Congratulations to our new school prefects who were inducted at this morning’s Prefect Ceremony. It is a tradition at the school that the new prefects choose the new school captain, school vice-captain and the senior prefects. Recently our new prefects gathered to conduct these elections. The girls who nominated for these positions gave very thoughtful speeches of their love for the school and of each other as friends and prefects. It was a very touching moment. Based on the voting by the prefects it is a privilege to announce that Natalie Chua is School Captain, Zahin Chowdury is School Vice Captain and Nicole Leong and Thornia Yeung are Senior Prefects. Congratulations to the following new prefects - Esther Ahn, Eeshaa Batra, Jessica Chan, Dorothy Chung, Katherine Du, Avanti Gomes, Lily Gosbell, Grace Hang, Paula Jacobson, Olivia Kong, Stephanie Liang, Michelle Lokugamage, Georgina Oates, Nirosha Pillalamarri, Chiettha Prajnadewie, Olivia Utharntharm and Rosy Wanasinghe. Mrs Gilmore the Prefect Coordinator organised an excellent ceremony which included Rhea Nair (Class of 2012) who gave a wonderful speech about the impact Hornsby Girls High School has had on her life at the Australian National University (Canberra). The concert band performed a great version of ‘How to Train Your Dragon’ expertly conducted by Mrs Dietz.

Our Year 12s have a very big week of activities next week with their final classes and farewell activities. Wednesday night’s LipSync concert is always very entertaining. This will be followed by Thursday morning’s very emotional ‘Clap-Out Assembly’ and then Thursday night’s Graduation Dinner at Hornsby RSL. Over 420 members of the school community will be in attendance for this magnificent ceremony highlighting Year 12’s achievements at Hornsby Girls High School. Well done to all Year 12 for their efforts in many
areas over the past six years.

The **Accelerated Geography class** visited Blacksmiths Beach and Caves Beach on Wednesday to study dune care and coastal management. Their guide Mr Nigel McDonnell the Blacksmiths Beach Dune Care Coordinator was so impressed with the students that he has donated three beautiful native trees to the school, a Lily Pily, a Banksia and a Tuckaroo which have been planted in the school gardens. Thank you to **Mrs Goodwin** and **Mrs Black** for organising this donation.

Congratulations to the **School Choir** (junior and senior) who performed at last night’s highly enjoyable Choir Awards Concert. Well done to our choir director **Ms Elizabeth Propsting** for her work with the choir over the course of this year.

Thank you to **Mrs Charissa Cameron** a member of the P and C Executive who was the parent representative on the Selective Schools Appeals Committee which met recently to consider appeals for placements at selective schools across NSW. The school appreciates the extra time and effort that members of the HGHS P and C give to the school and to public education.

Members of the Department of Education (DE) maintenance unit are refurbishing the staff and parent bathrooms in the Administration Block over the upcoming holidays. These have been in need of remodelling for the past ten years and it is good to see the DE has agreed to refurbish these public facilities.

**High Resolves – Speakers for Asylum Seekers**

Throughout the course of this year, our Year 9 High Resolves Team have dedicated our school based project to raising awareness on refugee and asylum seeker issues. We have sought to involve members of our school community to take action in eliminating misconceptions that are commonly associated with the matter and improve the understanding of the lives of refugees and asylum seekers in Australia. We have completed a series of both factual and emotional poster campaigns within the school and are currently advocating the worthy cause through social media outreach.

We have all thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to take on a leadership role and contribute our time and effort both during and outside of school to a cause that we all feel passionate about. Throughout the year we have been involved in working sessions run by our group leader from the High Resolves organisation - Courtney Bennet, advisor from Deloitte Australia – Chaitanya, and our own teacher and supervisor - Mrs Smith. With their assistance, we have generated our campaign and learnt a great deal in doing so.

Besides raising awareness, we decided to also take an active role in improving the lives and living standards of refugees. In partnering with the Newtown Asylum Seekers Centre, we have organised a donation drive to take place throughout Week 9, with proceeds going to refugees both in detention centres and within Australia. With no federal government funding, a majority of the centre’s support comes from individuals such as those within the Hornsby Girls community. The support of our school allows the centre to continue in aiding women, men and children fleeing conflict, persecution, civil unrest or war.
We would be very grateful for any donation of canned food (excluding baked beans and beetroot) to be donated during Bring a Can Week from Monday 7th till Friday 11th of September. To do so, students must simply place all the cans they wish to donate in the corresponding year group or teachers’ box in the front corridor. The High Resolves team will be incentivising this call to action, by providing delicious baked goods to the year group which donates the most cans.

Please be generous, as for a small price we CAN contribute to making a large difference.

Avan Daruwalla & Sheena Mali (Year 9 High Resolves)

**English News …**

**Tournament of Minds 2015**

Two teams of seven girls took part in the Tournament of Minds Regional Final on Sunday 23 August. Roseville College hosted the competition this year. Our two teams had been working on a long term challenge since the start of term. They competed in the Language Literature and Social Sciences categories respectively against numerous other schools. Performing with cohesion and flair, the girls performed confidently and enjoyed the day. Well done!

**Congratulations to the following girls who competed in Tournament of Minds Social Sciences Team**
Sophie Borsovszky (Year 7), Sarah Zacharia (Year 7), Julia Lu (Year 7), Tanya Motiani (Year 7), Emma Barlow (Year 8), Tina Yip (Year 8) and Jasmine Xu (Year 9).

**Language Literature Team**
Angel Du (Year 7), Charlotte Yim (Year 7), Clarissa Wang (Year 7), Kaitlyn Kong (Year 7), Niyumi Jayawardane (Year 8), Nancy Yan (Year 8) and Kathleen Foo (Year 9).

A special thank you to Jasmin Borsovszky (Year 12) for her assistance in facilitating the program.

*Susan Pilley*, Tournament of Minds Coordinator

**Year 12**

Year 12 went to the Opera House last week to view Bell Shakespeare’s production of *The Tempest*, our Advanced English HSC text. The play was the last production directed by John Bell for Bell Shakespeare. It was accordingly skilful, but it was also engaging and funny. The staging was very effective, featuring
innovative and evocative set design. The cast all performed very well, but I was especially impressed by Matthew Backer's portrayal of Ariel, Prospero's magical servant. Seeing the play performed in such an entertaining way helped us to engage with the material we are studying on a more personal level. It was a really fun day and Year 12 enjoyed spending our last excursion as a whole grade beside Sydney Harbour.

*Julia Rheinberger*

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**Congratulations**

It is pleasing to announce that Mekala Shanker, Year 12, has completed her **Gold Duke of Edinburgh’s Award**. It has been forwarded to the Duke of Edinburgh’s Award Office for approval. Congratulations, Mekala.

The following students have been awarded:

- **Bronze Duke of Edinburgh’s Award**: Avan Daruwalla
- **Silver Duke of Edinburgh’s Award**: Phoebe Yang

**Adventurous Journeys – September/October 2015**

There will be a **meeting** for all Bronze and Silver D of Ed who are participating in Adventurous Journeys, September/October on **Thursday 10 September** at lunchtime in Room 216. Attendance at this meeting is compulsory and each student is to bring a laptop.

If any student is completing a Gold Adventurous Journey they MUST notify Mrs Riches by email.

**Reminders - General**

Please remember that Hornsby Girls’ students cannot be accepted into the Duke of Edinburgh’s programme until payment has been received. Therefore, please **ignore** the message on the ORB that states participant has not paid. It is a problem in the system and all students have paid.

**For Year 12**

If there is any Year 12 student yet to finalize any of their Duke of Edinburgh’s activities this should be completed as soon as possible.

*Robyn Riches*, Duke of Edinburgh Co-Ordinator
WHO ARE WE?
We are Australia's first all girls FTC robotics team who compete annually at the FTC competition. We learn valuable skills in leadership, engineering, teamwork, and programming which in the future will allow us to make vital contributions to society.

WHAT IS STEM?
STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Maths) is a growing discipline essential to the development of Australia. FTC Robotics allows the youth of Australia to discover their potential in this area through enhancing their programming, and building skills.

WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU?
- $20: MENTION AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT IN OUR FTC PRESENTATION
- $50: YOUR COMPANY WILL BE LISTED ON THE BACK OF OUR T-SHIRT
- $100: WE WILL PUT YOUR LOGO ON OUR ROBOT DURING COMPETITION
- $200: YOUR LOGO WILL BE ON THE FRONT OF OUR T-SHIRT AND FEATURED IN OUR VIDEO

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GlhYd3j7Xtc
TheUntorchablesHGHS
CONTACT: theuntorchablesHGHS@gmail.com
Sunday 1st November 2015

www.barecreektrailrun.com

Registrations now open for the 6km or 10km course through the lovely Garigal National Park for anyone over 5 years.

Register Here, NOW!

www.barecreektrailrun.com

Online entries open until 26th October