

# ROUSE HILL HIGH NEWSLETTER



August 2019 / ISSUE 54

## A Visit By Our Chinese Sister School Celebrating A 10 Year Relationship

Anthony R - Student



In week two of this term a very exciting event occurred - a visit from Ningbo No. 15 Middle School, our Chinese sister school. It was an amazing week of sharing culture through events and experiences, including homestays with Rouse Hill families.

Day one - the Chinese visitors met their excited Rouse Hill host students and were taken on a school tour by Year 10 Elective Chinese students. Then they went to lessons with their RHHS host students and experienced Australian cuisine with an Aussie sausage sizzle.

# Cover page article continued

By Anthony R - Student

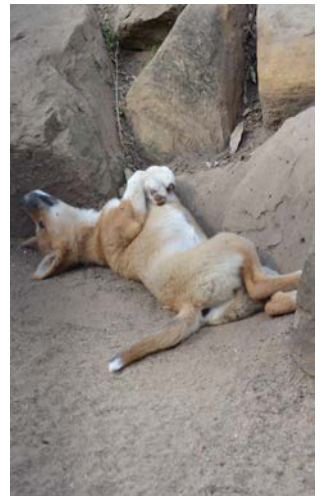
After lunch, a friendship assembly showcased the talent from both schools, truly leaving the audience speechless. The goodwill gifts exchanged by Ms Chapman and Mr Shen celebrated ten years of our sister school relationship. Our visitors then went home with their buddies, enjoying life as Australian teenagers, with many indulging in Vegemite, Tim Tams, and other Australian goodies.





# Cover page article continued

Day two - Staff from RHHS and Ningbo worked together to teach English, Art, and PE lessons to the Chinese students and their RHHS hosts. Students learnt how to say the names of Australian native animals in English and Chinese, how to do Aboriginal X-ray art and Chinese calligraphy, and how to play Oztag and Taiqi. In the afternoon, RHHS China Club students took the Chinese visitors to Featherdale Wildlife Park to explore Australia's wildlife and talked to them in Chinese about unique facts about the animals.





# Cover page article continued



Day three - the Chinese visitors and RHHS host students went on a memorable day trip on Sydney's beautiful harbour with a traditional Aboriginal welcome ceremony at Clarke Island. Not only did the students learn Indigenous words and culture, but a few tried their luck with the didgeridoo and participated in Aboriginal dances.





# Cover page article continued

Day four - Sadly we had to say goodbye to our visitors. We held a colourful farewell ceremony, with songs and dances by Tian Y W S, Feng Y and Alex B. Then Ms Chapman and Mr Shen planted a tree, proudly commemorating our ten-year sister school relationship. The tree and plaque are located opposite the Student Administration block.

The week passed by like a day! It was a wonderful chance to introduce our Chinese visitors to all that Australia has to offer, and most importantly, make lifelong friends.



# National Science Week - Astronomy Night

By Tian Y W S - Student

For 200,000 years, humans have been looking at the night sky in awe of the seemingly infinite space above them, looking at the stars as they travel from horizon to horizon. Jump to now and what has changed? Well, quite a bit actually. But the most significant is our technology. On Thursday 15 August, the wider RHHS community got the opportunity to take a gander at some very distant objects in the sky with the power of curvy glass.

At 7:30, we gathered in the hall to listen to a talk from the President of the Western Sydney Amateur Astronomy Group (WSAAG), Rob Horvart, about what we were going to see later on. After that, it was telescope time. We headed out to the courts where members of the WSAAG had set up some of their telescopes.

There were two types of telescopes out there, Dobsonians and SCTs, each giving us a glimpse of the wonders of the cosmos. Unfortunately the sports oval had their lights on so that was casting a bunch of light pollution everywhere. And there was the full moon!!!! Now that was an Avengers level threat. Nevertheless, it was a really cool experience as always, to look through some telescopes that cost too much for most people to buy, and I think everyone learnt something valuable.





# National Science Week - Australian Native Reptile Show

By Mr Duggan

Students had the opportunity to attend a reptile show hosted by Bob Withey - a herpetologist that has over 30 years experience breeding and displaying reptiles.

On display in the hall were a variety of Australian native reptiles, these included: the Eastern Long Neck Turtle, Central Bearded Dragon and Blue tongue Lizard, however, the most exciting exhibits on the day were the snakes! Bob brought in an Olive Python, Red Belly Black snake, Tiger snake, Eastern Brown snake and the deadliest snake in the world - the Fierce snake.

Students discovered the key role these reptiles play as apex predators in keeping the ecosystems that these animals belong to in check. Students also discovered how each reptile group was organised according to the biological classification system based on shared attributes; an example of this included the lizard orders which are broken down into the skinks, monitors, geckos and dragons.

A highlight of the session was that the students were able to get up close and personal with a few of the more friendly critters. Overall an exciting experience with lots of Science-based facts regarding our unique fauna.

Did you know that Australia has no tortoise species - only turtles - marine and freshwater.



# Year 1.0 Work Experience

Ms Henson Careers Adviser

Yr 1.0 students completed a successful week of work experience from Monday 5 August to Friday 9 August during Week 3 of this term.

Work experience is an important part of the career planning process, providing students with the opportunity to:

- develop skills and attitudes that may assist them in the transition from school to work
- gain insights into a specific career/field by trying out a job in a chosen industry
- experience the real world of work and collect career information
- secure casual or part-time employment if desired
- gain a work reference.

They reflected on their work experience each day, answering questions and entering their own ideas and thoughts in a work experience journal.

The questions included their:

- use of technology and equipment
- enjoyment of tasks
- new skills learnt
- rating of person
- enjoyment of the day.

Employers completed an evaluation of their employability skills in their journals.



Students can be commended on their overall high employer ratings in each area of their employer report.

Year 1.0 students displayed their employability skills in a number of industry sectors and contributed very positively to their workplaces. Congratulations Yr 1.0 2019.





# Printex Excursion

Ms Henson Careers Adviser

On Friday 16 August some interested Yr 9 and 1.0 students attended the Printex expo at the Sydney Showground. Students participated in interactive activities involved in signage and printing.

On display were state of the art printers, signage and displays. Students were particularly interested in the examples of car wrapping.

During the day students were given the opportunity to participate in a question and answer round table discussion with current apprentices and representatives of the industry. They were impressed with the Rouse Hill High School students' level and depth of questioning in regard to aspects of this industry and employment opportunities.

Congratulations to all students who attended.



# MADD 2019

Mr Camrass

At the end of Term 3, on Tuesday 24 September at 7pm, Rouse Hill High School will once again be hosting their annual MADD performance event. As always the night aims to showcase the ever improving talent of our students in Music, Arts, Dance and Drama, and feature combined performances from our local primary schools. The event promises to be as enjoyable as in previous years and holds many surprises. This year, the concert bands are planning a more contemporary pop theme to the event with original arrangements of music by Billie Eilish and Daft Punk. All students involved are rehearsing and working extremely hard to make the show not only memorable for its performances, but visually dazzling, thanks to Rouse Hill's new Entertainment class who are bringing some exciting new updates to the lighting and visuals. Other Music performances will include Rouse Hill's vocal ensembles who performed at the Opera House earlier this year, school rock bands who have competed in and won major competitions in 2019, and a new Jazz Ensemble. Tickets will be available for purchase shortly!





# PDHPE Practical Work Term 3

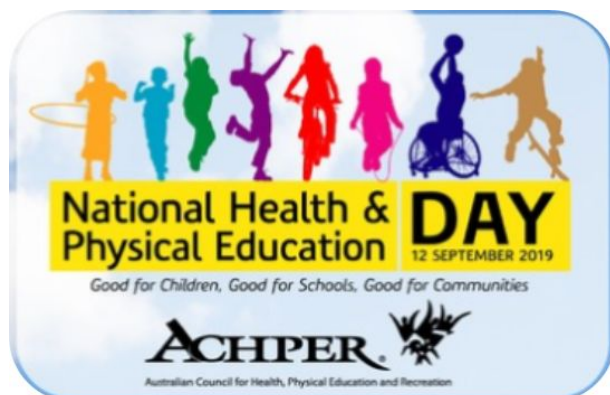
S Baldwin & L Barry

Year 10 PDHPE classes have been working on developing aspects of movement skill development, identifying influences on skill development and performance, applying mechanical principles to enhance performance and participating in lifelong physical activities by engaging in strategic based games.

The students have designed games to play that focus on building defensive and offensive strategies through various practical settings.

Students in all grades have been working hard in practical classes developing their fundamental movement skills but I would like to remind students they cannot participate without appropriate attire for practical activities.

Don't forget it's National Health and Physical Education Day on September 12, what are you going to do to get active?



Students in 10D playing Strategic Games

# Term 3 In English

Our senior students have returned from their mid-course examinations and are fast approaching the end of the HSC course. We ask them to continue writing as often as possible at home, as well as in class, in preparation for the timed conditions they will face in their HSC examinations early next term.

Year 7 are continuing with their adaptations unit, exploring connections between texts and examining the impact of context. Year 8 are creatively representing the genre of dystopian fiction. Year 9 have just begun investigation into texts from around the globe and Year 10 are currently critically studying their class novels.

Our Year 8 embedded Literacy program has also had some changes this term, with classes being given extra opportunities for differentiation and engagement within a range of group settings and with extra support of additional teachers and support staff. Students are being closely tracked in spelling and writing (with reading, grammar and punctuation to follow) and their data used to determine the next intervention for their learning and skill building in Literacy.

Writing continues to be a focus and we also remind parents of the online supplementary program, WordFlyers, that we provide access to. This is designed to engage your child in literacy development, challenge them and extend their skills.

Through the guardian summaries on Google Classroom, you are able to gain insight into the teaching and learning in your child's English class. We encourage you to check their progress on set tasks and discuss the exciting concepts and texts studied in class with them.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your child's classroom teacher.

Warm regards,  
Pip Healey  
Head Teacher English





# Term 3 in Mathematics

Mr Stanton

Our senior students have recently completed their mid-course examinations and are about to start their final internal assessment task for the year. Students are encouraged to use this remaining time to practise past HSC papers and to ask their teachers about any concepts they are still unsure about. HSC Exams will be here before you know it and one more mark can make a significant difference to your achievements.

Our year 7 students are currently working on their parallel city project. This project is designed to challenge students on their ability to use their knowledge on geometry in creating a town plan. The students have been showing great collaborative skills and the Maths faculty is looking forward to seeing the final results.



Our year 8 students have just recently completed their data project with some impressive results. Students were challenged with collecting data that was informative about their classmates and presenting this data in a number of different formats. The skills that the students developed during this project should help them with other group projects they will encounter in Maths in the future, as well as improving their skills in displaying and analysing data.

Maths Riddle. The average of a year 8 Maths test with 26 students was 56%. Fred Blogs was away the day of the test and sat his exam the next day. The new average of the class is now 57%. What was the percentage score of Fred Blogs' exam? See Mr Stanton to check your answer.

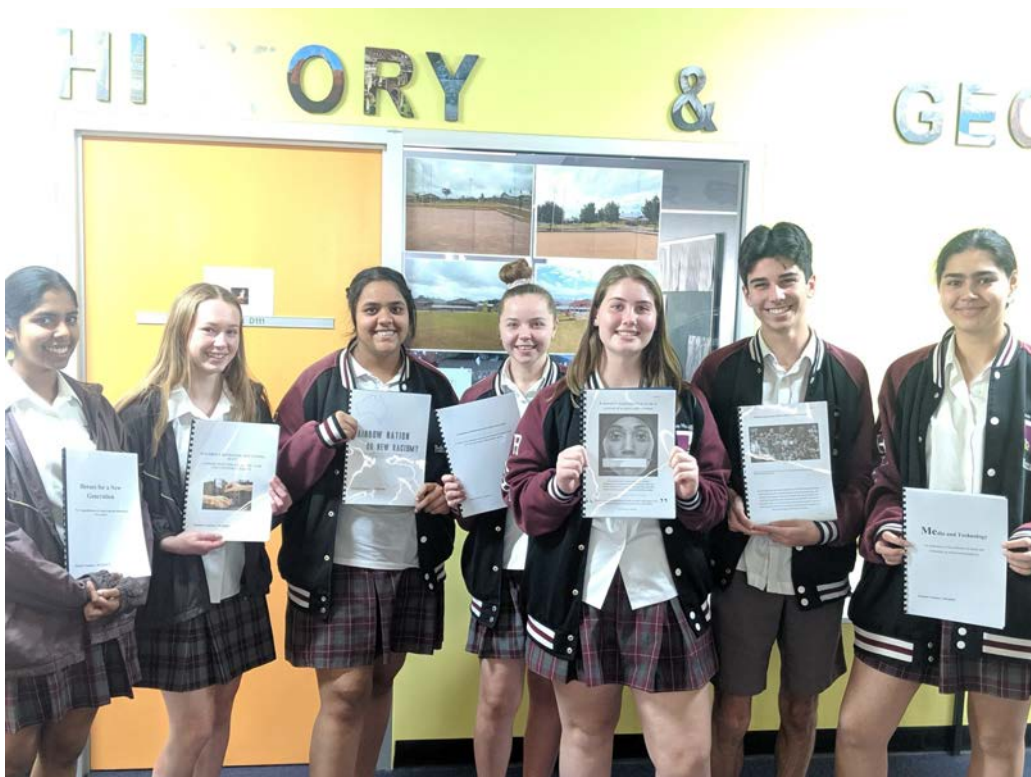
# Personal Interest Projects Completed

HSIE Faculty

Our HSC Society and Culture class has quietly been working away at their Personal Interest Projects for over a term now. This 5500-word report forms 40% of their HSC mark and requires students to conduct interviews and questionnaires, seek out professional and expert opinions, use statistics to analyse media content and a range of other time-consuming primary research.

Thankfully, the students get to choose their own topics for research, as long as it is relevant to Society and Culture. Students this year have chosen diverse topics including research into the rise of anti-vaccination beliefs in modern society, a discussion on youth activism in the climate change debate, a statistical study of how much society values certain career paths and a detailed accounting for the rise, fall and rise-again of New Age beliefs.

Regardless of topic, our students have spent countless hours putting their best efforts into the Personal Interest Projects and many have made significant commentary on the trajectory of modern society. At the very least, our two Society and Culture classes can now rest easy that 40% of their HSC is out of the way, take pride in their accomplishment and focus on the challenges yet to come as the HSC course continues.



Some of our HSC students posing with PIPs



# Tertiary Information Evening

**Ms Henson Careers Adviser**

Year 1.1 , 1.2 and their parents and carers are invited to a tertiary careers information evening on Wednesday 28 August at Cherrybrook Technology High School. Students need to register their interest via email to the Careers Adviser Ms Henson. This is a wonderful opportunity for students to ask questions of the different tertiary providers regarding their courses and tertiary application. Discussions can occur with the careers advisers representing the listed schools. The evening will deliver timely information coinciding with university open days this term.



SYDNEY'S NORTH WEST  
**COMBINED SCHOOLS**  
 PRESENTS  
**25<sup>th</sup> Annual**  
**Tertiary**  
**Careers**  
**Evening**  
**Wednesday**  
**28 Aug 2019**  
**5pm - 8pm**  
**Cherrybrook Technology High School**  
**Multipurpose Centre**

**Proudly supported by:**

- Asquith Boys High School
- Castle Hill High School
- Cherrybrook Technology High School
- Epping Boys High School
- Galston High School
- Hills Adventist College
- Oakhill College
- Pennant Hills High School
- Rouse Hill High School
- The Ponds High School

**PROGRAM**  
**Main Hall, 5.00pm - 7.30pm**

**Tertiary Market** – an opportunity to talk with Universities, TAFE, Defence Force Recruiting & Private Colleges regarding further study & career options.

**Presentations**

|                 | Lower Lecture Theatre | Upper Lecture Theatre |
|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 5:30pm - 6:00pm | UAC                   | Western Sydney        |
| 6:00pm - 6:30pm | MQU                   | ACU                   |
| 6:30pm - 7:00pm | UTS                   | Careers Advisers Q&A  |
| 7:00pm - 7:30pm | UNSW                  | TAFE                  |
| 7:30pm - 8:00pm | USYD                  | UAC                   |

# Digital Ambassadors

Mr S Minahan

On 2 July last term, 16 Year 8 students attended Western Sydney University as part of a new student driven cyberbullying initiative by Project RockIt. This program, Digital Ambassadors, has backing from social media giants Facebook and Instagram and teaches students how to engage positively on social media and promote positive online culture across their schools. These students have continued their upskilling at school, attending additional lessons equipping them with the skills to drive positive change. At the conclusion of their training, these students will work together to develop their own initiative that they will implement and grow at Rouse Hill High School. All students involved have shown great commitment and are demonstrating great leadership qualities as they strive to develop their vision.







# Help U T nderstanding eens



## A Parent's Survival Guide

**Free admission.** Session time: Thursday October 31st between 9:00 am – 4:30 pm  
Morning and afternoon tea included.

**Western Area Adolescent Team (WAAT) Buran Close, Mt Druitt NSW 2770**

RSVP to Sarah-Jane by Wednesday 23rd of October. For registration, please call  
(02) 98811230 or email registration form to [Sarah-Jane.Allen@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Sarah-Jane.Allen@health.nsw.gov.au)

An information session for parents of teenagers covering important topics  
such as Adolescent Development, Nutrition and Physical Activity, Drugs and  
Alcohol, Sexual Health and Sexuality, LGBTIQ, Cyber Issues, Mental Wellness  
and Crisis Intervention.

Facilitated by health professionals from various fields including renowned  
Doctor Melissa Kang who specialises in adolescent health.

Western Area Adolescent Team

Youth Health



# RHHS NOTICEBOARD

## P&C NEWS

The next P&C meeting will be held on Monday 9 September 2019. All parents and carers are welcome to attend.

If you would like to be added to the P&C email list, simply email the Secretary at [carley134@me.com](mailto:carley134@me.com)

## ADVERTISING IN THE ROUSE HILL HIGH NEWSLETTER

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If you are interested in advertising your business or community group in the next edition of this newsletter please visit

<http://www.rousehill-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/our-school/rules-policies/rouse-hill-high-school-policies>

and download a newsletter policy for requirements and procedures.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

30 August  
Jersey Day

3 September  
Years 9 & 1.0 Dance Ensemble - The Hills Festival

4 & 5 September  
CHS Athletics Carnival

9 September  
Years 9 & 1.0 Visual Arts - Hidden Sculpture Excursion

10 September  
Year 1.0 Forensic Science Incursion

24 September  
MADD Performance Night

26 September  
Year 12 Graduation Assembly  
Year 12 Formal

27 September  
Last day of Term 3

**Rouse Hill High School**

PO BOX 6120

Rouse Hill NSW 2155

98361890

[www.rousehill-h.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.rousehill-h.schools.nsw.edu.au)