Welcome back to all our students and a very warm welcome to our new Year 7 students and other new students in Years 9 – 11. We are sure you will have a wonderful time at HGHS.

The HSC Class of 2013 – Our students performed brilliantly in the HSC. The following results reflect not only their excellent work ethic but also the superb teaching of our expert teaching staff and wonderful supportive parents. The following are some of the highlights from the HSC Class of 2013.

- Jenny Wei received the highest ATAR possible of 99.95. Only 48 students across NSW achieved this ATAR score. Of these 48 students, Jenny was one of 16 girls across NSW to achieve this outstanding result.

Twenty five students achieved ATARs of 99 or above.

Congratulations to the following students - Aparna Balakumar, Elsie Cheung, Jessica Dai, Pavani Divakarla, Alpa Gupta, Annie He, Sophie Ho, Cimaine Hoang, Annie Hu, Seyoung Jang, Alexandra Jina Lee, Cecilia Li, Ann Wen Lim, Lisha Lobo, Angela Ni, Sylvia Park, Praba Sekhar, Yingran Sun, Elaine Tao, Jenny Wei, Alison Xiao, Rong Yan, Amanda Zhang, Charry Zhang and Vicky Zhang.

- First Place in Course Aparna Balakumar, Society and Culture (and Sol Ensol Award Recipient from the Society and Culture Association) and Karen Lin, General Mathematics

- Nine students achieved a top twenty place in various subjects. Our Top Achievers are -
Thirty one students achieved Premiers Awards (10 units including English with a HSC mark of 90 or more) - Aparna Balakumar, Eunice Chan, Jessica Dai, Pavani Divakarla, Michelle Fu, Luyue Jessica Gao, Alpa Gupta, Sophie Ho, Annie Hu, Jessica Lee Hughes, Seyoung Jang, Reena Marie Jarabe, Clementine Kind, Alexandra Jina Lee, Felicity Lee, Cecilia Li, Ann Wen Lim, Karen Jiaying Lin, Lisha Lobo, Ivana Marinov, Melanie Mui, Angela Ni, Sylvia Park, Praba Sekhar, Elaine Liya Tao, Jenny Wei, Alison Xiao, Rong Ice Yan, Melva Yiu, Amanda Zhang and Charry Zhang

410 merits (or Band 6 results) from 123 students. This is the highest number of merits received by the school. Further, every student who studied Food Technology, Information Processes and Technology, Textiles and Design, French Extension and German Continuers received a Band Six or Merit for those subjects.

Abi Rajkumar received a Certificate of Distinction for Outstanding Research in the Personal Interest project in Society and Culture and received the prestigious Tuckwell Scholarship to ANU

In Music Extension 1 Unit Michelle Castro achieved the perfect score of 50/50

Congratulations to all members of the class of 2013!

In other news - Sian Crane and Tina Yip both of Year 7 have joined the Northern Sydney Combined Schools Choir for 2014 and Noni Cole Year 11 has been selected in the Northern Sydney Cricket Team.

Anna Stewart-Yates has won the Simpson Prize and will be travelling to Gallipoli for the April 2014 commemorations as the NSW student representative. Although Anna is no longer attending HGHS we congratulate her on this outstanding achievement and wish her all the best for her future. Mrs Riches who organises the competition entries is very proud, as over the years she has produced four winners (including Anna) of this highly prestigious competition.

Olivia Kong’s (Year 10) Google logo was the homepage for Google Australia on 26 January 2014. Olivia’s artwork has received many comments from across Australia. Congratulations again Olivia!

The school has received three certificates of appreciation from the

- Australian Red Cross (in appreciation of charitable funds raised to help the victims of the devastating Typhoon Haiyan of November 2013 in the Philippines),
- Australian Defence Force (for the school’s participation in the Long Tan Leadership and Teamwork Awards)
- University of New South Wales (an Outstanding Partnership Award 2013 for our contribution to research and community engagement). Congratulations to all members of our community on these awards!

The following new teachers were introduced to our very excited students at Thursday’s assembly -

- In Visual Arts Ms Jill Page is our new part-time Art Teacher. Ms Page is job sharing three days per fortnight with Mrs Armitage
- In Music Mr Chris Fish is our new part-time Music teacher. Mr Fish is job sharing two days per week with Mrs Johnston.
In Languages **Ms Lawson** is our new part-time Japanese Language teacher. Ms Lawson replaces **Dr Inoue** who is now teaching tertiary students in Japan.

In HSIE **Mrs Mitchell** replaces Mr Hindmarsh who is now teaching in Newcastle. Mrs Mitchell taught at HGHS last year in the HSIE Faculty. This HSIE position has been advertised with the DEC and we expect to have this position filled by a permanent teacher by the end of the term. Additionally **Ms White** will be taking Mrs Riches classes over the next few weeks while Mrs Riches is overseas.

In Science **Ms Catriona Chaikin** is our new part-time Science teacher. Also **Mrs Gamble** is on leave during semester one and has been replaced by **Mr Glenn Bridge** who recently retired as Head Teacher Science at Turramurra High School. He could not resist the offer of coming out of retirement to teach Chemistry at Hornsby Girls High School.

In Mathematics **Mrs Kathy Krslovic** replaces Ms Davidson who will be retiring from the DEC in February. We thank **Ms Davidson** for all our work with the school over many years not only in Maths but also in her commitment and promotion of the environment and sustainability projects at our school.

In English **Mrs Christy Smith** is our new part-time English teacher. Mrs Smith who taught at the school last year is job sharing 3 days per week with Mrs Winch. As announced last year **Dr Susan Green** who was previously Head Teacher English at Hills Grammar, is the new Head Teacher of English at Hornsby Girls High School.

We also welcome **Ms DeLosa** who arrived back from the Antarctica after being trapped in the ice for three weeks! Her story will be in a future edition of the Torch.

I look forward to seeing our parents and students at the following upcoming meetings - Wednesday 5 February **Year 9 Laptop Information Night (for students and parents)** light refreshments and ‘nibbles’ served from 6:30pm for a 7pm start. It is expected the meeting will conclude by 8pm; Thursday 6 February **Year 11 Information Night** (Assessment and Sleep Study), Tuesday 11 **Year 10 Information Meeting** (Assessment and Sleep Study), Wednesday 12 ‘**Meet the Teachers Night**’ from 7pm followed by a P and C Information Meeting from 7:45pm.

**Duke of Edinburgh**

HGHS actively participates in the Duke of Edinburgh’s Award programme. Students can enrol in either Bronze, Silver or Gold, depending on their age.

- 14 years (13 yrs 9 months) Bronze
- 15 years (14 yrs 9 months) Silver
- 16 years Gold. Students must be 16 to start Gold and if they have not completed Bronze and Silver levels it is a two year programme. Registration fees for 2014:
  - Bronze - $112
  - Silver - $117
  - Gold - $131

Registration forms are available from Mrs Riches in the History staffroom.

**Congratulations** to the following students who have been awarded the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh’s Award: Natalie Chua, Grace Hong, Xenia Lopes, Christina Liao and Joy Yang.

**Mrs R Riches Duke of Edinburgh’s Award Co-ordinator**
Extra Curricular Sport

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Badminton Club 3:30-4:30pm</td>
<td>• Sport Aerobics Training 3:15-4:30pm</td>
<td>• Basketball Training 2:45-4:00pm</td>
<td>• Sport Aerobics Training 3:15-4:30pm</td>
<td>• Zumba 3:30-4:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Taekwondo 3:30-4:45pm</td>
<td>• Water Polo Competition Evening Games between 6-8:00pm</td>
<td>• Yoga 2:40-3:40pm</td>
<td>• Volleyball Competition Evening Games between 5-8:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Year 9/10 Netball Competition 3:15-5:00pm</td>
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If you are interested in finding out more information about any of these sports, please check the Sports noticeboard outside the junior toilets or speak with one of the PE staff.

**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.

**IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2014:**
- SWIMMING CARNIVAL: Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> February
- ZONE SWIMMING CARNIVAL: Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March
- SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY CARNIVAL: Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> May
- ZONE CROSS COUNTRY CARNIVAL: Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May
- SCHOOL ATHLETICS CARNIVAL: Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May
- ZONE ATHLETICS CARNIVAL: Friday 6<sup>th</sup> June
Hornsby Girls High School
P and C ASSOCIATION

"Excellence in Girls' Education"

INVITATION TO ALL PARENTS
to
our February P & C Meeting
on WEDNESDAY 12 February from 7.00pm
outside the Agnes Brewster Hall

‘Meet the Teachers’

This will be followed by a P and C Meeting
In the Agnes Brewster Hall
From 7:45pm – 8:30pm
Light refreshments will also be served, so please come along and meet other
parents in a relaxed and informal atmosphere.
All welcome!

With your active participation, the P & C can achieve great things to enhance
your daughter’s education. Please show your support.
You will be made very welcome!