



Pendle Hill High School

Newsletter

2008

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TERM 4 - BULLETIN NO. 3

KEY DATES TERM 4

November

- 24 P & C Meeting 4pm
25 Year 8 Statewide Science Test

December

- 1—5 Bricklaying Course
4 Year 6 Orientation Day
5 SRC Mufti Day
8 Merit Award Winners Activity Day
12 Year 10 Graduation 9.30-10.30am
15 Recognition Assembly 9.30-10.30am
17 The Big Day Out Activities Day
19 Last Day Term 4

2009

January

- 27 Staff only
28 Years 7, 11 and 12 only
29 Years 8, 9, 10 return to school

Have your contact details changed?

Please let us know so that we can adjust our records eg address, telephone/mobile number, emergency contact person.

The next newsletter
will be distributed to students
on Friday 5 December

P & C Meeting

The final meeting of the P & C for 2008 will be held at 4pm on **Monday 24 November in room A1.**

Please join us and take an active role in your child's education!

Join our Christmas Celebration

Our Students, Our School

Just over 4 weeks to go until the end of the 2008 school year - it hardly seems possible! The HSC exams are now over and Year 12 have signed out of school for the last time. The comments from the HSC Presiding Officer and supervisors have been extremely positive . . . our students, without exception, were found to be co-operative, friendly, well mannered and a delight to supervise! Year 12 are able to access their HSC results from 6am on Wednesday 17 December by telephone, internet or SMS. The Board of Studies has posted to each student an information letter outlining how to access HSC results, together with a personal identification number for each student.

Year 10 students have completed their School Certificate Test program and will get their results and School Certificate documents at their graduation assembly on Friday 12 December.

As the end of term approaches, planning has begun for a number of much anticipated end of year events - the Merit Winners Activity Day, the Big Day Out, Recognition Assembly and the SRC Christmas Appeal.

It is, however, important that students and parents understand that our expectations and standards do not change over the next few weeks of term! We will continue to expect that students will:

- ◆ attend school every day
- ◆ attend all lessons every day
- ◆ wear school uniform, including black shoes
- ◆ have all necessary equipment with them for their classes
- ◆ cooperate with their teachers and with other students
- ◆ behave appropriately both in the classroom and in the playground, and
- ◆ work at their personal best at all times.

Judy Sims
Principal

ADVANCE NOTICE

As part of our normal health procedures, the Canteen will be closed for fumigation on the last day of term and no food will be available for sale to staff or students. Students will need to bring their own food and drink on this day. B Block kitchens and the library will also be fumigated, with the last practical cooking classes to be held in Week 8.



RECOGNITION ASSEMBLY



Our final Recognition Assembly for this year will be held in the Hall at 9.30am on Monday 15 December. The Recognition Assembly will celebrate the academic, sporting, cultural and community achievements of students from Years 7, 8, 9 and 11.

YEAR 6 HIGH SCHOOL ORIENTATION DAY

Year 6 students and their parents will visit our school on Thursday 4 December between 8.45am and 11am for their orientation to high school. The program for the morning will include both information sessions and a workshop activities program. Students will be introduced to key school programs, including our Positive Behaviour for Learning program.

Responsibilities Respect Rights

SUBJECT AND SCHOOL FEES

Like all families, our school needs to pay all its bills before the end of the year!

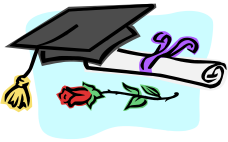
- ◆ **A Subject Fee** is charged for the study of practical subjects. This **compulsory** fee covers the cost of materials necessary for the completion of that course eg paints and clay in Visual Arts; food items in Home Economics; timber and building materials in Industrial Arts.
- ◆ **A Technology Fee** is payable to cover the cost of computer requirements and computer software. All students are required to develop information and computer technology skills as part of Board of Studies syllabus requirements in all subjects. Students must sit for a mandatory online Computer Skills test as part of the statewide School Certificate exams in Year 10.
- ◆ In each of Years 7, 9 and 11 students pay a fee of \$5 to cover the cost of the plastic photo-identity swipe card which is used to monitor and track student attendance. The card is also used as the student's Library borrowing card and is able to be used as a proof of age card outside the school.
- ◆ Pendle Hill High School receives basic funding from the State government to cover the cost of items such as salaries, maintenance and capital works.

With the agreement of this school's community, we also seek to raise additional funds to supplement our educational resources and programs to better provide for our students. This is done through the **School Contribution**.

How are school fees able to be paid?

- ◆ Fees may be paid at the school Accounts Office each day.
- ◆ Fees can be paid by cash, cheque or credit card - Visa, Bankcard and Mastercard **only**.
- ◆ Fees may be paid in whole or by instalments eg weekly or by term.
- ◆ A Student Assistance Scheme operates to support families in need. Proof of need will be required. Confidentiality and discretion are applied to such requests.

Please help us by paying all outstanding accounts as soon as possible.



YEAR 10 GRADUATION

Year 10 students will be presented with their Board of Studies School Certificate credentials and other awards at a special Graduation Assembly to be held on Friday 12 December from 9.30am.

Letters of invitation have been posted to parents of all Year 10 students. Guests are asked to be seated in the hall by 9.15am and Year 10 students are to meet on the Basketball Courts at 9am.

As this is a formal assembly, students are to wear full school uniform, including black shoes.

PLEASE HELP US!

Pendle Hill High School P & C Christmas Raffle

1st PRIZE: \$500.00 Voucher for Bike Barn

(kindly donated by Ms Julie Owens MP)

Over twenty prizes including: Huge Xmas Hamper, Cordless drill, Beach shelter, hampers for the kitchen and bathroom, wine rack, tools, car organisers, cosmetics, I pod covers and lots, lots more!

WHAT DO YOU DO TO WIN?

Just purchase or sell a book of ten tickets for \$1.00 each

Return the ticket butts and money to Mrs Bassan at the main office by
December 11th

Drawn: December 15th

All proceeds go towards helping YOUR child at school.



SMITH FAMILY CHRISTMAS APPEAL



The students and staff of Pendle Hill High School would like to make this Christmas special for thousands of disadvantaged Australian children by supporting the Smith Family Christmas Appeal.

The SRC will be holding a Mufti Day on **Friday 5th December** to raise money for the Christmas appeal. All dress-related Occupational Health and Safety requirements will continue to apply —students must be appropriately dressed — no thongs or open shoes, no midriff tops or similar! Students will be asked to donate \$2 to the appeal and will need to wear an item of red or green or other Christmas coloured clothing.

The Smith Family are also seeking donations of books and toys for their Christmas Toy and Book appeal. Collections will be made at Assembly and at roll call each day between now and Friday 12th December.

Thank you for your support

SRC, Students & Staff



HEALTH ALERT

A Year 11 student has recently been diagnosed with viral meningitis. The following fact sheet from the Sydney West Area Health Service outlines the symptoms of viral meningitis. Persons with viral meningitis usually recover within 10 days and treatment is aimed at relieving the symptoms.



Viral Meningitis

Meningitis is an inflammation of the covering of the brain. Meningitis may be caused by germs such as bacteria or viruses.

Many viruses can cause meningitis. These viruses also cause other, less severe illnesses. A very small number of persons infected with these viruses develop meningitis. These viruses are spread by infected droplets and discharges from the nose and throat, or by unclean hands contaminated with the virus.

Symptoms

The symptoms of meningitis are:

- fever
- headache
- nausea and/or vomiting
- stiff, painful neck
- eye discomfort from bright lights.

Depending on the virus causing the illness there may also be a rash, sore throat, runny nose or diarrhoea. **Anyone who has symptoms of meningitis should consult their doctor urgently.**

Symptoms of viral meningitis seldom last more than ten days. Persons who have it usually recover completely with no long-term effects. However, they may suffer tiredness for many weeks afterwards.

Treatment of viral meningitis is aimed at relieving the symptoms.

Preventing spread of infection

Some of the viruses that cause meningitis are passed in bowel motions. Those who look after a person suffering from viral meningitis, especially a baby or young child, should wash their hands thoroughly with soap and water afterwards.

Close attention to hand-washing at school and at home can help stop the spread of viral meningitis.

The main danger lies in mistaking bacterial for viral meningitis. Bacterial meningitis is a serious and potentially life-threatening illness. Anyone who has symptoms of meningitis should consult their doctor urgently.

Both viral and bacterial meningitis are diagnosed by lumbar puncture. This involves taking a sample of fluid from the base of the spine. Examination and testing of this fluid will differentiate between viral and bacterial meningitis and allow appropriate treatment to be commenced.

If you require further information please contact the Infectious Disease Team on:

Office hours 9840 3603

After hours 9845 5555 (Westmead Hospital) – page Public Health Officer