



HAWK CHAT

HARRISTOWN STATE HIGH SCHOOL



Edition No. 19

7 August 2009

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Families

What a week last week - eisteddfod, Rock Eisteddfod, debating finals, football, hockey, volleyball state championships - I know we had some very tired students and staff (and no doubt parents) at the end of the weekend! Our school provides these opportunities to our students as we strongly believe in a holistic approach to a young person's development. Our students learn a significant amount from being involved in extra-curricular activities - they learn thinking skills, problem solving, planning and organisation, working in team and using the strength of others, just to name a few. These are important aspects of any school's curriculum. They also teach valuable life lessons. We had some wins, some losses and some places. I was very proud of the way our students conducted themselves - they showed true Hawk spirit.

At the moment we have many students and staff away with sickness. It is important for students, when they arrive back to school from sickness or participating in co-curricular activities, that they approach their teachers about missed work. When assessment is due, there needs to be reasonable negotiation between the parties involved. Please make contact with the relevant Student Manager or Head of Department if you have any concerns surrounding assessment or missed work.

There is a student free day on Monday 17 August - this is a ministerial holiday. The following afternoon (Tuesday 18 August) we have our school's Open Afternoon. All current parents are welcome to join us to see what activities your sons and daughters are involved in as a part of their learning program at Harristown.

Until next week

Regan Neumann

2009 GOLD LEADERS' INITIATIVE

This year the Gold Leaders have decided to enter a float in the Carnival of Flowers parade. This exciting initiative will showcase the great things about Harristown using the theme 'Dream Big' and will be led by Harry the Hawk.

Already the students have helped to build a float and potted many hundreds of seedlings to go on it. The Year 12 VAS class are creating 'big' school objects to be carried in the parade as well.

If anyone is interested in helping please contact us.

For more information contact: Alice James

GOLD AND SILVER CERTIFICATES OF COMMENDATION (FORMERLY LEVEL A AND B)

The Harristown State High School Gold and Silver Certificate of Commendation presentation ceremonies will be held on **Tuesday, 18th August** in the Auditorium. These ceremonies are always a very important occasion at the school because they provide us with the opportunity to acknowledge those students whose effort and behaviour have been judged to be of a consistently high or very high standard (based on Semester 1 reports). Invitations to parents were sent home with students on Thursday, 6th August.

The ceremony for students in Barang and Dherwain will commence at 10.00am followed by light refreshments. The ceremony for students in Balkuin and Bonda will be held at 12.00pm followed by light refreshments.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

AUGUST	
Monday 10 Wednesday 12	Year 11 Camp
Friday 14	Interhouse Athletics
Monday 17	Pupil Free Day
Tuesday 18	Gold & Silver Certificate Presentation
Tuesday 18	Open Afternoon
Monday 31 - Friday 4 Sept	Year 10 Camp
SEPTEMBER	
Tuesday 1	P & C Meeting
Tuesday 1	Year 12 QCS Test
Wednesday 2	Year 12 QCS Test
Monday 7 - Friday 11	Year 11 & 12 Exam Block
Friday 18	The Arts Day

DEBATING

A total of 7 teams entered the QDU competition in 2009, with all teams having wins across the 4 preliminary rounds. 3 teams, 2 from Year 9 and 1 from Year 12, competed in the finals series, where both year 9 teams were eliminated early. The Year 12 team is currently preparing for their Grand Final on Wednesday, 12 August where they will go up against St Ursula's arguing the affirmative of 'That we should introduce hate crime legislation to combat racism.' Good Luck!

Congratulations to all teams on a great year and a special thanks to all the teacher coaches and parent supporters.

Alice James - Debating Co-ordinator

CONGRATULATIONS SAM - WORLD CHAMPION

Every now and then in life, we come across a truly inspirational person, and Sam Carter is most definitely one of those people. Sam is in his last year at Harristown High and has just been crowned World Champion in the 100m at the recent World Junior Athletics Championships for Athletes with a Disability in Switzerland.

This was an extremely successful meet for Sam, not only did he achieve gold in the 100m, but also silver in both the 200m and 400m. He also won gold in the 4x100m relay team.

This type of success is not accidental, but is the result of many years of dedication and very hard work. Sam trains 6 days a week on the track for 2 hours each day. He also has the support of Vision Health and Fitness in Toowoomba who give him three free sessions a week with a personal trainer in the gym for 1 hour each session. Sam has been completing this gruelling training schedule for the past 8 years.

The maturity and dedication required to achieve such success, for a young man of just 18 years is an inspiration to us all. Sam has a very strong focus and his next competitive goal is qualifying for the World Championship Games in Auckland in 2011, then onto the Paralympics in London in 2012. He has just obtained a scholarship with the Qld Academy of Sport and is aiming to study Law at USQ next year. He truly is an amazing young man and we wish him all the best as he strives to meet his future goals.

Rebecca Ryan - HOSES

NEWS FROM THE ARTS DEPARTMENT

HARRISTOWN ROCKS ON!

The Rock Eisteddfod team took their production, *Venetian Vendetta*, to the stage at the Boondall Entertainment Centre last Friday night for the 2009 Brisbane Grand Final. Despite being given only 3 weeks notice of the Grand Final, the team put together an amazing show which was described by one of the judges as a "stylish and crowd pleasing spectacle". *Venetian Vendetta* was a resounding success, taking out third place and a host of awards. The team received Awards of Achievement for Concept, Choreography, Set Design and Function, Costuming Character, Visual Enhancement, Soundtrack and Performance Skill. We also received the overall Awards of Excellence for Stage Use and Lighting. Special mention must be made of the Lighting Award as our lighting was designed by our two Technical Crew captains, Matthew Skerman and Ben Hunt, and was called on the night by Matthew while Ben was on stage. Teachers Helen Mullins, Sharon Barker, Leanne Monagle and Tim Reuther were each presented with a plaque recognising 10 years of involvement with the Rock Eisteddfod Challenge by executive producer, Mr Peter Sjoquist. Many thanks must go to our many supporters and helpers who helped make this year's production such a success. Congratulations to all involved!

EISTEDDFOD SUCCESS

Once again, Harristown ensembles have delivered impressive performances at this year's Toowoomba Eisteddfod. The Stage Band, conducted by Mr Lanzafame, and the Symphonic Wind Ensemble, conducted by Mr Gray, both won their sections which is the seventh year consecutive year for the Stage Band and the fourth for the Symphonic Wind Ensemble. While not receiving a place, the Concert Band conducted by Mrs Redfearn and the Big Band, led by guest conductor and ex-Harristown student James Laundon, both played extremely well and received favourable comments from the judges. As a result of the collectively outstanding performances by our ensembles, the school was awarded the Darling Downs Instrumental Music Committee trophy for the highest aggregate result. The trophy was presented at the Closing Concert for the Eisteddfod at which the Symphonic Wind Ensemble were invited to play. Congratulations to all Instrumental music students and staff on your outstanding performances.

EXCELLENCE IN ART

Two Year 12 students, Ella Breydon and Victoria Doolin, have had their work entered in the Creative Generation Excellence in Visual Art and Design Awards. The students' work is being exhibited at the Toowoomba Regional Art Gallery from the 7th August to the 6th September and will have the chance to be selected as part of the touring exhibition which will travel around Queensland galleries during 2010. Judging will occur over the next few weeks, with the announcement of award recipients on Sunday, 23rd August. Good luck to these two talented Visual Art students.

P & C ASSOCIATION NEWS

Position Vacant - Casual Facilities Caretaker

A position for Casual Facilities Caretaker exists at Harristown State High School. The successful applicant will be employed for up to 20 hours a week by the P & C Association. This position would suit a semi-retired person available to work some afternoons, nights and/or weekends. Award wages apply. For more information call the P & C Shop on Ph: 46368714 or 46368747.

Textbook and Resource Hire Fee Owing

All Textbook and Resource hire fees became outstanding at the end of July unless arrangements for time payment of your students fee have been made with the school. The P & C Shop is open from 8.15 am - 3.15 pm for all student payments. Your prompt payment would be appreciated.



Chocolate Drive

The Chocolate Drive is in full swing and continues for all of Term 3. We have many families participating in this fundraising venture. A reminder that your student will receive \$15.00 credit on to their school account for every box sold. We will continue to have plenty of stock to issue to students during Term 3.

HAWKS IN SPORT

Rugby League

Michael Hancock Cup

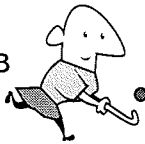


The junior Hawks took on Cav Rd in the first elimination round of the Michael Hancock Cup on Tuesday 28th July. After being beaten 36 -16 by Cav Rd in the preliminary rounds of the competition the boys knew they had to bring their A-game to the table. After a scratchy start the boys settled in to their game and ran out convincing 32-14 winners.

The boys came up against arch rivals St Mary's in the quarter final stage of the competition in what turned out to be a one sided affair. The Hawks ran out winners 70-10. The junior Hawks will now travel to Brisbane on 1st September to compete in the semi final.

Well done boys and best of luck in the up coming semi.

NAB Cup Hockey



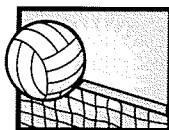
Congratulations must go to our **NAB Hockey Regional Champs!!!** In what was a great display of courage the girls stood tall against St Ursula's to claim the title 2 mins into extra time.

After dominating the first half the Hawks found themselves 1-0 down at the break after conceding a goal 30 seconds before halftime. To their credit they fought back hard after the break scoring back to back goals from Amber Suey and Jess Suley to take a 2-1 advantage. With only 8 mins left on the clock the girls conceded an unlucky goal to finish regular time at 2-2.

In the extra time the girls repelled an early onslaught from St Ursula's before taking the ball the length of the field and drawing a short corner. With all their eggs in one basket the girls pushed forward to try and secure their first regional final victory over St Ursula's in 5 years. The Staff sisters combined with Bree Edwards sealed the deal for the Hawks with Madeline knocking the winning goal past the outstretched keeper. Special mention must go to Amber Suey who had only just arrived back from a hockey tournament in the Northern Territory 30mins before hit off, Bree Edwards who was suffering from bronchitis and struggled her way through the match, and to Maddie Staff who was named Player of the Match for her outstanding performance throughout the entire match.

Congratulations girls and best of luck for your up coming trip to Brisbane to compete in the State Finals.

Queensland Volleyball Senior Schools' Cup



Last weekend over 160 volleyball teams from 72 schools across Queensland converged on Toowoomba for the Annual Queensland Volleyball Schools Cup - Senior Competition. Harristown High was represented by seven teams. All teams played

brilliantly and the following commendable results were achieved:

Senior Girls Honours	2 nd
Senior Boys Honours	3 rd
Senior Girls Div 2	3 rd
Open Boys Honours	4 th
Open Girls Honours	8 th
Open Girls Div 3	8 th
Senior Boys Div 2	8 th

Harristown has taken out Champion Honours School (for only the second time in school history) by just two points over Craigslea, as well as taking out the Aggregate Champion School Title for the second year in a row.

The volleyball focus now turns towards preparing for Queensland Volleyball Schools' Cup - Junior Competition to be held in Brisbane at the start of term 4. Teams will be entered for both boys and girls from years 8, 9, and 10. Any students interested in getting involved in volleyball at Harristown should see Mr Moore for further details.

Until next week

Ian Brackstone
Sports Co-ordinator

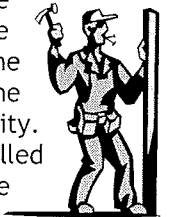
QUOTE OF THE WEEK (contributed by Ms Jones)

"Cheerfulness opens, like spring, all the blossoms of the inward person".

J P Richter

BUILDING CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY SITE EXPERIENCE 2009

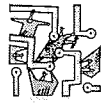
As a part of the Building Construction course this year, a selected group of students were given the opportunity to gain some "on the job experience" building a house for the Habitat for Humanity Australian Charity. Participating senior students that are enrolled in our "Industrial Skills Construction" course gained some vital skills and knowledge needed to work in the building industry. Students worked on a three bedroom house at different stages from ground up through to completion.



Thanks to Mr Michael Dwight (Construction Skills Queensland building mentor) for participating in the organisation and the running of the program. We look forward to having the opportunity to work with this program again in the near future.

Daniel Schick
Construction (Industrial Skills Teacher)

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION



Apprenticeships for 2010

Over the next few months we receive information about available apprenticeships for 2010.

XSTRATA COAL QLD has a number of positions available, mechanical, electrical and metal fabrication. If the mining industry interests you, this could be the position for you. Applications are on line at www.xstrata.com/jobs/careers.

Please see Trish in D11 for more information.

SATs On Show Year 10 Excursion

The lucky students of SATs on Show for Year 10 were offered an amazing opportunity to attend the University's Career Day on the 28th July. Four classes and their teachers boarded the bus at 9.40am for the short trip to Clive Berghofer Stadium. As the students entered it became clear that this was a wonderful opportunity to get some valuable information, not just focus on missing out on a half day at school.

At the Expo many colleges, universities and employment agencies had set up stalls to show the education and employment opportunities they had on offer, including TAFE, DISCO. Bond University, Army Defence Force, Woolworths and even Sizzler!

As we visited each stall we received show bags, information brochures, lollies and many other free items.

At the Bricklaying Stall Rory, off Big Brother, was showing how to lay bricks. Harristown students had an excellent day and came back to school with armfuls of information and goodies and a better understanding of their career goals and opportunities.

By Rebecca Troy (Yr 10, SATs on Show student)

* SATs available: Nb: All enquiries are to be made through Ms Matheson or Trish Hamlin in the Vocational Education Office, D011, as the businesses do not want to be contacted directly.

DGT = Downs Group Training

GWES= Golden West Employment Solutions

Apprenticeships

Cert III	Butcher	See Trish
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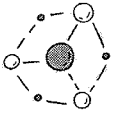
Traineeships

Cert III	Business	One Safe Electrical Wyreema
Cert III	Hospitality	GWES
Cert III	Wyalla Plaza Takeaway	4 positions
Cert III	Pharmacy Assistant	Grand Central see Trish

Cert II	Dental Assistant	GWES x2
Cert II	Retail	DGT Supermarket
Cert II	Retail	Red Rooster
Cert II	Retail	Abra Kebab (Grand Central)
Cert II	IT	Cabarlah

SCIENCE SNIPPET (contributed by Mr Below)

This week I'd like to look at the science behind the 'roo-harvesting' industry. My students might know that I am a conservationist - but not a tree-hugger (not in front of a D-12 bulldozer anyway! You might therefore think that I am against the roo-shooting industry - but guess what I'm not!



We need the roo-industry for the correct scientific management of our macro pods. Since the First Fleet arrived, we have cut down two-thirds of our forest. This made a lot of extra grassland. Farmers bring Artesian water to the surface. Water plus grass equals millions of hoppers! Some of our smaller wallaby species are extinct or near-extinct, but Eastern Greys and Reds are out there in their millions. Uncontrolled their populations would expand rapidly. Bush and farms alike would have no grass left. Eventually cattle properties would have no fodder and roos and cattle would starve to death in their millions. Enter the roo-shooter.

The roo-shooter does not shoot willy-nilly. He is told by "National Parks" how many roos need culling and is given one plastic tag per roo. Each roo carcass brought to the freezer box or processing plant must bear the tag or will not be accepted. The annual cull figure is carefully calculated by National Parks after aerial surveys and adjusted according to needs. The co-ordination between National Parks, the property owner and the shooter ensure correct management of this important animal.

To accuse roo-shooters of being 'cruel' is quite ignorant. I worked for a week with a roo-shooter in Blackall who had the nations top figures, in other words, he was good at his job. He was coldly efficient but not cruel. All were one-shot kills with no suffering, except for me, as I had to drag or carry the animal back to the vehicle across rough country, often 80 metres or so! Joeys were dispatched immediately - the only solution. Some roos are shot for skins (to make your Adidas and Nike runners). Some are shot for meat.

Some people don't know that 'roo meat' is amongst the tastiest and healthiest you can get. Others say we should not eat our national emblem. Well, the red deer (a feral) is on QLD's emblem and we eat venison! The rooster is the animal symbol of France and I'm pretty sure they eat chicken! The kangaroo is a noble animal but must be correctly managed.

In my house, we eat roo for dinner about once a fortnight. The Russians are big importers of roo meat but have stopped importing it. Hundreds of jobs are at stake so hopefully they will resume ordering again soon. In the meantime, we will try to eat roo more often to support the industry. Gotta go now, must hop!

HELPING WITH SPELLING



Spelling - Tip 3

Learn to spell words with CHIMP

This is a method or process you can use to help students learn their spellings at home.

CHIMP	Abbreviation Means	Steps to Follow
CH	Chunks	Break words up into chunks Write it down.
I	Investigate	Study the word. Highlight the tricky part. Think of a way to remember it.
M	Memory Screen	Cover Close your eyes. Put the word on your memory screen. Spell it forwards. Spell it backwards. Check. Repeat if needed.
P	Practise	Trace over the word and say the letter names as you go. Write 3 times and say the word aloud as you write it.

This process is the one used in our classes to help students with their spelling.

Yvonne Bidgood HOD - ELT

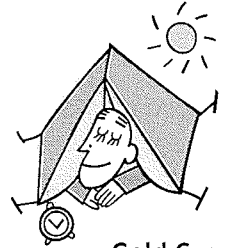
COMMUNITY NOTICES

CAMP:

Parents/Guardians: Are you looking for an exciting and fun filled holiday activity for your student?

- SU QLD PRESENTS SPLASH OUT! -

28th Sept - 2nd Oct, Tallebudgera Gold Coast
Activities: beach activities, Wet n Wild, shopping at Pacific Fair, Games, Fun Friends and Inspiring guest speaker.



For further information, please pick up a registration form from school administration and return this ASAP. There are several opportunities available for sponsorship for eligible students. Please contact the Chaplain to enquire about this or for further information on the camp - 4636 8700

SU QLD is an inter-denominational Christian organisation and has been running successful camps for students all over Qld for the past 65 years. www.suqld.org.au/camps

HARRISTOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL FETE

The Harristown State Primary School is having their fete on Sat., 5th Sept, 10am -2pm. They will be having rides; entertainment including the high school big band, primary school choirs & Everdance group; stalls; bbq; devonshire teas and multidraw raffle.