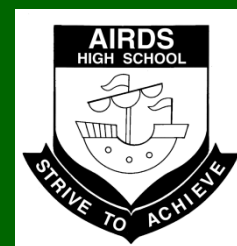


# Airds Announcer

"A place to learn, lead and achieve your personal best"

Find us at: Airds High School, 2 Briar Road, Airds NSW 2560

[airds-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:airds-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au)



Term 1

February 2016

## DIARY DATES

Wed 24 <sup>th</sup> February	Swimming Carnival
Fri 18 <sup>th</sup> March	Stage 4 Easter Show excursion
Fri 25 <sup>th</sup> March	Good Friday
Mon 28 <sup>th</sup> March	Easter Monday
Tues 29 <sup>th</sup> -1 <sup>st</sup> April	Mobile dentist
Tues 5 <sup>th</sup> April	Year 7 Showcase
Fri 8 <sup>th</sup> April	Last day Term 1
Tues 26 <sup>th</sup> April	School Development Day
Wed 27 <sup>th</sup> April	Students Return Term 2

**NEXT P&C MEETING**  
**WEDNESDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2016**  
**AT 9:50 am**  
**IN THE STAFF COMMON ROOM**

**WOULD LOVE TO SEE YOU  
THERE!**

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Welcome to 2016, family and friends of Airds High School. This year is off to a flying start with our students busily engaged in their learning. Thank you so much for ensuring that your child is at school on time, every day and in their correct school uniform. By working in partnership and placing high expectations for our students they will reach their full potential. I cannot over emphasise the importance of the school and community working towards common goals!



I feel extremely fortunate, to lead and manage an absolutely fantastic staff. Their dedication, enthusiasm and commitment never ceases to amaze me. Many of our staff travel huge distances to work at Airds High School not only because they enjoy working here but more importantly because they know that they are making a difference to the lives of our students. It is with great pleasure that I introduce our newest members of staff; Ms Rose Tull (HT Secondary Studies), Ms Vicki Madeley (Rel HT Support), Ms Hannah King (HSIE), Ms Olga Fenton (CAPA) and Ms Carolyn Odecki (Maths).

This term, we will again be showcasing the talent of our Year 7 students, when we host our **Olympic Evening**. This will occur in our school hall on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> April from 4.00pm till 6.00pm. The evening will provide a perfect opportunity for you to see the fantastic work that is being carried out by our students every day as they participate in project based learning (PBL). Teachers and our Student School Leaders will be available to answer any questions you may have regarding your child's transition to high school. More information will be provided as we get closer to the event date.

Our school has again secured the services of a qualified TAFE teacher to offer our students the opportunity to study a Certificate II course in Horticulture. The course will be running every Tuesday for the rest of the year, with successful participants attaining TAFE accreditation. This year we will be welcoming community members into this wonderful program. I have no doubt that our school grounds will again be looking fabulous within a few weeks.

Airds High School promotes the core values of; *Safe, Respectful, Learners*. These values apply not just to students but to all members of our community. Most of our students have made an outstanding start to the year, especially in regards to their learning. Unfortunately, a few students have caused concern in regards to safety and respect. As adults we need to model appropriate behaviour to our students and this is especially so when using social media. It is disappointing to see negative and hurtful messages about our students and school posted on the internet. Once it is placed out there it can't be withdrawn and this often results in someone being offended. Please think carefully before posting!

I look forward to working in partnership with you all to improve the learning outcomes for our students. If you have any suggestions, comments or concerns please feel free to contact the school via the phone and we can arrange a time to meet. Or perhaps, you could join our small but dynamic Parents and Citizen's Association (P&C) at one of our monthly meetings. New members are always welcome and it's a great way to make new friends.

Mr S McGuire – Principal

**If your child is absent from school, we need a note to explain the absence WITHIN 7 DAYS – this is a legal requirement otherwise the absence will be marked as unjustified. Thank you for your co-operation.**

## DEPUTY PRINCIPAL YR 8, 10 & 12 REPORT

Welcome back to 2016! I hope that you all had a wonderful holiday and enjoyed the extra time with your children. It has been a busy start to the year and it has been most impressive to see the students getting straight in to where they left off with their learning. The compressed curriculum has definitely led us off to a smoother start to the school year.



Unfortunately, there are still a number of students who are habitually late to school. This is unacceptable as they are missing learning time and they are disadvantaging themselves. A number of parents will be asked for interviews in the coming weeks so that we can begin to improve the attendance of all students.

Year 8 have had a change in personnel with Ms Stoddart stepping up the role of Year 8 Head Teacher and Relieving Head Teacher Maths / Science. Mr Khalifeh is filling in as Year 8 Year Adviser. Year 8 have been focussing on the Beyond Blue Sense and Sensability Unit in their Study Skills lessons and it has been pleasing to see how much their effort, attitude and behaviour have settled this year.

Mr Rosete and Ms Barker continue to look after the welfare and discipline of Year 10. I know they have both been impressed with the settled start from their year group. They have 3 terms left of their junior schooling and by Week 6, Term 4, they will become our seniors. We look forward to some impressive RoSA grades from this year group.

I would like to thank Mr Miranda for picking up the role of Year 12 Year Adviser whilst Mr Buckley is relieving as Head Teacher. Along with his role as Senior Study Teacher, Mr Miranda is working hard to ensure that Year 12 students are well supported in resolving outstanding classwork and assessment tasks. Unfortunately, a number of Year 12 students, who are over 17 years of age, are not meeting the expectations of senior students. There will be interviews with students and parents over the coming weeks to determine the course of action for each individual student. A number of Year 12 students are also of the belief that they are allowed to leave school grounds during the school day. This is not the case and if such behaviour continues, students will be processed for continued disobedience.

Already this year, we have had a number of parents who believe it is acceptable to abuse staff, either in person or over the telephone. Please understand that this is not acceptable and our staff have been instructed to politely end the call or conversation if they are the victim of such abuse. It is much easier for your child if we all work together. Our staff have a job to do, but they do not have to be abused for doing so. Thank you to those parents

who continually work with us and support us. We can achieve so much more working together rather than against each other.

Staffing has been problematic this semester and we continue to work with our staffing unit to ensure consistent staff on all classes. On that note, we have had two of our valued and dedicated temporary members of staff appointed to permanent positions. I would like to congratulate Ms Erin Radford who was appointed to the Science Faculty at Airds High School. On a sadder note, Mr Todd Gentle has received a permanent appointment as an English / HSIE teacher at Warialda High School. We wish him well in his future endeavours and thank him for his dedication, his passion and his enthusiasm for the students at our school.

Scooters and bikes continue to cause concern. No doubt you are all aware of the tragedy that took place in Ambarvale over the Christmas holidays; yet, some of our students still refuse to wear helmets. Please be aware that if your child comes to school without wearing a helmet (a helmet attached to their bag does not count – it needs to be on their head), their bike or scooter will not be locked up. Likewise, if your child is not at school by 8:45am and at the lock up room, they will not have their bikes or scooters locked up. If they are going to be late to school, they will need to walk or they will need to bring their own lock. Our office staff cannot keep opening up the store room because students can not arrive to school on time.

Internal toilets are also an issue – please be aware that unless your child has a diagnosed medical condition or unless it is an emergency, they will not be given permission to use the toilets in Block 5. Far too many students use this as an excuse to get out of class and as a venue to smoke in. Neither is acceptable. Students must get used to going during break times, not class time.

We are currently working with AB Central to look at an afternoon learning centre that will run probably twice a week. This will run on different days to our Homework Centre and I hope that students will consider accessing this valuable, free resource which will be there to help improve the educational outcomes for all students. More details to come on this initiative.

Along a similar line, Nat Bonnell from Housing NSW will be starting a careers / job club at our school each week on a Tuesday from 12pm. She will be working with Ms Fitas. Nat will be here, running workshops and helping community members and some of our students to access employment and training. We hope to see as many parents there as possible. We will provide more information about this initiative as soon as possible.

Thank you to all of the parents and carers that have worked with us throughout the term to ensure the best possible outcomes for your children. Those parents and carers that ensure that their child is at school on time, prepared with the correct equipment, in full school uniform every day make our jobs so much easier. You also make school life better for your child. Thank you!

I look forward to positive, productive partnerships with all students and their families throughout 2016. Like always, if you have any questions or need support in any area of your child's learning please do not hesitate to contact us.

Ms J Fuller – Deputy Principal

### DEPUTY PRINCIPAL YR 7, 9 & 11 REPORT

I would like to welcome all students, parents and staff to the start of an exciting 2016. I am looking forward to the challenge of my role which includes the supervision of Years 7, 9 and 11. I am excited about working with a fantastic team of teachers helping students develop their social, emotional and academic skills to be creative, innovative and resilient learners. I am also excited about the opportunity to work with teachers on a number of programs such as Project Based Learning and the School Values of "Safe, Respectful Learners".

It has only been a few weeks but it has definitely been a busy start to the year. I have been impressed by the way Year 7 have settled into life at Airds High School. They have taken on the structures of high school life very well – navigating their way around to different rooms, having different teachers for different subjects, learning to read a timetable and meeting and making new friends – these have been great challenges for them and they have risen to these challenges. Ms Zalewski and Mr Gentle have been instrumental in helping Year 7 make this transition from primary to high school as smooth as possible.

The Project Based Learning focus for Year 7 this term has an Olympic theme with the driving question being "And the Winner Is?". This Project Learning has all faculty areas and students in Year 7 undertaking and completing learning activities that will culminate in a display of their final projects at the end of this term. Parents and friends will be invited to attend this showcase later in term 1.

Year 9 commenced Stage 5 of their education in week 6 last term. Elective courses as well as Mandatory courses are now part of their academic program. It is important for them to develop good study habits early on in order to prepare them for the senior years of 11 and 12. Ms Tate and Ms Drakefield are available to offer support to Year 9 when needed.

Senior College 1, (Year 11), have almost completed their first round of Preliminary Subjects. Assessment tasks have been undertaken and many students have managed the expectations required of them. It is important that students focus on their work, maintain good attendance and seek teacher assistance as required. Ms Adair is always available to help with queries, questions and wellbeing matters.

I look forward to working with you and the Airds school community in 2016.

Ms M Feld – Deputy Principal

**We are:**

**Safe  
Respectful  
Learners**

### YEAR 7 REPORT

It gives me great pleasure to write up our first Year 7 article for Term 1 2016. My role at Airds High School as the Year 7 Adviser is to ensure the wellbeing of the students, address any welfare concerns related to the students at school and at home, and to support the students in their growth and progress within the school community. I am here to provide the support that will encourage your child to realise their potential, by helping them to become confident and caring citizens, and by encouraging them to be motivated and successful learners.

Within the first few weeks of high school, the Year 7 cohort have experienced a lot of changes and challenges which has required plenty of strength and determination. The way the students have handled themselves over these first few weeks has been outstanding and a credit to you as their parents/caregivers. We are very mindful that the transition from primary to high school requires some adjusting for students and our current program will ensure that we cater well for students in this regard. Year 7 often coincides with the onset of independence when young people develop a need for autonomy and social identity, it is during this time that they seek out and rely on their parents for supportive and active involvement in all aspects of their life including school. At Airds High we value this strong school-family partnership throughout secondary schooling so please get in touch if you would like to speak personally to me or to see how your child is transitioning.

Year 7 students are currently working on a series of Olympic Games projects that will be presented to families and friends at a Showcase later in the term. The projects will be worked on across their subject areas and will differ from class to class. The showcase will be a great opportunity to meet all the Year 7 teachers in an informal setting and to see the students' fantastic work that they have been able to accomplish in their very first term of high school!

The Year 7 students are also undertaking the SenseAbility program and the Peer Support Program within their study skills lessons. These programs have a focus on helping the students to become independent learners through a series of organisation and time-management activities. The program will also encourage students to become effective team players through activities that target communication skills, anti-bullying messages and respect for self and each other.



Year 7 students have now been notified of their house colour groups and we encourage students to dress in their house colours for the upcoming School Swimming Carnival. I encourage all Year 7 students to enter a race on the day or a novelty event to get some points for your house group!

With a busy term ahead with school photos, swimming carnival and Olympics Showcase we are also getting together a Year 7 Camp package for Term 2 so watch this space!!!

If students are struggling with the work load, assignments or study skills, we run a homework centre each Wednesday Afternoon from 3 – 4pm up in the school library where students can get help with work or assignments from a variety of teachers. Students have the use of the library books, computers, internet and printing services during this time. This is a free service and students will also get an afternoon tea. If your child is interested in attending they can pick up a permission note from the Library.

Attendance expectations:

- ✓ Attend school every day
- ✓ Be on time to classes
- ✓ Inform the school as soon as you know you will be away
- ✓ Bring in medical certificates, appointment slips or other evidence that explains your absence as soon as you return to school
- ✓ Sign in to the office when late — you will need a note to explain lateness to school
- ✓ Hand in a note of explanation and sign out at the office when leaving early
- ✓ Many school rewards and excursions will depend on your good attendance.



I'm looking forward to an amazing and adventurous year with the Year 7 Students!

Miss Zalewski  
Year 7 Adviser

**Mobile phones are not to be used  
during the school day**

## YEAR 9 REPORT

Firstly I would like to congratulate Caitlyn-Vidovic McCarthy on winning the 2016 Hardy Miller Education Foundation Scholarship. This is a major achievement and one that is well deserved. She was identified as a student who has enormous potential to achieve academic excellence and significant professional success. Well done Caitlyn!



### Snow Camp in September

Organisation is well underway for Year 9 to have a trip of a lifetime with their year group. Much work has already been done by this beautiful cohort of Year 9. We have had a car wash late last year to raise funds for transportation so this will cost nothing for the students.

### Bunnings BBQ

Coming up on the 20<sup>th</sup> February is our Bunnings BBQ to continue raising money and hopefully make everyone's individual price come down a little. Please spread the word to come down and support us by buying a sausage sizzle. I must thank all the Year 9 students who have put up their hand to come and help on the day. The day will run from 8.30 in the morning till about 4.30 in the afternoon.

A reminder for students and parents to hand in their permission notes. This means I can start finalising the camp details. I would also like to mention that handing back the permission note means that your child is committed to coming, as last year we had some students bring back their note and then not turn up. This is not fair on the students, myself and the organisation that we are staying with. So please if you hand back your note can you honour your commitment.

At the moment year 9 will also be selling Cadbury chocolates, so please support us by buying a chocolate. Any student that takes the ownership and responsibility of selling a box will receive \$20 off their snow camp. The more they sell the cheaper the trip will become.

### Future outlook

I must say that I am very much looking forward to spending this year with Year 9. I have no doubt that this young group of students will develop and mature into wonderful young individuals.

Mr N Tate  
Year 9 Adviser

## LIBRARY REPORT

The Library has recently purchased many new resources for the upcoming year and will continue to utilise the new ottomans to support reading for leisure. This year we have also started organised recess and lunchtime activities; Monday has board and card game competitions, Tuesday is trivia, Wednesday is just dance and Thursday and Fridays are shows and movies by request.

Please remember that all Library resources can be searched from home via the student DET portal. In the portal, click on the 'My Library' button to access our internal search engine. Remember that we also welcome and encourage parents and carers as borrowers.

This year we are again encouraging all students in year 7-10 to participate in the Premier's Reading Challenge. Students are required to choose and read books from the PRC booklist. Once the required amounts of books have been read, students are to return the completed Reading Log sheet to their classroom teacher.

### **What is the NSW Premier's Reading Challenge?**

The Premier's Reading Challenge is a voluntary challenge to encourage students to develop a love of reading.

### **What will the students receive for participating in the Premier's Reading Challenge?**

All students who enter and complete the challenge will receive a Premier's Reading Challenge certificate and their name published on an Honour role.

### **When does the challenge start and finish?**

The challenge runs from March 5 until September 1.

### **Reading Records**

Students are to keep a paper record of the reading challenge and bring to school when the challenge has been completed to be validated.

### **Where can I find the books from the PRC booklists?**

The books from the booklists can be found in the school library. These books can be identified by a coloured dot that is related to the booklist level. These books can also be found at Council libraries.

### **Can I read any title in a book series? Can I read more than one title in a book series?**

Many book series, trilogies and quartets have been included on the Premier's Reading Challenge booklists. You can read and two books from a series from the Challenge booklist. Students are limited in the number of books they can read from each series to encourage readers to experience a wide range of books and authors.

### **When do the certificates arrive?**

Every student who successfully meets the Challenge requirements receives a certificate signed by the Premier. The reading records must be handed in and validated by September 1 and no later. Certificates are distributed late Term 4.

### **Wednesday Afternoon Homework Centre**

Every Wednesday in the library, we are offering a homework centre for all students from 3-4pm. We have had a very positive response from Homework Centre so far and would like to see the numbers continue to increase. We supply a light afternoon tea for all students that attend and teachers are available to support students with their assignments and general classwork. If your child would like to attend the Wednesday afternoon Homework

Centre please arrange for them to get a permission note from the library. We look forward to helping your students!

***"It is what you read when you don't have to that determines what you will be when you can't help it."***

**— Oscar Wilde**

Miss Zalewski  
Teacher-Librarian

## **ENGLISH REPORT**

The English faculty are keen and eager to get the absolute best out of our students. However, in order to do that, we need to make sure that all students have a book and a huge supply of pens. Please help us help them.

Year 7 Sea in English will be bringing home spelling books for homework this year that cover everything from basic spelling rules to word origins. Feel free to help them or check their work to make sure they've read the instructions correctly.

All year groups are welcome to create content and design for a new school Youtube channel starting in Term 2 of this year with 2-3 minute long weekly shows during the school term. To this end, we seek content from all students. We will hold competitions every term for art, stories, film and animation to be featured here; students just need to collect a release form from the English staffroom.

The show will also include 30 second student-teacher interviews with school staff across the school about particular classes, courses or student achievement. Get ready and subscribe now to "Airds High Channel" on youtube.com - check for the official Airds logo, or go to

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCseu7mAD6Fuse4mjc9GbUWQ>

This year we will see debating teams for Stage 4, 5 and 6, as well as our highly successful Indigenous debating team. We look forward to Mr Buckley, Mr Fennell and Mrs Barker coaching them to achieve great results.

Mrs N Barker  
HT English

**Tights and black jeans are not part of the school uniform and are not to be worn**

## **SCIENCE REPORT**

Welcome back to all of our students for Term 1 2016. Science and Maths would like to acknowledge our relieving Head Teacher for Term 1 2016, Mrs Stoddart. Over the years that she has been here, she has demonstrated that she is an excellent practitioner and welfare leader. This new role will enable her to demonstrate her capacity to guide and lead both the Maths and Science staff at a whole school level. Congratulations Mrs Stoddart!



**Mrs Stoddart HT**  
SC1 Senior Science  
10 Science 2



**Mrs Fuller DP**  
9 Science 1



**Miss Radford**  
HSC Senior Science  
10 Science 1  
8 Science 2  
7 Science 1



**Mr Tyler**  
10 Science 3  
9 Science 2  
7 Science 2



**Mrs Hopwood SLSO**



**Mrs Childs SLSO**

As well as:

<b>Miss Erian (Teacher)</b>	<b>Miss Raju (Teacher)</b>	<b>Miss Baloglow (Teacher)</b>	<b>Mr Miezio (SLSO)</b>
9 Science 3	Stage 5 G&T Science Stage 4 G&T Science	8 Science 1	

### Safety in the laboratory

Please ensure that your child has the correct equipment every lesson for Science. This includes:

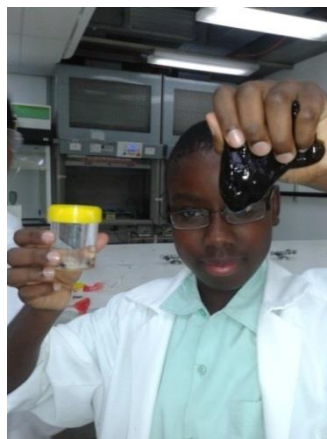
- Workbook, pen and lead pencil – experiments must be written up before participation can occur so that students are aware of the correct procedure and teachers are aware that the students can use the equipment correctly and participate safely.
- The correct uniform – designed as a safety feature if chemical spills occur.
- Leather Enclosed shoes – to prevent chemical spills on the feet.
- Hair ties for long hair – long hair must be tied back to prevent it falling into chemicals or being burnt off by the Bunsen burner.

- No jumpers worn in winter – only when participating in experiments. All of the laboratories are heated in winter.
- No food or drink is to be consumed in any of the laboratories except for bottled water.

N.B. All students will be provided with any other necessary equipment e.g. gloves and goggles.

### Stage 4 Gifted and Talented Class:

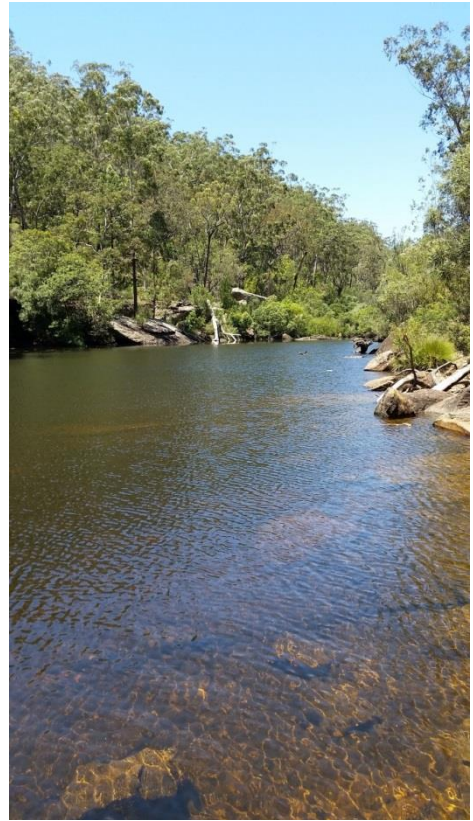
Mrs Raju took the Stage 4 Gifted and Talented class on an excursion for Year 8 Gifted and Talented Science Students at Macquarie University during the later stages of term 4 2015. The students participated in and observed a number of experiments which we are unable to complete here at school. They had a wonderful day and were able to learn more and extend their knowledge gathered in class whilst also having a fun and enjoyable day.



### Senior College 1 Senior Science:

These students participated in their very first field trip to the Woolwash to observe the local environment and the factors that affect the growth and development of plants and animals in the area. It was led by the Georges River Environmental Education Centre's Principal, Garth Jones. We would like to congratulate these students on their commitment shown to Science during their Preliminary Course. They should be receiving their results for their Half Yearly Examinations any time soon. Good Luck!!!





It is important for these students to ensure that they remain focused on their learning in Senior Science and complete all of the required class work and homework; otherwise they will fall behind rather quickly in this subject and be N-Determined. This could lead to repeating the subject in Senior College 2 or choosing a completely different subject for 2017.



### HSC Senior Science

These students have continued to amaze Ms Radford with their dedication to their learning. A number of activities have been organised for these students to complete throughout the year already. They have Half Yearly Examinations coming up during the last week of Term 1 and they are encouraged to make sure they are utilising their senior study periods at school, Homework Centre on Wednesdays and completing revision at home every afternoon.

### Upcoming Excursions

- Stage 4 (Year 7&8): Sydney Royal Easter Show - 17<sup>th</sup> March \$ 16.50
- Year 10: Camden Open Day - 10th June (Term 2)
- Senior College 1 Senior Science and HSC Senior Science: Museum of Human Disease – 22<sup>nd</sup> July (Term 3)
- Science Week Activities (Term 3) including Questacon, Zoosnooz, Lunar Park

## PDHPE REPORT

Welcome to the new school year from the PDHPE faculty: I will be continuing to be Head Teacher of PDHPE. The rest of the staff for this year will be

- Ms Tate
- Mrs Williams
- Mr Halliburton
- Ms Radford
- Ms Simms
- Mr Tyler
- Ms Zalewski

Mr Wagner is the Sport Organiser for 2016.

Students are well into their first unit of work for 2016. This term students will be completing the following units in Health:

- Year 7 – I Want to be an Olympian.
- Year 8 – It's Your Decision
- Year 9 – Safe Partying
- Year 10 – Positive Choices

Each student has received an assessment policy and a guideline explaining what is required of him or her this year. The following assessment tasks have also been given out Year 7 "I Want to be an Olympian." assessment Task due week 6 Term 1, Year 8 Its Your Decision – "Sexually transmitted infections" due week 5/6 term 1, Year 9 "Safe Partying" PowerPoint presentation due week 5/6 and Year 10 "Positive Choices – Biographical Recount" due week 5/6.

This term in practical lessons students will be doing the following:

- Year 7 – Initiative and challenge activities

- Year 8 – Fundamental Junior games
- Year 9 – Run, Rock & Roll – Modified Games
- Year 10 – Dynamic Games

Students must bring and change into full PE uniform for all practical lessons and Sport, including the school sport polo shirt, shorts and joggers.

In PDHPE at Airds High School each student is expected to work to the best of their ability in all areas to achieve their **PERSONAL BEST**.

It is also pleasing to see the number of students choosing PDHPE electives. We are currently running the following electives: Year 9 Coaching, Year 9 & 10 Physical Activity and Sport Studies (PASS), Year 11 & 12 Sport, Lifestyle & Recreation (SLR) and Year 11 & 12 Personal Development, Health & Physical Education (PDHPE) and we are also running a VET Sports Coaching course in Year 11 and 12. We also wish our Year 12 classes all the best this year when they sit for their HSC.

The PDHPE faculty values the contributions made by all of the students at Airds High School but are especially appreciative of those that make an extra effort to do the very best that they can. The positive effort of individual students helps to make a more productive and happy learning environment for the teacher and the rest of the class.

Please don't hesitate to call me for any further information regarding PDHPE and Sport.

Hope you all have a happy and healthy 2016.

Mr S Wagner - Head Teacher PDHPE

## PASTORAL CARER REPORT

Wow it's 2016 and good to be back!

I hope everyone is settling into the new school year. It is always an exciting time when we return after the holidays. Although, it can be a little hard, as we **all** get back into our routines.

I would especially like to welcome our new students and families to Airds High School. Our best wishes for your future learning and development at the school. AHS is a supportive and caring school community, we encourage parents and friends to get involved and participate...and with our wonderful staff, the school provides great opportunities for our students. We want it to be an enjoyable experience for all.

A tip in making your life a little less stressful at this time is to **establish routines**. Having predictable patterns and routines in your day; or over a week, can be very calming and reassuring. It's also important for your health and wellbeing.

Routines can include...

- Regular bedtimes
- Regular waking



- Regular mealtimes
- Regular times for work, exercise and relaxation
- And planning and preparing ahead to do routine jobs or activities
- 

Establishing routines will also help to develop good organisation skills.

This term I will be at Airds High School on Wednesday and Thursday. If I can be of any assistance please do not hesitate to contact me.

Have a great year, and until next time, cheers.

Rob Hodgson JP

### PICLO REPORT

Pacific greetings to all our parents, students and staff.

Welcome back to all our students and staff to what is going to be an amazing year at Airds High. There are many wonderful things planned for our Pacifica students and we know that all students will go above and beyond to do their best when it comes to learning and performing.

Airds HS students have been invited to attend and participate in the Sydney Pacifica Festival 2016 which will be held on Friday 22nd July at Liverpool Whitlam Centre 90a Memorial Ave, Liverpool. The theme is "Reach Higher & Achieve". The school's on-stage performance is made up of 4 performance pieces. One of these components must include and be of the Aboriginal Indigenous culture, the other 3 can be made up from the Pacific region. There are no limitations or restrictions on cultural background, any student can perform, you do not necessarily need to be of Pacific origin.

Any parents, family members, cultural performance leaders or choreographers who would like to give up their time to teach our students cultural dance or song please call me on 46255811. This is a great opportunity to show your skills and encourage learning of other culture through song and dance. Our students have done very well in past Pacific festivals and we hope to continue that this time around.

I am very excited to be working with PATHE (Pacific Achievement to Higher Education) again this year. We have already booked a workshop for our Year 11 & 12 Pacific students coming up in March. We are looking forward to seeing some amazing results for our students who are wanting to take on further study at university. The workshops give our students all the information they need to make those steps into a better future. Thank you to Jemma Fuka, PATHE project coordinator, and current university students for this wonderful program.

We are in the process of starting a Pacific Leadership/Mentoring group which will give students the opportunity to gain leadership skills and support each other while learning at school, keep your eyes and ears open for that one.

Kia Manuia

Maryanne Varu PICLO

**School starts at 8:50am EVERY day. Please ensure your child arrives at school before this time EVERY day. If they are late, they MUST bring a note from you explaining the lateness. Thank you for your co-operation**

### P&C REPORT

Welcome back to all our parents, staff and carers.

Thank you to the parents who attended our first meeting for the year, it was wonderful to see you all. Unfortunately at the end of 2015 we had to say good-bye to our President Kelly Butters who made the decision to resign from her position. I would like to thank Kelly for all the work she did not only as President but also as a P&C member. Kelly was always one of the first to put her hand up and volunteer her time and effort at the school. We wish her well in her future endeavours.

If you are at home and have nothing to do, come to a P&C meeting. We meet the first Wednesday of the month and we would love to see you there. We are a small but 'MIGHTY' team of parents who love to be a part of our school and make things happen for our school and community. Put this date in your calendar WEDS MARCH 2ND AT 9.50 AM, it is our Annual General Meeting. A \$1 membership fee should be paid to the Front Office before the day of AGM so you will be able to vote at the election of new office bearers for 2016. Please make note of the starting time as this is earlier than usual. We would love to see you there.

Looking forward to seeing all our P&C members for many more great times and laughs bring your amazing ideas and positive vibe for another 2016.

Ms M Varu  
P&C President

### CLO REPORT

Welcome back to Airds High School for 2016. I'm sure this will be another very busy and exciting year here at our school full of challenging and rewarding experiences for students, staff and the wider community. I would like to extend a very special welcome to our Year 7 students and their families. Our students appear to have made a smooth transition from primary school to high school and have settled in well to the different routines and expectations they have come across. Thank you to the parents and carers of these students who have been supportive and encouraging and have really made a difference in helping their children to adjust to high school. I am sure this will be the start of a wonderful educational journey for our new students and a great partnership with the parents and carers of these students.

We have had many new staff members start with us at the beginning of this year and I would like to welcome them all to our school. We have new teachers in many of our faculties, as well as new Head Teachers who are leading some of our faculties. I trust that you have been made to feel welcome and comfortable by our students and the wider community. Airds High School is a wonderful place to be and is a school that enables us to offer the students many opportunities and experiences they may not have access to elsewhere. I am looking forward to working with all of you and hope that you really enjoy your time here with us.

Thank you to our P&C members who came in to school on the first day of term to welcome our Year 7 parents with a small morning tea. It was great to see a good number of Year 7 parents join us in the Common Room for a cuppa and a chat and begin to find out about all the amazing things that happen at our school. I would like to encourage all new and existing parents to seriously consider joining the P&C and supporting their child's education through a wide range of activities and events that the P&C are involved in. It is a great way to get to know other parents, find out about what goes on behind-the-scenes of the school, voice any concerns you may have, and contribute to fundraising and event ideas. Membership is only \$1.00 per year and can be paid at the front office. Our next meeting is on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March at 9:50am in the Common Room and will be our Annual General Meeting (A.G.M.) At this meeting, all current positions will be vacated and elections will be held to fill those positions. Any member may stand, nominate or vote for each position, so please, give it some serious consideration. It is a great way to be supportive of your children's school, as well as building friendships with other parents.

The first fundraising event the P&C is undertaking this year is an Easter Raffle. In order to make this a success, we need some assistance from all our families. We are asking students to bring in an item to donate to the raffle prizes, for example, chocolate Easter eggs, chocolate rabbits, small chocolate eggs, soft toys or even baskets for us to put the prizes in. The more donations we receive, the more prizes we can make for the raffle, increasing everyone's chances of winning a prize. All donations can be left at the front office and tickets will be available closer to Easter.

Part of my job at Airds High School as the Community Liaison Officer is to be a voice for the parents and the community within the school. If you ever have questions, concerns or suggestions about anything happening within the school and you think I might be able to help, please don't hesitate to contact me. I am at school every Monday and Wednesday and can be contacted through the front office on 4625 5811. Please feel free to leave messages for me on any other day and I will get back to you as soon as I can. I am very passionate about our school and about always doing the very best we can by our students to ensure that they achieve to the best of their ability. Staff, students and parents all working together will mean that we can truly make a difference in the lives of the young people at our school.

I'm looking forward to working with everyone this year and watching our students' many great accomplishments.

Melanie Cutts  
Community Liaison Officer

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### Compulsory School Attendance in NSW Schools

Under the Education Act (1990) 'compulsory school-age' means that all children from six years of age are legally required to be enrolled at and attending school.

After they complete Year 10, and until they turn 17 years of age, students then have the following options. They may also be in:

- full-time further education and training (e.g. TAFE, traineeship, apprenticeship);
- full-time, paid employment of an average of 25 hours per week; or
- a combination of both of the above.

Recent changes to attendance requirements place obligations on schools to more closely monitor attendance and to take appropriate action if students are either not attending or are absent for reasons not justified by the school.

At Airds High School, we value good attendance from all students. Regular attendance is important because it helps your child:

- Maximise their learning opportunities
- Develop the skills needed to access the world of work and other opportunities
- To learn the importance of punctuality
- Maintain healthy social relationships with their friends
- Develop a good working relationship with their teachers

Habits of non-attendance can develop quickly. Did you know that if a child misses one day of school a week, they miss more than two and a half years of schooling by the end of high school? This can impact greatly on your child's educational outcomes.

The law requires that if your child is absent from school, you must inform the school as soon as possible and provide a legitimate reason for your child's absence. This can be done by

- Sending a note on your child's return to school
- Contacting through email, phone or fax
- Visiting the school

Your child's education is important. Please contact the school if there are problems in getting your children to school or if there are concerns you have about them at school. A positive partnership between home and school in this area is of great value to the school but most importantly to the success and quality of your child's education

Kristen Kable  
Home School Liaison Officer  
Airds High School



## StrikeLive for iOS.

Free download. Daily practice quizzes for Selective High School, Opportunity Class (OC) and NAPLAN with detailed answers, explanations and personalised statistics.



8 NOT-FOR-PROFIT HEALTHY LIFESTYLES INITIATIVE OF CAMPBELLTOWN CITY COUNCIL

**25 CELEBRATING YEARS**

**CAMPBELLTOWN CITY CHALLENGE WALK**

**13 MARCH 2016**

FREE WIFI ENTER ONLINE NOW

THE AUSTRALIAN BOTANIC GARDEN, MOUNT ANNAN

**8AM START GATES OPEN 6.30AM**

**GREAT BARREL DRAW PRIZES**

**6KM FUN WALK 11KM ENDURANCE WALK**

**\$10 ENTRY FREE \$20 ON EVENT DAY**

PLATINUM SPONSOR: The Australian Botanic Garden Mount Annan

MEDIA PARTNER: **Advertiser**

EVENT PARTNER: Campbelltown City Council

GOLD SPONSORS: campbelltown city council, Bounce Back, SUEZ

SILVER SPONSORS: Wests, Southern Highlands, MEGA, Solar Springs, Pure Spring Water, Cande Hire, TRAVEL, C913

BRONZE SPONSORS: Cammer House, Campbelltown City Council

**campbelltown.nsw.gov.au/challengewalk**  
PHONE 4645 4605

## Are you interested in gaining Employment in Retail ?

Macarthur Square is doubling in size.  
This means plenty of retail jobs will be on offer.

**We don't want you to miss out !**

We would like to support local residents to get ready for these opportunities.

We are planning to organise courses to be held locally in Airds and Claymore starting early 2016.

If you are interested in working in this area and would like to get your qualifications in retail or you are interested in any other training please call Natalee on 46293245



FREE JOB CLUB  
Call Nat

## Are you Interested in gaining in Employment in Disability?

**The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)**  
**Will open up exciting employment opportunities for locals in late 2016.**

**We don't want you to miss out !**

We would like to support local residents to get ready for these opportunities.

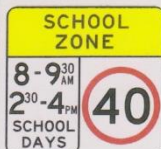
We are planning to organise courses to be held locally in Airds and Claymore starting early 2016.

If you are interested in working in this area and would like to get your qualifications in Disability Services or you are interested in any other training please call Natalee on 46293245



## SCHOOL ZONE TRAFFIC OFFENCES

As at 1 July 2015



**SPEEDING OFFENCES**  
School Zone speeding offences attract higher fine and demerit points than other speeding offences.

**Maximum Penalty**  
**\$3,740**  
**+ 7 Demerit Points**



**MOBILE PHONE USE**  
Drive using a hand-held mobile phone in a School Zone.

**Penalty**  
**\$425**  
**+ 4 Demerit Points**



**CHILDREN'S CROSSINGS**  
Disobey hand-held stop sign at Children's Crossing or approach Children's Crossing too quickly to stop safely.

**Penalty**  
**\$531**  
**+ 4 Demerit Points**



**U-TURNS**  
Make a U-Turn without giving way to pedestrian or vehicle in a School Zone

**Penalty**  
**\$425**  
**+ 4 Demerit Points**

For a full list of all new penalties and offences, please visit:  
[www.rms.nsw.gov.au](http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au) or phone the RMS on: 13 22 13

Please Note: fines subject to change without notice.  
These penalties apply to offences in schools zones only while the zone is active.



## SCHOOL ZONE PARKING OFFENCES

Current as at 1 July 2015



Means that in the area in the direction of the arrow, you must NOT STOP your vehicle at any point on the road or kerb, unless there is a medical or other emergency.

**Maximum Penalty**  
**\$425**  
**+ 2 Demerit Points**



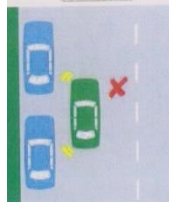
Means that you have no more than 2 minutes for drop-offs or pick-ups of passengers or goods and the driver must stay within 3 metres of your vehicle.

**Penalty**  
**\$177**  
**+ 2 Demerit Points**



Means that in the direction of the arrow or arrows you are not allowed to stop your vehicle unless you are driving a bus.

**Penalty**  
**\$319**  
**+ 2 Demerit Points**



### DOUBLE PARKING

You are **NOT PERMITTED** to stop or park your vehicle alongside another vehicle that is already parked parallel to the kerb.

**Penalty**  
**\$319**  
**+ 2 Demerit Points**

- STOP in a NO STOPPING zone: **\$319 + 2 Demerit Points**
- STOP on or near a Children's or Pedestrian Crossing (within 20m on approach & 10m on departure side of crossing): **\$425 + 2 Demerit Points**
- STOP on path/strip in built up area: **\$177 + 2 Demerit Points**





Family & Community Services

## Support Planning Workshop

Come and join us for an interactive session of support planning to prepare you to meet with an NDIS planner in the future.

24th February  
2016  
10am- 1200pm



**Venue: Family & Community Services (ADHC)  
Level 1, 6 Lithgow Street, Campbelltown**

🕒 10am – 12pm

**Register Now!** RSVP: 17 February 2016

**(Please specify which session you wish to attend)**



**Call:** 02 4629 1600 and ask to speak to a person from the South Western Sydney Individualised Options Team



**Email:** [direct.paymentssws@facs.nsw.gov.au](mailto:direct.paymentssws@facs.nsw.gov.au)



## Would \$500 assist you with education costs?

Join Saver Plus and match your savings, dollar for dollar, up to \$500 for educational costs including:

- school uniforms and text books
- computers, laptops and tablets
- excursions and camps
- sports equipment, uniforms and lessons
- TAFE, traineeship and apprenticeship costs
- music tuition and instrument hire.

You may be eligible if you have a Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card, are at least 18 years old, have some regular income from work (you or your partner) and have a child at school or study yourself.



Saver Plus was developed by ANZ and the Brotherhood of St Laurence and is delivered in your local area. The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government.



## Join our team - we're hiring!

Apply now to be a 2016 Census Area Supervisor

August 9 is Census night and the Australian Bureau of Statistics is looking for 2,500 motivated and community minded Area Supervisors to join our team across Australia.

Apply online at [abs.gov.au/careers](http://abs.gov.au/careers)  
Make a difference in your community and help shape its future.



**CAMPBELLTOWN NETBALL**  
Coronation Park, Redfern Road, Minto



**Come and play!**

Kids from 5 years of age. Adults any age.

Best netball complex in the State.

Visit our website: [www.cdna.com.au](http://www.cdna.com.au)

to choose your Club

or visit our Trading Post page

Winter comp. starts 2 April 2016

proudly sponsored by

