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# HEATHCOTE HIGH NEWS

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## Term 2 Week 3 2024

### PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Welcome back to Term 2. We are re-energized and looking forward to another term of outstanding learning and achievements.

### Ceremony to Commemorate ANZAC Day

As ANZAC Day fell in the school holidays, Heathcote High School held their annual ANZAC Memorial Service in the last week of Term 1.

The service was led by volunteer students who spoke beautifully, marking the ceremony with the grace and respect that the occasion deserved.

We also thank Mr Trevor Phease from the Heathcote RSL sub-branch for speaking at the event and allowing our students to benefit from his experience and wisdom.



## Year 12

At the end of last term, Year 12 marked the half way mark in their HSC year with a **sports-themed mufti day**. This event provided a valuable moment to pause, reflect on the first half of their academic journey, analyse the game plan, and strategize for the challenges ahead.

It was great to see our students decked out in their finest sports gear, showcasing their team spirit and camaraderie. From basketball MVPs to soccer stars and golfing champs, their collective energy provided a renewed determination as they gear up for Term 2.



The **2024 HSC exam timetable** is now out. Students can view their personalised timetable in Students Online. The exams run over 4 weeks commencing on Tuesday 15 October with English and ending on Friday 8 November with Geography. If students are studying a subject with a practical or performance component, it is important that they are aware of the timetable for these components.

<https://www.nsw.gov.au/education-and-training/nesa/key-dates/hsc-written-exam-timetable/2024-hsc-written-exam-timetable>

<https://www.nsw.gov.au/education-and-training/nesa/key-dates/hsc-languages-oral-exam-timetable/2024-timetable>

<https://www.nsw.gov.au/education-and-training/nesa/key-dates/hsc-practical-exams>

The following Department of Education webpages explore a range of topics put together by ReachOut Australia and others that are helpful to HSC students, parents and carers.

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/schooling/students/stay-healthy-hsc>



On Thursday 9 May, Year 12 attended the annual **Sutherland Shire Careers Information Day**.

A large range of industries, organisations, universities and training organisations were present, providing our students with valuable information and resources to help them make informed decisions about their career paths and future education.



## P&C Meeting

Our next P&C Meeting will be held on Wednesday 22 May at 7 pm in the Common Room, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor C Block. Please join us. Everyone is welcome.

## Red Shield Breakfast

On Wednesday 8 May, I had the privilege of attending the Salvation Army Red Shield Appeal breakfast launch at Club Central Menai with School Captains; Kadie CP and Ashton F, as well as Jessica P, Jack Y and Lathika V, Head Teacher Wellbeing, Mrs Siedel and Deputy Principal Mrs Hunter.

This event highlighted the important work the Salvation Army do within our community on a daily basis. Heathcote High School actively supports the Salvation Army and appreciates all the hard work they do.

On Wednesday 22 May, we will be holding our Red Shield Appeal. Students may wear a 'splash of red' with their school uniform and donations will be collected in roll call. Please give generously to support the Salvation Army's important and necessary work in our community.



## Selective High School Placement Test

On Thursday 9 May, Heathcote High School again hosted the Selective High Schools Placement test.

Thank you to staff and students for providing assistance as needed.

Steve Waser  
Principal



## YEAR 6 ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

On Wednesday 8 May, we welcomed students from our Primary School Partners for the first day of our 2024 Year 6 Enrichment Program – English and Drama with Mrs Keating.

Students got to know each other and their varied interests, participated in drama games, learned about Greek Theatre and created eye-catching masks. They wrote expressively using sensory imagery and then learned about Blackout Poetry and created their own using a page dedicated to Treebeard and the Ents in 'The Lord of the Rings' by J R R Tolkien. The final activity was a mime and physical performance for a short structured story of their choice.

Helensburgh Public School, Waterfall Public School, Heathcote Public School, Heathcote East Public School and Engadine West Public School, your students are proud ambassadors of your schools.



### Year 6 Enrichment Program

Week 1  
English and Drama



## FACULTY NEWS

### CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS (CAPA) AND LANGUAGES OTHER THAN ENGLISH (LOTE)

#### Art and Photography

On the last day of Term 1, a group of dedicated Year 8 students were invited to participate in an Art & Photography HPGE workshop.

It consisted of Still Life Photography and Gelli Plate Printing.

Everyone had a fantastic time and got to learn some new skills.



#### French Language

On the last Friday of Term 1, our Year 9 French class took part in a day of cultural activities to celebrate Sydney's annual French Film Festival.

They started the morning with some translation work in preparation, before watching the classic French film 'Belle et Sébastien'.

Afterwards, the students participated in an online presentation with a French native discussing school life in France with a Q&A session to answer all of their burning questions

The day concluded with a picnic of classic French food and drinks and playing a few rounds of pétanque.

It was a fantastic way for the class to end a term of hard work and dedication to their French studies.





## Music

**Stage 4 Music** classes are currently learning solo piano, guitar and bass guitar performance pieces this term using our '7 Levels of Learning' system to play video game, pop and film music hits. This is a challenging task that teaches the students to exercise using a growth mindset to persevere and progress over a number of weeks in class.

Some of our most enthusiastic Year 8 students participated in our **HPGE workshop** on the last day of Term 1. Each of the invited students were keen to attend their last day of term for this workshop and they all did a fantastic job learning to play Queen's iconic song 'Another One Bites the Dust' on their favourite instruments. This was an excellent example of project-based learning in an intensified, highly focused learning environment similar to Elective Music study.

Much anticipated **Stage Band** rehearsals will begin on Thursday 16 May after sport for students who have auditioned in Term 1. Any student who missed auditions and would like to join-in should see Mrs Smith or Mr Torday-Smith in the Art/Music/Language staffroom in D Block as soon as possible for information and to register. Check School Bytes for permission notes.

Congratulations to Eilidh S, Year 11, who will be performing with the Department of Education's Art Unit Senior Singers at **In Concert** at Sydney Town Hall on 27 and 28 May. We are very proud of Eilidh's dedication to vocal performance and wish her chookas for the exciting and exclusive event.

Prepared by Miss Bell, Art & Photography Teacher for Mrs Sheaff, Head Teacher

## YEAR 7 CAMP

On Wednesday 15 May, with much excitement and anticipation, Year 7 set off for their camp at Lake Macquarie. They experienced three action-filled days at camp and had the opportunity to make new friends as well as participating in a wide range of team activities aimed at developing problem solving, communication and collaboration skills including canoeing, high ropes, flying fox, survivor challenge and games nights.

Many thanks to Miss Parker, Year 7 Adviser, Mrs Seidel, Head Teacher Wellbeing, Mrs Petrolakis, Head Teacher Support, Mrs Allsopp, Mr M Baker, Mr Batcheldor and Mrs Cole for all their efforts in organising the camp and supporting students to get out of their comfort zone and build resilience, perseverance and courage. The students returned weary but with some enjoyable experiences and wonderful memories.









## SPORT

### Athletics Carnival

The School Athletics Carnival was held on Friday 3 May at Sylvania Waters Athletics Track. While the weather wasn't ideal the house spirits were high, students challenged themselves and each other and records were broken.

Congratulations to everyone who participated, giving their best and thank you to the supporters cheering on our competitors. Your team spirit and sense of fair play was excellent.

A round of applause for our record breakers:

Mackenzie B	1500 m Girls 12 year	new record of 6 min 25 sec (old 7:14)
Evie M	1500 m Girls 15 year	new record of 6 min 5 sec (old 7:00)
Anthony V	100 m Boys Open	new record of 11:28 sec (old 11:31)
Mackenzie B	400 m Girls 12 year	new record 1 min 20.91 sec (old 1:20.97)
Anthony V	Long Jump Boys Open	new record 6.51 m (old 6.48 m)
Anthony V	High Jump B Boys Open	new record 1.92 m (old 1.915 m)

Congratulations to our Age Champions:

12 Years	Mackenzie B	Yarran C
13 Years	Amelia M	Lachlan H
14 Years	Maddison H	Zac G
15 Years	Evie M	Jenson M
16 Years	Telina A	Jacob L
17-19 Years	Chynna H	Anthony V

Waratah was the winning house followed by Banksia, Bluebell and Wattle.

Thank you to our dedicated staff, particularly our PDHPE faculty whose hard work and organisation made this event possible and our house leaders for their encouragement and championing house spirit.





## Cross Country

The School Cross Country was unable to be held due to wet weather. Competitors will now progress to the Zone Cross Country which will be held at Heathcote High School on 20 May.

## Knockouts

### Open Boys Volleyball



Well done to the Open Boys Volleyball team and their coach Mr Bass on your match against Temple High School.

While Tempe won 2-0, you played in a very sportsmanlike manner and all players enjoyed the experience.

### Boys U15 Football – Bill Turner Cup



Congratulations to the boys U15 football team and their coach Mr Valentino on their Round 2 win 1-0 against Port Hacking High School.

An early goal by Luca J and our formidable defence resulted in this well-deserved win. The team meet Kirrawee High School in Round 3.



## Open Girls Football



Congratulations to the Open Girls Football team and their coach Mr Hearnden on their resounding 7-2 win over Randwick Girls High School this week.

Despite pouring conditions and a late reshuffle to the team, the girls continued to demonstrate their enthusiasm and ability to work together effectively on the field. This win takes the team through to the semi-final of the Sydney East Knockout, an outstanding achievement.

Next up, they play the winner of Kingsgrove High School and Woolooware High School.

## Rugby League - U14 Buckley Shield and Opens University Shield

Heathcote High U14 Rugby League lost to Engadine High

Heathcote High Open Rugby League lost to Cronulla High 40-0.

## Lawn Bowls

Congratulations to the Boys Open Lawn Bowls team on your win against Sylvania High School. It was an even match with the boys winning 14-13 on the last end. The team will play Engadine High School in the semi-finals.

## Combined High School Swimming Championships

Congratulations to Evie M on placing 6<sup>th</sup> in the final of the Girls 15 Years 100m Breaststroke final with a time of 1.19.14.

Congratulation to Brodie M on competing in the Boys 17-19 Years 100m Breaststroke.

To progress through to the State-level Swimming Championships is an incredible achievement and the result of commitment, dedication and hard work. Well done Evie and Brodie.

## Regional Oztag Championships

The Regional Oztag Championships will be held in Week 7. Heathcote High School has entered Girls and Boys teams in Years 7 & 8; Years 9 & 10 and Years 11 & 12.

Trials will commence next week (Week 4).

## NSWCHSSA Boys 15's Rugby League Trials

Congratulations to Jacob W (Yr10) on your selection to trial for the Combined High Schools Boys 15's Rugby League in Wollongong on 27-29 May. Jacob, we wish you all the very best.



Miss Turner  
Sports Organiser

## EXCURSIONS AND INCURSIONS

### Year 12 Drama

Our Year 12 Drama students were selected to attend the Arts Unit's CoLab Senior Drama Workshops at Macarthur Girls High School at Parramatta with five other high schools.

During Day 1 on 6 May, students participated in intensive movement, voice, synchronicity and collaboration activities with industry drama practitioners in preparation for their HSC drama group performance.

Our students took advantage of this incredible opportunity and will spend the term developing this major work as a team.



### Year 11 Sports Coaching

Our Year 11 Sports Coaching students assisted at Helensburgh's Public School Athletics Carnival with enthusiasm and dedication.

They are to be commended on being exemplary role models for our school whilst working in tough conditions at Barden Ridge.



### Year 11 Ancient History

On 17 May, Year 11 Ancient History students transported through 3000 years of history, immersing themselves in the mysterious world of Ancient Egypt.

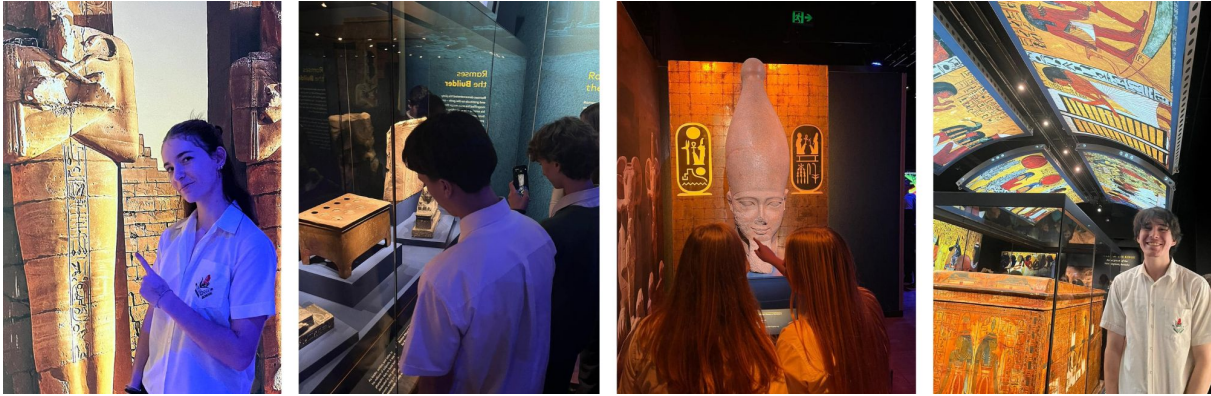
The students visited the Australian Museum to experience a once in a lifetime exhibition 'Ramses and the Gold of the Pharaohs'.



Ramses II , known as Ramses the Great, ruled for 67 years (1279-1213 BCE) as part of the 19<sup>th</sup> Dynasty, erecting enormous temples, obelisks, and statues and expanding Egypt's empire through his prowess in war.

Students engaged and interacted with amazing artefacts featuring the greatest collection of Ramses II objects and Egyptian jewellery ever to travel outside of Egypt.

They immersed themselves in multimedia productions that re-create moments from Ramses's life, including the largest chariot battle ever fought at Kadesh.



**Year 12 Biology – Museum of Human Disease UNSW**

**Year 9 Marine Studies – Burnum Burnum Sanctuary, Woronora River**

## **EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

### **Dance Companies**

Exciting news for our Dance Companies. Congratulations to our two talented dance teams on their successful auditions to perform in the **South Coast Dance Festival 2024** at the Illawarra Performing Arts Centre.

Both groups began working together earlier in the year and have already demonstrated their skills and commitment. We are so proud of them. Well done to our teams and Miss Rose.

#### **TICKETING DETAILS**

Year 7 Ensemble: Friday 21st June 8pm

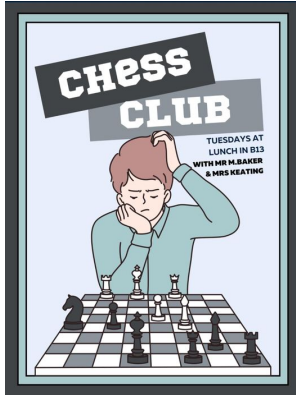
Junior Company: Friday 21st June 6pm

Tickets will be available for purchase (\$25 each) from May 24 from: <https://merrigong.com.au/your-visit/ticket-and-general-info/> Take care to ensure you are purchasing tickets for the correct day and time.

Dance Sport was accepted into **In the Spotlight** Dance Festival in the Everest theatre, Seymour Centre in June with further details to come.



## Chess Club



Chess Club began on 14 May with an enormous turn out. All students and staff are welcome to participate regardless of your chess ability. Competitive players will have the opportunity to participate in future Chess tournaments.

The benefits of playing chess are numerous including: helps you focus, teaches you how to win and lose, develops critical thinking, strategic planning and problem solving skills, bring people together and exercises the brain.

Chess Club is held each Tuesday at lunchtime in B13. Further information is available from Mr M Baker and Mrs Keating.



## Treasure Island

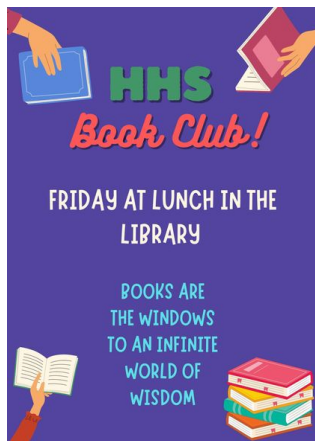


Cast, crew and production teams, under the direction of Mrs Keating, have been working very hard in preparation for our school production – Treasure Island.

Performances will be held on Friday 28 June at 12:30 and 6 pm. Mark this date in your diary as it will be an impressive event.



## Book Club



Book Club meets each Friday lunch time in the school library and is a chance for students to meet up and discuss all things books.

While we enjoy refreshments, students are encouraged to share their favourite titles, authors and discuss what they like or dislike about the books they read.

Book clubbers are currently reading a carefully selected book that is not of their usual choosing or favourite genre. This book was gift wrapped for them to open, read and then share their thoughts on this new genre. Mrs Cook anticipates hearing their responses over the next few weeks!

Happy Reading

All students are welcome to join Book Club at any time to talk about their favourite books in a warm and welcoming environment.

## Homework Club

Homework Club is held on Wednesday afternoons from 3 to 4 pm.

This is an excellent opportunity for students to complete their homework or conduct research for their assignments.

All students are welcome to join.

## Game Changer Challenge

The Game Changer Challenge is the department's award-winning design thinking competition.

The challenge centres on discovering solutions for a real-world, wicked problem by thinking outside the box and fostering innovation and creativity.

The 2024 wicked problem is 'Make life better for all without harming the planet.'

If you are up for the challenge, see Ms Quinlan in the Maths staffroom.

## Inter-School Christian Fellowship (ISCF)

ISCF is an opportunity for Christian students to grow in their faith, and for any other students to explore their own questions about Christianity.

Meetings are held on Mondays at Lunchtime in the D-Block Courtyard.

## ON STAGE AND BACK STAGE AT ENGADINE MUSICAL SOCIETY'S 'ANYTHING GOES'

Congratulations to Libby P (Year7) who is performing in "Anything Goes" by Engadine Musical Society at Engadine Community Centre. Libby and the rest of the cast were selected via rigorous and competitive audition process months ago and rehearsed up to three times per week.

Kurt S, Year 11 is volunteering his time as part of the hard-working backstage crew.

Supporting our students on Opening Night in the audience were Mrs Keating (Drama/English) and HHS Class of 2023 former student, Ellie R who is currently studying Dance full time.

Anything Goes runs until Sunday 26th May with tickets still available.

Chookas for the rest of the season, Libby and Kurt! We are so proud of you.

Engadine Musical Society will be holding auditions for its next musical very soon. "Billy Elliot" based on the film of the same title which requires a strong dancing and singing cast of girls and boys who look up to 12 years of age. For more details see

<https://engadinemusicalsociety.com.au/.../EMS-BE-Audition...>



## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Monday 20 May Zone Cross Country at Heathcote High School
- Wednesday 22 May Red Shield Appeal
- Wednesday 22 May Year 6 Enrichment Program – Mathematics
- Monday 27 May Year 12 Drama – Day 2 CoLab Senior Drama Workshops
- Wednesday 29 May Police Transport Presentation
- Friday 31 May Launch of Acknowledgement of Country
- Tuesday 4 June Parent Teacher Night Years 10, 11 & 12
- Wednesday 5 June Year 6 Enrichment Day – Industrial Arts
- Wednesday 12 June Sydney East Cross Country
- Wednesday 12 June Recognition Assemblies
- Wednesday 12 June Regional Oztag
- Wednesday 12 June UOW Information session