Auburn Girls’ High School, Hunter ST, Auburn 2144. Phone: 9649 6949

Principal: Mr Chris Charles

Ms Jennie Dalamagas (left) and Ms Sonia Jamal (right) were honoured by the Department of Education and Communities this term for their outstanding contributions to public education. Ms Dalamagas received the South Western Sydney excellence in Numeracy award and Ms Jamal was recognised for her positive contribution to parents and community engagement. Both are outstanding educators whose work has benefited all the students at the school.

Mr Charles

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Principal’s Report</th>
<th>Parent Tips &amp; Information</th>
<th>Deputy Reports</th>
<th>Faculty Reports</th>
<th>School News Items</th>
<th>Important Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>25–26</td>
<td>3–8</td>
<td>27–43</td>
<td>9–24</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

www.auburng-h.schools.nsw.edu.au
Principal’s Report

Review of 2012
Another eventful year has come to a close and I would like to thank the school community for all of their work this year. Some of the school’s highlights in 2012 include:

This year saw the final 10 interactive whiteboards purchased and installed. Every classroom, including demountable classrooms, now has an interactive whiteboard (IWB). IWB’s allow online resources to be brought into the classroom. The school also purchased 30 4th generation IPADs and a charging trolley to allow students in years 7 and 8 greater access to technology.

Over 200 students were involved in external programs to mentor and support students: UNSW Aspire, KPMG visits, UWS Fast Forward and ABCN Goals and Smith Family’s I-track mentoring program. The school had a strengthened relationship with Macquarie University that saw all students 7-12 visit, or be involved in activities led by the university. The school also continued its links with Granville TAFE allowing 15 year 10 students to attend TAFE every Friday to undertake short TAFE courses in beauty, hair-dressing, automotive mechanics, decorating and butchery. The school expanded the opportunity for students to be involved in overnight camps this year with nearly 200 students involved in Student Leadership, Zoo Sleep Out (Dubbo) and year 7 Cockatoo Island camps.

2013 will see
An increase in use of SMS to strengthen contact between the school and parents. From next year parents will be able to respond to the SMSs the school sends out when students are absent from school. A parental SMS response, giving the reason for a student’s absence, will mean parents do not need to send a note with their daughter on her return to school. The school will also use SMS as a way to communicate with parents if students are not wearing the correct uniform to school.

The first class of selective year 7 students, who have enrolled through the selective schools unit, will start in 2013. By 2018 150 students will be enrolled through the academically selective class 7 – 12.

In 2012 the school was nominated for a Hospitality Trade Training Centre. If completed in 2013, the school will receive a one million dollar industrial kitchen. This will allow senior students access to the full range of hospitality subjects and give the school a state of the art facility to the standard of TAFE and Restaurant kitchens.

Have a great Christmas break!

Mr Charles
Deputy Principal, Years 7 & 12

Once daylight saving begins, time seems to accelerate. After the magnificent Year 12 presentation ceremony and the equally inspiring formal, it seemed no time before Year 12 had finished their HSC examinations. Again, I need to recognise the efforts of their Year Adviser, Ms Purkiss. It must be noted that even after the girls left, the Year Adviser is still working on their behalf. 116 references later, Ms Purkiss finally has a moment to slow down. As for Year 12, well, some are resting, some are already working and others are travelling.

Year 7 are looking forward to Swim School in Week 9. It is vitally important that everyone knows how to swim, either to save themselves or to save others. This year we expect all Year 7 students to participate. Year 7 also have their final award assembly for the year in Week 10. The quality of our students is reflected in the number of awards they receive throughout the year. This term, a record number of Year 7 students will be recognised for their attendance, attitude and achievement.

This term we ran a Creative Writing competition open to all Year 7 students. The winners were Dua’a, Nadine, Beheshta, Rabia and Sara. The entries ranged from story books based on geographical studies of coral reefs to poetry and short stories. Each student received a gold certificate and a book of their choice.

Congratulations to 7 Wik who have distinguished themselves through their participation in the Macquarie University Robotics program. This was co-ordinated by Ms Safarik. This class was also involved in the ‘Dream, Believe, Achieve’ program run by the NSW Rugby League. It was a five week program and students were taught how to set goals and achieve them. It was a very successful initiative that has built self esteem and self efficacy in our students. Ms Fitzsimmons is to be thanked for her organisation.

This term Ms Safarik has been inviting students in Year 7 to an informal afternoon tea. This has been very successful. The groups are small so she is able to get to know her students even better.

The most recent nominees for Student of the Month have been Wahida in Year 11, Haya in Year 9 and Farzaneh in Year 10. All are outstanding students who are great role models and have been involved in giving back to the school through working with students, representing their peers on the SRC, helping with fundraising and being great human beings.

We are already starting to plan for our Multicultural Day next year. There will be food stalls, entertainment and workshops for students and special guests. Our parents have come up with some excellent ideas.

All the best over the holiday period.

Ms Fuller
Deputy Principal, Years 8 & 10

At the time of writing this report Year 10 students are completing their final day of yearly examinations. In the following weeks Year 10 students will follow a program of study that will engage them in a range of endeavours important to their educational growth. Many of these activities are compulsory requirements for entry into Year 11 studies.

The following summary describes these activities from Week 8 to the last week of term, Week 11. This program will follow the same pattern for all Year 10 students in the coming years:

Week 8 – Monday 26th November to Friday 30th November

The following essential programs will be delivered during this week:
- The Peer Support Program (Mon, Tue) and Sport.
- The Vocational Education and Training Work Ready Day (Wed)
- Career Readiness (Wed)
- Crossroads (Thur)
- Electoral and Environmental Education (Fri)

Week 9 – Monday 3rd December to Friday 7th December

This week is allocated to Work Experience. All Year 10 students are expected to attend an approved Work Experience placement. Teaching staff interact with employees to monitor student progress.

Week 10 – Monday 10th December to Friday 14th December

The following essential programs will be delivered during this week as requirement for entry to Year 11 studies:
- Money Savvy, Financial Literacy (Mon)
- Year 11 Study Skills and Legal Aid Presentation/Sport (Tue)
- ‘All My Own Work’ – A Board of Studies Requirement Course for Year 11 Entry (Wed)
- ‘All My Own Work’ – A Board of Studies Requirement Course and Year 11 Studies Skills (Thur)
- Motivational Guest Speakers followed by guest mentors from Football United who will assist with a mini sport Gala Day in the afternoon (Fri).

Week 11 – Monday 17th December to Wednesday 19th December

Students will attend their normal time-tabled classes.
On Monday 17/12/12 all Year 10 students will be issued with their Semester Two Year 10 Report to be taken home to parents.
The final day of term for all students, including Year 10 is Wednesday, 19th December 2012.

As co-ordinator of The School Merit Award System I would like to congratulate the following students for their outstanding achievement this semester:
- Madhura – Year 12 – awarded The School Medallion
- Razwana – Year 10 – awarded The School Medallion
- Masooma – Year 9 – awarded The School Medallion
- Amna – Year 10 – awarded The School Medallion
- Fathima – Year 11 – awarded The School Plaque
- Marina – Year 12 – awarded The School Plaque.

I would like to wish all members of our school community a safe and happy vacation. In 2013 school begins for Years 7, 11 and 12 on Wednesday, 30th January; and on Thursday, 31st January for Years 8, 9 and 10.

Mr Fisher
Another successful and productive term is coming to a close. Year 11 have been transitioning into their Year 12 studies and preparing for a huge year ahead. I would like to thank all their parents who attended the information meeting on Wednesday 31 October. Your help and support is valuable in ensuring your daughters are successful in their HSC year.

To further support Year 11, they have been involved in a study program designed to get them off to a good start each Tuesday. I would like to thank their Year Adviser Ms Matta and their Careers Adviser Ms Morris who have been organising the events and guest speakers.

Late last term 10W had the privilege of visiting Macquarie University and were greeted by the Vice Chancellor Professor Gail Whiteford. At the University they were involved in a program that included a tour of the campus and an opportunity to see the 60’s exhibition which was to open to the general public that evening. As a result of this day, three of our 10W students will also be participating in a Science program during the school holidays at the University, with all expenses paid for by the University. Congratulations to our successful candidates Jessica, Navjoyt and Maymoona.

On 2 November some of our Year 9 students had the opportunity to spend the day with other Year 9 students from Cheltenham Girls High School. The students involved spent most of the day developing friendships and exchanging experiences. The girls from both schools discovered that their surroundings and cultures may be different, but in many ways they are similar when it comes to their goals and their future expectations. All students had a wonderful time and are looking forward to visiting Cheltenham GHS on 30 November. A huge thank you to the following students who took part and represented our school in a very positive way: Shakila Benafsha, Benazir, Rahila, Mariam, Fatimah, Jasmine, Arooba and Samira.
I have been at Auburn Girls High School for nine wonderful years and it saddens me to say goodbye to all staff, students and parents this year. I have been successful in being promoted to the Deputy Principal position at Kingsgrove North High School and look forward to getting to know the staff, students and parents at this school. I have very fond memories of Auburn Girls High and wish all our students, staff and families the best.

I would also like to thank Mr Charles for having the confidence in my ability and appointing me as the PAS Deputy Principal of Auburn Girls High school for the last two years, a role I enjoyed immensely.

I would also like to thank Mr Fisher and Ms Fuller for their ongoing support and wisdom throughout the years. I will miss the staff, students and parents and for the final time...

Have a safe and relaxing holiday.

Ms Bilali
SRC Report

On the afternoon of Friday the 19th of October, Auburn Girls held their Induction of Elected School Leaders Ceremony. This event was to acknowledge the new School Captain, Vice Captains, Sports Captains, Prefects and SRC members for 2013. The assembly was conducted by our new leadership team, and consisted of a performance from our Zumba group and talks from guest speakers. Leaders received their badges and the pledge for the Captains and Prefects was read by Tugba Surer, whilst Parsa Rose took the pledge on behalf of the SRC. After the ceremony, the new leaders enjoyed some cake made by our lovely Year 11 Food Technology class and took photos.

 SRC representatives and students participating in various activities.
Week 3 of Term 4 was Children’s Week. On Wednesday the 24th of October, the Prefects and Captains went to Auburn Community Centre for a Kids Day, where they shared a fun morning with the children. Children’s Week is an annual event celebrated in Australia during the fourth week of October. At the event, the leaders had the privilege of meeting the Minister for School Education, Mr Peter Garret.

Children’s Week celebrates the right of children to enjoy childhood. It is also a time for children to demonstrate their talents, skills and abilities. Thousands of children and their families around the country are involved in activities and events during ‘The Week’ through the participation of schools, playgroups, childcare centres, kindergartens, cultural groups, libraries, departments and community groups.

Mariam Hassan

Our SRC representatives celebrating Children’s Week at Auburn Community Centre

Tugba and Htet meeting the Minister for School Education, Mr Peter Garret.
Year 9 GOALS

Closing Ceremony

The Year 9 students involved in GOALS this year formally completed the program on Thursday 22nd November at Granville Boys High School. Mr Charles and Miss Doyle attended the ceremony with the students.

All of the students from Granville Boys and Auburn Girls were joined by their business mentors to present a speech outlining their favourite sessions throughout the program, as well as, the valuable information they had learnt.

Both the mentors and the students agreed the session held at The Australian Theatre for Young People was the best, as they were pushed beyond their limits, well out of their comfort zones. Another favourite was learning interview skills and “Fun with Finance” where students learnt to budget.

Thank you to Granville Boys for hosting the event and providing an enjoyable morning tea.

Next year we will be selecting another twelve students to attend the program and I am sure the students will benefit just as much as the previous years have!
Peer Support Program

Year 10 students received training for 2 days to become peer support leaders for incoming year 7 students in 2013. The program provides Year 10 students with strategies to improve their communicational skills, self-confidence and team work.

Additionally, the program aims to help year 7 students transitioning to high school in a supportive and caring manner, guided by their year 11 peers.

Year 10 students had a fantastic time completing the wonderful activities that were organised to boost their skills. Thank you to all the teachers who facilitated the program, including Ms Conder, Ms Lam, Ms Fitzimmons, Ms, Pham, Ms Jamal, Ms Garvey, Ms Verykios and Ms Vega.

And a big thank you to Ms Shiel and her year 11 Hospitality team for cooking a delicious sausage sizzle!
Visual Arts Student Prize Winners

Congratulations to Hadia of Year 9 in winning the ABCN “Art for Art’s Sake” $500 major prize. Mr Andrew Venibles from ABCN awarded Hadia her $500 cheque at Auburn Girls during Term 4 this year.
Hadia’s year 8 self-portrait was inspired by the work of Fauvist artist Henri Matisse, as well as, the Cubist style of Pablo Picasso. Hadia’s work will be displayed at ABCN’s annual end of year function and used to decorate the covers of ABCN publications.

Miss Doyle’s Year 10 Visual Art class were selected to take part in the “Derivan Local Student Art Exhibition” which was held at their Art supplies and manufacturing warehouse in late October this year.
All students were given the opportunity to create an Aboriginal inspired animal design to be painted on canvas. All completed works were then displayed and voted for by members of the public. The winner of the “People’s Choice Award” was given to Zena for her painting “Gazing through the Eyes of the Cassowary”.

Mrs Eliza McInnes, from Derivan, presented Zena with her art materials prize pack during Term 4 this year.
Congratulations, Zena!
2012 INAUGURAL HARMONY DAY

On the 12th November 7W attended the Inaugural Oztag Harmony day at Lidcombe Oval. This was a gala day that ended a five week program called “Dream, Believe, Achieve”. Each Wednesday 7W had a lesson delivered to them by NSW Rugby League about goal setting, reaching your dreams and supporting not only yourself, but your family and community as well. The students would then head out to the oval for coaching sessions for Oztag.

The students thoroughly enjoyed the program and were excellent representatives for Auburn Girls High, conducting themselves in a cheerful and polite manner.

The Gala Day itself was great! Students were split into two teams and played against Wiley Park Girls High in a round robin challenge. The Grand Final was held at the end of the day with one of the Auburn Girls Teams making the Grand Final.

During the day the students were lucky enough to meet and have photos taken with some of the great NRL stars of today and the past. Nathan Hindmarsh, Hazem El Masri and Petero Civoniceva attended the day, meeting the students and being interviewed.

I’d like to thank NSW Rugby League for inviting us and running the program at our school. It was a great program to be a part of and I hope we will participate again in years to come. If parents or students wish to see more of the action from the Gala Day, go to this link http://www.rloc.com.au/default.aspx?s=video.
Taekwondo Star

Jana of Year 8 is an exceptional rising star in Taekwondo. She joined Taekwondo at the age of 11 not because she wanted to at first but because she had been looking for an Oztag team and was not able to join one. Her cousin, who was a red belt herself, asked Jana to join Taekwondo. Jana refused a number of times because she didn't have any interest in Taekwondo as she still wanted to join Oztag. Finally she agreed to join. She also found an Oztag team to join. Now she trains Mondays and Fridays in Taekwondo and Tuesdays and Thursdays in Oztag.

She has been really successful so far—some of her achievements include coming first in her first tournament when she was fasting. Next was coming second when she went to Canberra for a tournament and then going to Canberra once again but this time coming first. As a result of coming first she qualified to go to the Gold Coast and fight at National level. Amazingly she came first, passing all her gradings with top marks. Her biggest inspiration, she said, “Would have to be my master, Mariam Raad.”

Her favourite move “Has to be the Jumping front kick”. She doesn't have much free time but whatever time she finds she spends with family and friends. She loves to listen to all sorts of music; fast, low, old, new, it doesn't bother her. Her favourites are Shakira and One Direction, “Shakira because I dance along to her music and One Direction because I've been to their concert”.

In 5 years time Jana sees herself as a professional black belt training for the Olympics and, if she is not successful at that, she would like to be a Criminologist. There is no doubt that she will make it to the Olympics with the hard work she is putting in to her training. The PDHPE staff are really proud of Jana and it’s an honour to have such an exceptional student in our school.

Thank You

I would like to thank, Ridvan Manav from The Australian Martial Arts, for their support of Auburn Girls High School. The money they have generously donated, will be awarded to the best Sports Woman of Auburn Girls High School at our annual presentation night.

K. Fitzsimmons
The end of the school year is drawing closer, as we enter into the final stages of our very productive year in Mathematics. Throughout Term 4 a number of events took place to promote the importance of Mathematics. One numeracy based project in conjunction with Global Education, was ‘A Snap Shot of South-East Asia’ with 10W. This project promoted cross-curriculum teaching and numeracy across the curriculum. Ms Fidanboy and Ms Scariot organised and ran this successful project.

Another project, ‘Transition Skills Project’ involved working together with Primary school teachers to develop lessons, in all Key Learning Areas, which depict the skills required for students entering high school. This project will not only enable a smoother transition from Primary to High School, but also provide students with the skills to make connections in their learning and understand the continuum that exists between the two schools. In Week 6, of this term, we had 91 Primary School students participating in the project at Auburn Girls High. They were taught English, Drama, Art, Food Technology, Science, PD/H/PE, Mathematics and Geography. My thanks goes to Ms Vega, Ms Matta, Ms Doyle, Mrs Pasternatsky, Ms Jackman, Ms Purkiss, Ms Safarik, Ms Garvey,
This term we have seen some outstanding achievements in Mathletics with all years. It has been very successfully used in the Mathematics classroom and has provided students opportunities to enrich their knowledge of Mathematics. A number of students have received a ‘Mathletics Achievement Award’ for Outstanding Results in Concept Mastery. Congratulations to all of those students. I have the pleasure to announce that the Principal, Mr Charles has permitted for Mathletics to be continued with all years in 2013.

Also at the end of Term 3 we had the Mathematics Competition. I am pleased to announce the following students who can be commended for their efforts in receiving a CREDIT or HIGH DISTINCTION:

Susana, 7WM, can be highly commended for receiving a High Distinction. This is outstanding achievement and a great honour for the Mathematics faculty and our school.

The following girls received a credit: Nilo-far, Bahara, Rebecca from Year 7; Ozge from Year 8, Jinane from Year 10 and Cong Cong from Year 11.

Ms Jaja and Mr Moliterno took their Year 7 class to The Botanic Gardens to do practical mathematical activities. This allows students to develop a better understanding of the concepts being taught.

Also this term, the Mathematics faculty 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 2013. Thank you to Ms Vij and Mrs El-Bortol for their organisation of POW.

Term 4 also saw Year 12 students sitting for the HSC and Year 10 students for the RoSA. The Mathematics faculty wishes all of these students the best in their academic attainments.

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
**Excursions**

10WM and 10GM had a fun time at Luna Park excursion on Friday the 7th of September for Maths with Ms Fidanboy and Mr Zakovic.
Some of our students have worked really hard this semester and have produced excellent work.

To the right is the amazing model of a battle between Russia and Germany in World War II produced by some of our Year 9 History students. The detail and care taken with the production of their model was truly inspiring.

On the following pages you will find photos of 7E History who made Roman brooches and some of our junior Drama students performing in the Drama Room.

Also we have some Year 7 poems for you to enjoy.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Ms Cameron for all her hard work and dedication to the school and this faculty. She is going on a year’s leave and will be missed by her students and colleagues alike.

Ms Cameron’s Year 12 Drama class are rehearsing to present performances on Monday of Week 11, and I encourage all students to attend and to appreciate the dramatic talent of our students.

I would also like to take the opportunity to wish our students and their families a wonderful holiday and I hope that Year 12 students for 2013 remember to read their prescribed texts, in preparation for a busy year in 2013, during the holidays.

I would also thank Ms Vega for finishing off this newsletter for me as I am overseas on leave.

Ms C Richardson
Head Teacher English/History
Amazing Poetry

The problem is the left part of my brain has nothing right in it, And the right part of my brain has nothing left in it.

BY: Zahra 7E

I'm glad I was your teacher I hate to see you go, I can believe the end is here, Remember all the fun we had, In all the things we did, But most of all remember, You're a very special kid.

From: Mariama 7E

Rabbits
Oh my dear rabbit, hopping is your habit, You nibble on carrots and follow parrots, You dig in the ground to make a narrow barrow, You rather don't have any sorrow.

You come in lots of different colours black, white and grey, Your small, cute fluffy and puffy, You have a bun as a tail which is rather pale. And you can be a rather frail.

By: Nour 7E

CRICKET
COOL
ROUGH
INTERESTING
CLUMSY
KIT-KAT
EXCELLENT
TEAM

Anonymous 7E

I can never get my mind off him, I wonder if he'll mind if I'd, Make him my own, And never let him go, Hug him tight, Treat him right, Act all polite, Take him on a date, Make sure I'm never late, Make him feel like a prince, Living in a castle, Hope that is not too much hassle, But I am so blessed, Hope I can be the best, Pass the test, NOW YOUR MINE!

By Nargis
The Science Faculty

The Science Faculty has had a busy and productive Term 4 with a variety of activities and events being organised.

A special congratulations to Fathima in Year 11 who attended a special presentation and was awarded the Victor Chang award for Science due to her excellent results in all of her Science courses.

Year 7 has finished and handed in their excellent plant investigations. These specimens have been added to the school garden plot. Some of the plants grown can be seen below.
At the moment Year 7 are busy practising their investigation skills as they conduct experiments with slime.

The Year 7 class has also been busy preparing for the big Robotics challenge at Narrabeen high school. The theme of the challenge is “Senior Solutions” and the girls have been busy in their groups designing and programming solutions to various problems related to mobility. These tasks have helped the students develop their problem solving and collaborative skills. They have also improved their programming and ICT skills. Some photos of the students preparing for the challenge are shown below.

Year 8 have completed their work on energy and forces and have started working on experimental design. As part of their assessment for the forces topic they had to design and create an amusement park ride and explain the importance of forces and energy transformation in the ride they created. Some models of the creative rides that were created are shown below.
In Week 6 all of Year 8 were involved in ESSA (Essential Secondary Science Assessment) which they completed online. This assessment included videos and other interactive activities that the students needed headphones to listen to online. The interactive online experience was enjoyed by the students as a change from the traditional pen and paper assessments. This was the second time this assessment has been delivered online. The results will be available to students in March 2013.

Year 9 has also been studying different forms of alternative energy and being involved in a lot of group work activities.

Year 10 spent the beginning of the term revising all their Stage 5 knowledge and skills for their final assessment in Stage 5 Science. They have been engaged in experimental design and other investigation activities to end the term.

The senior classes have also been busy starting on their HSC coursework and have all completed their first assessment task. The Chemistry class has been busy making and testing different indicators.

Science has also been working with the Mathematics faculty to complete a special cross-curricular global education program which had a focus on South-East Asia. Teachers from the Social Science, Art, English/History, and PDHPE faculties were all involved in delivering a program that went over three days last term and allowed students to improve their numeracy skills while learning about global education issues such as commerce and health. The students then utilised their technology skills to present their findings and work on a video documentary presentation entitled –A Snapshot of South East Asia. The students who completed the final submission to a high standard celebrated with a cultural experience excursion to a Thai restaurant. Photos of the students involved in the program are shown in Mr Fisher’s Report and below:
The improvement in the numeracy skills of the students involved in the program is evident in the graph below, depicting their mean achievement in the various Mathematical strands before commencing the special program and after the completion of the Global Education program. The students made pleasing progress across all strands assessed.

The Science faculty would like to wish all students and their parents/carers an excellent holiday period and all the best for the New Year.

Ms Scariot
Acting Head Teacher, Science

---

**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.
Year 7W Robotics program

Year 7W have been busy training for the Lego Robotics state championships at Narrabeen Sports High School on the 4th of December. They are lucky to be one of many schools attending the competition where the students will test their pre-programmed robots on an obstacle course in 2 and a half minutes designed for this year’s theme ‘Senior Solutions’.

The students will also have 5 minutes to present to a panel audience a problem relating to a senior citizen and their innovative solution to the problem. They have been working on role plays, songs, and a dramaticised advertisement to stand out from the crowd!

The class was split into 3 teams, The Gummy Bears, Stars on the way and the Cookie Monsters. Each team of 9 will compete with one robot. The students have been highly engaged and motivated during this program. They have been learning numeracy, problem solving, cooperative skills, researching, and software programming all in one! Ms Carmyn has even created a fantastic website resource for the ‘Senior Solutions’ theme to help the girls research topics of choice which were; mobility, vision and Alzheimer’s disease.

Let’s wish the girls all the best for the Robotics competition in December, and hopefully this unique program can be offered to other classes in 2013. Thanks to Mrs Bilali and Ms Scariot for making it happen. Thanks!

Ms Safarik

A special thanks to Lou-Anne and Sarah from Macquarie University for mentoring the girls and myself!

Thank you to Sharon Smithies for all her support and also for making it all happen!
Yr 10 Maths

Ms Clipsham organised paint materials for Year 10's work on ‘Symmetry’. It was great fun trying out what exciting and interesting shapes would evolve from putting coloured blobs on one side of a paper, then pressing down the other half on to the painted half.

In the same Year group, Amna can be seen helping other students with another Mathematics activity that she had completed. Other year groups also participate in Maths skill-building activities, especially using “Mathletics” as a tool for learning.

Anne-Marie enjoys the occasional session on the Smart board.

More fun in Science

When we studied “Energy” the students carried a number of experiments. One of them involved a “boat race”. As seen in the photo, Maissa and Emina couldn’t wait for “the starter’s gun” and the word “go!”
Many hands make light work
Ms Clipsham, our resident cake maker and deco-rated extraordinaire, spent hours of cake making and decorating, to present to each Year 12 student in the Unit on their graduation day. Other staff members helped in putting the gifts together with the final touches, boxes and strings. After the ceremony, the student group took pictures with individual staff members, including Ms Clipsham.

Excursions
Ms Sin organised an excursion to Watsons Bay for all the Unit students. Unfortunately, the original date had to be changed, owing to a severe weather forecast that saw ferries cancelled. Therefore every student was eagerly awaiting the following Friday, which turned out to be a very pleasant day for students and staff alike.

Along with the regular staff, the students were also joined by Mina Ni, the student teacher who participated in work carried out in the Support Unit, as well as in the Mainstream, with targeted students. Mina completed her mandatory hours of practice and shared with us a cake she made herself for the last day of her training. As can be seen in a photo, Mina had a very good rapport with students. At school, they liked her being around them to help with their individual programs.

Mina and some students

The following Monday, the Unit students and staff were off to the City on another excursion: Bella, organised by Ms Verykios and educational staff at the Museum of Contemporary Art (MCA). Students and staff moved to various sites, in and out of the building. Two artists had erected an aeroplane outside, on scaffolding. Once inside, MCA staff gave each participant a tray with materials to make their own plane as inspired by what they had seen outside the building.

It was another enjoyable day, especially when the hands on lesson was over and they all went out for lunch and shopping.
Lote Faculty

Year 8 Italian organised an excursion to the Italian Forum in Leichhardt. The Forum has an array of cultural displays such as art work, restaurants, jewellery and high fashion.
LOTE Faculty

Trip to Auburn Library with Ms Findanboy

On Monday, 22nd of October 2012, Year 8 Turkish class went on an excursion to Auburn Library. The walk from our school to Auburn Library took about 20 minutes. Upon arrival Mr Kemal Serdar gave us a tour of the library.

The library offers more than just books. We were shown where the Turkish books were located. We also found that the library offers a group study room, individual study spaces, computers, resources for HSC, DVD’s, small group lessons and more.

All students became members of the library and we now have our new Auburn Library membership cards. It was a great experience with a positive learning outcome. We thanked Mr Kemal Serdar for the information and for his valuable time with us.
The Social Science Faculty

It has been an extremely busy year and it has been a pleasure to look back on the achievements of students in the Social Science faculty. This year we introduced a number of initiatives that sought to challenge and encourage students from all year groups to discover their potential. Year 7 students undertook a field trip to the Blue Mountains, a selected number of year 7 students participated in the first year 7 Camp to Cockatoo Island, year 8 students competed with a number of other schools in the inaugural Auburn Girls HSIE challenge, year 9 students attended a field trip to Bantry Bay, year 9 Commerce students went to Flemington markets and hosted the very successful Market Day raising over $1200, year 9 IST visited the Power House museum and year 10 undertook a field trip to Colloroy, year 11 Studies of Religion participated in an inter-faith forum with Moriah College.

It has also been a pleasure to see students participate in external competitions. Students in Geography participated in the National Geographic Competition with seven students achieving a Credit, year 11 Business Studies and Economics students participated in the University of NSW Business Studies Competition and Economics Competition. Two Distinctions and a number of Credits were achieved demonstrating the talents of students undertaking challenging courses.

Year 11 and year 9 students raised over $1200 and in partnership with the Sustainability group, an outdoor sound system was purchased. This initiative of Market Day invests back to the school community. The sound system is now used during lunchtimes to improve student engagement and increase interaction between different year groups.

In a matter of weeks, the year 12 students will be receiving their results in the recent Higher School Certificate examinations. We look forward to seeing how students have performed and would like to take this opportunity to remind year 11 students that their HSC has just started. Taking time during the holidays to be organized and undertaking private study will ensure that they put themselves in the best position for 2013.

The Social Science faculty would like to wish students, parents, guardians and the school community a safe and wonderful holiday season and look forward to an even better and productive 2013.

Mr K. Pico
Head Teacher Social Science
Sustainability Club

The Sustainability Club has been a very active group, promoting sustainability, increasing awareness of environmental issues and assisting in improving the school environment. Students meet regularly during lunch time to plan, organise and undertake a range of initiatives.

Auburn High School has been committed in becoming more environmentally friendly. This year, new solar panels have been installed on top of the school hall. This allows Auburn Girls to generate green energy. This will reduce dependence on coal power and allow Auburn Girls to sell surplus electricity generated from the solar panels. Since the installation Auburn Girls High School has been monitoring the amount of energy they create.

The Sustainability group would also like to recognise and thank all the volunteers who have given their time and effort to promote sustainability. This year’s recipient of the Sustainability Prize is Shayma Taher for her leadership and commitment to improving the school environment. This prize will be presented during our annual Presentation Night.

As the holiday’s season approaches, the Sustainability group would like everyone to think about our impact on the environment. Minimising waste and giving environmentally friendly gifts will ensure that future generations can enjoy same standards of living.

Mr K.Pico
Sustainability Coordinator
Parents

Movies and books
Is your child a reluctant reader? Why not try helping them find the book that goes with a movie or DVD they’ve enjoyed, or are about to see. Encouraging your child to read can help them to build their imagination.

Fitter, healthier, happier
Go4Fun is a free lifestyle program being run across NSW towns. For 7-13 year old children who are above a healthy weight, activities aim for a long-lasting and healthy approach to living and are suitable for both kids and their families.

School holidays sorted
The school holidays are fast approaching.
For great activities to keep the kids gainfully occupied check out the informative Go Play website which is full of ideas for kids aged up to 18 years.
You can search by age, activity, region, date, time and by government organisation. Go to: www.goplay.nsw.gov.au

Attention Parents!
Do you want to learn new skills and increase your confidence?
Outreach at Lidcombe College is offering fee exempt TAFE courses for parents and adults:
- Computing (Keyboarding, Word Processing, Internet, Email)
- Office Skills including Resume Writing
- Soft Furnishing (Curtain Making)
- Upholstery
- Furniture Finishing (French Polishing)
Day and evening classes | Women only classes
For Information Session dates contact the Outreach Coordinator on 9643 4703
www.SWSi.tafensw.edu.au

The Community Day of Action was a great success. The community united with teachers in opposing the O'Farrell government's cuts to public schools and TAFE colleges and kicked off the ongoing campaign.

Events took place around the state. In Tumbalong Park, at Darling Harbour, about four thousand people gathered to take part in a “fun day with a serious purpose.” Hosted by Wendy Harmer and Lisa Forrest, the crowd was welcomed to Country by Aunty Ally and Aunty Joan, and entertained by exceptionally talented students from the Talent Development Project: Anja Nissen, Brad Cox, and members of jazz band Neon Connective, as well as Darren Percival from “The Voice”, Stiff Gins and Jim Conway’s Big Wheel. As well as the entertainment, and activities for the kids, the event had a serious note: Students principal and president of the Secondary Principals Council, Lila Mularczyk, parent Esta Paschalidis-Chilas, Federation President, Maurie Matheron, and Unions NSW Secretary Mark Lennon delivered the message to Mr O'Farrell and his government that the community is "not happy".

The Federation urges all to become involved and know the issues. The ongoing cuts to education will hurt our students, especially the least advantaged.

If you want to take action go to the Putting Students First website: http://www.puttingstudentsfirst.org.au/ and send a letter telling the state government you want a strong vibrant and well resourced public school system.

Be informed and take action!
NSW Teachers Federation Representative Ray Lawrence and Women’s Contact Olga Vega
# IMPORTANT DATES FOR Term 4 and 1 2012-2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 19 Dec 2012</td>
<td>Last day for students in 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-21 Dec 2012</td>
<td>Staff Development Days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 Jan 2013</td>
<td>Staff Development Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 Jan 2013</td>
<td>Years 7, 11 and 12 return to school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 Jan 2013</td>
<td>Years 8, 9 and 10 return to school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6—8 Feb 2013</td>
<td>Proposed Year 12 Camp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 Feb 2013</td>
<td>Swimming Carnival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 Feb 2013</td>
<td>Year 6 Open Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Mar 2013</td>
<td>Year 7 2014 Enrichment Class Entrance Exam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 Mar 2013</td>
<td>Multicultural Day &amp; PBIS Celebration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 Mar 2013</td>
<td>Cross Country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 Mar 2013</td>
<td>Year 12 Half Yearly Exams begin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3—5 Apr 2013</td>
<td>Leadership Camp Years 7—11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Apr 2013</td>
<td>Last Day of Term 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Thank you to all staff and students who made a contribution to the newsletter this term.