On Monday 16 September Aparna Balakumar Year 12 received her Marie Bashir Peace Prize at NSW Parliament House. She was awarded for her efforts in providing funds for twenty East Timorese kindergarten students to attend school at a new school built by the Lions Club. The Governor of NSW Her Excellency Marie Bashir was very impressed with Aparna and told me of her great fondness for the school. Well done Aparna. I’m sure we will be hearing more from Aparna in the future as she pursues her passion for social justice.
Friday the 13th of September was a very auspicious date for the school with the return of twenty Old Girls – from the Class of 1943! I presented each of the ladies with a Hornsby Girls High School tea spoon. They toured the school and reminisced about their time at the school during World War Two with our student guides. The Old Girls told us there were trenches where the Science Block now stands and the girls would practice their safety drills in the event of the school being bombed. After the tour they had a lunch at Hornsby RSL where I also joined them and they told me more stories about their time at Hornsby. They were so impressed with the school Peggy Craig the organiser of the reunion made a donation for this year’s Speech Day prizes and will be donating Flowering Red Gums for the school’s gardens. Some members from the Class of 1943 reunion are hoping to be at our next Grounds Day on Saturday November 2 from 8am – 11am.

A special thank you to all the students who helped in the Chinese Food Stall, the Crafts Stall and who performed at the Multicultural Fair: Elsie Cheung TU3 /Yr12, Alison Xiao Yr12, Anna Rumjahn Yr12, Melva Yiu Yr12, Ria Pflaum Co3/Yr12, Sandra Ho Yr12, Jenwai Huang ST5 /Yr11, Adela Yip Yr11, Anika Ng CO4/Yr11, Anna Deng Yr11, Lisa Huang ST5/Yr11, Jasmine He Yr11, Justina Sun Yr11, Becky Lin Yr11, Louisa Chen Yr11, Naomi Ng CO5/Yr11, Tina Yun SC6/Yr11, Caroline Cheng Tu4 Yr10, Christina He Yr10, Jasmine Tang Yr10, Christina Zhou Yr10, Yvonne Chuk TU6/Yr10, Gemma Au- yeung Yr10, Janice Yung Sc6/Yr10, Joanna Chan Yr10, Leanne Mak Yr10, Lovelle Hung Yr10, Sherry Zhang Yr10, Summer Guo Yr9, Katherine Du Yr9, Alvina Lock Co5/Yr9, Annie Zhang Sc7/Yr9, Betty Wu Yr9, Cheryl Chan Yr9, Vivien Huang St3/Yr9, Priscilla Cui Yr8, Beatrice Au-Yeung Tu1/Yr8, Bofan Sophia You Yr8, Winnie Ye Yr8, Cynthia Zhuang Yr8, Vicky Xu Yr8, Brittany He Yr8, Joanna He Yr8, Victoria Cheng Yr7, Lauren Nguyen Yr7, Winnie Chan Yr7, Sephanie Lau Yr7, Vanessa Liang Yr7, Amanda Fang Yr7, Sarah Zeng Yr 7.

Congratulations to our Choirs who performed brilliantly at the Choir Awards Night on Monday evening. Thank you to our Choir conductor Mrs Johnston for organising the event and to Mr Hughson who provided the sound and lighting.

On Tuesday I was invited to a luncheon at Women’s College, Sydney University by the
Principal Dr Amanda Bell. The Principals of OLMC Parramatta and St Scholastica Glebe were also present. We also toured the College which is one of the finest tertiary colleges for young women in Australia. I strongly recommend parents to consider the Sydney University Colleges particularly the Women’s College as a place which will provide outstanding mentoring, support and academic assistance for your daughter.

Wednesday night’s Lipsync Charity Concert was a great evening filled with dancing and singing. Thank you to Ms Coggins and Year 12 who organised the event. Thank you to all the performers and to Mr Marshall, Ms Berger, Mr Burke and Mr Hughson who performed in the teachers’ band.

Thursday’s Year 12 Graduation Ceremony was a great tribute to our Year 12s! The morning tea, the clap-out assembly and the evening ceremony were beautiful events full of emotion, stories and celebrations of success. Thank you to Mrs Sexton for her organisation of the day, to Mrs Frohlich for organising the morning tea and to Mr Hughson and Ms Berger who provided the music for the evening. Thank you to our students who also provided music for the evening.

Today Friday 20 September was the last day for a number of our teachers. Farewell – Dr Izumi Inoue (Extension Japanese replaced by Ms Lawson) who has a new job in a university in Japan, Mrs Kathryn Mitchell who has worked very well in HSIE this year as replacement for Mr Hindmarsh who returns in Term 4. Well done to Mr Daniel Lane (Yr 12 Adviser) who is the new Head Teacher of Science at Turramurra High School and to Miss Kerry Wilson (HSIE) who retires after many years of dedicated service to our school. She has a great passion for Ancient History and will be greatly missed by students, staff and parents. Kerry will be back next term to assist students sitting for the Ancient History and Extension History HSC exams. Thank you Kerry! Congratulations and thank you to all of our teachers who are leaving us. We wish you all the best!

Justin Briggs
Principal

The Simpson Prize 2014

The Simpson Prize is a competition for Year 9 and 10 students. They are asked to address “How well does the Anzac legend tell the story of individual Australian soldiers during World War One?”

The winning entry will see the students go to Gallipoli, or the western Front for Anzac Day 2014. Details from Mrs Riches.

Entered to Mrs Riches by 18th October 2013.

Mrs Riches, History Teacher

To all the students bushwalking, canoeing, “amazing racing” during the September/October holidays have fun, be safe and do not forget to complete your Log Books at conclusion of camps.

CONGRATULATIONS

Sally Kim
Erica Penollar

It is a great pleasure to announce that Sally Kim and Erica Penollar have been awarded the Gold Duke of Edinburgh’s Award. They will receive their certificates from the Governor of NSW at a ceremony at Government House, Sydney in 2014. This is a wonderful achievement and represents perserverance, determination and commitment to a wide ranging set of activities. Sally and Erica are to be congratulated.

Congratulations also to Ann Ching and Isha Deshmukh who have been awarded Bronze Duke of Edinburgh’s Awards.
Ten students in March participated in the Mathematics Challenge from Years 7, 8 and 10. They had 3 weeks to solve 6 problems. Gizem Bilgen (Year 10) achieved a High Distinction, scoring 22/24. Well done Gizem! Stephanie Lau (Year 7), Solina Liang (Year 9) and Josephine Tosley (Year 7) gained Credit Certificates. Lauren Lancaster, Vrinda Manchanda, Deb Oindrilla, Rithika Ramanuja (Year 7) and Daphne Wang (Year 8) received Participation Certificates for a very good effort in completing the problems. Congratulations to all of these students for their efforts and willingness to take on the challenge and give their all.

Students participating in the Enrichment Stage have been submitting their solutions mostly weekly during Terms 2 and 3. Year 7 students have completed their 8 problems in the Newton Series while Year 10 students are still submitting their final problems. From looking at the results already, our students are progressing very well in the Enrichment Stage.

Australian Mathematics Competition
The results for the Australian Mathematics Competition have arrived. As usual, our students achieved excellent results. Awards from the Australian Mathematics Competition will be distributed early in Term 4, but recognition of our Year 12 students who voluntarily took part in the competition is required before they depart to sit their HSC Examinations and finish their final year at Hornsby Girls High School. Jessica Yap, Natalie Lam, Alison Xiao, Ice Yan and Rose Weng all achieved Distinction Certificates. Chamali Gajaweera achieved a Credit Certificate, whilst Carmen Luong achieved a Participation Certificate.

Congratulations to all these Year 12 students. Their commitment to completing the competition to the best of their abilities during their busy final year of study is a testament to their drive to succeed and a great reflection on our school.

Mr Marshall
Head Teacher Mathematics

PAST STUDENT SUCCESS
Some of you might remember Helani Sarath-Kumara. She is a past HGHS student - 2005. On Monday morning, (16th September), Helani was on Sunrise Show as one of the four finalists in the Face of Australia, Miss Universe National Costume Competition. This is a great achievement for Helani.

The winner will be decided by public voting. If you would like to support Helani, I have placed a web link below where you can view her design and vote. Voting is open from the 16th September - 26th September 2013. The winning design will be announced live on Sunrise on the 30th September 2013. I know Helani would be appreciative of your support.

“My design was inspired by the words “I love a sunburnt country...”, from the famous Australian poem. ‘My Country by Dorothea Mackellar. I believe what makes Australia unique is our landscape, flora and fauna. I wanted to express this through my design. The sky is represented by the gum leaves and wattle halo”. The earth/middle is represented by a stylised ‘Uluru’, and the ground (represented by the long skirt with leaves, nuts and grasses)
Ms Lech
TAS Teacher
In term 3, the year 9 Textiles Technology class have been working on a textile art piece for a competition held by the Textile Educators Association of NSW. The theme this year was 'Sweet Treats'. There was a requirement of at least 2 decorative of embellishment techniques and a size restriction of 40cm x 40cm. Two HGHS students' designs were selected to be sent in to the TEA. Congratulations to Amy Xu and Zahin Chowdhury on their creative projects. The results of the competition are announced in term 4.

Amy Xu: "When I think of 'Sweet Treats' I imagine the sweet love between couples and the small gifts that they exchange. The main gift or 'treat' I had on my mind was a box of chocolates that people give and receive on Valentine's Day. In my design I have incorporated an appliqued ribbon on the front to symbolise that it is a present. The free motion embroidered and quilted chocolates that I have created for the inside directly reflect the words 'Sweet Treats'. The heart design on the lining and the use of warm colours like red and brown, interpret the sweet feeling of love."

Zahin Chowdhury: "Carousels, beaches and piñatas" The smallest treats can bring the biggest smiles to children's faces. A carousel inspires the structure of my textile art, with an elaborate cover shading decorated horses. The coloured ribbons allow the horses to swing and spin, as they do in a carousel. Waves at the beach inspire the free motion embroidery. The colour of the water at the beach changing with depth inspires the dip-dyed colour of the main fabric. The excitement a piñata sparks inspires the patterned fabric of the horses. The smiles of children when they experience sweet little treats inspire my textile art."