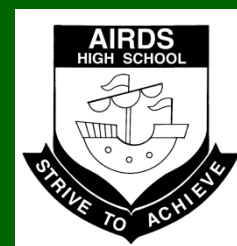


Airds Announcer

"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



Term 2

May 2016

DIARY DATES

| | |
|---|------------------------|
| Mon 2 nd -6 th May | Years 7-10 exams |
| Fri 13 th May | Year 7 Vaccinations |
| Tue 31 st May-2 nd June | Year 7 Camp |
| Wed 8 th June | Flag Ceremony |
| Mon 13 th June | PUBLIC HOLIDAY |
| Wed 15 th June | Athletics Carnival |
| Fri 1 st July | Last day Term 2 |
| Mon 18 th July | School Development Day |
| Tues 19 th July | Students Return Term 3 |

NEXT P&C MEETING
WEDNESDAY 1st June 2016
AT 10:15 am
IN THE STAFF COMMON ROOM

WOULD LOVE TO SEE YOU
THERE!

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Welcome to Term 2 2016, family and friends of Airds High School. 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 cease 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 member of staff; Ms Kate Kennedy (HT Support Unit).

On Thursday 7th April, I had the pleasure of introducing the students that will be representing Airds High School in the WSU "Fast Forward" program. The program has been designed to target students with academic potential and then

encourage and support those students to continue with their educational journey through to university. I would like to publicly acknowledge the following students: Zahraa Al Katify, Jade Ashe, Scott Attenborough, Ley Banan, Edward Barrett, Alison Bow, Dean Brown, Jennifer Clissold, Nick Eberhardt, Seanelle Everingham, Faith Faleali'i, Alyssa Gimbert, Courtne Hardy, Logan Mapp, Bradley Rencewicz, Fatima Saleh, Mattyson Siilata, Elenora Taala, Pandora Taala, Christine Tran and Caitlyn Vidovic-McCarthy. Congratulations to these students and to their families.

The end of Term 1 saw the completion of the Preliminary HSC component for our Senior College 1 students. Most of our students have happily adapted to the compressed curriculum and they are benefiting from studying only 3 subjects at a time. During Term 2 and Term 3 they will commence and complete the HSC for their first 3 subjects. I await their HSC results with great anticipation.

This term, we will again be showcasing the talent of our students, when we host our **Annual Flag Ceremony**. This will occur in our school hall; on Wednesday 8th June. The day will provide a perfect opportunity for you to see the fantastic work that is being carried out by our students every day. More information will be provided as we get closer to the event date.

During the course of this term the refurbishment of Block 5 (Administration) will commence. This refurbishment will ensure that our students have an even safer and more secure learning environment. The finished floor plan will see a separation between the public and our students with a number of the offices being relocated. We ask for your patience and support during the construction phase of the project as it will have a minor impact on the day to day running of the school.

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

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL YR 8, 10 & 12 REPORT

Welcome back to Term 2. I hope that all of our families enjoyed the holidays together. I know I enjoyed my extended leave with my own family and would like to say a very special thank you to Ms Barker who filled in for me during my absence. I know she did a phenomenal job and I appreciate her efficiency, professionalism and dedication.



Term 2 is shaping up to be a busy term, so I encourage all students, parents and community members to keep up to date with our school app (SkoolBag), Facebook page and front sign. There has been an amazing response to our renewed Facebook page and I encourage you all to keep "liking" and "sharing" our posts. Please understand that the page was shut down last time because of inappropriate comments and posts – please do not let this happen again. It will only be shut down again if our school community can not use it in an appropriate manner – so it is really up to you all. Facebook is not the place to lodge a complaint or negative comments. If you have a complaint, that is always best done through other avenues at the school. Please remember that what you post is there forever, whether you take it down or not. If we all work together we can ensure that this valuable resource continues to promote the great things happening in our school whilst also keeping everyone well informed.

All students received a "Permission to Publish" note. We only had a few returned stating that we did not have permission to publish photographs of their children, so we are working on the assumption that parents and carers who have not returned the note are happy for photographs of their children to be published either on our website, our Facebook page, our Twitter account or our various forms of publication within the school – Front Office TV, Airds Announcer, slideshow presentations. If this is not the case, please send a note advising our staff.

Over the coming weeks we will be beginning parent workshops with our feeder primary schools. We would love to see as many parents there as possible. Topics will vary from week to week, with lots of guest speakers. We have been fortunate to secure Meg Mitchell, who is a trained teacher with a wealth of experience in school engagement and, together, we will be running these workshops across our Community of Schools (JWPS, BRPS, BPS and AHS). More details to come on this, at the moment, it is pencilled in for Tuesday, 1:30-2:30pm.

A few reminders to start the term off on the right foot:

1. School starts at 8:30am every day. Any student late, without explanation, will be given a detention.
2. The internal toilets are for emergency use or for students that have diagnosed conditions. They are not for students to access during class time. All students need to use the toilets in the quad during break times. Unfortunately, too many students are accessing these toilets as a way of getting out of class.
3. Bikes, scooters and skateboards will not be locked up after 8:50am or if the student does not have a helmet. Please enforce this at home before your child leaves for school. This is for their own safety.
4. If your child is absent from school for any reason, they need a note to explain their absence. This can be done electronically on our school app to make it even easier for parents and carers.

Ms J Fuller
Deputy Principal

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL YR 7, 9 & 11 REPORT

Welcome back students, teachers and parents. If Term 1 was anything to go by Term 2 will be just as exciting at Airds High School.

Throughout Term 1, Year 7 students were actively engaged in Project Based Learning and the term ended on a high note with the Showcase in Week 11 that demonstrated the exceptional work they completed.

Each Year 7 class was given a city: Budapest, LA or Rome and in a team environment worked to build a grand promotional bid to ensure their city was voted the winner and future host of the 2024 Olympic Games.

The audience of parents, guests and teachers were welcomed in true Olympic style by a Year 7 Opening Ceremony Parade. Student spruikers highlight the benefits of their country, convincing the audience to vote for them. Students also created videos to highlight the features of their city that made it worthy of being selected to host the Olympics. Promotional displays included student made sporting stadiums, victory medallions, food samples, mascots, postage stamps and advertising posters.

Parents, students, guests and teachers attending had the opportunity to vote on which city they believed had the best display. Congratulations to Budapest as the winning city and congratulations to the entire Year 7 student body and their teachers! A great thank you must also go to Ms Zalewski – Year 7 Adviser and Mr Gentle – Year 7 Adviser Assistant for their help with the organisation and running of the event.

Unfortunately for Airds HS we must now say farewell and good luck to Mr Gentle. He was a valued member of the school staff whose passion for teaching was evident in everything he did for the students and teachers of Airds HS.

Mr Gentle has taken up a permanent position and we wish him well for the future.

Year 9 have been powering through their assigned work and many have achieved pleasing results. Some of last term's highlights included a successful Bunnings BBQ, and an HSIE excursion to the War Memorial in Canberra. In addition, congratulations must be extended to Caitlyn Vidovic-McCarthy on receiving the Harding Miller Educational Foundation Scholarship.

All Year 9 are reminded of the need to build good study routines in order to benefit them in their senior years of school. This term they will continue with their work on developing leadership skills and their unit on "Sense of Future" along with concentrating on writing resumes in SSK classes.

Senior College 1, (Year 11) will now move into Year 12 and must ensure they make the most of the time available to them in order to prepare adequately for the Higher School Certificate examinations. To do so they must attend all classes regularly and commit to a study program that incorporates completion of homework, ongoing revision and timely submission of assessment tasks. Parents and guardians are able to help with this by talking to their child about what they are doing at school and by ensuring that adequate home study occurs. Students always have the opportunity to speak with their teachers about their work throughout the school day and should take the opportunity to ask questions, seek assistance and clarify any concerns they may have. Don't forget that Ms Adair is also available to help with queries, questions and wellbeing matters.

Airds HS is a Positive Behaviour for Learning school and our School Values of "Safe, Respectful Learners" encompass the expectations staff have of students and what students should have of themselves. The majority of students at Airds HS meet these expectations but in some cases there are those who experience difficulty. All staff wish the best for their students and will provide assistance where possible but there is an expected level of responsibility required on the part of each child. Good attendance in all classes, explanations for absences, positive behaviour both in and outside the classroom and a commitment to the study process help demonstrate what a "Safe, Respectful, Learner" is. All students at Airds HS have the potential to meet these expectations.

I wish you all a productive term and as Henry Ford said, "Anyone who keeps learning stays young."

Ms M Feld
Deputy Principal

We are:

Safe

Respectful

Learners

YEAR 7 REPORT

PBL Showcase

As Year Adviser of this fantastic group of students I would like to first thank the students for their commitment and dedication to Term 1's work on Project Based Learning and the Olympics. Each student worked tirelessly to ensure that their work was finished on time, was high quality, informative and creative. From witnessing the fantastic PBL Showcase it was obvious that many students went above and beyond the requirements of the project and made me and your teachers so proud. Continuing with the Showcase I would like to thank all the Year 7 teachers for the hard work that went on behind the scenes to ensure the students work was ready to showcase. Similarly to the students you all went above and beyond to make the project the success it was and I thank you for supporting both the students and myself through the whole process. Furthermore a massive thankyou to the parents, family, friends and community members that came along to the showcase evening, it was fantastic to see so much support for an incredible bunch of students and I know that myself and the students really appreciated the support. Congratulations must go to the bidding city of Budapest who was the overall winner!

Miss Zalewski
Year 7 Adviser

YEAR 9 REPORT

Year 9 have been working hard in our SSK periods this year; looking at developing their sense of future. Everything we do is getting Year 9 looking at their future and what they would like to achieve. We have also done many initiative games which are looking at developing team work skills, building leadership qualities and cooperation. Many students have been asking about developing and building a resume so this term Year 9 will be making their personalised resume which can hopefully lead to some students obtaining part time jobs.



SRC representatives for 2016

Congratulations to the following year 9 SRC representatives. You are doing a great job thus far representing our year group and our school.



Alison Bow



Fatima Saleh



Zach Potts



Jakob Kelly

Bunnings BBQ

A massive thank you to the following students who gave up their Saturday to help raise money for our snow camp this year.

- Bailey Fletcher Colvin
- Samantha Gimbert
- Tatiana Mizzi Ngati
- Kamuta Figota
- Jade Ashe
- Christina Tran
- Zach Potts
- Justine Westall
- Katarina Hillman
- Alyssa Gimbert
- Jarod Gillett
- Noelle Aiga



I must also thank the adults who came and helped out, as without you and your support the day would not have been as successful as it was. Thank you to Mel Cutts and Ashleigh and Margaret Edenborough. It was great to see Angela Franks, Miss Simms and Mr McGuire on the day supporting our Year 9 students. Thank you very much.

Camp

Just a reminder to all those students who have handed back their permission notes to go to camp this year. Full payment is due by the end of the term as we leave early Term 3 (6th to the 9th of September). I know I am very excited about spending time with our beautiful cohort of students. I also know that the students are enthusiastic and eager to hit the snow field and have some fun.

Nicole Tate
Year 9 Year Adviser

YEAR 10 REPORT

So despite Year 10 beginning in Week 6 of Term 4 you could say it has been an eventful 15 weeks of schooling for the cohort. We have seen students achieving inside the classroom and outside in the community and in the realm of sport.

Hivalani Teisi, Porotesano Leului and Yolandi Fuimaono participated in a community planning day down at Airds Central. These three students not only produced a spectacular presentation to the community but gained glowing reviews from outside agencies commenting what great ambassadors we have at this school. The project was based on sustainability and improving the Airds culture and community. It was pleasing to see what this generation has to offer and based on their input the community is in safe hands.

Madison Tidmarsh had an exciting opportunity to participate in an Indigenous Modelling experience in Wollongong. From all reports it was a fantastic opportunity to gain exposure and hopefully it is a stepping stone to bigger things.

In the water Tom Munokoa, Bryce Melville and Madison Tidmarsh all performed well at the School Swimming Carnival each achieving in their respective age groups. Samantha Gimbert has once again been chosen to play for Sydney South West for Hockey. A fantastic

achievement by Samantha, we hope that she qualifies for state this year after narrowly missing out last year. Some fantastic student achievements.

A few things to look forward to this term. Half Yearly examinations in Week 4, students should be preparing for their examinations, a few extra hours of study each week should put them in a good position to achieve well. Also Ms Fitas is organising a Careers Day for later in the term as our students are looking to begin the HSC in Term 4. This is a good opportunity to explore any career options. I would also encourage parents to start having a conversation about subject selection for Year 12. The earlier this starts the easier it will be to make an informed decision when subject choices are made.

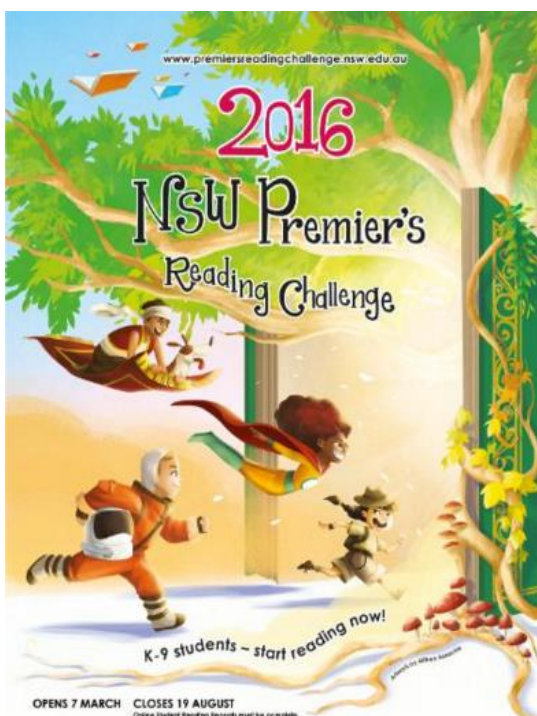
Looking forward to see how things pan out in Term 2.

Mr Rosete
Year 10 Adviser

LIBRARY REPORT

Airds High School students are enjoying the new Oliver Library system that was introduced at the beginning of the year. Students can access the library site from their home computers and digital devices. They can check their loans, access reading lists, renew their own books and reserve books to borrow. Access is gained through their student portal and password. The Oliver icon is located on their home page.

We are well into the Premiers Reading Challenge and it is great to see so many enthusiastic students in Years 7 – 9 taking up the challenge. Below I have put some tips for parents and carers as to how you can help participating students at home in the challenge to ensure success in reading at home and school.



Premiers Reading Challenge for students in Years 7 -9 Tips for parents and carers for participating in the Challenge

- Find out the name(s) of your school's Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC) coordinator(s) and how they plan to administer the Challenge (At Airds High School this is Teacher Librarian Miss Zalewski)
- Familiarise yourself with the PRC website. Logon is not required to view the Booklists or read the Rules.
- Visit the new Premier's Reading Challenge Support website. It allows you to search for information about the PRC and also contact the PRC team.
- Set reminders for Challenge opening and closing dates in your and your child's calendar. Find out your child's logon details.
- For public schools, students' logon will be the same one they use to access computers and the internet at school.
- Assist your child to borrow books from the school or local library.
- Listen to your child read and talk about the story/ characters/ information.
- Help your child to add books to her/his Student Reading Record regularly.
- Log on and go to: Student Reading Records > enter books by ID or Title or Author. To enter a Personal Choice book, select the 'Add a Choice Book' tab > enter part of the title or author > select 'Search'. If your book appears as an option, select 'Add'. If it does not appear, scroll down to the 'Still can't find a book?' section > enter the full title and author > select 'Add'.
- Check your child's Challenge history – log on to the website, go to Student Reading Records and select tab 'My Information'.
- If Challenge participation at a previous school is not listed, contact your child's PRC coordinator.
- Contact your child's PRC coordinator if:
- Your child has any difficulty using her/his logon details to access the PRC website.
- You are concerned that your child's name is spelt incorrectly in the PRC website.
- Your child's online Student Reading Record (SRR) must have the required number of books recorded to complete the Challenge by the student closing date.
- School PRC coordinators have an extra week to validate the SRR. Only students with a validated SRR are eligible for a certificate.
- In the final weeks of the Challenge, log on regularly to the website to check the status of your child's SRR.
- Contact your child's PRC coordinator if you are concerned your child's SRR has not been validated.

Every Wednesday in the library from 3pm – 4pm, we offer the Airds High School Homework Centre for all students. We had a very positive response for our Homework Centre last term and would like to see the numbers continue to increase. We supply a lovely afternoon tea for all students that attend and teachers supervise all activities and are available to support students with their assignments and classwork generally. If your child would like to attend the Wednesday Homework Centre please arrange for them to get a permission note from Miss Zalewski in the library.

This term we continue with our recess and lunchtime activities in the library, the activities are pictured below and we welcome students of all ages and abilities.

WEEKLY LIBRARY ACTIVITIES

MONDAYS

CARD GAMES AND BOARD GAMES COMPETITIONS
(RECESS & LUNCH)



TUESDAYS

TRIVIA TUESDAYS
(LUNCH ONLY)



WEDNESDAYS

JUST DANCE
(LUNCH ONLY)



THURSDAYS

MOVIES/SHOWS BY REQUEST
(RECESS AND LUNCH)



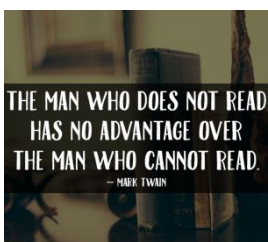
FRIDAYS

MOVIES/SHOWS BY REQUEST
(RECESS AND LUNCH)



Happy Reading!

Miss Zalewski
Teacher-Librarian



Get into the GOOD BOOKS

BOOK BONUS

Book Bonus is an exciting new fundraising initiative for students who are doing the NSW Premier's Reading Challenge.

- ☒ Register for NSW Premier's Reading Challenge
- ☒ Sign up for Book Bonus
- ☒ Help get great books for your school and other schools in need

GAT REPORT

Middle School Challenge Tournament 1

The Gifted and Talented Program has seen success this term with both the Stage 4 and Stage 5 classes achieving some great results. This term will see differentiated withdrawal lessons once a cycle with both classes trialling STEM classes in the library. These lessons will aspire to link young people's interest in media technology and social networks to learning about science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) areas.



The Stage 5 GAT students once again stepped up to the challenge when they hosted the Term 1 Airds High School 'Gifted and Talented Middle School Challenge'. The participating schools were; Briar Road PS, John Warby PS, Bradbury PS and Woodland Road PS. The students showed great organisational and leadership skills and were excellent ambassadors for Airds High School.

The Stage 5 Students received great feedback from all of the visiting schools and their teachers for the outstanding enthusiasm and knowledge shared with the Primary School students.

I am really proud of the maturity, passion and willingness the Stage 5 cohort have shown and they are to be congratulated on their efforts.

Congratulations must go to Bradbury Primary School who won the first challenge for this year.

Looking forward to the next challenge day!
Miss Zalewski





CAREERS REPORT

- We have over 40 students completing a TVET course at various colleges. Thank you for your continued support of our students. If your child is unable to attend on a particular day please phone and let me know so that I can notify the college. TVET courses are based on hours and students must not miss out on TVET if it can be avoided.
- Various cohorts from years 9-12 are involved in the Fast Forward programs run by Western Sydney University where our students are challenged and motivated.
- Congratulations to Pelagia Dmitrieff for being awarded the Elevate Young leaders award. Along with Pelagia three other students have been chosen to take place in the Elevate Young Leaders Forum in 2016: Gemma Stewart-Morrison, Joel Etherington and Mackauley Jones.
- Congratulations to Huy (Davidson) Nguyen for being awarded the Western Sydney Academy Access Award which is in recognition of academic excellence, leadership and commitment to community.
- The ITRACK Mentoring program will be starting soon and will take place every Tuesday period 5 in the library for the selected Year 10 students. They will be mentored by professionals in various industries to motivate and inspire them with their career goals.
- Various Apprenticeships are available in Automotive, Landscaping, Business etc but students must be willing to travel as there are none being offered at the moment within our local area.
- Any student who is interested in leaving school and transitioning into TAFE can come and see me if they are ready as applications will open in June 2016 for semester two intake. Please check out the SWSI website for various courses available.

Ms A Fitas
Careers Adviser

ENGLISH REPORT

Term 2 is off to a flying start!

We welcome back Mr McDonnell after his exciting Asian cruising holiday; and Ms Boyce to the English faculty in an EAL/D and Learning and Support teaching role. This term will see the NAPLAN tests for Year 7 and 9 students on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of week 3, with a catch-up day on Friday. NAPLAN are a series of tests designed to show the parents the literacy and numeracy capabilities of their child and where their child sits in relation to the rest of the state. For teachers, we use this data to plan lessons that will develop the necessary skills of each student. It is important that students have a good breakfast each day, and that they remember to bring a calculator on the Thursday. There is a flyer attached to this newsletter giving advice to parents about the tests.

The English faculty was extremely proud of the achievements of the Year 7 students for their Olympics Showcase, and the teachers worked tirelessly with their classes to produce some excellent documentary style pieces and interviews. Well done Year 7 and their teachers.

Senior College 1 are now on the home straight for their HSC. The compressed curriculum has been of immense value and the essay writing skills of our students has increased with gusto. Year 12 students have begun Module B of their course and are busy writing practise essays to increase their skills.

Ms Cruz's youtube channel!

The first Airds Youtube Channel show begins this term (Term 2) and will continue every fortnight during term time where you get an interview in thirty seconds or less with one of our teachers. After that, you will meet a successful student, past or present, or enjoy student work. To find the channel easily, go to youtube and type in "Airds High Channel" and click on the one with the official Airds logo. It's brief - subscribe - enjoy!

Mrs N Barker
HT English

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

SCIENCE REPORT

Science has had a few changes to their staff from the beginning of term 2. We have lost Ms Erian who was a fantastic and amazing practitioner. We have since gained Mr Fisher who is an eager and enthusiastic teacher and is an amazing asset for the Science faculty.

All junior classes in Science will be completing their **Half Yearly Exams in Week 4** this Term; they will have exam revision in the weeks leading up to the exam.

Safety in the laboratory

At Airds High School we like to maintain a high level of safety in the Science Labs. Please help us by ensuring 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.

Year 7

Year 7 were busy learning about different types of forces and how they act on both athletes and objects. This helped them to create a 3D model of a sports or presentation arena and understand how the forces are working on their models. The students are very proud of their efforts and had a wonderful time displaying these on the Year 7 showcase night.





for this topic and if you are unsure of how your child went please ask or ring their teacher.

Starting Term 2, Year 8 are looking at the topic running out of resources. This topic is designed to get students to think about the types of resources they use every day in their lives and whether or not they are sustainable. They will then look at how they can improve sustainability within the school and community.

Year 9

Year 9 have finished their Chemistry topic last term with a Practical Assessment Task, where they had to identify basic compounds and the elements that they were made up of. If you are unsure of how your child went please ask or ring their teacher.

Starting this term, Year 9 are learning about diseases both directly and indirectly in their lives. This topic is designed to get students thinking about the concept of the healthy body as a product of internal and external change. They will then look at causes of diseases and the impact it has on people's health.

Year 10

Year 10 have finished their Chemistry topic last term with a Practical Assessment Task, where they had to identify chemicals rates and reaction. If you are unsure of how your child went please ask or ring their teacher.

Starting in term 2, Year 10 are learning about the genetics of the human body. This topic is designed to make students understand how to identify genetic information which is transferred as genes in the DNA of chromosomes.

Senior College 1

Senior College 1 students have transitioned from Year 11 into the Year 12 part of their courses. The topics that will be covered in Senior Science for the following semester will be:

- Lifestyle Chemistry (Core Topic)
- Information Systems (Core Topic)
- Medical Technologies (Core Topic)
- Disasters (Option Topic)

There is an excursion organised to the Museum of Human Disease at the University of NSW which coincides with the Medical Technologies topic. Please see below for more information.

Year 12

Well done to Year 12 for completing their last Half Yearly Examination for Senior Science at the end of last term. If you are unsure of how your child went please ask your child or ring their teacher (Ms Radford) and she will be happy to explain how your child went. They are currently completing their last core topic (Medical Technologies) this term and have an excursion organised to the Museum of Human Disease at the University of NSW at the



Currently Year 7 are learning all the skills that are required for working in the Science laboratories to complete experiments. They will soon be receiving their bunsen burner licences, so look out for the photos in the next Airs Announcer.

Year 8

Year 8 have finished working on the topic Hot and Over. This involved learning about the different forms of energy and an introduction into electricity and how electric circuits work. They have completed a Practical Assessment Task

beginning of next term. Please see below for more information.

Up Coming Excursions

- Year 10: Camden Open Day - 10th June (Term 2). Cost \$25 approx.
- Senior College 1 Senior Science and HSC Senior Science: Museum of Human Disease – 22nd July (Term 3) Cost \$15 approx. plus train fare
- Science Week Activities (Term 3) including Questacon, Zoosnooz, Lunar Park

Mobile phones are not to be used during the school day

SPORT REPORT

Swimming Carnival

Nature provided us with another great day to hold our school swimming carnival at Bradbury Pool. The hot weather provided the students with plenty of opportunity to get into the water and at least cool off. Unfortunately we didn't have too many outstanding performances but a great time was had by both the staff and students during the course of the day. Of course we always end the day with the traditional staff versus student relay with the male staff team victorious on the day. Congratulations to the following age champions:

| Boys Age Champion | | Name |
|---------------------------|----|-------------------------|
| | 12 | Perosi Papalii |
| | 13 | Logan Hoskins |
| | 14 | Thomas McGuinness |
| | 15 | Scott Attenborough |
| | 16 | Tom Munoko |
| | 17 | Justin Peachey |
| Girls Age Champion | | Name |
| | 13 | Karissa Carr |
| | 14 | Casey Tidmarsh |
| | 15 | Praise Everlasting Varu |
| | 16 | Madison Tidmarsh |
| | 17 | Emily Holman |



X-Country Carnival

The school X-Country carnival was held on Wednesday 30th March and again we had glorious weather to hold this event. Students went out year by year and either ran the course for the required distance for their age group or they were required to walk the course. There were quite a few excellent performances on the day and the top eight finishers in each age group will go on to represent the school at the Zone Carnival at Mt Annan. The following students won their particular age groups on the day. Congratulations to the following age champions:

| Boys Age Champion | Name |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 12 | Jamal Baklaje |
| 13 | James Bow |
| 14 | Junior Ale |
| 15 | Travis Webster |
| 16 | Bryce Johnson/ Bryce Melville |
| 17 | Aurin Jones |
| 18 | Jake Taylor |
| Girls Age Champion | Name |
| 12 | Fialogo Iakopo Mu |
| 13 | Victoria Aston |
| 14 | Jaya Saunders |
| 15 | Brooke Pepper |
| 16 | Saga El Tahach |
| 17 | No Competitor |
| 18 | Nadine Hakes |



Sydney South West Hockey Trials

On Tuesday the 22nd March we had 5 students representing our school at the regional hockey carnival. Our Fisher zone boys' team consisted of Alex Gimbert, Justin Peachey and Jake Taylor. All boys were great

ambassadors for our school and played with heart. The girl's team consisted of the two Gimbert sisters, Alyssa and Samantha. Alyssa played well up the front and Samantha as always very consistent in defence. Congratulations to Samantha Gimbert for making the SSW team to compete at the State Championships early next term.

Ms Tate

Open Boys Soccer

Airds High played Cabramatta High in the first round of the Open Boys soccer knock out competition. Our boys displayed exceptional skills and courage as they went into the half time break leading 3-1. Joshua McDonald and Aurin Jones scored outstanding goals to get us in front. Unfortunately we were beaten late in the game 4-3 but our guys can be extremely proud of their efforts. Jake Taylor led the team around well and was involved in everything. Aurin Jones, Josh McDonald and Jayden Vidovic-McCarthy were dangerous up front. Davidson Nguyen was exceptional in defence and Joel Etherington will be knocking on the door of the Socceroos team after his outstanding efforts in goal.

Mr Moss

Open Boys Basketball

The Open Boys Basketball team of 2016 brought mixed results for Airds High School. The boys powered through their first game against Elizabeth Macarthur beating them quite comfortably. It was a whole team performance that day and the boys represented the school with great pride. Airds then went onto Central Venue where they faced Sefton High first up; the boys started very slowly being down 14-2 but eventually clawed their way back before going down by 1 on the bell. They played a consolation game against old rivals Sarah Redfern High School, again going down by 1. Outstanding performers for the tournament were Jacob Oloaga, Joel Etherington and Elvis Oloaga. Very positive results considering we did not have one Year 12 student in the team, hopefully all boys will be back next year for a chance at the title.

Mr Tyler

Table Tennis

Airds HS moves onto Round 2 of the Sydney South West Knock Out competition after a comprehensive win over Sir Joseph Banks High School. Jake Taylor, Jayden Elkin, Justin Peachey and Jack Thorn made short work of their opposition with a 5 – 1 drubbing. The sets played out as follows

| | |
|----------------|-------|
| Game 1 | 3 - 0 |
| Game 2 | 3 - 0 |
| Game 3 | 3 - 0 |
| Game 4 | 0 - 3 |
| Game 5 Doubles | 3 - 1 |
| Game 6 Doubles | 3 - 0 |
| WIN | 5 - 1 |

Thanks to Hans Taala and Iosefa Falai'i for the help on the day. Also thank you to Mackauley Jones, Sharna Leigh Wilson and Tanisha Kassem who scored for the games and took photos. Next game is in Week 3 against Cabramatta.

Mr Rosete

Boys Open Touch Football

During term 1, 12 students from the boy Opens Touch football Team played Eaglevale High School. The boys travelled to Eaglevale and played extremely well in a very close game. The boys were hard working and played with great determination. The game was almost try for try with Joel Etherington, Justin Peachey and Jacob Oloaga being some stand out players. I am very proud to have coached the boys in 2016 and I look forward to coaching again in 2017.

Mr Davidson

Stage 6 PDHPE Tutoring

Miss Simms is currently running after school tutoring for students in Year 12 and Senior College 1 PDHPE. These run on Thursday afternoons from 2:50pm till 4pm. It covers note taking, revision of class content and practice exam questions. It is very worthwhile for students studying PDHPE to attend.

Mr S Wagner - Head Teacher PDHPE

CAPA REPORT

The Visual Arts Faculty has an exciting start to this year with the appointment of two new teachers. We are pleased to introduce Mrs Lina Frahm and Mrs Olga Fenton. Mrs Fenton has come from Chester Hill High School while Mrs Frahm's previous school was Ashcroft High School. Both staff came highly recommended and we look forward to seeing the high results our students achieve under these teachers.

AND THE WINNER IS

Olympics Showcase

The Year 7 classes were involved in Project Based Learning. The driving question was: "And the Winner is..." Each class was assigned a city and students had to create either four stamps, two posters or one three dimensional mascot for that city. Nine skills were taught before students chose their area of interest. A Showcase Delegation team was assigned to assess each city bid. The mascots, the posters and the stamps were of very high quality. Congratulations to all students who participated in such an important event. And the winning city was Budapest.

We ask all parents and caregivers to pay the asking Visual Arts fees so we can buy the necessary equipment for your child's successful participation in Visual Arts.



TAS REPORT

Last term was such a busy one for our TAS staff and students. Here is just a brief overview of what has happened during Term 1 in TAS and of what is to come for this term.

Firstly, allow me to introduce you to the staff in our TAS faculty for those who are not aware of whom they are. Head Teachers: Ms Vongsouvanh (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday), Mr Lightfoot (Thursday, Friday). TAS Teachers: Mrs Drakefield, Ms Tull, Mr Lightfoot and Mr John. If you have any concerns regarding any TAS subjects then feel free to contact your child's respective teacher and they would be more than happy to answer your questions.

During Term 1 we had our external VET audit where teachers who are currently teaching a VET subject were assessed. Our VET TAS teachers who were part of this audit were Ms Vongsouvanh as the Head Teacher, Mr Lightfoot for Metals and Engineering and his Year 12 Metals and Engineering class, Mr John for Building and Construction and Ms Tull's Year 12 Hospitality class were observed by the auditors. The feedback provided by the auditors outlined how overwhelmed they were by the positive responses given by our VET students and how much the students valued the VET subjects they are currently undertaking. I would like to publicly congratulate the wonderful work Mr Lightfoot, Mr John and Ms Tull have done thus far.

It was extremely pleasing to have our Year 7 students' work on display during the Year 7 Showcase night at the end of Term 1. What was even more exciting was how proud students were to show off their fantastic work to their friends and family who attended the highly successful night. It was a great opportunity for our TAS staff to meet parents and for parents to see what their child had accomplished in our subject. Well done to the students from Mr John's, Mrs Drakefield's and Ms Tull's classes who worked extremely well towards this showcase.

There has been a slight change this term in regards to teachers for some of our TAS students due to the change in staff and the new timetable. The changes have only affected the following classes:

Year 8A Technology Mandatory now has Ms Tull and Support TAS Prada now has Mr John and Ms Vongsouvanh.

As you may already be aware, there are subject fees for each of our TAS subjects. Your child should have already

been issued with a note outlining the fees for each subject. If fees have not been paid then it would be greatly appreciated if they could be paid promptly to the front office and the receipt shown to your child's teacher. Additional equipment may be required for each of our subjects and this will be advised by your child's class teacher.

Our senior students have been working extremely hard with the demands of the compressed curriculum. Year 11 have now started the Year 12 course work and Year 12 are another step closer to their HSC exams. If your child has any N Determinations please ensure you support them to clear this as it would affect their overall mark therefore any outstanding task would need to be completed and submitted to their class teacher. If you have any questions regarding your child's N Determinations then please feel free to contact the Head Teachers or your child's respective teacher.

Until next time, it is time to put our heads down and keep working.



Ms N Vongsouvanh
Head Teacher TAS

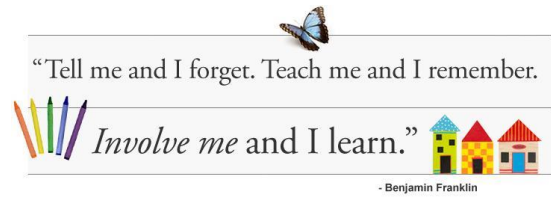
Year 7 Showcase Night





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

SLSO REPORT



Ms Julie Hopwood, Ms Marie Addamo, Mr Alex Miezio and Ms Mel Childs assist students achieve their personal best in the classroom. Ms Hopwood now specialises in Science and Maths and Ms Addamo specialises in English and HSIE. Mr Miezio and Ms Childs assist the GAT classes. The overall focus is to improve literacy and numeracy across all year groups, including all students, by supporting students in the classroom, assisting teachers with deconstructing information to make learning accessible to all students.

Often our students just need to be provided with emotional support or a simple scaffold to meet class requirements and the SLSO team are willing to provide support whenever they can. With prior arrangements and written permission from their teacher, **all** students have the opportunity to receive **individual** attention and assistance.

Often our students have medical or emotional problems that may present an obstacle to their learning. If you know your child has an issue, please feel free to contact the school to discuss options available. The valuable information that you provide will help the school individualise their learning plans for your child.

SRC REPORT

It was a big Term 1 for the SRC!

As usual, Valentine's Day was a popular event with SRC selling roses and serenades. Last year's SRC did a great job at promoting, selling, and distributing the roses and combined with the help from our volunteer songsters, students would have been feeling the love all around.

Our next big event was electing our Student Representative Council for 2016. In early March, student nominations were placed, students wrote their speeches and then performed them before their peers in their year meetings. Votes were tallied and these were our successful students:

Year 7
Jamal Baklaje
Lyrique Neilsen-McKelvey
Tahlia Fox
Summa Knight

Year 8
Jassy Vyosimana
Grace Talaoloa

Tyron Maxwell
Kurtis Minton

Year 9
Jakob Kelly
Zac Potts
Alison Bow
Fatima Saleh

Year 10
Nathan Futui
Samantha Gimbert
Madison Tidmarsh
Brianna Syron

Year 11
Matthew Westall
Tanisha Kassem
Pelagia Dmitrieff
Sione Taomololo
Nora Al-Katify

Congratulations, guys!
SRC have since had their own elections for roles within the council and students are looking forward to a big year of playing a significant leadership role within the school. Bring on Term 2!

Ms Jude Rix

GEM PROGRAM

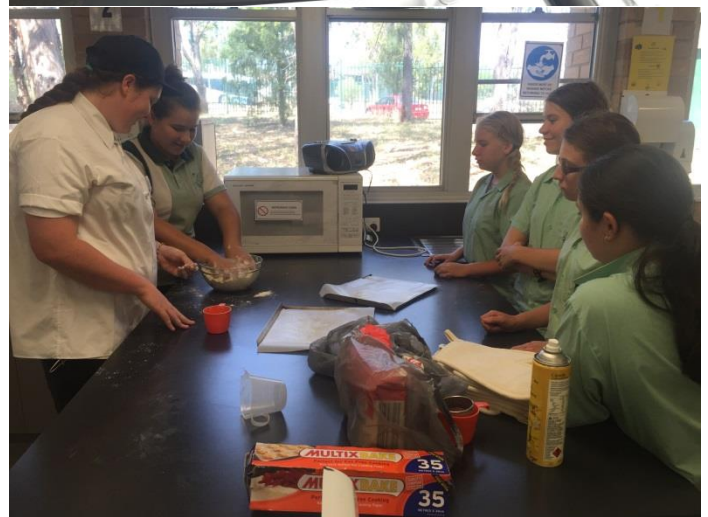
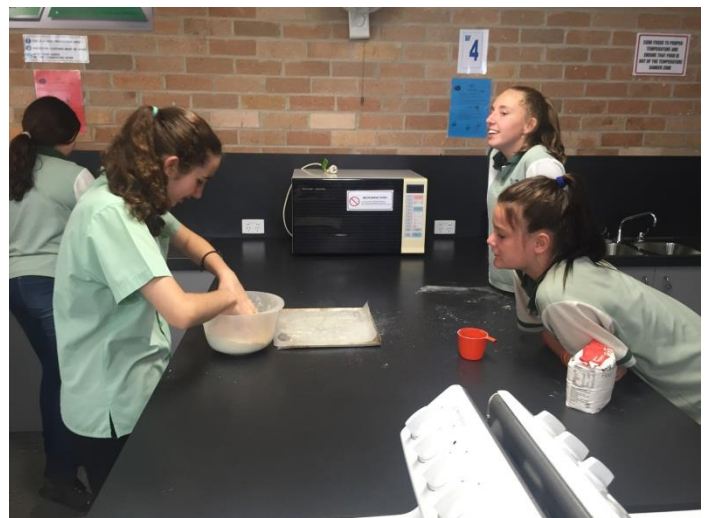
A number of students from Years 8-11 have been invited to participate in the GEM program for 2016. GEM stands for Girls Engagement and Mentoring and involves these students being mentored by a member of staff and participating in a range of individual and group activities. The aim is to increase student engagement in school and have the girls develop a positive relationship with a member of staff. The girls will be participating in a range of activities throughout the year.

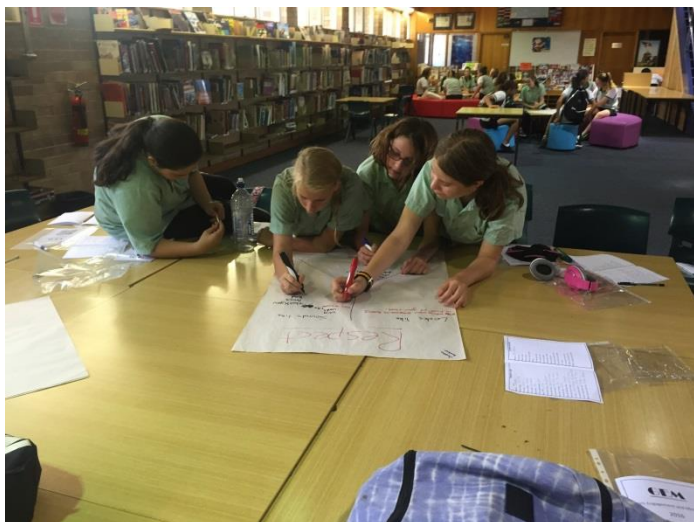
The 1st session was held on Wednesday 9th March where the girls were introduced to the program and reflected on respect. We then ventured down to the Food Tech rooms to make scones to share with the staff in honour of International Womens Day. They turned out well and tasted delicious. Special thanks to Mrs Addamo for your assistance and the TAS Faculty for use of the facility.

The 2nd session was held on Tuesday 29th March where the girls made candles and jewellery in preparation for Mothers Day. They look forward to inviting their mums or a significant female in their life to school for morning tea early next term (update to follow in next addition). Special thanks to Mrs Drakefield and Ms Bateman for running this session.

We have lots of fun activities planned for the female students involved in the program. Encourage them to meet with their mentors, share with you the experiences they have had with the activities and be safe, respectful students of Airds High School.

Miss Simms
Supervisor of Girls





WELLBEING REPORT

Airds High school Junior AECG

In term 4 of 2015 Airds High School hosted the final Junior Aboriginal Consultative Group meeting with students from John Warby, Bradbury and Briar Road Public School. As a result the Community of Schools created our local Junior AECG. The AECG members representing Airds High School are Madison Tidmarsh, Brianna Syron, Dean Brown and Regan Craig.

ABORIGINAL EDUCATION TEAM

Bobby Ann Trindall

Role: Aboriginal Education Officer (AEO)

Bobby works closely with teachers to promote Aboriginal education, encourage students and support parents. She works with teachers to assist Aboriginal students achieve their potential and keeps the Aboriginal community informed of students' progress and achievements, as well as school events and other changes.

Contact Bobby if needed through email: Bobby-Ann.Trindall2@det.nsw.edu.au or call the school.

Rebekah Martin

Role: Norta Norta Junior Tutor

Rebekah assists ATSI students in Years 7 to 10 with their literacy and numeracy by supporting students in certain Science, Maths, and English classes by developing skills and understandings that enable them to independently participate in class activities. She works closely with the teachers to ensure the tuition provided is relevant to their learning needs, as well as providing guidance on assessments and encouraging students to achieve their best.

Contact Rebekah if needed through email: Rebekah.Martin16@det.nsw.edu.au or call the school.

Renee Vitalone

Role: Norta Norta Senior Tutor

Available: Monday and Tuesday

Renee assists ATSI students in Years 11 and 12 with their literacy and numeracy through their chosen subjects by

developing skills and understandings that enable them to independently participate in class activities. She works closely with the teachers to ensure the tuition provided is relevant to their learning needs, as well as providing guidance on assessments and encouraging students to achieve their best.

Contact Renee if needed through email:

Renee.Vitalone@det.nsw.edu.au or call the school.

Madison Tidmarsh.

On Sunday 17th April, Madison Tidmarsh went up against 50 other contestants in an Aboriginal Model Search. She participated in the senior age group for the Wollongong area, she was up against young men and women all the way from Batemans Bay through to Darwin.

The day consisted of a 4 hour practice in which Maddie had to create her own runway routine as well as find a partner and create a group routine. She then performed these routines in the evening in front of family and friends with judges and modelling agency scouts watching on. Although Maddie didn't win the contest, she held her own with confidence and grace, against all other competitors. There is still a chance for the first 10 runners up to gain modelling contracts. Maddie was a fantastic ambassador for Airds High School and our community.



PICLO REPORT

Pacific greetings to all our parents, students and staff.

We are fortunate to have a great partnership with PATHE (Pacific Achievement to Higher Education) who are doing amazing things in the Pacific community and with our students here at Airds High School.

PATHE hosted our Year 10 students recently at a CIOCT (Check It Out Campus Tour) at Western Sydney University Campbelltown Campus. Students experienced a mini lecture delivered by PATHE project officer Jemma Fuka and were given a tour of the campus and shown a range of facilities and useful resources. Students also participated in a question and answer session with Pacifica students who are currently attending university.

It was an enjoyable day and students came away better informed on what life at university would be like. Thank you to PATHE and the students for an amazing and inspiring day and also to Ms Zalewski for attending.

PATHE continue their great work by facilitating workshops with our students, and recently provided valuable and beneficial information on how to prepare and apply their studies to suit their future careers. Students were given a much broader range of career options and were amazed at the diversity of choices available, they gained the knowledge needed to make better informed decisions when deciding a career.



Students are currently preparing auditions for the annual school Flag Day ceremony which is coming up in June. This is always a great day to celebrate the diversity of cultures at our school. We are hoping for parents to contribute to a cultural display of your country. This could be a picture, photo, craft item, costume attire, or something your country is famous for like a Paua shell from NZ or picture of a Cedar tree from Lebanon. As long as it can fit on a table or pin up on a wall that would be fantastic, it will be a great opportunity to showcase your country and the diversity within the school.

Hoping you have great plans for Mother's Day. Whatever you decide I'm sure Mum will really appreciate it. HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY to all Airds High Mums.

Kia Manuia
Maryanne Varu PICLO

ADMINISTRATION

Please ensure you put your child's full name on any absentee notes. There are quite a few students who have the same Christian name and so it is sometimes difficult to know who the note is for.

COMMUNITY NEWS



HELP US SECURE FUNDING TO IMPROVE OUR FACILITIES

OUR SCHOOL/CLUB SCORES

5%
of your purchases are paid back to us to improve our facilities*

PLUS

YOU SCORE



LOYALTY BENEFITS:

- ✓ Preferred pricing
- ✓ Exclusive offers
- ✓ VIP shopping nights
- ✓ Member only competitions

*Conditions apply

ALL YOU NEED TO DO

It's super simple.

1. Join Team Amart, Amart Sports loyalty program today instore or online at teamamart.com.au. It's FREE to join!
2. Select our school/club on your account profile. It's important! If you're already a Team Amart member, simply add us to your account profile.
3. Ensure you swipe your loyalty card **EVERY** time you shop at Amart Sports.
4. And that's it, with every purchase you make at Amart Sports, we secure funds to improve our facilities.



TO JOIN VISIT
TEAMAMART.COM.AU



Are you serious about finding a job?



There are a number of jobs in
Commercial Cleaning and Garden and Lawn Maintenance
Becoming available.

The positions are for full time, permanent, part time and casual roles.
The General Manager of Fair Repairs Australia is coming to Airds to specifically interview YOU!

Don't miss out.
Call Nat today on 46293245 or 46293530 to book your interview.

Car and licence not essential, but preferred.
If you have any questions about these jobs or to join The Airds Job Club, please call Nat on the above numbers for more information.

MUST BE WILLING TO TRAVEL TO THE CITY



When kids get sick in the after hours...



What do you do when the kids get sick at night or on the weekend, and you need to see a doctor, but your GP is closed?

Parents and carers will be pleased to know there is an answer – call 13SICK and book a bulk billed, after hours, doctor home visit. Most of the cases our doctors see in the after hours are all those common but worrying illnesses, like ear aches, tummy bugs, coughs and fevers.

13SICK is the number for National Home Doctor Service, Australia's largest network of home visiting doctors...

New Job Club

In Airds Every Tuesday 11am – 2pm

By appointment only

- Help with employment opportunities
- Course information
- Resume writing
- Job applications



Please just call Natalee on 46293245 to make an appointment



Airds High School

Flag Ceremony 2016

**Wednesday 8th June
9.50am — 1.20pm**





26 April 2016

AN OPEN LETTER TO PARENTS: NAPLAN 2016

Dear parents

As you know, the annual National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) tests will be held from 10 to 12 May 2016.

Now that the Australian Curriculum is being implemented in each state and territory, we've aligned NAPLAN to the Australian Curriculum: English and the Australian Curriculum: Mathematics. As such, NAPLAN should have less impact on your child's day-to-day learning, as the best preparation for NAPLAN is for students to continue learning what they do every day in the classroom.

NAPLAN is an important tool for parents, educators and the public to see how Australia's children are meeting essential literacy and numeracy standards. It's a point-in-time snapshot assessment of students' achievements in these important areas. It certainly doesn't replace the important tests that are regularly held in classrooms around the country. It simply complements existing tests and adds a valuable national dimension.

In August–September you'll receive your child's NAPLAN results. If you have any concerns, you should speak to your child's teacher, as they know your child's learning best.

Some students may feel anxious about NAPLAN, but it's up to the adults in children's lives to help keep NAPLAN in context. It's a test that is only taken four times in a child's schooling life – over three days, there are four tests that take around one hour each. NAPLAN tests what students should already know from their everyday learning, and there are no prizes or repercussions for doing well or not so well in the tests.

NAPLAN doesn't test everything that happens in a classroom – it isn't intended to – but it does look at the critically important areas of literacy and numeracy – skills that your child will take with them to their adult life.

For more information about NAPLAN, including fact sheets, FAQs and examples of tests, please [visit the NAP website](#).

Best wishes

Robert Randall

ACARA CEO