney before an early night.



The last day of the tour arrived and although we were excited to see friends and family again, it was sad that our amazing week was about to end. A relaxing harbour cruise was on the morning's agenda which allowed for some last minute photo taking of some of the places we had been to. It was soon off to the Airport to farewell Tahlia on her early flight to Melbourne and then depart home to Perth. It was an enjoyable and sleepy flight home but we were excited to see our families waiting for us.

Laura Cheetham

NOTICES

2013 Charges and Contributions

Thank you to the parents / guardians who have paid the voluntary contributions and charges for the 2013 school year.

The contributions and charges collected go towards providing resources, materials and equipment used by students.

It is not too late to complete payments for the 2013 school year.

2013 Outlook Magazines are being ordered soon.

The cost of these magazines is included in Other Optional Costs.

If you have not paid the voluntary contributions or charges for 2013, you will miss out on a magazine, as we are only ordering the required number of magazines to cover what payment has been received for.

If you wish to reserve a copy of the Outlook Magazine please ensure the relevant cost of \$9.00 is paid by 1 December 2013.

GO HEALTH

Sugary Drinks

The Australian Dietary Guidelines recommend limiting the intake of foods and drinks containing added sugars such as confectionery, sugar-sweetened soft drinks and cordials, fruit drinks, vitamin waters, energy and sports drinks.

High or frequent intake of foods and drinks containing added sugars can lead to tooth decay and weight gain in children and adults.

Healthier drink options for children are water and milk. Sweetened flavoured milk provides nutrients but can be energy dense therefore plain milk is preferable.

Is your child already used to sweet drinks? Here are some tips to start now and break the habit.

- Try watering down sweet drinks
- Ration sweet drinks to once a day
- Don't buy sweet drinks
- Don't drink them yourself

For more information contact the Dietitian at the Southern Wheatbelt Primary Health Service on 9881 0385.

Help Lines and Websites for Adolescents

How do I get help?

Sometimes, when you're worried about something or feeling down, it feels like you're all alone. It can seem like your other friends and family members have 'normal' lives, and they don't understand why you're worried.

Besides the phone lines and websites below, there are some people that you can talk to who may also be able to help you and refer you to the appropriate place for help. These are: the school psychologist, the school nurse, your GP, your local hospital or health centre nearest to you. There is always someone that you can go to for help. Don't feel like you have to face things alone.

Websites:

1. <http://au.reachout.com> – a website for young people to improve their mental health. Also provides information & opportunities to connect with other young people
2. <http://www.youthbeyondblue.com> – It is a national, independent organisation working to address issues associated with depression, anxiety & substance misuse disorders for young people. You can talk with others, share your story and read about other people's experiences.
3. <http://www.headspace.org.au> - has online chat and support or you can call the closest centre to you to make an appointment for free counselling.
4. <http://www.kidshelp.com.au/teens/> - offers web counselling, email counselling or phone counselling (1800 55 1800)
5. www.justask.org.au – this is the national mental health information and referral service from Lifeline
<http://www.health.wa.gov.au/mentalhealth/publications/head2head.cfm> - this is a magazine that is published 3 times a year and provides mental health information to all sections of the WA community.

Phone numbers:

Kids Help Line - 1800 55 1800 (free call from a land line; 24 hours)

Youthline (Suicide) – 1800350670

Samaritans (Suicide) – 1800 198 313

Lifeline - 13 11 14 (cost of a local call; 24 hours)

Mental health direct- 1800 220 400

Mental health emergency response line –
(24 hr) 1300 555 788

Health direct – 1800 022 222

Domestic violence helpline – 1800 656 463

Mission Australia helpline – 1300 886 999

Jo & Dona School Nurses

If undeliverable return to
Narrogin Senior High School
Private Bag 2
Narrogin WA 6312
PRINT POST APPROVED
639656100013

**SURFACE
MAIL**

**POSTAGE
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