Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome back to Hornsby Girls’ High School for 2013 and a special welcome to our new parents and students particularly those in Year 7. We look forward to working with you over the coming years to ensure your daughter has a very productive and happy school experience.

Our 2012 HSC results were again spectacular!

Hornsby Girls’ High School continued its fine tradition of producing outstanding HSC results in 2012.

All students who completed the HSC at HGHS are heartily congratulated on their fine efforts. The following students have been highlighted for 2012 in recognition of their meritorious efforts.

1st in NSW Vitoria Passos (Spanish Beginners)
3rd in NSW Emily Centner (Spanish Beginners)
4th in NSW Cindy Huang (Textiles and Design)
4th in NSW Belinda Yuan (Spanish Beginners)
5th in NSW Marra Aghajani (Visual Arts)
5th in NSW Ariella Cabezas (Spanish Beginners)
9th in NSW Elsa Young (Society and Culture)
20th in NSW Jacqueline Chen (Biology)

The following 29 students received a Premiers Award for gaining more than 90% in their best ten units (two of these units must include 2 Unit English).

Amelia Carbonie, Eugenia Chan, Hilary Chan, Jacqueline Chen, Alyse Chow, Georgia Hayes, Bethany Horsburgh, Cindy Huang, Shilpa Kala, Nina Karavdic, Michelle Lawson, Shayna Levitt, Hilaire Mak, Evangeline Mao, Irene McBrige, Meiling McGregor, Kelly Newton, Jainoor Rana, Eleanor Schmiedte, Sarah Spencer, Melanie Tam, Brittany Thiel, Elise Vanden Dool, Angela Wang, Charlotte Ward, Valerie Wong, Silvia Wu, Wing Wu and Elsa Young.

HGHS students were mentioned 389 times in Merit Lists of students who gained over 90% in a subject in 2012.

Unlike the HSC results schools do not receive official notifications of student ATARs. However individual ATAR scores are provided to schools by individual students. Our top ATAR in 2012 was 99.85 awarded to Jainoor Rana. Congratulations to Jainoor Rana as Dux of HGHS 2012.

The following students gained an ATAR of 98+ in 2012:

Amelia Carbonie, Cindy Chee, Jacqueline Chen, Pearl Elgindy, Cindy Huang, Michelle Lawson, Michelle Lawson, Shayna Levitt, Evangeline Mao, Rhea Nair, Kelly Newton, Celine Ng, Jacqueline Ooi, Vitoria Passos, Jainoor Rana, Sarah Spencer, Alison Thai, Vanessa Ung, Elise Vanden Dool, Charlotte Ward, Valerie Wong and Elsa Young.
The following students achieved full marks in a subject

**Vitoria Passos** achieved 100/100 for Spanish Beginners

**Valerie Wong** achieved 50/50 for Music Extension

Again congratulations to all our HSC students on another fine performance.

I would like to welcome to our school community the following teachers –

In the English Faculty we welcome **Mrs Susan Pilley** a graduate teacher and permanent member of staff and **Mrs Allison Dunnett** a temporary teacher replacing **Dr Green** and **Mrs Moldrich** who retired at the end of 2012.

In the Mathematics Faculty **Mrs Jayanthi Viswanathan** a highly experienced permanent teacher has joined us from Sydney Girls’ High School. Additionally, **Mrs Ledger** a temporary teacher who has worked at our school over many years replaces **Mrs Davidson** who will be on leave during 2013. In the Music Faculty **Mrs Johnston** remains on maternity leave until term 4. However she is still directing the school choir on a fortnightly basis. Her replacement is **Ms Sue Berger** a highly experienced Music teacher.

**Ms Stephanie Brown** replaces **Mrs De Boer** who retired at the end of 2012 as our Religious Studies teacher.

In the Science Faculty **Ms Jessie Tulett** (HGHS alumni) a temporary part-time teacher replaces **Mrs Mort** who retired at the end of 2012.

In the Social Sciences as part of the new Human Society and Its Environment (HSIE) Faculty **Ms Vanessa Gilmore** is a permanent teacher replacing **Mr Karnups**. **Ms Kathryn Mitchell** and **Ms Stephanie Boden** are temporary part-time teachers who are replacing **Mr Hindmarsh**. He is travelling through Europe with his family and will return for the start of Term 4 2013.

**Mrs Black** is now the Head Teacher of HSIE which combines Social Sciences and History into one faculty.

**Mrs Foster** becomes the Relieving Head Teacher of English for Semester One.

**Mrs Drayton** becomes the Relieving Deputy Principal Teaching and Learning for Semester One and is responsible for Years 8, 10 and 12. She replaces **Mr Hatton** who is currently on leave and is retiring from the DEC this year. Please see his retirement function notice in this edition of The Torch.

I have every confidence in the personnel changes that were made at the end of 2012 and I look forward to working with these new members of the team. The girls seem to be very pleased with their new teachers.

The first P and C meeting for 2013 will be held on **Wednesday 13 February at 7pm** in the school hall. Please note the early start for this special meeting. Staff will be in attendance at this meeting for you to meet. From 7pm – 7:45pm parents will have the opportunity to meet, mingle and talk with staff on an informal basis. Finger food and drinks will be served. From 7:45pm – 8:30pm a number of information sessions by members of the P and C and staff will then take place during the more formal part of the meeting. I look forward to seeing you at this special event.

In other news our students continued to realise many goals over the holidays. Both **Aparna Balakumar** (Yr 12) and **Anna Stewart-Yates** (Yr 9) had articles written about their achievements in the Hornsby Advocate and the Northern District Times.

**Anna** was selected as a finalist in the 2013 BHP Billiton Science and Engineering Awards and her prize was an all expenses paid BHP Billiton Science Camp in Melbourne which ran from February 2 – 5. At the camp she was awarded third prize by BHP in the Engineering category for her project, ‘Should we throw the pen out with the bath water?’ Congratulations Anna!

Aparna wrote a brilliant article about promoting the rights of women. This can be found at the following web link:


**Yingran Sun** and **Lisha Lobo** (Yr 12) attended the National Youth Science Forum at the Australian National University (Canberra) for two weeks in January. They lived on campus for the week with 144 other science students from around the country who share an interest and passion for Science.

**Abi Rajkumar** (Yr 12) and **Ria Pflaum** (Yr 12) attended the ‘Lord and Lady Summer’ Student Leadership week-long camp in Melbourne during January.

**Daisy Ou** (Yr 11) received the Kathleen Holmes McCrae Pianoforte Scholarship at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music under the ‘Rising Stars’ Program which is held on weekends. The scholarship allows Daisy to offset program fees at the Conservatorium. She will also be performing two pieces on Fine Music 102.5FM on February 17. Well done Daisy.

Congratulations also to **Gina Zheng** (Yr 12) who has been selected to be on the 2013 NSW Youth Advisory Council which provides advice to the NSW Government on Youth Affairs. She is one of only 12 students in NSW to be selected for this prestigious office. Well done Gina.

Four of our students from Yr 11, **Sarah Aldrich**, **India Armstrong**, **Michelle Cripps** and **Alex Motbey** and four teachers, **Mrs Moldrich**, **Mrs Drayton**, **Mrs Black** and **Mrs Turner** travelled to Vietnam and Cambodia for three weeks in January on a combined History and Social Studies tour. While on the tour the group gave a donation collected from our students to ‘Children’s Hope in Action’ a charity that supports
disadvantaged children and their families in the Hoi An area of Vietnam. Please see the accompanying article in this edition of the Torch.

I hope 2013 is a very rewarding year for your daughter and I extend my best wishes to you and all your family.

Dr Justin Briggs

During the summer holidays, we had the amazing opportunity of travelling to Vietnam and Cambodia with the school. The trip was brilliant, to say the least, with many experiences we’ll never forget! Under expert supervision (a ratio of four students to four fantastic teachers – of which our second-to-none coordinator, Mrs Moldrich, must be named), we travelled from the mist and unexpected 2 degree weather of Sapa and Hanoi in the north of Vietnam down to Ho Chi Minh City, visiting all the shops & markets, and trying all the (delicious) food in between. We then flew to Cambodia, stopping by Phnom Penh to visit SISHA, one of the charities we had previously fundraised for here at school, then to the Angkor complex – an historic wonder. While in Vietnam, we visited a centre run by Children’s Hope in Action, which was the other charity money had been so generously donated towards. Here we could see firsthand the way disadvantaged Vietnamese children were helped to have access to the basic essential services we take for granted, and given a future – literally through the smiles on their faces. It was truly an eye-opening trip for us, and we learnt a lot, while of course having an absolutely great time!

Alex Motbey, Sarah Aldrich, India Armstrong & Michelle Cripps (Year 11)

DUKE OF EDINBURGH

Congratulations

It is with great pleasure that the following students were presented with their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award at the School’s first General Assembly for 2013:

Cheryl Chan, Annie He, Amy Kim, Anna Stewart-Yates and Cherita Zhu.

Special Congratulations also to Prachi Nagarth, Year 12, 2012, whose Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award was approved in January 2013. She will be presented her Award later this year at NSW Government House.

Registration

Registration forms are now available for Bronze, Silver and Gold level Duke of Edinburgh.

Adventurous Journeys

Forms are now available for Bronze and Silver Adventurous Journeys in April 2013. Payment must be made by 4 March 2013. Students must have completed all sections of their Bronze Award and have been approved before they can advance to Silver level.

Please note: Bronze and Silver Adventurous Journeys will also be conducted during September/October holidays. Any queries please contact Mrs Riches.
Throughout last year we had two year 9 & 10 teams competing in the Monday evening basketball competition at the Thornleigh Brickpit. After lots of hard work and training, it was a very rewarding end to the year with the ‘Super Shooters’ team winning their grand final 33-23 points and awarded the title ‘Division 2 Champions’.

A HUGE thank you to Doedie Fatt, Scott Fatt, Neta Arad (Year 12, 2012) and Chekia Law (Year 11, 2012) for all their support, coaching and commitment through the year.

All the best this year for another great year of Basketball.


Once again this year we have multiple afterschool sports being run. Below is an outline of the after school sport program for Term 1:

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<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Taekwondo</td>
<td>Athletics</td>
<td>Basketball training</td>
<td>Volleyball Competition</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:30-4:45pm</td>
<td>3:30-5:00pm</td>
<td>2:45- 4:00pm</td>
<td>Between 5pm-8:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Badminton</td>
<td>Water polo Competition</td>
<td>Yoga</td>
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<td>3:30-4:30pm</td>
<td>Games between</td>
<td>2:30-3:45pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Basketball Competition</td>
<td>5pm-7:00pm</td>
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REMINDER:
A reminder to parents and students to make sure that you read permission notes closely and return payments into the school bank by the due date to avoid missing out on participating in your sport.
NSW SCHOOL-BASED IMMUNISATION PROGRAM

Each year NSW Ministry of Health offers the vaccines recommended by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) for adolescents as part of the school-based vaccination program.

In 2013 the following vaccines will be offered:

- **Hepatitis B vaccine** - a 2 dose course for all Year 7 students who have never received a course of Hepatitis B vaccine when they were a baby.

- **Varicella (Chickenpox) vaccine** - 1 dose for all Year 7 students who have **not** previously received Varicella vaccine or had chickenpox disease.

- **Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis (Whooping cough) vaccine** - 1 booster dose. This dose was previously recommended at 15 years of age. Your child will only be offered this vaccine in Year 7.

- **HPV vaccine (Human Papillomavirus)** - a 3 dose course. The vaccine will be offered to Year 7 male and female student and Year 9 male students as a 3-dose course over the school year. Students who commence HPV vaccination in Year 7 at school but do not complete the course may be offered catch-up doses at school in Year 8.

**Parent Information Kits** will be sent home to parents/guardians. To consent to the vaccination of their child, parents/guardians are advised to read all the information provided, complete the Consent Form and return it to their child’s school. Please ensure the child eats breakfast on the day of the school vaccination clinic.


To improve vaccination completion, students will be opportunistically offered any missed doses throughout the year where possible.

Please note that for HPV vaccine only, parents/guardians must record their Medicare Number (all 10 digits and the 11th number beside the child’s name) on the Consent Form, as this is required to record the student’s information on the National HPV Register and for female students only, link to the National or State Cervical Screening Program.

**A Record of Vaccination will be provided to each student vaccinated at the clinic. Parents I guardians should ensure that this record is kept for future reference and should not assume that their child has been vaccinated if they do not receive this record of Vaccination.**

*Mrs Marriott*

*Head Teacher Student Wellbeing*
Dear Parents,

Hornsby Girls High School would like to invite you to be our guest at a cocktail party in honour of Peter’s retirement from the DET after 37 years of service to public education. We would be delighted if you can join us.

When: Thursday 7th March
Where: The Boronia Room
       Hornsby RSL Club
       4 High Street Hornsby
Time: 6:00 to 9:00 pm
Cost: $45 including gift
RSVP By 25th February
       Hornsby Girls High School
       9476 5711

Julie. Simpson (SAM) julie.simpson14@det.nsw.edu.au
Please join us for a relaxed and informal function. Parking is available in the car park adjacent to the club.
Journal Club

You're Invited!

Girls, bring your lunch, your creativity and a pen to Room 202 at lunchtime for some fun with your friends.

Yr 7 - Monday       Yr 9 - Wednesday

Yr 8 - Tuesday      Yr 10 - Thursday

Mrs Dunnett will be running a Journal Club for each year group one lunchtime per week. We will be writing for fun and creating a memory book of your time at HGHS.

You will need to bring a beautiful book to write in sometimes and draw in at other times. There will be scrapbook and craft supplies for you to use.
Parent Forums

Understanding your teenager

Ku-ring-gai Council and KYDS invite parents of teens to a series of forums.

Each forum is held on a Monday from 6.30pm - 8.30pm (registration from 6:15pm) at Ku-ring-gai Council Chambers, Level 3, 818 Pacific Highway, Gordon.

Parent forums

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 4</td>
<td>Adolescence 101: When to Worry</td>
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<td>May 6</td>
<td>Resilience Building 101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 24</td>
<td>Supporting Young People with Disabilities</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 5</td>
<td>Communicating with your Teenager 101</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 14</td>
<td>Internet Safety 101</td>
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$5 ENTRY

BOOKINGS REQUIRED
Ku-ring-gai Council Youth Services on 9424 0837 or youth@kmc.nsw.gov.au
For more information on the forums contact KYDS on 9416 9824 or visit www.kyds.org.au