

Newsletter NBSC



Northern Beaches

SECONDARY COLLEGE

INNOVATION • EXCELLENCE • CHOICE

Feedback is crucial



This term I have had the privilege of relieving in the position of College Principal. It has given me the opportunity to work with outstanding Principals, school executives and staff.

I have been witness to highly successful programs in schools and fabulous opportunities that have been provided for students. Some of these are featured in this issue of the Northern Beaches Secondary College Newsletter.

Term 3 started with all schools coming together for a combined Staff Development Day focusing on John Hattie's work around Visible Learning. One part of the day focused on Effective Feedback. Effective feedback can really accelerate student learning.

When I was at school the only sort of feedback I got from my teachers was "good work" scrawled across an assignment, sometimes it would be accompanied by a mark or a grade.

What did that mean? I was never sure what part of it was "good" or what made it "good". Was it "good" because it looked pretty or was it "good" because the research had been thorough or was it "good" because it was written well? The problem was that although my work was being assessed I really didn't know how to improve. I needed feedback.

So what is feedback, and why is it so important? Firstly, feedback is not praise "good job"; or judgment "more effort required." Nor is it a number or grade. There is a place for these things, but they do not help children learn.

Imagine you are coaching your child in soccer, and after a practice session you simply say, "A for effort", "good job!", or "well done!" How will this help them become a better player? Put simply it won't and the same applies to learning in school. Feedback is an essential part of effective learning. It helps students understand the subject being studied and gives them clear guidance on how to improve their learning. Feedback can improve a student's confidence, self-awareness and enthusiasm for learning. Providing students engage with and act on the feedback, it should

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enhance learning and improve assessment performance. It is a two way street, where students are actively involved in the process, not simply getting advice from teachers.

As the HSC quickly approaches, Year 12 students need to seek as much feedback from their teachers as possible. Acting on the feedback provided will enhance HSC performance. I wish all students sitting the HSC in 2017 the best of luck.

Finally thank you to the staff of the Northern Beaches Secondary College for welcoming me into the biggest school in NSW.

Jann Pattinson
Relieving College Principal

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NBSC COLLEGE DEVELOPMENT DAY

VISIBLE LEARNING: CAN YOU SEE IT?



BY **IAN MAY**
NBSC Head Teacher
(Teaching & Learning
Relieving)

Long gone are the days of the traditional teacher, “holders of information” and vessels “imparting knowledge”.

The modern teacher has replaced the surface approach to learning with a deeper, perceptive approach that is student driven.

Welcome to the NBSC College Development Day and the work of Professor John Hattie around Visible Learning. The Day was attended by 340 staff inspired by their collective desire to explore Visible Learning. A key element within Visible Learning suggests that it is critical that teachers see themselves as evaluators, cognisant of their effects on students and develop a mind frame in which they see it as their primary role to evaluate their effect on learning.

With salutations out of the way, the audience was addressed by Ainsley Rose, an erudite on Visible Learning, having 40 years’ experience within education. His keynote address focused on the research associated with Visible Learning, based on the research of Professor John Hattie. Ainsley suggested that teachers who are clear, set high goals for student achievement and develop good relationships with and between students, foster teacher satisfaction and sense of efficacy as corroborated by

research.

As the day progressed, workshops on Metacognition strategies and Feedback that makes a difference were engaged. Cross faculty groups under the guidance of Ainsley entered into fervent deliberation. Significantly, the myriad of knowledge around the groups assisted the development of the day, leaving an indelible recognition of the value of Visible Learning.

Until we meet collectively again, embrace the gift of change you wield!





NBSC LANGUAGE SHORT FILM FESTIVAL



BY **BEN PIMENTEL**
NBSC Head Teacher
(Teaching and Learning)

The Northern Beaches Secondary College held its sixth Short Film Festival during Education Week

Year 9 and 10 Languages students from NBSC Balgowlah Boys, Mackellar Girls and Manly Campuses participated in the NBSC Project.

Students were encouraged to enter

their short films into the various national film competitions coordinated by the Goethe Institute, Modern Languages Teachers Association and the Japan Foundation.

The inaugural "Most Engaging Film" was awarded to three very excited Manly Campus students, who also

received free Hoyts movie tickets along with their certificates. A spontaneous "Teachers' Award" was also presented on the night.

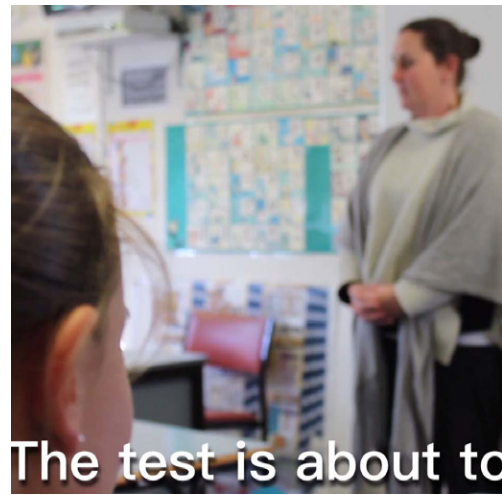
NBSC Freshwater Senior Campus students were the Masters of Ceremony. They were stellar hosts for the evening. We are deeply grateful





for the significant contribution of these senior students, who currently have very busy schedules and commitments.

The audience were treated to pizzas and drinks in the foyer after the formal ceremony. Stories about students' learning experiences were enthusiastically shared providing opportunity to make new connections with parents, teachers and students from different campuses. The event was heartily embraced by the NBSC Languages community.



The test is about to



Are you kidding me



NATIONAL SCIENCE WEEK

CAMPUS STUDENTS SHARE KNOWLEDGE



BY **NIKKI DOYLE**
NBSC Project Officer

Year 8 Science students participated in the Science Techno Museum project as part of National Science Week celebrations.

Students visited the Powerhouse Museum to learn the art of displaying science techno exhibits and to gain inspiration for their own projects.

Through June, Year 8 NBSC students researched the historical development and scientific principles involved in the evolution of a chosen product.

Students worked collaboratively to produce a museum exhibit which was displayed initially at their campus.

The best displays were invited to attend an NBSC Science Techno Expo at NBSC Manly Campus on Friday, 25th August, 2017. During the Expo, a panel of judges critically evaluated the projects and selected an 'Outstanding Achievement Award' for each campus.

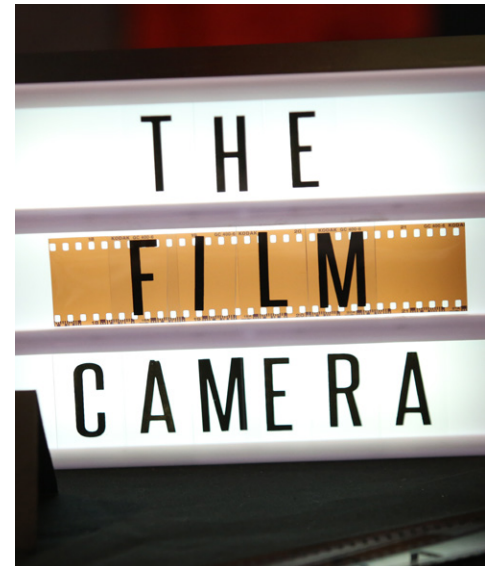
Visitors, parents and Year 6 students from Brookvale Primary School attended the Expo were able to vote for the "People's Choice" Award.

The day ended with an entertaining and informative Tick Tick Boom session with Holly from Fizzics Education.

Thank you to campus coordinators: Chris O'Neill & Nigel Hawkins (NBSC

Balgowlah Boys Campus), Mikalae Norvill & Meagan McLachlan (NBSC Cromer Campus), James O'Hare & Yvonne Du Bery (NBSC Mackellar Girls Campus) and Vicki Maggs (NBSC Manly Campus).

Thank you to our guest judges: Mr Vatche Ansourian (Department of Education Consultant - Science) and Mr Bob Moran (Discovery Shed).





**SCIENCE TECHNO MUSEUM
FINALISTS EXPO 2017**

EXPO RESULTS

OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS			
NBSC Balgowlah Boys Campus		NBSC Cromer Campus	
NIGHT VISION		SUSTAINABLE ENERGY	
Ewan Makechnie	Patrick Ruffner	Matthew Miltonhardy	Corey Hughes
Luke O'Donnell	Brady O'sullivan	Jordan King	Tiani Paitai
Shaun Denhany			
NBSC Mackellar Girls Campus		NBSC Manly Campus	
AEROPLANES		MEDICAL IMAGING	
Emma Black	Poppy Idols	Anna Birke	Stephanie Evans
Jessica Prescott	Brianna Wassell	Isabella Rigatos	Mia Schwartz

PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARDS			
NBSC Balgowlah Boys Campus		NBSC Cromer Campus	
ROCKETS		CAMERAS	
Gordon Carroll	Connor Callard	Mia Klein	Max Ward
Lachlan Frost	Jules Kobbaj-Fermin	Bella Dickinson	Lauryn Pollard
NBSC Mackellar Girls Campus		NBSC Manly Campus	
SPEAKERS		PERFORMANCE ENHANCEMENT IN SPORT	
Ginger Roebuck	Erin Gaw	Jason Ho	Jayden Huang
Malia Eakins	Sascha Bennell	Gordon Palachek	Rishi Raju
Maya Wilkinson		Alexander Norris	

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S INTERNATIONAL AWARD

OUR SPIRITED DUKES EXPLORE THEIR POTENTIAL



BY **VICKI BUSSE**

NBSC Duke of Edinburgh
Award Leader

Northern Beaches Secondary College students are progressing through their Duke of Edinburgh Award as they continue to engage in Community Service, Physical Recreation and learn a new Skill.

This second half of the year is a busy time as participants complete their final Qualifying Hike to complete the Adventurous Journey component of the Award. Bronze Award participants will hike for two days along the Colo River in October, while Silver students will attend a three day Pack and Paddle this month at Broken Bay.

In December just after the school year finishes a large group of NBSC Gold students will Hike through the Kosciusko National Park for 4 days to complete their Gold Qualifying Hike.

Participants are encouraged to keep their hours up-to-date on the Online Record Book and submit their written journey report within 2 weeks of the Hike. Awards will be signed off by Ms Busse once all sections are finished toward the end of 2017, early into 2018.

Year 8 students will have the opportunity to hear all about the program toward the end of this year at their campus and will be invited to an Information Evening with their parents at Freshwater Senior Campus in term 1, 2018.

NBSC Graduates were presented with their Gold Award at a Ceremony at Parliament House in August, by His Excellency General The Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Retd) Governor of New South Wales. Congratulations Liam Webster and Charmaine Leung - Manly Campus, Ella Falzarano - Mackellar, Arjun Winter - Balgowlah Boys and Nathalie Kasselis, Freshwater Senior Campus.

The afternoon was unique in that a trio of Year 10 musicians from Manly Campus provided the musical background at the prestigious afternoon tea on the lawns of Government House.





RIGHT: Nathalie Kasselis, Freshwater Senior Campus, Ella Falzarano - Mackellar Girls, Charmaine Leung - Manly Campus, Arjun Winter - Balgowlah Boys and Liam Webster - Manly Campus. Photos courtesy of Jen Webster (pictured).

NBSC SPORTS UPDATE



BY **ASHLEY MATHIESON**
NBSC Sport Coordinator

True to form, our winter sports champions have been flying the college flag very high at the regional, state and national championships. Well done!

SNOWSPORTS

Regional championships

During the last School Holidays - July 5th to July 9th - we sent down a NBSC Snowsports Team for the 2017 Northern NSW Interschool's Championships at Perisher Valley.

While conditions were marginal with everyone packed into a small percentage of the Perisher Blue Resort, there were many fantastic results from NBSC team members with a number qualifying for the upcoming State Championships. Well done.

JASMINE MANNS

(NBSC Mackellar Girls Campus):
4th - Div 3 Female Alpine

JOEY STEGGALL

(NBSC Balgowlah Boys Campus):
DQ - Div 3 Male Alpine with the fastest single run time of the night,
1st - Div 3 Male SkiX

JASMINE OMM

(NBSC Freshwater Senior Campus):
1st - Div 1 Female SBGS, 3rd - Div 1 Female SBX

ETHAN EVANS

(NBSC Balgowlah Boys): Eq 9th -
Div 1 Male SBGS

DAVE MCLEAN

(NBSC Balgowlah Boys Campus): 1st
- Div 3 Male SBGS, 2nd - Div 3 SBX

Jin Mae Purkiss (NBSC Balgowlah)



ABOVE: The action on the ski fields was captured by some devoted and supportive parents.

& Bronte Wassell (NBSC Mackellar) were also part of the team but unfortunately didn't progress to the State Championships.

onships as part of Team NSW, with the top 15 individual placings & top 10 teams progressing to the next level.



State championships

These State Championships will be held at Perisher Valley from Tuesday 22nd August through to Sunday 27th August depending on events qualified in. Unfortunately Ethan Evans will have to forfeit his place at the State Championships after injuring his knee on the recent NBSC Balgowlah Ski Trip. We wish Ethan a speedy recovery and hope to see him back on the mountain in 2018.

At the conclusion of the State Snowsports Championships, all four of our NBSC competitors have qualified and advanced to the Australian Champi-

DAVE MCLEAN

(NBSC Balgowlah): Div3 SBX (14th),

JOEY STEGGALL

(NBSC Balgowlah): Div3 SkiX (2nd)

JASMINE MANNS

(NBSC Mackellar): Div3 SkiGS (15th)

JASMINE OMM

(NBSC Freshwater): Div1 SBGS (6th)
and Div1 SBX (12th)

Unfortunately due the timetabling of the Year 11 yearly exams, Jasmine Omm decided not to compete at these Australian Championships and focus on her studies. Given Jasmine still has another year left of her schooling, we hope to see her back next year at this level.



Australian championships

Again our college reps did themselves and our little NBSC Snowsports Team proud at the Australian Snowsports Championships, held last week at Mount Buller, Victoria from Tuesday 5th September to Sunday 10th September 2017.

In what was described as the Snowstorm of the decade they fronted up and competed in events that saw a number of runners fail to record two clean runs. They all must be congratulated.

Dave, Jasmine Manns & Joey all produced a fantastic effort at the elite end of the sport in their age groups.

Jasmine Manns (NBSC Mackellar) finished 39 from 55 qualifiers in the Div 3 Female Alpine,

Dave McLean (NBSC Balgowlah) 16 from 36 in the Div 3 Male SBX,

Joey "the Champ" Steggall (NBSC Balgowlah) making it on to the podium with a 3rd from a field of 50 in the Div 3 Male SkiX. A super effort by Joey and what looks like keeping the proud history of the "Steggall" name around on the snowfields for many more years to come.

A big "THANK YOU" to Mark Purkiss (NBSC Balgowlah - father of Jin Mae) for acting as our Team Manager during the entire Interschool Snowsports season, which concluded with the Nationals last week. Mark works tirelessly to make sure the entire team has all the latest & updated in-



formation regarding snow condition, results, race times, bib collection etc. Despite his own son not qualifying for the State Championships, Mark was still on the mountain at the State Championship's in August for the NBSC Team.

For the Interschool's to happen, they need many parents & volunteers to act as officials & team managers during each event. So thank you to our wonderful parents who volunteered their time as officials to make each event possible at all three progres-

sions - Zeke Steggall, Michael Omm, Steve Wassell, Ruth Manns, Vanessa Steele, Sharon Evans and David McLean.

If you need any more further details on results, times, placing etc. or more photos, please don't hesitate to contact either Mark or I via the College Administration Centre.

Attached are some photos of our team, captured by their parents.

