Year 8 Geography Camp. Please read Mrs Black’s report in this edition of the Torch

From the Principal…

The Model United Nations Assembly, sponsored by Wahroonga Rotary was held on Saturday 23rd and Sunday 24th March at Knox Grammar School. Hornsby Girls' High School's team, comprised of Shirali Garga, Annelise Nguyen and Lisa Huang of Year 10. They represented the United States of America at the Assembly. Our girls' outstanding public speaking and debating skills contributed to the success of this event. Congratulations to Shirali, Annelise and Lisa for their achievement, enthusiasm and school participation.

Abi Rajkumar of Year 12, was one of 124 Year 11 and 12 students from around Australia who attended the 18th National Schools Constitutional Convention, held at Old Parliament House in Canberra from 20 to 22 March 2013. At the Convention Abi and the other delegates spent two days exploring how Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples could be recognised in the Constitution. Emeritus Professor John Warhurst facilitated the Convention program, which included input from a panel of experts, group discussions on the issues and opportunities to persuade other delegates of particular approaches. In becoming a national delegate, Abi was selected from around 4,000 students from government, independent and Catholic schools. Congratulations Abi!
Julia Rheinberger’s (Year 10) composition ‘Digital me’ has been chosen as the front cover artwork for our 2012 Annual School Report. Her artwork was also used to promote our School Showcase Evening. Congratulations Julia on your achievements. The Annual School Report will be on the school website in the coming weeks. We hope you enjoy reading the achievements of our students in the Annual School Report.

Julia Rheinberger’s art work

Congratulations also to Michelle Castro Year 12 who has been selected as a member of the Kappella Chamber Choir. Michelle’s selection and contribution to the choir is a credit to the school.

The school received a Certificate of Appreciation from Rostrum Voice of Youth for its ongoing support of the organisation. Four of our students Quin Brunner Year 10, Lily Henke Year 8, Nicole Leung Year 9 and Jehannah May Year 11 have proceeded to the next stage of the competition. The state final will be held on 22 June. I wish our students all the best in this competition.

The Mother Daughter Night was held on Saturday March 23. Mothers and daughters (and a few fathers) were taught how to make traditional Chinese dumplings. Forty five students, parents, community members and teachers attended this annual event. Thank you to the organisers Mrs Batra, Mrs Lee and Mrs Huang and all their assistants who made the night a very enjoyable evening. The dumplings were delicious!

The school will farewell our General Assistant Mr Paul Carle who is retiring at the end of this term. Paul has been our GA since 2002 and has done a tremendous job over the years. He was always prepared to assist the students in anyway he could. He also worked very closely with the Old Girls’ Union who will also miss him. We wish Mr Carle all the best for his retirement. He will be replaced by Mr Paul Surrest.

The Band and Orchestra mini-tour to Port Stephens commences Friday 5 April and concludes on Sunday 7 April. Thank you to the Band and Orchestra Committee in particular Mrs Jones and Mrs Dietz for organising this event.

Band and orchestra members are reminded that if your Band and Orchestra fees are paid before the end of term you will receive a $25 discount.

The school has implemented a very successful program this term to assist student wellbeing. This initiative was designed specifically for our students by Mrs Susan Davenport (PDHPE) and Mrs Kathy Marriott (Head Teacher Student Wellbeing). In term one during extended roll-calls on Fridays (Week A) the students have been guided through various relaxation techniques by their teachers. In term two we will be focussing on ‘how to get a good night’s sleep’. I am confident that this targeted program will be of great assistance to all of our girls. I would like to acknowledge and thank Mrs Davenport and Mrs Marriott for their leadership of this initiative.

Next Committee Meeting- 2013 Monday 6 May 7:30 – 9:00 pm in the Common Room
Come and be part of our terrific team and meet other parents. Enter through Thomas St gates for parking. The updated committee list can be found in the February Bulletin. There are still vacancies in several positions: parent contacts for the Concert Band and Flute Ensembles as well as many assistants. Parents of Year 7 and 8 students are encouraged to come along.

Future meetings - Mondays 24 June, 19 August, 21 October AGM,
25 November Christmas party
Committee Emails
If you are not receiving the committee emails or have changed your details, please send the correct information to the Committee President Mrs. Melissa Jones hghsboc@y7mail.com

Instruments Still Available
The following instruments are looking for a loving home and someone to play them.
It is never too late to learn an instrument. Looking for homes with students are:
- Year 8 only: French horn
- Year 7 only: Oboe, Bass Clarinet, Baritone (1 for school and 1 for home), French horn, cello
- Year 11 only: Bass clarinet
Speak to Ms. Dietz right before roll call in room 101, if interested.

Players Needed for Jazz Band
Trumpets, trombones, euphoniums, tubas – even horns, bassoons and cellos – are needed in the Jazz Band to fill out the sections. Jazz Band is heaps of fun and only meets terms 1, 2 and 3 at 7:40 am in Room 101. Dr. Briggs has joined us on his “hot” electric guitar! No auditions – just come along and enjoy playing pop, rock and jazz tunes.

Rescheduled Group Photos on Friday 17 May
All members, including beginners, need to report to the oval after roll call with instruments in winter uniform for group photos. Concert Band rehearsal is still on that morning.

Band Workshops - Staff Development Day
**Tuesday 30 April (NOT Monday!!!)**
Concert Band 9 – 10:45 am; Symphonic Band 11:00 am – 1:00 pm
Wear mufti and please be on time.

**Deb Dietz (Ms), Conductor**
**Melissa Jones (Mrs.), Committee President**

PDHPE News
The following teams competed in a Volleyball Competition held at Barker College on Friday nights over the course of Term 1.
Both teams acquitted themselves extremely well with Team 1 placing 2nd overall. If points could be allocated for enthusiasm, and just having ‘fun’ the Hornsby Girls would ‘win’ out right!!

**Team 1** – Elisa Lai(Cpt), Alex Motbey, Rachel Wang, Carissa Yu, Phoebe So, Vickie Chan, Pamela Wang, Gaelyn Jacobson, Elizabeth Shey, Esther Barnes.

**Team 2** - Vicky Kuo (Cpt), Cheryl Chan, Jenney Kim, Queenie Liang(Yr 12- Queenie has represented HGHS over the past 6 Years!!), Katherine Du, Sahana Murali, Jessica Chan, Olivia Utharntharm, Keerti Paida, Karen Jian.

### IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER - TERM 2

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 29th April</td>
<td>Staff Development Day – Staff only Japan Trip</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 30th April</td>
<td>Staff Development Day – Staff only Band &amp; Orchestra Workshops 9.00am – 1.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 1st May</td>
<td>STUDENTS RETURN TO SCHOOL IN WINTER UNIFORM</td>
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<td>Thursday 2nd May</td>
<td>Cross Country</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 6th May</td>
<td>Band &amp; Orchestra Meeting 7.30pm</td>
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Spoon Bay is a small, beautifully natural beach on the Central Coast of NSW and this is where our Year 8 Geography excursion started. It was a very low tide when we arrived and this was just great for looking in the rock pools. Later we explored the dune system and management of this environment and the Wamberal Lagoon. The lagoon water was in excellent health and students who were dip netting managed to catch quite a few prawns and small fish.

Free time at the camp was a delight to see, with students playing games and testing their balance on the ropes course. For parents who are concerned about their daughter growing up too fast, you should be assured that they are still able to enjoy simple play and can make fun wherever they go. Mrs Goodwin organised a quiz night with dancing competitions and challenges, this culminated in everyone, including teachers, dancing the ‘Nutbush’.

Friday we headed for the Katandra Reserve in Holgate, which is just near Gosford and explored the temperate rainforest found in small protected valleys. The students saw epiphytes, buttress roots, lianas and strangler figs. There was a lot of evidence of wildlife with scratchings, bird calls and rustling in the bushes, but not much was actually seen except for the leeches. These were shared around between the group, with most girls able to flick them off before they got onto their skin.

Some acts of kindness that were observed included Soo Bin Lee who helped lots of others on the flying fox; the friends of Ashley who were so kind and thoughtful to their friend when she was unwell; and environmental warriors who helped clean up our lunchtime waste.

Thanks to Year 8 and the Social Science teachers for a terrific camp.

*Mrs D. Black*

*HT HSIE*
Artology Project Scholarship Win
It is with great pleasure that I am able to advise that our lovely Jessie Du in Year 10 Visual Arts has been selected for a full scholarship in the Artology, Remix program. This is an amazing opportunity for Jessie to work collaboratively with a creative leadership team of Cathy Milliken (Project Leader and Music Leader), Lyle Chan (Artistic Director and Music), Rhys Martin (Choreographer), Johanna Featherstone (writer) and a Visual Artist to be confirmed. It is a huge commitment from Jessie with 4 weeks of her school holidays taken up with long working days but the project work will culminate in a performance based art work exhibited at the Art Gallery of NSW. All tuition fees are paid for as part of the scholarship and we are so proud of her for applying and making the commitment. We will have her report on the project when it is completed.

Year 9 Visual Arts
Students have submitted their photography work from their excursion and will soon be planning their paintings.

Year 10 Visual Arts
Are working on minimalist panels and realistic oil paintings for an 'Events' painting. It was lovely to see them practising their oil painting techniques this morning in class.

Year 12 Visual Arts
Have completed their exams and are working towards their mid year BOW review early in Term 2. There are some fantastic projects underway.

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