

Parent Newsletter

Hurlstone Agricultural High School

Address: Roy Watts Road, Glenfield, NSW 2167
Email: hurlstone-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Tel: 9829 9222 Fax: 9829 2026
Website: www.hurlstone.com.au



2018 Issue 1 Term 2 - Week 2

11th May 2018

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Overview of the first 2 weeks of Term 2

Principal's Message

ANZAC DAY SERVICE

It was an absolute honour to have stood before our school community to deliver my first ever Principal's address at Hurlstone Agricultural High School where a proud history of service is at the heart of every Hurlstonian who has walked through these halls. The school Captains Katrina Pincaro and Nidhi Chowkira were the MC's for our ANZAC Day service and they did an outstanding job representing our school community. Furthermore, our boarding school captains, Octavia Chandler and Michael Webb, spoke with our guests and made them welcome as all the dignitaries arrived. This solemn occasion was enhanced by the talented musicians in our POPS Orchestra and School Choir while the Hurlstone Cadet Unit and HAHS Drum Corp and Justin Bromley (last post) performed their official roles with precision. Adam Nguyen and Bianca Tran represented the Alumni Archive Group and in their address highlighted the stories of some of our alumni's service history. An excerpt of their speech can be found in the Alumni Archive Group section of the Newsletter.

Special Guest Speaker, Major Ilana Napier, Hurlstone Alumni, captivated the students with her connection to our Hurlstone community, her reflections of service and an overarching message of resilience. The day was supported by Wing Commander Glen Burcher, representing Alumni Air Chief Marshal Mark Binskin, AC Chief of the Defence Force, who commented on the outstanding character of your children and how impressed he was with the school community ANZAC DAY service.

Support from our community included John Edmondson Memorial Club - Club Liverpool, Ingleburn RSL, student and teacher representatives from Amity College, Anoulack Chanthivong, many alumni representatives and past staff who have served our school community.

A major event can only occur with many people working together in our community and appreciation and thanks must go to Ryan Mackinder from HSIE faculty who co-ordinated the event alongside Jo Leglise with her archive group, the CAPA faculty and their talented musicians in the POPS Orchestra, HAHS Drum Corp, Choir and Justin Bromley, Rob Craig on sound tech, our incredible SASS team (School Administration Support Staff) and the irreplaceable maintenance team, Captain (AAC) G. Brassil and the HAHS Cadet unit, our magnificent prefect body supported by Deputy Principal Ann Young.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Principal's Message	1
Update's to Building Project	2
Deputy Principal's Message	3
Boarding School News	4-5
Extra—Curricular	6-8
Administration	9

CALENDAR

Please see below the link for the school calendar - <https://web1.hurlstone-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/webcal/calendar/40>

May 2018

Mo	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat	Su
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT DAY

What a brilliant way to start the term engaging in professional practice.

I would like to congratulate Sharon Davis, Head Teacher, Teaching and Learning- relieving for putting together a sensational day of professional learning experiences.

Thank you to our presenters, Sharon Davis, Sam Cavallaro, Mai Ni Pham, Ann Young, Sailash Krishan, Roxanne West, Samir Seblani, Ryan Mackinder and Melissa Myles for sharing your passion for education with our staff.

Congratulations should go to our wonderful students involved in "What do students want?" session. Nicole Alcantara, Gowtham Ravikumar, Lily Hua and Kaylen Lim were very generous with their time, their presentation was well prepared and demonstrated a keen insight into what students at our school are thinking and how we as teachers can continue engaging with student voice. I was particularly impressed with how calm and professional they were in their approach, they worked well as a team and this was particularly evident when responding to our teachers questions.

BEING 10

An opportunity to host a student mentor program on Thursday May 10, 2018 at our school came from a leadership initiative that was developed at the 2017 "Women in Educational Leadership" Conference and an invitation from our Regional Directors. We were lucky enough to have girls and their teachers coming from some of our Connected Communities – Walgett, Junee, Tumut and Brewarrina to name a few – to join us stay with us in the Boarding school. The opening address "Dream Big" by Kylie Captain was so inspiring, all schools involved were truly mesmerised as she shared her journey. Being 10 Boot Camp is aimed at female students to develop their capacity to be trainers of other girls in developing leadership for the 21st century. Smiles, lots of laughter and collaboration set the tone for the Being 10 Boot Camp hosted by us on 10th May. Students from some of our Connected Communities as well as our local schools such as Revesby Public School, Holsworthy High School, Strathfield Girls High School, East Hills Girls High School and Macquarie Fields High School and many more enjoyed the day immensely and eager to start some leadership projects when they return to their school. We also "sent" a delegation and you will be hearing more from two student groups involved from Hurlstone Agricultural High School in Year 8 and Year 10 in the next edition of our newsletter, seeing how they will implement some of the ideas of the boot camp such as "I know", "I will" and "I can".

A big thank you to Therese Ejsak, (Business manager) the household staff, boarding administration team and school maintenance team, Sound and Lighting crew, Rob Craig, Jeremy Donoghoe, Fran Ireano, Noah Simpson and Riley McNamara for making the day's event a success.

CROSS COUNTRY

Brett Wilson HT PDHPE co-ordinated our school cross country event which was completed on Tuesday May 8, we will be looking forward to hearing about the success of our students reaching their personal best in that event.

HURLSTONE AGRICULTURAL HIGH SCHOOL PLAN 2018-2020

Our School Plan has been emailed to you with the senior executive introduction letter and we look forward to engaging with all facets of our community as we work to achieve our milestones and goals.

School strategic directions 2018–2020



**STRATEGIC
DIRECTION 1**
Differentiating

Purpose:

To enable staff to excel in differentiating teaching and learning practice to cater for the individual needs of gifted and talented learners at Hurlstone Agricultural High School. To encourage improvement in pedagogy, enhance staff potential to be innovative, creative, share and reflect on their own practice to deliver world class, future focussed quality learning experiences that academically inspire and challenge learners to reach their individual potential.



**STRATEGIC
DIRECTION 2**
Communicating

Purpose:

To actively develop and strengthen effective communication across our school community to ensure the needs of gifted and talented learners and their families are met. To continue to foster a culture of trust and respect that enables our school community to feel connected and included.



**STRATEGIC
DIRECTION 3**
Engaging

Purpose:

Engaging all members of the school community in the provision of gifted and talented education by providing a stimulating, engaging, future focused learning environment underpinned by a culture of high expectations and supported by the creation of an inspiring STEAM building and facilities. To challenge our community to think deeply about how education responds to a rapidly changing world and equips future generations to use their individual gifts and talents in informed and ethical future problem solving.

Update's to Building Project

The schedule of work onsite at Hurlstone Agricultural High School Glenfield are well underway. Please check updates at the following link.

<https://schoolinfrastructure.nsw.gov.au/schools/hurlstone-agricultural-high-school/hurlstone-agricultural-high-school-glenfield>

From the Deputies Desk

This section will have regular updates from your Deputy Principal Team and earlier today you would have received an email from our team. Responsibilities for each deputy have been shifted to allow for greater engagement with staff and students and to address our school needs.



Deputy Principal - Ann Young

- Years 12 and 9
- Mathematics, Science, HSIE (Human Society and its Environment), Agriculture, TAS (Technological and Applied Studies) and LOTE (Languages other than English)

Deputy Principal Boarding (Relieving) - Sailash Krishan

- Years 10 and 7
- CAPA (Creative and Performing Arts), Boarding School, Head Teacher's Welfare– Roxanne West and Samir Seblani (Relieving)

Deputy Principal (Relieving) - Mai Ni Pham

- Years 11 and 8
- PDHPE (Personal Development Health and Physical Education), English, Teaching & Learning, Administration

Boarding School News

Ms Castle, newly appointed Principal of Hurlstone Agricultural High School (Hawkesbury) Kris Beazley and I will be working closely as we move towards the transition for our school communities. We will be attending the Boarding Expo's and you can follow the Expo link at the URL below:

<https://www.boardingexpo.com.au/>

On Thursday 3rd May, there was a meeting for all boarders in relation to recreational activities for Term 2 and preferably for the rest of the year. As a result of the change with the finances between HAHS and the Department of Education, all excursions and activities need to be paid for by the parents in advance or on the day/time of the activity/event such as a movie. Some activities that students have taken part in so far include:

- Ms. West and Mr. Pitt: Science Alliance in which 22 students participated
- Mr. Seblani and Mrs Castle: Movie- The Avengers

The following needs to be taken into consideration when organising an event:

- Permission from Senior exec
- Risk assessment:
- Transport
- Activity
- Venue/activity
- Food and beverages
- VoR: Variation of Routine
- Ringing and negotiating the best possible price

As such, it is imperative that when students sign up or show interest for an event, they need to stay with it until the end and not pull out when it is time to go or time to pay. Some events planned for Term 2 includes:

Event	Date	Cost	Mode of transport
The Science alliance lecture	Wednesday 9 th May	Nil	28-seater bus
Movie - The Avengers	Friday 11 th May	Opal card Money for movie and snacks	Train
Vivid	Tuesday 29 th May	Opal card Money for dinner	Train

Below were suggestions from students from the meeting on the night of 3rd March 2018. These include: Jambaroo, Luna Park, Lazer Tag, Fishing trips, Museum, BBQ @ National Parks, cooking with Jesse, Bondi to Bronte walk, Willy Wonka Musical, Go-Karting, Abseiling, Rock Climbing, Monster Jam, Live football matches etc...

The above suggestions will be discussed at the upcoming boarder parent welfare meeting on Saturday 12th May 2018.

I also take this opportunity to welcome Mr Seblani as relieving Head Teacher Welfare boys who has replaced Mr Geerling. Mr Geerling should be congratulated on his promotion to Head Teacher Science at another school. Your children gave him a very emotional farewell evening which was a credit to their planning and organisation as well as demonstrating their deep connections with him during his time relieving as HT Welfare.

I am looking forward to working with the boarder community for the rest of the year.

Kind regards,
Sailash Krishan

Alumni Archive group

Anzac Day 2018

The Hurlstone Archive group would like to thank all members of the Hurlstone Community that are here today at our Anzac Day Service. We recognise and acknowledge all the alumni and staff who have served in major conflicts all around the world. We acknowledge the commitment of Hurlstonians who readily signed up and were sent overseas to fight and protect borders, towns and cities of other countries. They helped the local people who were caught up in the conflict and got them out of harm's way. It is this sole reason that the Memorial Forest was established in 1950 as a place to remember all those precious lives that were lost. As stated in our school *Harvester* during WW1 and WW2, the school principal was given the arduous weekly job of reading out the dead at the school assembly. This job would have been a harrowing experience for him. These principals were in our eyes the unsung heroes of Hurlstone during this difficult time. It would have been a time that we believe the principal would have banded the school community and the local community together. They would have grieved together, supported each other and provided additional care to those families who had been personally affected by loss.

We also acknowledge our Indigenous Old Boy, Lance Corporal Cecil Ramalli who represented Australia in rugby. He enlisted as soon as WW2 was declared. He would organise regular rugby matches in Singapore where he was stationed. The Australian team would take on other countries that were also stationed in Singapore. Naturally the Australians were always the victors in these matches with Cecil at the helm. Unfortunately, when the "Fall of Singapore" happened, Cecil was taken prisoner by the Japanese. He was initially taken to Changi, a notorious POW internment camp and then to Burma to build the railway. Cecil was eventually sent to Japan and forced to work in a labour mine 300 metres underground when the bomb was dropped on Nagasaki. Cecil came back weighing only 38 kilograms and after recovering from the hardships of war, he went on to have a successful career in publishing a sporting magazine.

The Archive group has also undertaken an extensive research on Private Douglas Meggy. Douglas fought in the voracious battle in Pozieres and died in action that night. It was fortunate that another "Old Boy" Colin Blumer saw his old



Alumni Archive group cont'd...

Classmate Douglas died in a tragic way and was able to notify officials of the passing of Douglas. It was with Colin's testimony that Douglas was pronounced dead after an investigation and closure was given quickly to his family. His body was never found and a family's worst night mare would have had Douglas listed as "Missing in Action" forever. In France there is a small village called Villers Bretonneux which recognises the involvement of the Australian forces and the bravery they showed in saving these small town from the enemy. In Villers Bretonneux there is a small museum attached to the local primary school with a sign in the playground that states "Do not forget Australia". In the museum there is a plaque dedicated to the bravery of Douglas.

Hurlstone has its own story to tell. During WW1 and WW2 our cadet units received extra training from the local army barracks. Number 1 oval was used as a shooting range and the cadets were given a machine gun to practice on. During WW2, Hurlstone was seen as a potential target so Ingleburn and Holsworthy army barracks came and trained our cadets. We had 5 platoons during this period. They helped us dig a trench and an air raid siren was attached to the end of Clarke House. This siren did go off a few times. Alumni and ex staff talk about spending many cold miserable nights sitting in a trench waiting for the all clear. We also had American war planes crash in our fields when they overshot the landing fields in Holsworthy. It is these little stories that aren't written in the history books but are still important to be retold to new generations of Hurlstonians, to remind us just how close the war was to Australia.

It is these stories that help us remember the importance of Anzac Day. Everyone here today probably have their own story to tell from their family archives. It is these stories we retell so we can remember not the "Glory of War", but the realities of war, the loss of lives and the impact these lost lives have had on the surviving family members for generations to come.

Written by Adam Nguyen and Bianca Tran

School Musical—Little Shop of Horrors

Our School musical will be held in June the cast crew spent the weekend in the Boarding School working hard to showcase their talent, you will be hearing a great deal more about this production in future newsletters. Please enjoy the art work created and designed by Tassica Paotrakul of Year 11.



Regional 9/10 All Schools Touch Competition



Regional 9/10 Touch All Schools Competition

On Friday 4th May Hurlstone competed in the Regional 9/10 Touch All Schools Competition at Kayess Park. We had two teams compete and both played exceptionally well to finish 1st and 2nd overall in our region. Our top team will now progress to the NSW State Touch Final in Werrington on the 1st June.

Most of these girls have been training at least 3 hours a week on their touch skills and fitness for the past 2 – 3 years and we wish them all the best at the state final.

Coaches: Mrs M Barry, Mr D Coombes.

Administration

My name is Sue Pritchard and I am the school administrative manager. I will be keeping you up to date with current events from the school administration and finance office.

LMBR: The introduction of LMBR (Learning Management and Business Reform) to our school in Term 3 2017, required numerous hours of intense training and a huge change to systems that our staff, students and the school community have been familiar with for many years. I extend a big thank you to everyone for your support and patience during this time.

I would also like to recognise and congratulate our wonderful support team who have worked tirelessly to ensure minimal disruption for our school community during this transition period. They have embraced the new system professionally and are continuing to learn and improve processes to ensure we continue to deliver quality customer service to our school community and support students' educational experience.

What's new in admin this week? School photos will be taken on Tuesday 29th May 2018. Envelopes are available at the admin office for parents wishing to have a sibling photo taken. Orders can be placed online by returning envelopes to the photographer with your child on the day.

Kind regards
Sue Pritchard

Canteen

Please click on link for the canteen price list: <http://www.hurlstone.com.au/>

Attention students:

The credit book will be closed from Monday 14 May, 2018 until all money owed is paid back to the canteen. The new canteen price list is effective as of Monday May 14, 2018.

Thank you for your continued support of our P&C school run canteen.

Yours sincerely,
Lucy Thrassis

Uniform Shop

Please see uniform opening hours below:

UNIFORM SHOP OPENING HOURS	
MONDAY	10.00am to 4.15pm
TUESDAY	10.00am to 3.30pm
WEDNESDAY	8.00am to 3.30pm
THURSDAY	CLOSED
FRIDAY	8.00am to 4.00pm

P&C

Please note that the next Boarder Parent Welfare meeting, P&C meeting and Country Fair meeting will take place on Saturday 12th May 2018 in the Clarke House. The 2017 committee sincerely thanks those who assisted with all these teams and would greatly appreciate your continued support and assistance. Anyone willing is welcome to join the committee.

