The school was very fortunate to have the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Petitions visit the school on Wednesday 29 April. They came to hear evidence from Olivia Kong and Avanti Gomes both of Year 11 regarding their petition to the House on the proposed reforms to Tertiary Education. Two Year 11 Legal Studies classes with their teacher Mrs Gilmore (HSIE) also contributed in a discussion with the Parliamentarians about our democracy. In Hansard, the Chair of the Committee Dr Jensen states,

“One of my favourite parts of community engagement is visiting schools and talking to students about parliament and the work we do. Earlier today we visited Hornsby Girls High School to discuss a petition on tertiary education reforms with Miss Olivia Kong followed by a discussion session with some of the year 11 students at the school. That was a wonderful meeting, and we were impressed with the students we spoke to and seeing their engagement with and passion for Australia’s democratic system. It was very heartening to receive so many insightful questions and comments from both Olivia and her fellow students, and the committee looks forward to conducting more such school visits in the future”.
Multicultural Fair Planning Meeting – I encourage all new parents and all who have not been involved previously in the Multicultural Fair to attend our first planning meeting for the Multicultural Fair. The meeting will be held on **Wednesday 20 May** from **6:45 - 7:45pm** in the Staff Common room. If you would like to organise a food stall or other stall or would like to help in any way on the day please come along to the meeting and assist the **Organising Committee** led by **Ms Kate Bromley**. This is the most important day on our school calendar and is a wonderful community event. We look forward to seeing you at our first planning meeting in preparation for the Multicultural Fair on Saturday 22 August.

Congratulations to **Katherine Allen, Year 12** and **Kassandra Di Bona, Year 11**, who attended the International Robotics competition in St Louis, Missouri. Their team had members not only from Hornsby Girls High School but also Willoughby Girls, Epping Boys, Macquarie University and the University of NSW.

Over 600 teams from around the world competed in the Robotics Competition. Over the course of the three day event **42,500 spectators** viewed the competition. Their team was placed **7th** in the world championships.

Their team also received the Engineering and Inspiration Award which qualifies them for the World Championships in 2016. A great achievement!

**Athletics Carnival** – Our **Athletics Carnival** on Tuesday 5 May was a great success not only because of the beautiful weather but because of the extraordinary involvement of the students. Well done girls! **Ms Coggins (PDHPE)** the coordinator should be very proud of her organisation of the carnival. Thank you to Ms Coggins and the PDHPE staff for a wonderful carnival. Please see Ms Coggins’ report in this edition of the Torch.

Our **High Resolves Team of Year 10** students have been working on a community outreach project about Indigenous education. The team have completed an art installation on education for Indigenous children and it is now on display at **Hornsby Shire Library** during the month of May. The team has also produced brochures and posters which will be given to the community services branch of Hornsby Council for distribution. They also created a video which explores the life of a young Indigenous girl and the challenges she faces. This High Resolves Project will be highlighted by the **Hornsby Children’s Voices for Reconciliation** event in Hornsby Mall on Friday 29 May. Congratulations to the team and their supervisor **Mrs Smith (English Faculty)**.
Alpaca Team – The Hornsby Girls High School Alpaca Team led by Kassandra Di Bona Year 11 achieved a 2nd place at the Royal Easter Show. This is the first time Hornsby Girls High School have had an Alpaca Team in the Royal Easter Show. Well done team!

The Grounds Day for Term Two will be held on Saturday 16 May from 8am – 11am. Our focus will be on the gardens at the back of the school mainly weeding and some planting. There is also some minor cleaning – up and raking to do after the storms. I look forward to seeing you for the morning activities. Thank you to our parent organisers Mr Andrew Roberts and Ms Catherine Lentfer.

Dr Turner (Careers and University Admissions) will be presenting a guide to the HSC at the P and C Information Night on Wednesday May 20 from 7:45pm. His talk is a general guide to the HSC and UAC, BOSTES, ATARs and Scaling. Dr Turner’s presentations are always enjoyable and if you are unsure of any aspect of the HSC or the Universities Admissions process either for Australia, the UK or the US please come to the P and C Information Night.

Dr Turner’s lunch time university presentations continue to grow in popularity. Current students from Macquarie University presented to interested senior students in Week 1, UTS Bachelor of Accounting students presented this week and the University of Sydney and UNSW will be coming to Hornsby Girls High School to present to interested students over the next few months. Further details are in Dr Turner’s Careers Bulletin which is emailed to all members of the school community.

Laptops – As mentioned in the last edition of the Torch we are expecting a delivery of laptops from the DEC by Friday May 15. Once our Technical Support Officer has tested the laptops we hope to have the laptops to the students in the coming weeks. As soon as we have the distribution dates I will provide those to you.

The Year 9 Social Justice Committee drew attention to the plight of the people of Vanuatu and Nepal during today’s Friday Focus activities. A collection was organised by the Committee supervised by Mrs Goodwin (HSIE) and Mrs Lang (PDHPE) with the school donating nearly $2,500 to Save the Children and to the Red Cross in support of the victims. Well done school!

Parents will be able to make online payments through a portal on the school website for excursions or for contributions to the school from 18 May. I will provide further details over the coming weeks when our website is modified to accommodate this change. The School Bank will continue to accept cash or credit card details. This new online system Quickweb has been developed by Westpac. A growing number of DEC schools are beginning to use this payment system.

Our 2014 Annual School Report is now available on the school website at the address below:


I encourage you to read the report which celebrates the extraordinary achievements of students, staff and parents. Congratulations to Kristel Rodrigues Year 8 whose inspirational International Women’s Day artwork was chosen for the cover.

Justin Briggs
Principal
At Hornsby Girls’ High School, we have our wonderful tradition of the Shakespeare Competition in which each girl from Years 7 to 10 has the opportunity to present a dramatic performance from one of the Shakespeare plays we study at school.

The excitement around this year’s competition was heightened by the exceptional standard of performances including some more contemporary recontextualisations.

Well done to the following students who qualified for the Grand Final.

Year 7, Ella Bradford and Maria Korotaeva,; Karina Mathias and Rushenya Jayawardane
Year 8 Dora Tong and Smirthi Ravichandran; Pooja Vyas, Kitty Yen, and Shenani Koren
Year 9 Treveena Pangu and Stacey Pratama; Judy Wang and Hannah Byun; Sunanda Mani Mohan; Emma Gosbell and Lauren Lancaster
Year 10 Natasha Pye, Alisha Mathias, Varsha Sudhi and Elisabeth Henke; Winnie Ye, Rebecca Nichelsen and Melissa Linardy

A special thank you to Andria Eberl and Sophie Shead for acting as announcers for the Grand Final. Students performed in front of an audience of parents, teachers, students and judges.

We extend our special congratulations to the overall Junior Winners - Ella Bradford and Maria Korotaeva and the overall Senior Winners - Emma Gosbell and Lauren Lancaster

S. Pilley

English
Shakespeare Competition
Congratulations to the 14 years relay team (Sarah Chong, Kiri Kerr, Hiro Kojo, Eve Timms) who competed at the CHS State Swimming Carnival, an excellent achievement to compete at this level.

A HUGE CONGRATULATIONS TO Louise Zhang (Year 10), who was successful in Qualifying to Compete at the All Schools Swimming Championship later this month. This is an exceptional achievement!! GOOD LUCK!

School Cross Country

Thursday 23rd April - Cancelled
Thursday 30th April - Cancelled

After lots of rain and two attempts at the running the School Cross Country, we had to settle for a competitors only race held at school (in the rain!) on Thursday 30th April. Well done to the 130 students who battled the elements and took part on the day.

Good luck to the students competing at the North West Metropolitan Girls Zone Cross Country Carnival on Friday 15th May at Macquarie University Sports Fields.
After two weeks of solid rain, we were so fortunate to have a beautiful 27 degree day for our Athletics Carnival. Most times throughout the day, there were few people in the stands with so many girls out enjoying the sunshine and participating in the various events. A huge thank you the NSW Athletics Officials who did such a wonderful job in helping run the day.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Champions</th>
<th>Champions of Champions – 100m</th>
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<tr>
<td>12yrs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Runner Up</td>
<td>Esther Zhang</td>
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<td>Runner Up</td>
<td>Angela Xie</td>
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<tr>
<td>13yrs</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Runner Up</td>
<td>Charlotte Barry</td>
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<tr>
<td>Runner Up</td>
<td>Alexandra Di Lima</td>
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<td>14yrs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Runner Up</td>
<td>Eve Timms</td>
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<td>Runner Up</td>
<td>Laura Wunderlich</td>
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<td>15yrs</td>
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<td>Runner Up</td>
<td>Cherie Pan</td>
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<td>Runner Up</td>
<td>Grace Roberts</td>
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<td>16yrs</td>
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<td>Jenny Qian</td>
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<td>Mary Bajo &amp; Jessica Xu</td>
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<td>17+yrs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Runner Up</td>
<td>Katherine Du</td>
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<tr>
<td>Runner Up</td>
<td>Maddy Jones</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Good luck to the athletes competing at the North West Metropolitan Girls Zone Athletics Carnival on Friday 6th June.

**Year 7/8 T20 Cricket Competition**

On Monday 30th March, Hornsby 7/8 cricket team played in the state final at Drummoyne Oval, Drummoyne.

Hornsby Girls was represented by: Senara Perera- Captain, Rujuta Banhatti, Rhea Datar, Sarah Forkgen, Samadhi Geekiyanage, Sharlat Jo, Manisha Kulasinghe, Alexandra de Lima, Ananya Vatsayan, Nimasha Vidaratne. We competed against four of the seven teams in the Northern Schools State Final.

In the final match we won against Camden Haven High School and placed fifth in the state!
We also had a high catch competition during the lunch break.

Hornsby was represented by our awesome captain, Senara Perera, who placed in the top three in both days (16th March and 30th March). A huge round of applause for Senara, and the winner from Endeavour Sport.

It was great to find out that our great friends from Loreto Normanhurst are going to Melbourne. This was an amazing experience for all of us and we had a blast. We got to meet and take photos with Erin Osborne, member of the Australian Women’s Cricket team.

On behalf of the cricket team we would like to thank Ms Coggins for being an amazing coach and Ms Lang for giving up her time to organise this fantastic event and helping coach us.

Also a big thank you to all supporters! Thank you to Noni Cole (Year 12) coming along in the rain and supporting us in all our games!

So we look forward to next year’s new cricket team.

Sarah Forkgen and Samadhi Geekiyanage (Year 7)
Congratulations to Lily Henke (Year 10) and Tian Du (Year 12) for their outstanding performance in the English Plain Speaking Competition. The Northern Sydney Local Final was held at Normanhurst Boys on Monday and both girls have won a place in the Regional Final on May 19th. This is a superb result. All students had to deliver a prepared speech as well as an impromptu. The impromptu topic was “I believe...” Lily spoke on gender equality and Tian on the collective “we” as opposed to the “me” generation. Well done girls!

Dr Susan Green
Head Teacher English

Congratulations to the following students who have been awarded the Silver Duke of Edinburgh: Grace Hang, Jenny Qian and Joy Yang. These students have progressed to the Gold Duke of Edinburgh.

Adventurous Journey/Residential Project – April 2015

Well done to all those students completing their Adventurous Journeys or their Residential Projects during the April school holidays. A reminder that Log Books and Evaluations need to be completed. They should be presented to Mrs Riches before they are uploaded onto the ORB. Please complete these asap.

HGHS does not organize Adventurous Journeys with Somerset Outdoor Learning during the July school holidays however the group does offer Adventurous Journeys at this time. In Week 2, 6 – 10 July 2015 there are Bronze and Silver Practice and Test camps. In Week 1 and 2 they are offering Gold Urban Odyssey Journeys. Please remember that both Practice and Test camps cannot be completed in the one week. Contact Somerset Outdoor Learning at http://www.campsomerset.com.au/ for details and registration.

HGHS will be organizing Bronze and Silver Adventurous Journeys during the September/October holidays. The dates have not yet been announced. As soon as they are there will be notification in The Torch.

Working With Children Number

All volunteers with the Duke of Edinburgh Award programme must have a Working With Children Number. Unfortunately any student who has not provided this number for each of their Assessors will be unable to be signed as completing their Duke of Edinburgh and this applies to all levels. Several students have not returned the necessary details regarding the WWCC. Could these please be supplied as soon as possible.

Mrs Robyn Riches
Duke of Edinburgh Co-Ordinator
NEW - Make Online Payments from 18 May

From 18 May it will be possible for parents to make online payments to the school for amounts owing for students, via a secure payment page hosted by Westpac. Payments can be made using either a Visa or MasterCard credit or debit card. The payment page is accessed from the front page of the school's website by selecting $ Make a payment.

Items that can be paid include voluntary school contributions, subject contributions, excursions, sales to students and creative and practical arts activities (these include band, drama and dance). There is also a category called ‘Other’ this to cover items not covered in the previous headings, Other can be used to make a complete payment of a school invoice.

When you access the $ Make a payment you must enter:

- the students name, and
- class and reference number OR
- the students name, and
- date of birth.

These details are entered each time you make a payment as student information is not held within the payment system.

This is a secure payment system hosted by Westpac to ensure that your credit/debit card details are captured in a secure manner, these details are not passed back to the school.

You have the ability to check and change any details of the payment before the payment is processed. Receipts can be emailed and/or printed.

Details of the payments are passed daily to the school where they will be receipted against your child’s account. As a receipt has been issued from the payment page a further receipt will not be issued by the school.

For any enquiries regarding the Online Payment process please contact the School Administration Office from 18 May once the portal has been linked to our website.
SATURDAY 16 May 8am -11am

The main tasks will be weeding and mulching the back gardens, weeding the gardens in the COLA, and planting in the back garden.

The MEETING PLACE will be out the front of the School, (near front steps).

The TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT you will need to bring are:

- Gardening gloves, hat/sunscreen, solid footwear (shoes/boots, not sandals) and appropriate clothing (We will try to run it even if it rains a little, so perhaps bring a raincoat if it looks a bit drizzly))
- Shovels, crowbars and mattocks (for planting trees)
- Weeding tools
- Buckets, rags, sponges with light scourers, and a bit of detergent
- Rakes (spreading mulch) and brooms (cleaning up)
- Wheelbarrow if you have one (for transporting mulch)
- If you have a hedge trimmer or shears, it would be useful to bring them too

Please bring a bottle of water to prevent dehydration.

You will need to sign on when you start and finish for the day (to ensure that you are insured).

We will stop for morning tea at around 9.25 am.

Please note the early start – this is to avoid the heat. If you cannot get there by 8, don’t worry, just turn up as soon as you can, and sign on in the book which will be inside the front door of the School.

Please note that we will go ahead unless it is REALLY raining, the wet ground makes weeding much easier. If we do decide to call it off, we will send you an e-mail by Friday evening.

Looking forward to seeing you!

Andrew Roberts and Catherine Lentfer
(Grounds Day Co-ordinators)
Father* / Daughter Challenge Night

You are invited to our annual Father / Daughter Challenge Night,
Saturday 20 June 2015 from 6-9 p.m.

This will be a night of fun, trivia, challenge and sharing time with your daughter and other fathers from HGHS. You will find yourself meeting and chatting with many of the other fathers* and students in the school hall, while you work out the answers together.

So make up a table with other students (4 students and 4 fathers to a table) or ask to be placed on “year” tables.

The cost of the night is $15.00 per adult and $10.00 per student. Please bring your own drinks and snacks for the table, including drinking glasses and a pen. Coffee and tea will be available throughout the night.

We are looking forward to a great response to this night and encourage you to join us and assure you that you will meet many other people and have a great time.

*can be an uncle, grandfather, big brother etc

In past years, we had a full hall, so please apply early.

Parent’s Name……………………………………………………………..

Student’s Name…………………………………… Year…………………..

Names of other students on your table

.............................................. .............................................. ..............................................

Email any queries to Divya Mathias: dandivya@yahoo.com.au or Debbie Lee: d.lee911@yahoo.com.au

......... Adults @ $ 15 + ..... Students @ $10 = $............TOTAL (encl)

Credit Card (please tick): □ Visa □ Mastercard

Credit Card No: __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ Expiry Date: __ / __

Name on Card (please print) ..........................................................

Signature: ..............................................................................

RSVP to the school office by 10 June 2015
INVITATION TO ALL PARENTS

to

our May P & C Meeting

on WEDNESDAY 20 May

at 7.45pm

in the School Common Room.

Our next P and C Information Meeting on Wednesday May 20 from 7:45pm will be a presentation from our School Careers Adviser Dr David Turner on a general guide to the HSC and university admissions. Dr Turner’s presentation will cover such topics as the HSC, ATARs, EAS, BOSTES and Scaling.

Light refreshments will also be served, so please come along and meet other parents in a relaxed and informal atmosphere.

All welcome!

__________________________________________________________________________________

Regular HGHS P & C Association meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month during the school term. Please mark the dates in your diary.
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!
THE BEROWRA MUSICAL SOCIETY PRESENTS

Gilbert & Sullivan’s

THE MIKADO

Performance Dates – May 2015
Saturday 23rd 8pm
Sunday 24th 2pm
Friday 29th 8pm
Saturday 30th 2pm and 8pm

Ticket Pricing
$30 adult
$25 concession
$90 family ticket (2 adults 2 children, $15 for each extra child)

All performances at Berowra Community Centre
The Gully Road, Berowra
Free parking + Easy access

Book online at www.bmsi.org.au
Further information from info@bmsi.org.au
Tickets also available at the door (no card facilities)

JUNE & JULY 2015

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