last Friday’s Awards Ceremony in the city. Their teacher **Mde Barbeau** and I were able to attend to acknowledge their efforts. Congratulations to **Simone Luca Year 11** and **Amy Thomas Year 11** and **Sophie Ho Year 12** who received the major prize. Of the twelve schools who won awards at the ceremony Hornsby Girls High School was one of only two government schools (the other was Killarney Heights High School). This was an excellent result for the school and also signifies our excellent Language Teaching and Learning programs.

Thank you to our Languages Faculty, Mrs Roberts (Head Teacher), Mde Barbeau, Frau Arch and Mrs Anderson

Congratulations to **Karen Lin** and **Yingran Sun** HSC 2013 Visual Artists who have been selected to be included in Art Express 2014. Of the 9,339 students who submitted art works for the HSC Visual Arts Examination only 305 students have been nominated for Art Express. Karen’s art work is entitled ‘Paradox: Thinking outside the box’. Her artwork will be exhibited at the Tweed River Gallery, Margaret Whitlam Galleries and the University of Western Sydney. Yingran’s artwork is entitled ‘Decline’. Her artwork will be exhibited at the Goulbourn Regional Art Gallery.

Congratulations to Annabel Ellis HSC 2013 whose HSC Textiles work has been selected for TexStyle. This is a wonderful achievement for Annabel. Thank you to Ms Graham (TAS) who guided Annabel to this achievement.

**Morgan McKenzie** Year 10 has been selected for the **DEC Northern Sydney Combined Choir**. Well done Morgan!

**Amy Hiscock** Year 9 has returned from a week in London courtesy of the BBC. She was the national winner of a Dr Who competition and was flown to London last week to participate in the 50th anniversary celebrations of the first screening of **Dr Who**. In 25 words or less she was able to impress the judges with her creativity to the following
question – ‘Why would you love to win a trip to London to attend the Dr Who 50th Anniversary?’ As a school full of Dr Who aficionados we acknowledge this wonderful Whovian!

Our **Year 10 Food Technology** class under the direction of **Mrs McGuire** are the NSW winners of the Flavour Forecast Design Challenge. Their creative recipes certainly impressed the judges. The students have won the following items for the TAS Department:

- The Wusthof Essentials Classic 6-piece Block Knife Set
- Five piece Green Pan Rotterdam Collection that includes three fry pans, one wok and one saute pan
- A set of McCormick spices for the classroom
- Each of the Year 10 Food Technology students will also receive a $50 McCormick gift bag

**Google Australia** are filming a ‘Google Hangout’ today at our school. **Google Hangouts** are innovative educational experiences where students can interact with international experts. These interactions are filmed by Google and are then available on Youtube. Selected students from Years 7 – 9 will be asking international experts on Climate Change (who are currently travelling to the Antarctic on a privately funded expedition to commemorate Mawson’s journey in 1913) questions about the Antarctic climate. Our very own **Ms De Losa** (Head Teacher Visual Arts and TAS) is also on this journey and will be participating in these very exciting educational opportunities. This has all come about due to **Olivia Kong** of **Year 9** winning the Google Art Competition. Thank you Olivia for this wonderful opportunity for the whole school.

At the Annual General Meeting of the P and C on November 20 elections were held for the office bearers. Congratulations to the following parents who are taking on leadership roles in the P and C:

- Mrs Parul Batra President
- Mr Armand ten Dam Vice President
- Mr Andrew Roberts Vice President
- Mr David Potter Treasurer
- Mr Niranjan Sabanayagam Secretary
- Mrs Divya Mathias Social Events Coordinator
- Mrs Melissa Jones Multicultural Fair and Band and Orchestra Coordinator
- Dr Jo Motbey Grounds Day Coordinator
- Mrs Sharmin Shaffudin Committee Member
- Mrs Mabel Huang Committee Member
- Mrs Debbie Lee Committee Member
- Mr Guna Gunashanhar Committee Member
- Mr Sade Kalasabail Committee Member
- Mr Ross Horsburgh Committee Member
- Mr Anton Cole Committee Member
- Mr Zheng Yong Committee Member
- Mrs Julie Bridge Committee Member
- Dr Lalith Ratnayake

Thank you to all of these parents for your additional efforts to ensure our girls receive the best possible education.
The past month has seen several significant speaking achievements by junior students. Nicole Leong (Year 9) reached the State Final of the Legacy Junior Public Speaking Award. This is the largest state-wide speaking competition for students aged 11-15, run by the Department of Education. Nicole had to win her way through four rounds, each time presenting both a prepared and an impromptu speech, to progress to the Final. Although not the eventual winner, Nicole performed outstandingly in the presence of the Governor of NSW, Professor Marie Bashir and we congratulate her on her fine achievement.

In early November Avan Daruwalla (Year 7) and Eesha Batra (Year 9) participated in the State semi-finals of UN Youth Voice, a new competition that encourages students to express their ideas on issues of social justice. Both girls spoke with originality and conviction and Eesha progressed to the State Final, held at NSW Parliament House. Eesha spoke with passion on her chosen subject, addressing “Violence against Women”. Her strong performance was a credit to herself and her school.

In the same week, the Year 8 Debating team competed in the Janene Best Debating Competition for Selective Schools, held at Hurlstone Agricultural High School. The rotating team consisting of Mary Bajo, Lily Henke, Alisha Mathias, Jewel Soares and Nishka Tapaswi, won all of their first three debates, which propelled them into the Grand Final. Arguing the affirmative case “That we have forgotten about the environment” against Sydney Girls High, Hornsby won the debate and the champion title for 2013. Congratulations girls!

From mid September to mid October, 13 girls in year 10 and 11 had the opportunity to go on an exchange to Austria and Germany, where we visited our sister school, Graf-Rasso- Gymnasium. There we experienced the German culture and were able to discover many new things about their language and customs, such as their (many) churches and traditional dishes. Firstly we explored Vienna, which we found beautiful and rich in history and culture. Some highlights from Vienna were “das Haus der Musik” where we could compose our own waltzes and conduct an orchestra, the Schönbrunn palace, gardens and zoo, and the military museum, where we were able to see the car in which Franz Ferdinand was assassinated. In Vienna we stayed in a hostel named “Wombat’s Hostel”, where we experienced an emergency evacuation – at 3am!

Next we took a train to Fürstenfeldbruck (FFB), which is just outside Munich, to stay with our host families. For a week we were immersed in German everyday life, which was both nerve-rackingly exciting and daunting. We travelled (rode our bikes) to school and only had to leave 10 minutes before school started to ride there, because everyone lived close! Participating in their school life, we were able
to pick up some new German vocabulary, practise with their band or sing with their choir. A whole month without uniforms was both liberating and difficult – choosing an outfit every day without repeating became a stressful task. Special German lessons were organised for our group which was beneficial for developing our language skills and understanding of German culture.

The next stop was Berlin! It was a city of wonder and excitement – a history museum on its own. Here we ran into our own Mr Hindmarsh and enjoyed a Mexican meal with him, the night before he left to return to Australia. Berlin had many sights and experiences to offer, including the world’s best orchestra, the Berlin Philharmonic, the Brandenburg Tor, Checkpoint Charlie, the victory column (with a 365° panorama of the city), the remains of the Berlin wall, the Ampelmann (traffic light man) store and many more remarkable landmarks. In contrast to Berlin, our day trip to Schwerin was relaxing as it was quaint. The Schwerin castle, which we viewed from a cruise on the lake, was stunning from every angle, inside and out.

Dresden was the ultimate location for busking opera singers and brass quartets. Some things that we saw were the newly refurbished Frauenkirche, which was destroyed in WWII, the Green Vault, with all its expensive treasures, the mathematics and porcelain museums and the Zwinger. As we were there on German Reunification Day, the autumn markets were open and bustling with life. At this stage, as much as we enjoyed our travelling, we were homesick for our new German family and were happy to return to FFB. This gave us the opportunity to spend more time with our sisters at the Oktoberfest, in Munich, at Neuschwannstein, the Olympic park, BMW World and to ice skate.

Our time in Germany was short but eventful and we all really look forward to returning one day. We highly recommend language exchanges as they provide an opportunity not only to develop your language skills, but also to develop your person. We also would really like to thank Dr Turner and Frau Arch for organising this and making such an opportunity possible.

Year 10 German class, Sudiksha Unnikrishnan and Natalie Tang Year 11

Duke of Edinburgh’s Award

Congratulations to the following students who have been awarded their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh’s Award: Avanti Gomes, Elizabeth Paulino, Smriti Srivastava

A reminder- registration fees for all levels of Duke of Edinburgh’s Award rise on January 1, 2014. If a student has completed one level and is the correct age to proceed to the next level, it would be strongly advisable to register now for next level. Registration fees and all forms must be received by Mrs Riches by December 6, 2013.

On 20 January 2014 the Duke of Edinburgh’s Australian Online Record Book will become the International Online Record Book. Please see attached letter from the Duke of Edinburgh’s International Award Australia.

Mrs Riches Duke of Edinburgh Coordinator

Vanessa Tan of year 10 has been selected into the Australian Team to compete in the upcoming ITTF (International Table Tennis Federation) World Junior Championships to be held in Rabat, Morocco from 1st to 8th December. Vanessa flew to Melbourne on Tuesday for final preparation before take off to Morocco on the 28th November and returns home by the 10th December. By being selected to represent Australia in the highest level of Junior Table Tennis, Vanessa has done herself and this School very proud! Well done and Good Luck Vanessa!
Dear Parents and Caregivers,

The NSW Teachers’ Federation is requesting Federation members attend a two hour meeting on Tuesday 3 December commencing at 9am. Teachers have indicated to me that they will be attending this meeting.

Consequently I can only provide minimal supervision from 9am to 11am on Tuesday 3 December. However, the Year 11 Mathematics Assessment set down for this time will proceed as normal.

Roll-call will commence at 11am for Years 7 – 10 and students will then move to their Period 2 class.

Dr Justin Briggs
Principal
Hornsby Girls’ High School
9476 5711