On Thursday, 22 March, 2012, Auburn Girls’ High School celebrated PBIS, Positive Behavioural Interventions and Supports at our school. The program aims to encourage all students to work in a Safe, Respectful, Responsible manner and to be a Learner at all times.

Several guests attended our celebration which was accompanied by some stunning performances by students from our school and Granville Boys’ High School.

One other highlight of the celebration was the introduction of the new bins painted and decorated by our students.
Principal’s Report

New Regional Director for South Western Sydney.

Murat Dizdar has been the School Education Director for the Granville district for the last four years. Mr Dizdar has been very supportive of the school and was one of the drivers of the Granville Education Project. This project examined options for secondary education in the Auburn and Granville Districts and led to the creation of Granville South Performing Arts High School and the addition of a selective stream in both Auburn Girls in 2013 and Granville Boys in 2014. Mr Dizdar has been fully involved in all aspects of school life of Auburn Girls. This month Mr Dizdar was appointed as the new Regional Director of South Western Sydney. He will now look after all 274 schools and over 130,000 students that make up our wonderful region. I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank Mr Dizdar for his personal support of my principalship and his commitment to the Auburn school community.

Updating the school’s website.

(www.auburng-h.schools.nsw.edu.au)

The school is constantly updating its website. The website contains information on upcoming and recent events along with the latest copies of the Annual School Report and the 2012-2014 School Plan. One of the requests from parents was to provide digital translations of documents in their community languages. The website now gives access to some of our documents translated into Arabic, Turkish, Dari and Chinese.

Attendance text messaging

‘The greatest predictor of academic success is attendance at school.’

The school has implemented a SMS text messaging system to improve communication with parents. A text message will be sent out to parents whose daughters have not signed into school by 11am. The SMS system is now working for students in Year 7, 8 and 9. The feedback from parents who receive text messages when their daughters are not at school is very positive. The school will roll out the system to years 10, 11 and 12 by the end of Term 2. For this system to be effective the school needs to keep up to date records of parents mobile numbers, please contact the school if your mobile phone number has recently changed so you can continue to receive these valuable messages.

Mr Charles
Deputy Principal, Years 9 & 11

Term 1 has been jam-packed with lots of events and activities. The term began with Year 11 taking part in a program called “Off to a good start” which focused on well-being, managing stress, and cyber bullying and preparing for the demands of the senior years. Guest speakers and presenters from Auburn Youth Centre and Macquarie University delivered the sessions. Student evaluations were very positive. I would like to thank Sharon Smithies who is the LEAP Project Manager at Macquarie University, Constable Shannon Thompson and Maryann Murphy (Auburn Youth centre) who made this day a success. Sharon has since visited Auburn Girls on a regular basis to follow up on student progress, supporting them in developing an effective study plan and advising students on how to prepare for the upcoming assessments and exams.

This term also saw some of our wonderful Year 8 students deliver a presentation to some of our local public schools. Auburn North, Auburn Public, Auburn West, Blaxcell Street, Granville, and Granville East Public schools. These students showed great leadership, highlighted AGHS strengths and clearly discussed why Year 6 students should enrol at our high school. I would like to congratulate the following students for a job well done: Tatiana Omar, Nadine Charaf, Rana Hassan, Faulata Ketu, Nargis Abdul Rahman, Fatima Obeid, Dilek Caybas, Jana Achrafi, Sana Hamdan, Amara Awan, Saja Ibrahim, Hira Ali, Mahassen Bey, Farah Rifai and Sabaah Sharief.
As a result of these Public School visits 101 students from our local schools sat for the Enrichment Class Selection Exam on 9 March. Good luck to all these students, their parents will be notified as soon as the results of the exam are made available. Parents will be informed whether their daughters were successful in being offered a placement in our Enrichment class 2013.

The Auburn Girls High School Open Day took place on 27 February. Over 200, Year 6 students from a range of primary schools attended this day and participated in a range of exciting activities from cooking classes, science experiments, drama, dance to geography and history. It was a successful day, the Year 6 girls had lots of fun and their evaluations revealed that they are looking forward to coming to AGHS in 2013.

On Tuesday 13 March, forty of our Year 10 and Year 11 students visited Macquarie University to celebrate the achievement of women in science. Our students had the opportunity to listen to some successful women who have chosen science as their career path. Our students were inspired and most of them hope to further their education in the field of science.
Finally an update on one of our new initiatives this year. A number of faculties are fortunate to participate in Professional Learning one day a fortnight. The faculties involved this year are the English, History, Visual Arts and Music, Social Science, ESL and STLA staff. Topics so far have covered Feedback, Grammar and Curriculum Differentiation. In the last two weeks of this term, staff involved will be visiting a range of schools such as Sefton HS, Hornsby GHS, Parramatta HS, Newtown School of Performing Arts, Fort Street HS to name a few. The purpose of these visits is to share teaching and learning ideas with our colleagues from other schools. This initiative will continue for the rest of the year and include the rest of the staff next year.

I wish everyone a safe and happy holiday.

Ms. S. Bilali

Some of our staff working in The Cottage during their professional development.
I would like to devote this Term One report to P.B.I.S, Positive Behavioural Interventions and Supports.

At the community meeting on the 21st of March I spoke to parents about The School Code at Auburn Girls High School. Our School Code is an example of the Positive Behaviours that we, students staff and parents, expect at school every day. When we refer to ‘P.B.I.S’ I like to think it stands for two other words as well, Positive Behaviour in school: At Auburn Girls High School the expectation is that every student will be a Safe, Respectful, Responsible Learner. A student should always act safely, respect others, respect herself and respect property. A student should take responsibility for her actions and words. These values create an environment where the learner is at the centre and improved learning is the focus.

On Thursday the 22nd of March the entire school celebrated Positive Behaviour at a special ‘event’ assembly. The school welcomed the following special guests: Mr. Phillip Whitefield, co-ordinator of PBIS in the South Western Sydney Region; Mr. Mark Marciniak, Deputy Principal of Granville Boys High School and Mr Don Hone, Community Liaison Officer, Granville Boys High School.

This special event contained the following highlights:

- A performance of martial arts by Sirin Ada and Sehle Dinc.
- A spectacular traditional Maori and Pacific Islander Performance by Granville Boys High School.
- A solo rendition of ‘Stand Up For Love’ by Selote Finau.
- Speeches on The School Code by Fatima Nabeel, Farzaneh Bayani, Abit Akuen and Razwana Hussein.
- An SRC presentation to the school of the new decorative and environmentally friendly bins for the playground. (see photo) on this page.
- The presentation of an individual “Ipod touch” to three students Sarah Salhab (Yr 7), Nadine Charaf (Yr 8) and Nimo Aden (Yr 9) for winning the draw in the PSP Survey Competition.

I would like to thank the following staff for their contributions to this event; Ms Shiel, Ms Jamal, Ms Phillips, Ms Ho, Ms Conder and Ms Jackman.

I would like to wish all families in our school community a safe and enjoyable vacation.

Mr Fisher
Year 10 Students at the Mathematics day above and to the left.

Year 8 students below, taking part in the HSIE Challenge
Deputy Principal, Years 7 & 12

Last week I had the privilege of witnessing the formal induction of fifteen of our Year 9 students into the Fast Forward program. The program runs over four years and links our students very closely to the University of Western Sydney. The university offers ongoing mentoring and provides study skills sessions. Students visit a university campus and university mentors visit the school to work with our girls on areas such as leadership and communication skills. Ms Fidanboy and I felt very proud to see our Year 9 students as they were presented with their dictionaries at a special award ceremony on Thursday 22nd March. Equally proud were all our families who shared the evening event with their daughters and several hundred other students and families.

Our Year 10 and 11 students this year will also participate in a number of events and mentoring sessions. Our Year 12 group have been invited to attend a special conference at Penrith early next term. At this conference they will participate in a number of workshops aimed at developing leadership, building on their confidence and improving their exam skills. This university is a strong supporter of our school. They offer scholarships to our highest achieving HSC students and during the holidays are running free HSC tutorial classes for all HSC students in Western Sydney.

Our Year 7 students have settled in well. They are working in teams and learning new co-operative skills. In their teams they take turns to be leaders. Their teachers are pleased with their progress. Teachers are currently nominating students for awards for their first Year Assembly. Year 7 students organise and manage the assembly. The girls are very lucky to have Ms Safarik as their Year Adviser. Together with our CLOs she organised our Year 7 ‘Meet and Greet’ evening for staff and parents.

Year 12 now have only two terms to go before they sit for their HSC. At this stage they should be studying and revising regularly. They should be cutting down on part time work and focusing on schoolwork. We expect our students to do the best they can.

Our CLOs (Community Liaison Officers) are also busy organising events to support our parents. About 50 parents attended a NAPLAN information session earlier this term. Ms Amr ran the session and I would like to thank her for her ongoing support for our school. Our CLOs have also organised two Community meetings this term. This was a wonderful opportunity for Year 7 parents to meet their daughters’ teachers. Next term our CLOs will be running sessions for Year 10 parents to learn about subject choices for the HSC. We will also be offering free fitness sessions for parents in our new fitness centre.

We are very fortunate to have four fantastic CLOs. Fatma Yucel works closely with our Turkish families. Zeinab Musseme is an ex-student of AGHS and is working with our Arabic families. Suha Abbas is running our attendance program and is in daily communication with our families. Wahida Bahram is our Afghani background CLO. We would love to see you at our next Community meeting. A letter comes home every month to invite parents to these meetings.

Ms Fuller

Year 7 Students from 7K on the Geography excursion
On Friday the 16th of March, two students from Auburn Girls’ High School, Farzaneh Bayani and Htet Lwin, attended the NSW Regional SRC conference held at Fairfield RSL. The conference’s main focus was on anti-bullying where a wide range of schools in the South Western region participated in fun activities and were engaged by motivational speakers, which were the ‘Free Spirit Girl’ run by Katie Pissa and ‘Rising Generations’.

The activities run by the Rising Generations portrayed the message that ‘a touch can make a big difference’. This activity allowed the students to put things into perspective, and consider that an individual will influence everyone around them and are also capable of lending a helping hand. Our students learnt a number of strategies to deal with bullying, in particular, Farzaneh (above) suggested “changing the subject when people are bullying or are being bullied”, whereas Htet (left) believed in “educating not only the school but the community as well about the issues of bullying”.

By Htet Lwin and Farzaneh Bayani.
The SRC organised an incredible week based around International Women’s Day 8 March 2012. The theme this year for International Women’s Day is a celebration of economic, social including sporting and political achievements of women. At the bottom of the page is the timeline of the weeks events.

Auburn Girls High had a week of celebrating - Monday started with Assembly and Special guest Mahboba Rawi (below). Unfortunately due to the rain, only a handful of students had the pleasure of hearing her amazing story.

Year 8 students (above) supporting Mahboba’s Promise with hope donation boxes

Mahboba (with Ms Jamal right), a refugee from Afghanistan and now an Australian Citizen founded Mahboba’s Promise, a non profit organisation dedicated to the women and children of Afghanistan. The funds are used to work with widows and children to improve education, offer vocational training and establish them as self sufficient. The organization has started schools for girls in areas where they had no educational opportunities. Primary health care in rural areas and provision of clean drinking water are among the many other projects undertaken over the last few years.

Auburn Girls too has now become a sponsor of the organization. Please continue to support Mahboba Promise. The year 8 students present at the assembly have raised $350 to support the organization.
The SRC’s next goal was to activate our students! Ms Jamal followed this up with a massive Zumba class on Wednesday in the school hall. Over 200 girls attended the class eager to dance and get active in support of International Women’s day.

Our big day was on Thursday starting with a little breakfast for 50! Right & Below—our amazing team!
Our Speakers from Football United Solenne Birouste and Assmaah Helal Introduced by Iqra Ahmed
Auburn Girls High School visits Asquith Girls International Woman’s Day Breakfast.

This event involved another early start at Asquith Girls High for their International Day Breakfast. The breakfast at Asquith is a major fundraiser for Mahboba’s Promise. There are plans for leadership and cultural links between the two AGHS.
This was where your elected members work together to plan ideas for the coming year and develop their leadership skills. It is from this meeting that the concept of the flashmob was raised and the zumba.

Iqra’s inspirational talk

Everyone presented ideas
Football United

The elective sports classes in Years 9, 11 and 12 took part in United Football and were filmed by SBS. The classes worked with a teacher and a mentor from Football United in teams. The program involved workshops on self image and why girls are reluctant to play sport and finally playing sports. There were a number of mentors including Sahara Shaddad, a former AHGS girls and our thanks to the wonderful PD/H/PE staff. Sehla Dinc, Sports Vice Captain’s interview was featured on SBS.
Valentines Day Celebrations

The SRC sold roses and painted nails in the Library to help fundraise for the Year 12 students and the SRC. The Library was decorated by the SRC and Ms Carmyn our librarian to further promote the event.
The School Captain Iqra Ahmed and Prefect Zeinab Almousavi were invited to Granville Boys High School to speak about “International Women’s Day”. We were warmly welcomed by the Principal Linda O’Brien and the School Captain Ali Amood and Vice Captain Mohammed Zaoud. Iqra gave a moving speech about women, respect, goals, and equality. The whole school listened intently. Iqra was given a wonderful round of applause at the end of her speech. It is wonderful to have such a great relationship with our brother school!
Are You Eligible Too?!

Every year The Department of Family and Community Housing NSW offer scholarships to help students with their studies. They are worth $2000 per year.

If you live in public, social or community housing you may be eligible. Usually the scholarships are open mid year and will be announced on Assembly. Congratulations girls. Only 90 were issued across the state and 7 girls at Auburn were awarded them.

Many thanks to our Yr 12 Hospitality Class. So many of our programs are successful due to their culinary and front of house service. Late last year they served the Peer Support Trainee leaders. Welcomed the Year 7 to school on Day 2, International Woman’s Day Breakfast and served morning tea after the PBIS celebration. Well done the future caterers of Auburn.
It was **Friday 24th February**, 2012 at the Ruth Everuss Aquatic Centre. Auburn Girls swarmed to the pool in their biggest numbers yet. The atmosphere was electric, with the girls dressing up in their House colours, supporting their house with cheers and yelling words of encouragement.

The day started off with the big events, such as the 100m Freestyle. Then the 50m events of freestyle and backstroke were held. Sharmaine Zreika was again a standout, with Gloria Maka also impressing the crowd. Alana Sowaid in the under 12 Years at her first Auburn Girls Swimming carnival swam an excellent 50m freestyle.

The day was very colourful with our Year 12 students having a uniform theme for the day. They dressed up in all types of uniforms, police, nurses and Miss Purkiss who needs to be thanked for her effort in organising the Year 12’s, dressed as a young school girl. The Year 12’s, at their very last Auburn Swimming Carnival, also had their own special race, a floatation device race. So on every form of floatie you can think of they took off. We saw boats, whales and dolphins. It was a sight to behold.

The cheer competition lead by our excellent sport captains was magnificent. Although I am biased in cheering for Melba (who should have won), it was Cavell who were victors, with cheering that could have brought the roof down (that’s if we were indoors).

Now, the event that everyone holds their breath for each year, some hold it in anticipation, others fear it, the annual teacher race. The PE faculty have a lot to live up to, as they have never been defeated. Giving the field a 25m head start Miss Fitz took off doing Backstroke, followed by Miss Brewster in Breaststroke, Miss Bendeich in Butterfly and Miss Reynolds anchored the race doing Freestyle. Now it should be noted that the rest of the teacher relays only had to do Freestyle. The race was very close, the PE faculty became a little nervous especially as Mr Bailey decided that he could run faster than swim so hopped out of the pool and ran a little. Though never fear PE were triumphant again.

Another great year was had at Auburn Girls Swimming Carnival. I encourage more students to participate and learn to swim. It’s a skill that could one day save your life or the life of a close family member. Maybe we will see you in the pool next year.

Thanks to the PE staff and all the staff who helped in the running of the carnival.  
*K. Fitzsimmons*
2012 Swimming Carnival
Year 12 at the Swimming Carnival

Staff
Ms Fidanboy Year 9 Adviser with many of her Year 9 students at the Swimming Carnival
Technology Report

On Wednesday, 14th March 2012, Year 9 students received their DER laptops. Silver in colour, with a soft shell cover, the laptops are equipped with the new Windows system and numerous software; making them the newest learning tool for these students.

By Thursday, many of the students have begun using their laptops in classes. Utilising the internet and different software to aid their learning, students are engaged and excited about the learning taking place in the classroom.

In addition to the new rollout of laptops, Auburn Girls will also be installing an additional nine Interactive Whiteboard in the school. This would mean that every classroom in the school will be equipped with an Interactive Whiteboard, giving all our students access to the latest technology at all times.

Ms Lam
Acting Head Teacher Administration

Year 9 with their laptops below.
Parent Information

Getting off to a good start
Wondering how to help your kids do well at home and at school this year? The department’s parent resource School A to Z has a webcast full of expert tips for you to help your children have a more successful year.

The ‘Getting off to a great start webcast’ has a number of chapters on how to motivate children for learning, advice on peer relationships and how to handle bullying, communicating with children and the importance of strong home-school relationships.

The expert panel features advice from a child psychologist, an experienced family doctor and the department’s deputy director-general (schools) Greg Prior.


National Year of Reading 2012
Welcome to a new school year. This is the national year of reading and to celebrate, there is a host of literary-related events and competitions happening right around Australia. For an events calendar and more information go to: www.love2read.org.au.

Why not make a late New Year resolution to read more yourself? And if you have younger children and don’t already read regularly to them, set aside some quality time to help instil a love of books and reading.

Fair work checks
Many teenagers undertake casual work. A helpful guide to how much they should be getting paid and the minimum conditions can be found at: www.fairwork.gov.au/Pages/default.aspx

If you have any queries there is a helpline at 13 13 94. You can also lodge an online workplace complaint if you feel your child has been unfairly treated.

Homework and study tips
Homework helps distil and expand on concepts learned in the classroom. Relaxing, getting organised and using good time management are all ways to help make homework less of a stress for the whole family.

For a host of great tips that will have your teen blitzing their homework, see the School A to Z homework tips under the homework and study link:


Road safety
It’s important to remind children, especially younger ones, of the need to be vigilant when out and about. Talk to your child about road safety and model good behaviour yourself.

For lots of good safety reminders, Kidsafe NSW has an informative website with a number of free brochures and fact sheets on maintaining a safe environment for your child and teaching them about staying safe.

They are also available in several community languages. www.kidsafensw.org

Earth Hour 2012
Add a bit of ambiance to your evening and help reduce carbon emissions for just one hour when you become part of the worldwide environmental event that is Earth Hour. This year it takes place on Saturday 31 March from 8.30-9.30pm.

More info: www.earthhour.org

Daylight saving ending
Remember to put your clocks back an hour when daylight saving ends in NSW at 3am Sunday 1 April.
Wimswim - 2012
KEEN ON LEARNING HOW TO SWIM, WANT A FEMALE ONLY ENVIRONMENT?

Then take this opportunity to develop your water safety skills with the help of our trained and qualified swimming instructors at Ruth Everuss Aquatic Centre.

Be part of a long running program that has catered for over 200 ladies.
Enrolments now open for Term 2 2012.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates &amp; Activities</th>
<th>Term 2 2012</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Learn to swim : Every Wednesday Night</td>
<td>10 Weeks starting the 25th April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreational Swimming : Every Sunday</td>
<td>10 Weeks Starting the 29th April</td>
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### Program Schedule

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learn To Swim</th>
<th>Leisure Swimming</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Time</strong></td>
<td>Teacher and time may change each week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday Nights 7.00 to 9.30pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ages</strong></td>
<td>3 yrs &amp; over</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 yrs &amp; over</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Duration</strong></td>
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### Price List

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Pay by Week</th>
<th>Pay by Term</th>
<th>Leisure Only Swimming</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$12.00</td>
<td>$90.00</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>(9 weeks)</td>
<td></td>
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*Limited spaces available for learn to swim lessons.
*Group bookings available
*All levels offered (Beginners to Advanced)
*Female only staff include lifeguards and instructors
*Heated and enclosed 25m pool
* Enrolments close early March

To book your place, or for more information, please call (02) 9649 9125, or alternatively drop in and fill out an enrolment form.

Ruth Everuss Aquatic Centre – Church St, LIDCOMBE

Please Note: This is a privately conducted Womens Health Initiative
“Farewell Ms Christensen”

At the end of the year partying, students and staff said farewell to Hanne Christensen who accepted a transfer to the support unit at Mt Druitt High School, much closer to her home. Ms Christensen worked as an SLSO (School Learning Support Officer) for a number of years. She worked in the Unit and extensively in the mainstream. She will be remembered for all the work she did with the students, especially supporting them with assignments during many a recess and lunch.

We all wished her the best of luck for her new school. Her current replacement is Ms Singh.

Excitement in Science

Ms Sin spends many hours surfing the Net to find exciting experiments and activities for her Science classes. It is not easy when a laboratory is not available, except once a week for Yr7US on Tuesday afternoon, when the other year groups are doing Sport.

One experiment carried out ended up with “an explosion of colours”, as Ms Sin explained what happened with milk and detergent.

JobSupport

JobSupport is an agency that helps eligible past students find meaningful paid employment. Sometimes it might take hundreds of phone calls to companies and other establishments to place our past students, and indeed students from other schools. Today we bring you Amne Assoum’s summary of her job with a law firm in the City. A trainer employed by JobSupport analyses the various tasks into small steps, to guarantee Amne’s success and to ensure eventual permanent employment. Amne is now earning a living in the City, something that has amazed everyone, especially her own family.

Ms Calleja, Head Teacher
Who’s Working Where

Amne Assoum, Office Service Clerk, Tresscox Lawyers, Sydney

My name is Amne Assoum. I work at Tresscox Lawyers in the City. I catch a train every morning to get to work.

There are many tasks that I do: Sending Faxes, Photocopying, Postage Entry, Franking mail, Laminating, Sorting and delivering mail. My favourite tasks are all of them.

My supervisor’s name is Margaret, she helps me answering questions. When I have my lunch I can enjoy the beautiful view of the City from the 20th floor. I have been working for a few weeks and everyone is being nice to me.

I miss my work experience at St Leonards.

Baker’s Delight—Auburn Central

Shop Q15, Queen St Auburn NSW 2144
Phone: 9643 8440

Mention Auburn Girls High and receive a 10% discount of purchases—for staff, students and parents of AGHS.

Every day, Baker’s Delight provides free bread to our Breakfast Club, and we are very thankful for the support.

ANSWERS to the Science Trivia

1. B. Zoologist
2. C. Volcanoes
3. C. Entomologist
4. A. Germany
5. A. Oceanographer
6. C. Dinosaurs
7. B. Mountain Gorillas
8. C. Reptiles
9. C. Moths and butterflies
10. A. Physicist
11. B. Astronomy
12. A. Geologist
13. C. Seismology
14. B. Printing Press
15. B. W. H. Carrier
16. C. Crayola Crayons
17. B. 1946 It was called ENIAC and weighed 30 tons.
18. A. Telephone
19. B. Sir Alexander Fleming
20. C. Telegraph

1. B. Sir James Clerk Maxwell
2. A. Richard Frink
3. C. Oceanographer
4. A. Germany
5. A. Crayola Crayons
6. C. Crayola Crayons
7. B. Mountain Gorillas
8. C. Reptiles
9. C. Moths and butterflies
10. A. Physicist
11. B. Astronomy
12. A. Geologist
13. C. Seismology
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15. B. W. H. Carrier
16. C. Crayola Crayons
17. B. 1946 It was called ENIAC and weighed 30 tons.
18. A. Telephone
19. B. Sir Alexander Fleming
20. C. Telegraph
It has been an extremely busy start for 2012. Ms Rebecca Clapham has been appointed as the Head Teacher Student Engagement and Mr Zarkovic has been appointed as the year 8 Academic Coach. We also welcome the Ms Terryanne Fletcher who will teach junior geography and Ms Uyen Pham who will teach Information Software and Technology to the Social Science team. This year we will offer Studies of Religion and Information Processes and Technology, expanding the opportunities students at Auburn Girls high School to pursue a wide range of curriculum and achieve their personal best.

In Term 1 Year 7 Geography participated in a Temperate Rainforest field trip to the Blue Mountains. Students investigated how the Blue Mountains was formed and the different processes interacting to create unique ecosystems. Students rode the scenic railway, scenic cableway and undertook a 3 kilometer bush walk to see the majestic Three Sisters.

Term 1 saw the first HSIE Challenge at Auburn Girls High School. Year 8 students were selected to represent Auburn High School and compete with other schools. The competition involved trivia questions, orienteering, problem solving skills and group work. Congratulations to Blacktown Boys High School who won first and third place. Granville Boys High School won second place. Congratulations to all the girls who participated and represented Auburn Girls High School in what was a very competitive and challenging inter-school competition. Year 10W who was involved in running the event as part of enhancing their leadership skills is also to be congratulated for the outstanding leadership and support of year 8 students.

The Social Science Faculty has been involved in Professional Development once a fortnight. This program is to identify key issues and develop strategies to enhance teaching and learning in the classroom. Themes including Gifted and Talented, literacy, Geography Fieldwork and Feedback has been explored. Alongside the Social Science Faculty Plan which focus on holistic education, the Social Science Faculty is working hard to improve teaching and learning and student outcomes.

Mr K. Pico
Head Teacher Social Science
Year 7 on their excursion above.

To the left, Year 8 taking part in the HSIE challenge against other schools.
The Maths Faculty

It has been a wonderful start to 2012 at Auburn Girls. I would like to officially welcome two new members to the Mathematics Faculty, Ms A. Jaja (below) and Ms E. El-Bortol (bottom photo, with a student from her 7E class) and I am confident both teachers will be warmly received by all at Auburn Girls High.

Year 9 and the Mathematics staff experienced a very educational day at IMAX during Open Day. The students thoroughly enjoyed the two documentaries and for many students it was their first experience at IMAX.

All of Year 9 can be congratulated for their exemplary behaviour on this excursion. During Open Day, Ms Garvey and Ms Phan were privileged to meet some of our prospective students from our local schools. The students were given a taste of some of the practical activities associated with Mathematics. They both assured me it was a very productive and rewarding day.

Every student in Year 9 has by now received their laptop. In Mathematics, all teachers are spending some quality class time enabling students to use their laptops in doing a component of the topic being taught. For example, spreadsheets and graphics (GeoGebra). Also, it is a privilege to announce that all Year 7 – Year 10 Year students will have access to Mathletics.

This program was successfully used last year by our Year 9 students. It is a very valuable tool for completing homework tasks, revision and even for competing with other students, locally and internationally. Access to Mathletics can be made at school and at home.

Also this term, the Mathematics faculty has continued to provide students with a problem of the week (POW). At each assembly a winner is announced and a prize is given. This has been a very successful initiative, thus, we have decided to continue POW in 2012. Many thanks to Ms Vij and Ms El-Bortol for their organisation of POW.

Next term students in Years 7 and 9 will be sitting for NAPLAN. At present past papers and NAPLAN style questions are being reinforced in every Mathematics classroom in Years 7 & 9. More information regarding NAPLAN will be provided early next term.

Finally, during Term 1 Ms Fidanboy was required to relieve me as Head Teacher, Mathematics. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate and thank Ms Fidanboy for the outstanding and very professional job she did in running the Mathematics faculty.

My staff and I wish all a very peaceful and safe break. If you have any problems concerning your daughter’s progress, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Ms J. Dalamagas
Head Teacher, Mathematics
7EM with Ms El-Bortol, above and left.

9WM below, enjoying Mathletics and their new laptops.
Gifted and Talented Mathematics Day

The Year 10 Gifted and Talented Mathematics Days were held at two venues in 2012, involving over 200 students from 21 schools. The venues were Cumberland High School and Doonside Technology High School on Monday 20 February and Tuesday 21 February. Congratulations to Cumberland HS and Macquarie Fields HS for winning on their respective days and to Auburn Girls High School for the way they engaged themselves in the array of learning activities and gave a pleasing performance. The day was a fun and educational experience for students. **Ms Fidanboy**

10WM Maths Excursion

It was the day of the excursion, a very fine Monday morning, 10WM were told to meet before 8 o’clock in the morning.

It was past the arranged time and yet some students had not arrived at Auburn Station. When all the students were present we had missed our scheduled train. We caught two trains to get to Carlingford, firstly a train from Auburn to Granville where we had to change trains and wait a very long time (25 minutes). We didn’t let the long wait discourage and bore us instead we made use of our time by telling jokes to lighten up the mood and discussing Math related topics with Mrs Fidanboy, and that is so that we could refresh our minds and be prepared for more Math that was to come throughout our day.

Mrs Fidanboy made us all sprint from Carlingford Station to Cumberland High School as we were half an hour late.

We were escorted to the hall where one other school had not arrived and the rest of the schools were present and they had already begun the first Math activities. We worked in teams of 6 students to compete against other schools. We were all faced with challenging questions, points were given for correct answers. We could only see and work on one question at a time. The challenge was to get through as many questions as we could in the time... We immediately regained our confidence because we realised that this was our time to prove to everyone that Auburn Girls High School can withstand any challenge it faces!

The first challenge was problem solving, the questions were very difficult; however we managed to pass the challenge successfully. The second challenge after Recess was to determine whether the answer to different math questions was higher or lower than the answer that was provided. Of course, most of Auburn Girls High School students were part of the winners.

The third challenge was 3 different outdoor practical activities. Our group began with the tree challenge in which we were required to use trigonometry to find the height of the tree. We then rotated to the next activity which involved making paper aeroplanes and investigating which one would fly the furthest. The final activity involved measuring the capacity of a water tank. After successfully completing all our given tasks and submitting our answers to the host of the competition, we took a long break for lunch.

Soon after our break we returned to the main hall where we received our ranking and results for the day. By the end of the day we went back to our homes happily, because we were proud by the fact that we, the students of Auburn Girls High School had successfully accomplished the challenges we were given with astonishing results despite the fact that we arrived late.

**By Jinane Jomaa and Fatima Nabeel**
This term our Year 12 Standard English students went off to see a performance of the play, *Shoe-Horn Sonata* that they have been studying in class. 54 students went by bus to Kensington and saw an excellent performance of the play. Afterwards (*see below and right*), our students were able to meet the cast and have their photos taken with them and talk to them about the play.

Ms Vega has started up a Debating Club which meets on Thursdays at Lunch and it is exciting to see enthusiastic students attend this club. Our thanks to Ms Vega for running the club.

Student in Years 7 to 10 have been completing speeches in class. Next term we will have the English Speaking Competitions for each of these years and these are always exciting events.

On the next page is a new English Quiz—I hope you will have a go and on the following three pages are two great short stories from Year 7 students. I hope you enjoy their stories!

Have a safe holiday.

*Ms C Richardson*
Welcome to the first English Quiz in the newsletter. The first person to see Ms Richardson at the English Staffroom with every answer correct will win a $10 Canteen Voucher. Good luck girls!!

1. What is the room number of the English/History Staffroom?
2. What test will Years 7 and 9 be doing from the 15 to 17 May, 2012?
3. Who runs the Debating Club on Thursdays from the English/History Faculty?
4. Who teaches Drama in Years 9 and 10 from the English/History Faculty?
5. Who teaches Year 12 Ancient History from the English/History Faculty?
6. What is a noun?
7. What is an adjective?
8. What is the plural of fish?
9. Is this true or false? ‘The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog’ contains all the letters in the alphabet?
10. What is the purpose of an exposition?
11. What does ‘modality’ mean?
12. What are conjunctions?
13. In the book ‘Possum Magic’ by Mem Fox, what happened to the character of Hush?
14. Full stops, commas, question marks and exclamation marks are all examples of what?
15. What are the two adjectives in the following sentence? *Fatma walked quickly over to the new red bin and placed her rubbish in it.*
16. What sort of noun is the name ‘Hunter Street’?
17. What is a simile?
18. Which letter is silent in ‘debt’?
19. What is the past tense of the word ‘will’?
20. Who wrote the novel often studied in class: *Bridge to Terabithia*?
ONE LOVE

I sighed and glanced out the window. It was another suffocatingly hot day in Monty. My math teacher, Miss Scarlet, was saying something about the physics of math, but I don't think anyone was really listening. I put my hand up to push my wet, sweaty hair off my face. I picked up the bottle, and took a long gulp from the cool refrigerated water. It slid down my throat, replacing the dryness in my mouth, with a clear fresh taste. “Excuse me, Miss Scarlet?” came a high, perky voice from the front of the room. It was Zeynep Violet, captain of the cheerleading squad, and the most popular girl in the ninth grade. I also hated her because she was a stuck up snob and teachers’ pet. Miss Scarlet gave her a sugar sweet smile, and went over to help her. I almost gagged. I was day dreaming about how life would be like without Zeynep, when the home bell rang, cutting through my thoughts. I almost slipped while trying to get out the door. “Ooff!” My books slid out of my hands, and thudded to the ground. I looked up to see a boy, about a year older than me, with dark blonde hair that hung into his emerald, green eyes. “Sorry,” he apologised as he bent down to gather the scattered books.

“Toneokay,” I replied, “I should have been looking up, instead of down.” To my relief he cracked a smile. I squatted down next to him and helped him gather his scattered books. He looked at me and I stared into his eyes. We stayed like that for an eternal second until; finally, he stood up and cleared his throat. I followed his example and held out my hand. He shook it. “I’m Jessica Riley,” I announced.

“Hi Jessica, I’m Tom Pillar.”

Just then, Zeynep Violet came strutting up to us, her heels clicking on the wooden floorboards. She smirked at me, and then turned to Tom. “Hi Tom, do you want to come sit with us?” she said, signalling to the cafeteria.

Tom shot a quick glance my way, then he said, “I guess.” I stood there, my mouth opening and shutting as they entered the cafeteria. I tried not to be angry, besides I hardly knew him, what irritated me though was that Zeynep had to come and swoop him away.

When I walked into school the next day, Tom had his arm slung around Zeynep’s shoulders. My heart sank, even though deep down I knew that nothing would have happened between me and Tom anyway. Zeynep and Tom were an item! Tom bent down and whispered something into Zeynep’s ear. My stomach tied itself into a knot, as I skulked into school, snapping at anyone who dared come close.

As the days passed, news got around that Zeynep and Tom were together. I was in the changing rooms, getting ready for sport, and Zeynep was going on about how romantic and sexy Tom was. She was standing in front of the mirrors applying another coat of mascara onto her thick dark lashes. She looked striking, as always, with her waist-length brown hair and her stunning tanned body. She was chatting with her two Zeynep wannabes, Alison and Olivia. “And then he kissed me.” Her words cut through me, like a razor sharp knife. I stalked out of the change rooms, the sickening thought of Zeynep and Tom kissing, snaking through my head.

After school, I walked down to the corner shop, to buy mum a bottle of milk. The jangle of bells sounded, when I entered the store. I walked down to the freezer aisle and grabbed a bottle of milk. After I paid for it, I headed back outside. As I walked past the pizza place, I noticed someone familiar. It was Tom. And he was with a girl. I thought it might be Zeynep, but when I looked closer, I found it wasn’t. Tom’s head was bent close to the girls face, as if he was about to kiss her, and his arm was wrapped around her waist. It took me a minute to figure out
toward the register. I stopped. In the corner of the library there was a girl. She had her head on the table and her shoulders shook as she sobbed. “Are you all right?” I asked the girl. She looked up. I recognized her, and then I realised behind all that streaked mascara was Zeynep Violet.

“Jessica?”

“Why are you crying, Zeynep?”

“I should have listened to you, Jessica,” she sniffed “he-Tom-said I wasn’t good enough…,” her voice quavered, and she started crying again. I bent over and wrapped her in a hug. I didn’t hate her. She hugged me back. “Don’t worry about that jerk,” I said, “everything is going to be okay.”

She grinned at me, shakily, and then announced, “You know what, Jessica Riley, you’re a really good friend.”

Rachel Elsharkawy 7WE

The Baby Whisperer

The baby couldn’t sleep. Everything around her was sending out a creak. A lullaby came on. A rough voice. The baby started to cry, at the top of her lungs gasping for air as she was crying. She only saw a shadow and. . .

BOOM! The newspaper hit the porch of my old fragile home. Father read out the headline. ‘Anonymous baby killer strikes again’. Father was looking upset. “They never get over these stories,” dad grumbled. “Baby died big whoop! Babies these days die instantly; too bad I had to be stuck with you.”

As soon as Dad mentioned the baby killer I suddenly had an uncomfortable vision, almost felt like it was actually a scene in my life. In the vision I saw a shadow… not a clear one, but it reminded me of my Dad.

I went to wash my face to help remove the disturbing image. I scrubbed my face furiously to wash away the image. As a got up I felt a slight breeze pass me as I looked in the mirror. Out of nowhere the lights started to flash then burnt off. “Damn it! Harry did you use the forbidden lamp again?” Dad screeched.

“No Dad… I’ll go fix it right away” I replied with strain. I hated the way father ordered me around. “You better” dad grunted. I went outside to turn the safety switch back on so we could get the electricity back.

As I opened the electricity box and found pictures of random babies and some birth certificates. There also was some sort of jumpsuit. It was covered in blood as I tossed it out of the way.

Right as I was tossing it away I had another uncomfortable flash back but this time it was different, it was clearer and… it came with a sound this time, as a sort of lullaby? What? It’s all coming back, the memories it’s all coming back the explanations for all those uncomfortable visions.

“Harry? Harry!” a voice squealed. I snapped right out of it. It was my friend John. “Are you okay?” John murmured worriedly.

“I’m fine, I just confused and-” I started to say.

“Yeah whatever, let’s go to Mark’s house you know the one with the little sister that survived the baby attack” John started to explain like I didn’t know who he was talking about.

“Okay let’s go already!” I repeated a couple of times." We don’t want him to be waiting. He made a face that made me want to punch him. Literally.
We got to his house quicker than I thought. “Hey guys!” Mark shouted.
“Hey” John repeated.
Right as I was about to greet him his little sister walked out. On half of her face there was a hideous scar in between her eye and nose. Molly, the only one who survived the baby whisperer. She stared at me unevenly. She wouldn’t speak as she was too scared to ever speak a word again. The boys went inside. I stayed back. Molly walked over to me. I had another agonizing flashback. Somebody walking up to me a shadow and a baby’s scream… she stared at me with eyes that that has been through torture.

“Who did this to you?” I winced, “which sick person put you through this torture?” I questioned her. She looked at me like I showed her, her worst nightmare. Why was she put through this? Why don’t they get the police involved in this? As I was deep in my thoughts the boys’ screaming scared the heck out of me. They were probably playing another one of those video games.

“Baby wispawa” Molly told me. She looked at me like I was putting her through hell. I probably was.

“You spoke!” I gasped. “Uhm OK, who was the baby whisperer do you remember?” I tried to speak as simple as possible.
“Rick” she managed to force out.
My eyes grew into deep signs of hatred, betrayal and denial. I knew who the baby whisperer was...

Kubra Atatug

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**Just Like Heaven**

You’re just like heaven
You are an angel above that guards me
Your love is so colourful, like a rainbow filled with colours and shade
You light up my life like a shining star up in the sky
Your smile is so beautiful, it’s like a sunset burning with romance
Your voice is like a rhythm .. So calm and oh so peaceful
Your eyes glow just like the bright moon shining in the night sky
Your love is like a newer ending story.

*By Muhlise & Kawthar*

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**Don’t Love Me Poem**

Why do I still care?
Why do I still love you?
Why is it so hard for me to find someone so rare?

I hate the way you smile
I hate how you play with my hair
I hate how you stare with your big blue, gloomy eyes
But mostly I hate how I love you without care

I wrote this to show you how I care
I wrote this to show you how I feel
I wrote this to show you I’m thinking of you
But I really wrote this to show you
I still love you, But why don’t you love me?

Let’s run away to a far far away desert
Let’s go and never find our way back
Let’s go now, forever we stay young
I miss you, I love you but why is it that you don’t feel the same way?

*By Sara Aljubouri*
Science has had a busy start to the year including welcoming some new members of staff. Ms Prashar is a new teacher who has joined the Science team and we are pleased to welcome back Ms. Charif.

Junior Science has made a productive start to the term. Year 7 have been learning what Science is all about and how to be safe in the laboratory. At the moment they are working on their second topic which is all about separating different components out of a “polluted” river sample. Photos depicting the different methods of filtration that the girls conducted are shown below.
Year 8 has finished their first topic on “Body Systems”. They did some different practicals demonstrating what happens to digested food as shown in the photos. This topic also included their first assessment task where they had to make an information pamphlet that could be displayed in a doctor’s surgery or pharmacist. This task produced some excellent results which are shown below. They also had to present a talk show program where they had a doctor/expert, one or two patients and a famous presenter on a special panel discussing the disease they researched.

Some of the pamphlets produced by Year 8.
Year 9 has started their “Disasters” topic where they will be learning about earthquakes and other natural disasters. As part of this they are also reading newspaper articles related to the recent floods in New South Wales. Year 10 are concentrating on their big research assignment as well as working on the “Universe” topic where they learn about the life cycle of stars.

Year 9 should also have received their ESSA results from last year which were handed out to students in weeks 7 and 8 in envelopes that they took home to their parents. Congratulations to Deniz Hatipoglu, Atiya Oomatia, Mariam Reza, Saja Saadeddine and Sahar Sarem who all received Science scores over 90 in this assessment.

Year 11 and 12 senior classes are also making an excellent start to the year and we wish all year 12 the best for their half yearly exams.

Science has made a productive start to 2012 and we hope it will continue for the rest of the year!

Ms Scariot
Acting Head Teacher, Science

Year 11 Chemistry students making models of the different types of chemical bonding.

Year 12 doing precipitation reactions and having fun with flame tests.
As part of careers lessons at Auburn Girls High School we are privileged to have the University of New South Wales involved with the students through their program called “Aspire”. This is where University Ambassadors (usually students) come out and talk to classes about University, study and subject choices for Career decisions. Following is what a student had to say about the day.

Today at school I had a lesson called ASPIRE. I wasn’t looking forward to it. The reason why is I thought it was going to be boring, but when my teacher told me “Give it a try and try new things”, I was like “OK no problem”.

So I sat with a group. There was a lady who said she was an Ambassador; her name was Christina. She spoke to us about what you want to become and why. So I told her I want to become an artist. As we were still talking another ASPIRE Ambassador came along named Leeanne. She told me about her daughter being in uni having fun by just dancing, doing art and watching movies, and that’s when I changed my mind to finish school and go to uni.

So as I was talking to Leeanne and Christina, another ASPIRE Ambassador came over named Vanessa. She told me a lot of things I could become. My teacher saw me talking to Leeanne, Christina and Vanessa and asked if she could take a photo. So I got happy and said “Yes”.

After that I told them about being an artist and I said that I had a painting I wanted to show them. They all said they wanted to see it, so when they were on their break, I walked up to my art room and grabbed my art painting and went back down. I showed them the painting and they all loved it and they asked for a photo of me holding my painting. I said “Of course” with a big smile on my face.

These ladies really made me look forward to go to uni and become what I want to become, all mostly thanks to Leeanne, Christina and Vanessa.

*By Mirna Sayed*

*Below: Year 9 at ASPIRE*
SCIENCE TRIVIA For TERM 1

Scientists & Inventions

1. Which of the following scientists studies animals?
   A. Botanist, B. Zoologist, C. Geologist

2. What does a volcanologist study?
   A. Constellations, B. Plants, C. Volcanoes

3. Which of the following scientists studies insects?
   A. Mycologist, B. Ornithologist, C. Entomologist

4. Albert Einstein was a scientist famous for his work on physics. Where was he born?
   A. Germany, B. United States, C. France

5. Which of the following scientists studies the oceans?
   A. Oceanographer, B. Astronomer, C. Meteorologist

6. Robert Bakker is a famous palaeontologist. What did he study?
   A. Gorillas, B. Birds, C. Dinosaurs

7. Which of the following animals did Diane Fossey spend her life protecting?
   A. Bengal Tigers, B. Mountain Gorillas, C. Koalas

8. What does a herpetologist study?
   A. Insects, B. Birds, C. Reptiles

9. What does a lepidopterist study?
   A. Beetles, B. Bees and wasps, C. Moths and butterflies

10. Which of the following scientists would study motion, forces, & energy?
    A. Physicist, B. Chemistry, C. Biologist

11. What do we call the study of solar system and the objects in it?
    A. Astrology, B. Astronomy, C. Meteorology

12. Which scientist would study rocks and minerals?
    A. Geologist, B. Botanist, C. Meteorologist

13. Which of the following is NOT a branch of biology?
    A. Botany, B. Zoology, C. Seismology

14. Which of these machines did Johannes Gutenberg invent?
    A. Ball point pen, B. Printing press, C. Cotton Gin

15. When was the ENIAC computer turned on for the first time?
    A. 1936, B. 1946, C. 1956

16. What did Edward Binney and Harold Smith invent in 1903?
    A. Post-it Notes, B. Scotch Tape, C. Crayola Crayons

17. Which inventor is known for the creation of air conditioning?
    A. Perry L. Spencer, B. W. H. Carrier, C. Elisha G. Otis

18. Which was invented first?
    A. Telephone, B. Microwave Oven, C. Light Bulb

19. Who is credited with the discovery of penicillin?
    A. Dr. Charles Drew, B. Sir Alexander Fleming, C. Dr. Edward Jenner

20. What was invented by Samuel F. B. Morse in 1837?
    A. Typewriter, B. Telephone, C. Telegraph
### IMPORTANT DATES FOR Term 2, 2012

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<td>Last day of Term 1</td>
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<td>23 April, 2012</td>
<td>Staff Development Day</td>
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<td>24 April, 2012</td>
<td>All students return to school</td>
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<td>ANZAC Day Assembly</td>
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<td>25 April, 2012</td>
<td>ANZAC Day</td>
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<td>11 May, 2012</td>
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<td>13 May, 2012</td>
<td>Year 11 Exams begin</td>
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<td>15—17 May, 2012</td>
<td>NAPLAN for Year 7 &amp; 9</td>
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<td>16 May, 2012</td>
<td>Community Meeting</td>
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<td>23 May, 2012</td>
<td>Year 12 Reports Issued</td>
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<td>30 May, 2012</td>
<td>Parent/Teacher Night Year 12</td>
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<td>11 June, 2012</td>
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<td>29 June, 2012</td>
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<td>16 July, 2012</td>
<td>Staff Development Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>17 July, 2012</td>
<td>All students return for Term 3</td>
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Thank You to all staff and students who made a contribution to the newsletter this term.