Term 1 Reflections

No matter which way you look at it, Northern Beaches Secondary College certainly offers great learning experiences for our students.

There are so many choices and opportunities for our students to truly achieve excellence through their educational experiences.

This is clearly evident by looking through the variety of events held in the first part of 2015 make such compelling reading. Students of all interests and levels have really benefited from the collective resources of our campuses and so are provided with a vast range of quality extra learning experiences.

Additionally, local primary school students also have a chance to deepen and extend their learning experiences by linking into the programs offered at NBSC.

These primary aged students really begin their educational journey with Northern Beaches Secondary College through these specific programs and many go on to continue when they enrol with a campus of NBSC in subsequent years.

The successes of our primary students to date also make great reading in this newsletter.

By the time this document is published, we will have held the Term 2 NBSC Professional Development Day. This promises to be a highlight for all NBSC teachers in 2015, as all of the staff come together to extend their skills and expertise in assisting our students. This professional learning event will be the focus of our next newsletter.

We look forward to an educationally challenging and productive time this term for all of our students.

Neil Worsley
College Principal
ON SHOW DELIVERS TWO NIGHTS OF VIRTUOSITY

BY RENATA GRUDIC
NBSC Head Teacher
(Teaching & Learning)

The annual NBSC music festival was held at NBSC Balgowlah Boys for the third year running. The program was diverse, eclectic and a wonderful showcase of the many different talents that we have at our college.

 Held over two nights, March 17 and 18, at NBSC Balgowlah Boys Campus, On Show 2015 was a celebration for our college and was only made possible by the dedication and hard work of teachers from the various campuses.

Each of the campuses presented a variety of acts including singers, dancers, musicians, actors and even stand up comedians. It was a great opportunity to see the extraordinary talent that exists at the Northern Beaches Secondary College, and which is matched by the technical expertise and production resources available at our college.

The NBSC Jazz Impro Band, under the guidance of Colin Bright, played with confidence and flair, while Justine Kim performed her show-stopping number from Manly’s musical this year, Miss Saigon.

Special thanks to all the NBSC students who helped over the two nights, including the NBSC Balgowlah Boys Campus Year 11 Hospitality (catering) and Year 9 Work Studies (coffee and refreshments).

Master of Ceremonies for On Show were Kiani Olsen and Bronte To-
maino from Mackellar Girls (Tuesday night) and Wilson Lowe and Gabriella from Freshwater Senior Campus (Wednesday night).

We are also indebted to NBSC staff that gave up so much of their time, including Hasan Shanal (Director and Production Manager) from NBSC Balgowlah Boys Campus, Andrew Herft (Stage Manager) from NBSC Freshwater Senior Campus and Renata Grudic (Front of House) from the College Administration Office.

A special thank you to the coordinators and contributors from each campus: Katherine Wiktrowicz, Amber King, Dan O’Brien, Hayley Dibley, Ron Carpenter (Balgowlah Boys), Cameron McKee, Rachel Rule, Tahlee Auton (Cromer), Jasmin Chowdhury, Brittany Skea, Adam Murray (Freshwater), Lucienne Howard, Naomi Leviton, Chloe Woodward, Craig Driscoll (Manly), Simon Fisher, Vanessa Patterson, Jack Kirkpatrick, Sky Campbell and Vanderbent (Mackellar).

Year 11 Dancer Marnie Separovich representing both Freshwater Senior and Manly Campuses.
PECP STUDENTS JUGGLE THEIR WAY TO SUCCESS

BY LORNA CURTIS
NBSC PECP Coordinator

The Primary Enrichment and Challenge Program has had a very successful start at both NBSC Cromer and Freshwater Senior campuses.

The program runs on Tuesdays at Cromer and Wednesdays at Freshwater. At Cromer we had the privilege of having Ms Katrina Conaghan teaching the students for some Food Technology sessions. The students learnt how to make pizza and spiders.

It is wonderful to see new friendships developing as the students get to know each other in our PECP class.

We emphasise the importance of encouraging each other throughout the program so that each student is able to take risks and participate in challenges in a nurturing environment.

This is very important for the collaborative learning style of our workshops. This semester the students are all very enthusiastic and well organised.

We have had fun making juggling balls. Each student made their own juggling balls with balloons and rice and then attempted to juggle with three balls following our new mantra “Practice makes myelin and myelin makes perfect”. Myelin is the insulation that wraps around nerve fibres and increases signal strength, speed and accuracy. Mr Ben Pimental, Head Teacher of Teaching and Learning at the College Administration Centre learnt his expertise on growth mindsets and the importance of myelin.

The purpose of learning to juggle is to demonstrate how the more we fire a particular circuit, the more myelin wraps around that circuit and the stronger, faster, and more fluent our movements and thoughts become.

“It’s not how smart you are, it’s what smart you are”! We also looked at Howard Gardner’s Multiple Intelligence Theory. Each child was given a questionnaire to discover the intelligences they favour. The nine intelligences are verbal/linguistic, logical/mathematical, bodily/kinaesthetic, visual/spatial, musical/rhythmic, naturalist, interpersonal, intrapersonal and existential. It is fascinating to work out which intelligence you favour!

In the science lab, we dissected a sheep’s brain and identified the two hemispheres, the cerebellum, cerebrum and brain stem. We dissected the cortex to observe white matter and grey matter.

It was an extremely interesting workshop and many students found the dissection fascinating. This is a challenging workshop for many students and I was impressed by the mature way that students approached the dissection.

At Cromer Campus we had the privilege of having Ms Katrina Conaghan teaching the students for some Food Technology sessions. They also got to eat what they cooked.
TAKING THE TEST

The Academic Placement Test for the 2016 intake into NBSC Cromer, Balgowlah Boys and Mackellar Girls Campuses took place on Thursday March 19, 2015.

A total of 360 students sat the test at the three campuses.

A combination of test results, Naplan scores and school reports are used to identify students suitable for entrance into the Gifted and Talented Academic Programs at each campus.

Students involved in PECP who also sat the Academic Placement Test for 2016 at NBSC. Here they chat with Justin Hong, Principal of NBSC Cromer Campus.
NBCU CELEBRATES FIFTY YEARS

BY BEN PIMENTEL
NBSC Head Teacher
(Teaching and Learning)

Since 1965, the Northern Beaches Credit Union (NBCU) has been supporting projects and activities in our local community. For the Northern Beaches Secondary College, their sponsorship of the NBSC shuttle bus means that students from the 5 campuses can attend cross-campus courses.

The Northern Beaches Credit Union (NBCU) sponsors the Queenscliff Surf Life Saving Club, Manly Sea Eagles, Pink Connections - Breast Cancer Support Group, North Steyne Board Riders Club, Dee Why Bowling Club, Lifeline Northern Beaches, Warringah Golf Club and Credit Union Foundation Australia (CUFA).

The NBCU also sponsors the Northern Beaches Secondary College Shuttle Bus. Cross campus students from each of the five campuses use the college bus to attend courses offered at other campus.

This way, NBSC students can choose from a wide range of senior subjects and courses that are unavailable at their own campus. Some of these students have been able to top the state in the HSC because they were able to get their first choices in terms of subject selection.

This strong partnership between NBCU and NBSC is shown in other links between the Credit Union and the college. Rick Chown, one of the directors from NBCU, mentored Year 10 students during Australian Business Week in November last year at NBSC Freshwater Senior Campus. This is just another example of how the NBCU is giving back to the community.

SPONSORED BY NBCU

NBSC Shuttle Bus
Queenscliff Surf Life Saving Club
Manly Sea Eagles
Pink Connections - Breast Cancer Support Group
North Steyne Board Riders Club
Dee Why Bowling Club
Lifeline Northern Beaches
Warringah Golf Club
Credit Union Foundation Australia (CUFA)
The Duke of Edinburgh program continues to thrive here at NBSC.

Many students in Years 9-12 from all 5 campuses have joined or are continuing the program, with 170 new Bronze registrations this year, at least 45 students progressing to Silver and many working towards completing Silver and Gold level awards.

Such large numbers makes NBSC the largest operator of the award in NSW. In 2014 we saw 31 students receive their Gold award which is a highly esteemed achievement and a tremendous effort by each of these students.

The BRONZE students have completed their first expedition – a training day and practice overnight hike at Camp Somerset on the Colo River. Students returned with smiles on their faces commenting that it was “so much fun”, “better than I ever thought it would be”, “hard but good”. Expeditions are a great way for students to learn new skills, challenge themselves and make friends across campuses.

SILVER students have completed their practice Pack and Paddle expedition – hiking and canoeing the Colo River at Somerset for 3 days and 2 nights. GOLD students are preparing to undertake expeditions – some in the April holidays at the Royal National Park and others in the July holidays for an ‘Urban Odyssey’ navigating their way from the north to the south of Sydney.

All students are planning their Award programs and will participate in a set time length of activities they choose in three areas throughout the coming year – Skill, Service and Physical Recreation. This is a fantastic way for students to set goals in new or existing activities and enjoy achieving their personal best.

Students who are still to sign off their bronze and silver awards and progress to their next level are encouraged to do so.

Please contact Mrs Naomi Yorston, the College Coordinator, for more details. The Duke of Ed Award takes planning, organisation, motivation and effort but is worth the effort for the rewards along the journey!
College Sport teams have had a busy first term in a variety of Knockout Competitions across the region with more wins than loses.

The Girls Open College Netball team won their first round game against Barrenjoey 49 to 20 at the end of February, then travelled to Gosford early in March for two further rounds, showing incredible talent and strength with two big wins. The first game was won 96-5 against North Sydney Girls and then 62-17 against Henry Kendall. The team will now play Northlakes in the 4th round next term. The talented College Squad consists of Tamara Black, Cristy Linaker, Aaliyah Paki, Bridgette Evans, Grace Dimauro, Jordan Marsh, Chloe Kata, Claudia Harris, Chloe Kata, Grace Underhill, Mia Kovacevich and Pihuka Duff. The team is coached by Rebecca Angus (Mackellar Girls PDHPE teacher) who is pleased with their progress so far.

Congratulations to Cristy Linaker, Bridgette Evans and Tamara Black who were selected in the Sydney North Open Girls Netball Team to attend the NSWCHS carnival on 26 and 28 May in Wollongong.

The Girls Open College Waterpolo team selected following trials early in March travelled to Ryde Aquatic Centre for three games and just missed out on becoming the Sydney Metropolitan winners in round 3. The results were: Game 1 vs Pittwater HS - NBSC won 27-0. Game 2 vs Riverside - NBSC won 8-7 in an exciting match. Game 3 vs Burwood Girls - NBSC lost 10-11 in an amazing match!

The girls were an absolute delight to accompany for the day, showing both commitment and beautiful team work. The squad consisted of Charlie Jacobs, Natalie Jander, Isabella Wolff, Bridget Hudson, Sienna Baker, Catherine Hawling, Nadia Jones, Jade Speight and Dakota Stuart.

The Boys Open College Waterpolo team were equally successful in their games at Ryde Aquatic Centre the following week progressing through two rounds to miss out on becoming the Sydney Metropolitan winners in round 4 when they were beaten by the Balgowlah Boys team. Results for this talented team were: Game 1 vs Galston - NBSC won 24-5. Game 2 vs Homebush - NBSC won 12-10; Game 3 vs Balgowlah Boys - NBSC College lost to Balgowlah Boys 8-13.

It was exciting to see the final round for the day being played by two very strong NBSC teams. While competition was fierce friendships across the college teams were obvious. The NBSC boys team consisted of Conner Wood, Ryan Martinuzzo, Greg Izossimov, Ejay Schaffer, Isaac Williams, Ian Stewart and Oisin Darmody.

Congratulations to the following NBSC students who were recently selected in the Boys Open College Hockey team: Wil Hawkings, Todd Miller, Sam Hobson, Harry Tanswell, Zac Walker, Sebastian Bland, Andrew Palme, Cooper Anderson, Tom Carter, Jai Tattersal, Lochie Watts, and Liam McGregor. Their first round match will be against North Sydney Boys early in Term 2. The Girls Open College Hockey team consisting of Lara Simpson, Emily Hewitt-Park, Katie Healy, Ingrid Ackerman, Remy Young, Kiki Kwakernaak, Brianna Trim, Jenna Trim, Jordan Anderson, Jackie Hall, Kirsten Picard, Fin Dawe, Kenna Lindegger, Ruby Arneil, Yasmin Appleton, Gabi Palme and Charlie Campell will also play their first round game early in Term 2.