

# Arthur Phillip High School Newsletter

Visit our website [www.arthurphil\\_h.schools.nsw.gov.au](http://www.arthurphil_h.schools.nsw.gov.au)

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## Prefect Cluster

Our senior leadership team and the SRC hosted a prefect cluster afternoon where prefects and leaders from six schools attended to connect, network and share ideas on school leadership and whole school events. It was a fun and fantastic event lead by our school captains Hoorain and Deniz – a bittersweet experience as it was the last event run by our Year 12 leaders.



## Upcoming Events

Mon 9<sup>th</sup> September SRC Footy Colours Day

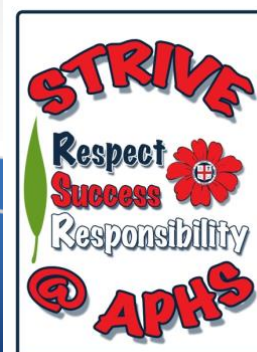
11& 12<sup>th</sup> September Year 8 Maths Exam

13<sup>th</sup> September Year 10 Maths Exam all courses

16<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> September Year 11 Preliminary Exams Eastern Campus



*At APHS we Strive*







## 44 Vietnamese Teachers Visit our School

Last Friday Arthur Phillip High School welcomed 44 trainee teachers from Vietnam to our school. These teachers work closely with the NSW Department of Education International and since APHS has a number of students enrolled through this organization they asked us to provide this learning experience for these teachers. Ms. Vance who oversees our international student program managed the visit with assistance from Ms. Mercado and her expert team of SRC leaders who showed our visitors around our school.

The visit began with Patrick Do a Year 9 student providing the Acknowledgement of Country in Vietnamese to our guests. Ms. Claus then explained what the significance of this acknowledgement was before giving a presentation about our new school building. Mr. main then did a presentation to our visitors about our digital platform APHS Connect 121 before a fantastic morning tea provided by Mrs. Chand's Year 11 Hospitality class. They produced a wonderful array of Aussie fare including vegemite sandwiches and traditional lamingtons. After finishing their lavish morning tea our guests then got the opportunity to visit some of our Year 11 English classes and see collaborative and co teaching in action.



Patrick Do Year 9 presenting the Acknowledgement of Country in Vietnamese.

## Primary School Visits

The Stage 4 Transitions team have been attending some primary schools this term, working towards supporting students in both year 5 and year 6 as they commence their journey into High School. The team consists of the Year Advisor for 2020, Julian Banks, a member of the QUEST team, Raffaele Fantasia, Stage 4 Head Teacher, Michelle Phipps and Community Liaison Officer, Mary Coupland.

Students and staff from Lidcombe Public, Parramatta Primary, Auburn North, Granville Public and Parramatta West have generously opened their doors and the team has enjoyed communicating with their students about our exciting new school, the new learning spaces and the dynamic staff of APHS.

Julian Banks as Year Advisor 2020 has been keen to build on his vision of student voice by connecting with his prospective team of students by leading discussions about their own school learning environments and explaining how these ideas might enhance their experience of APHS in 2020.

Students from all schools were asked to communicate the big questions they had about High School. These questions ranged from concerns about friendships and organisation through to queries about subject choices and the breadth of opportunities offered to students at APHS due to the expertise of the staff and the potential of the new build in augmenting and supporting student learning opportunities.

Positive feedback was gained from all primary schools regarding our visit, a number communicated their enthusiasm for continued, closer ties with APHS.

Michelle Phipps, Head Teacher Stage 4

## STEM Challenge

"Budding engineers from Year 7 at Arthur Phillip High School and Year 6 at Parramatta Public School met at Parramatta Public School on Tuesday 20th August for the final day of the 2019 STEM Challenge. The challenge for students was to design and build their own vertical garden, as a way of making food production more sustainable.

Students began the day by examining the results of their plant growth experiments from the previous challenge and exploring the strength of different structural shapes. Each student was given a budget and had to carefully consider what resources they would purchase from the shop to use in their vertical garden. The favourite part of the day was then constructing their gardens and planting them with edible plants.

At the end of the day the gardens were proudly displayed and students described what they had learned in the process of creating their garden to an audience of Year 5 and 6 students. Hopefully each garden will produce food for students in their home over the next few weeks."

Sarah Sharp, Head Teacher T&L Stage 4 & STEM Teacher







## SASS Recognition

This week is our opportunity as a school community to acknowledge the hard work done by School Administrative and Support Staff as part of National Recognition Week. Our school administration staff are truly the backbone of our school, they just make things happen. SASS staff face new challenges every day in our schools and are constantly adapting to change. National Recognition Week is the time to reflect and say thanks to these members of our school that work diligently behind the scenes making our schools run smoothly. Whether it be through: assisting students with learning difficulties in a classroom, simply helping students complete tests or assessment tasks; or the ladies in the front office who ensure the administrative and financial matters of the school are in order. There is then our General Assistant coordinating the fixing of any damages across the school. Of course there is also the SASS ladies who organise the food and materials needed for practical cooking lessons and science experiments, the staff who every day assist students who are sick or injured. There is the fantastic teacher's aides who work full time guiding and assisting our support unit students as well as the staff that work in the library and student services supporting the school's technology - our school could simply not function without these key people. They are indeed ESSENTIAL to the education we provide here at Arthur Phillip HS.

The SASS staff here at APHS play an important role in student's learning by assisting teachers with implementing educational programs, maintaining records and assisting in producing newsletters, providing emotional and social counselling to our most needy students, coordinating the school's laptop technology, the list goes on and on – each one of these staff members are totally committed to making our school a caring educational community shaping a positive future for all our students. National Recognition Week is a great time to thank all of our wonderful SAS staff for their hard work and dedication this year. So thank you: Lynn Hayes, Mary Coupland, Kay Taylor, Kirsten Kane, Wendy Moy, Cheryl Hawkins, Christine Bowen, Jane Mackay, Natalee Mount, Linda Moussa, Jane Nicholls, Katrina Bowles, Peggy Togias, Robyn Buckleigh, Ana Farias, Lynley Grant, Margaret Fenton, Barry Harland, Bruce Walters, Fatima Sheikh, Sandra van Poecke, Steven Morgan, Kelly Sheldon & Kiran Dave.



## Parramatta Public Education Excellence Awards 2029

It is with great pride that I write about Arthur Phillip HS staff being acknowledged at the Parramatta Public Education Excellence Awards Ceremony last night. We had 3 staff members receiving awards:

### Raffaele Fantasia – **Excellence in Teaching**

Raffaele is an outstanding educator who thrives on the challenges and opportunities today's educational landscape provides. He is a visionary and strategic leader who played a key role in the reinvigoration of the APHS Gifted and Talented program as well as the development of the School's of Barrabugu Co Teaching and Digital Platform Projects. Raffaele's use of technology as a tool to enhance student engagement and improve student learning outcomes, has also seen him be a key member of the school's professional learning team and project based learning team. In these roles he has been keen to share his passion for teaching, through the delivery of quality professional development, particularly in the area of future focused learning. This year Raffaele assumed the role of acting Head Teacher Teaching and Learning Mentor – where he has committed enormous amounts of energy and enthusiasm for supporting Beginning Teachers and creating an online platform to guide staff through their maintenance of accreditation. The effectiveness of this platform has seen large proportions of staff take up logging their professional learning hours and a genuine keenness to undertake more professional learning opportunities.

### Janet Nguyen – **Excellence in Early Career Teaching**

Janet is an incredibly talented and innovative teacher who demonstrates knowledge and skill in her classroom well beyond her years of teaching experience. Trained in primary education with a strong STEM focus APHS appointed her to join our Maths faculty. As an early career teacher she has distinguished herself creating, designing and delivering exemplary lessons to all her classes. With her Stage 4 classes she has created a home-room that focuses on high expectations and achievement, but also is an environment where her students feel safe to investigate and explore new areas of learning and share this learning in a collaborative environment. She was recently selected by the University of Sydney to attend a visit to Singapore to see how the teaching of STEM is tackled over there.

### Kay Taylor – **Excellence in Administration**

As the face of the school at our front counter at the Eastern Campus, Kay's positive and friendly personality is a strong welcoming element to our school. Over the past 18 months Kay has had to make significant adjustments to both her work environment and role in the school. For many years she serviced APHS in the print room but as the school prepares for its transition to our new multi storey building, it required many of the SASS staff to assume a range of new skills and roles. Kay has enthusiastically taken up this challenge, learning banking and receipting, management of student attendance, first aid and other reception duties. Kay has always played a key role in the coordination of the annual Year 12 Graduation and Presentation Day ceremonies. She is a highly trusted and valued colleague and if a staff member decides to implement a new program at APHS, Kay is usually the SASS staff member that is seen as a vital element to this new initiative being successful; not only because of her hard work and administrative skills but also because of her enthusiastic approach to all that she does at APHS.

## The Rights of Asylum Seekers - A Speech by Ivy Oware, Year 10

Mr Speaker, Fellow Parliamentarians, Members of the Public, I am honoured to deliver my My First Speech as a newly elected member of the House of Representatives and debate about an issue I am most passionate about.

Human rights. What is your definition of a human right? The right to an education? The right to safety, shelter and food? The right to object against arbitrary arrest, detention or exile? What about the right to seek asylum? What if I told you that there are people in this world right now who are experiencing these problems that could *easily* be solved by Australia?

The 'Australia Human Rights Commission' states that an asylum seeker is "a person who has fled their own country and applied for protection as a refugee." This definition proves that asylum seekers aren't leaving because they just want to travel or experience a new country, instead it affirms that they indeed have *no choice*. Discrimination. Violence and Poverty are all issues that have plagued Ghana. My homeland. My grandfather and mother made choices for me, not yet born. They saw the potential for young women, they saw opportunities, lack of violence, no discrimination, and my path was carved without me knowing. Australia was their choice...30 years on and Australia's migration policy is limiting and trivialising the plight of refugees from all over the world. The country that was a beacon of hope is now a place where mandatory detention is enshrined. The signing of these treaties has entrapped people into a state of false hope. Yet, all the while meeting international requirements in regards to migration intake.

Australia's government strongly views these people as pests, because of their country of origin or their way of travel to Australia. Those who arrive by boat are treated in a comprehensively different manner as to those who travelled by plane. You may be thinking, why does this matter? Well, according to the 'Parliament of Australia', people who arrive by boat "illegally" are arriving without a visa so they won't be accepted into Australia. Yet, the whole point of seeking asylum is to be protected and cared for while you are trying to gain citizenship. Keep in mind, that these are people! Just because Australia's Refugee Programs are more generous than other countries, does not mean that our treatment of these people isn't horrid

Australia's obligatory internment of asylum seekers has breached the human rights of asylum seekers. Although we "allow" people into our country they are treated unjustly and their rights are ignored once they are on these detention islands and centres. These people are unable to argue their case in court because they are deemed as illegal citizens. It has been acknowledged that holding these people in detention centres for a very short period of time is to investigate their reason for coming to Australia, however these people aren't held in these detention centres for only a week or maybe even a month. They are imprisoned for several months and some are even imprisoned for years with no justification as to why they are there, severely impacting their mental and physical health.

Australia's "acceptance" of asylum seekers, is just a hoax. Instead, they are "accepted" into Naru which is the property of Papua New Guinea. Papua New Guinea receives a fee to turn a blind eye to the mistreatment of these people. This large sum of money could instead be used to rehabilitate these asylum seekers into Australia and to help them receive an education for the children and to find jobs for the parents. This sounds easy enough and it is, yet Australia does not seem to want to take initiative when it comes to this transparent issue.

Human beings are being *completely* neglected and ignored when their straightforward problems could easily be solved by a first world country like Australia. These people who are seeking refuge in Australia aren't murderers, rapists or thieves, these are people just like you and I who are trying to find a better life away from their broken countries. They have families just like you and I and they have dreams and aspirations just like you and I. Yet, why are they different?

This is an issue for Australia, why can't we take action towards helping these helpless people ? It is our duty and obligation as a first world country to take initiative towards issues like this! Thank you.



# R&W

Richardson & Wrench Real Estate  
Parramatta  
0412 242 184 | Rocco Ranieri  
[www.ranw.com.au](http://www.ranw.com.au)

Richardson and Wrench, Parramatta supporting Arthur Phillip HS staff and students.



## EVERY MINUTE COUNTS....

Your child's best learning time is at the beginning of the day.....

| When your child misses just..... | that equals...                           | which is....                             | and therefore, from Kindy to Year 12, that is..... |
|----------------------------------|--|--|--|
| 10 minutes a day                 | 50 minutes of learning each week         | Nearly 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ weeks per year    | Nearly $\frac{1}{3}$ a year of school              |
| 20 minutes a day                 | 1 hour and 40 minutes of learning a week | Nearly 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ weeks per year    | Nearly a year of school                            |
| $\frac{1}{2}$ hour a day         | $\frac{1}{2}$ a day of learning a week   | 4 weeks a year                           | Nearly 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ years of learning           |
| 1 hour each day                  | 1 whole day of learning each week        | 8 weeks per year or nearly a term a year | Over 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ years of learning             |

School starts at: **8:30am** **BE ON TIME**

# Homework Centre

## **Stage 4 Homework Club**

Day: Tuesday 3 - 4pm

Where: Eastern Campus Library

## **Stage 5 Homework Club**

Day: Tuesday 3-4pm.

Where: Main Campus Library

## **Stage 6 Homework Club**

Day: Monday 3 - 4pm

Where: Main Campus Library

Hope to see you all there!