**Merry Christmas & Happy Holidays**

**FAREWELL**

It has been a real privilege to have served our school community as Principal over the past five and a half years. I would like to thank our fabulous students, totally committed school staff members and our extremely supportive parents who have made my job so exciting, enjoyable and rewarding. This will be my last Newsletter to you as Principal of Kirrawee High School as I will retire at the end of the school year after thirty four years with the Department of Education and Communities and thirty eight years teaching.

Kirrawee High is one of the top comprehensive co-educational high schools in public education and is a sought after school by students from both inside and outside the local area. The breadth and depth of quality opportunities that the school offers to students is second to none. It has been an honour as Principal to have had the opportunity to witness and support so many events where our students have excelled in the performing and creative arts, sport, sciences, humanities, languages, public speaking and debating, overseas excursions, academic competitions, public examinations and our school productions.

As our students move into future leadership positions within our society, I know their successes will have a direct impact on making our world a better place. I will always be extremely proud to say I was the Principal of Kirrawee High School.

**Thursday 18 December**
- Pupil Free Day
- ATAR Results available 9.00 am
- Yr 12 Morning Tea

**Tuesday 27 January 2015**
- Pupil Free Day

**Wednesday 28 January 2015**
- Yr 7, 11 and 12 students return to School

**Thursday 29 January 2015**
- Yr 8, 9 and 10 students return to School

**Monday 2 February**
- School Swimming Carnival at Caringbah Pool

**Wednesday 4 February**
- Yr 12 Wollongong Uni Discovery Day

**Tuesday 17 February**
- School Photo Day

**Monday 23 February**
- Make up Photo Day

**Wednesday, 4 March**
- School Vaccination Program
- Yr 12 Information Evening

**Thursday, 5 March**
- Open Morning for Yr 7 Parents
- Yr 7 (2016) Information Evening
Retiring Staff and Promotions News

On behalf of all in our school community I would like to wish Ms Rosemary Kearney, who will commence her transition to retirement from the end of the 2014 school year, all the best for her future and to thank her for her dedication to the students of NSW and in particular to the students of Kirrawee High.

Ms Kearney will be recognised at a school ceremony where she will be presented with a retirement medal from the Department of Education and Communities after ten and a half years at KHS and forty years teaching, about a third of which was spent as an English curriculum lecturer at UNSW.

Following a rigorous merit selection process two of our current staff members have been successful in gaining promotion to Head Teacher at Kirrawee High School:

- Mr Mark Mitchell – Head Teacher, Mathematics
- Mrs Emma Quan – Head Teacher, Languages

Our School Community

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those parents who have involved themselves this year in the P&C, School Council, Uniform Shop, school committees, appeal panels, finance group, fund raising, merit selection panels, our student exchange programs, school bands and ensembles, host families, debating, dance, drama, overseas excursions, book covering group and our sporting teams.

In particular, I have very much appreciated the working relationship I have had with our P&C President Jeremy Bennett and our School Council President Mick Ryan. They continue to be outstanding supporters of our school. Special mention must be made again of the work by our Uniform Shop team lead by Rachel Renphrey and Patricia Harrison for their dedication and sheer hard work, Alison Julian for her many hours of work on our Year 6 to 7 student selection panel and of course our P&C executive and School Council members.

Thank you also to all parents who have donated financially to our school through the P&C this year as these contributions directly benefit all students at Kirrawee High School through our learning and building programs. Your support and generosity is greatly appreciated by all in our school community.

Orders have been placed for the Hall air-conditioning and a new storage building for PD/H/PE on the oval adjacent to the COLA. We are hoping that these projects will be finalised in the first half of 2015.

In breaking news we are currently negotiating around a proposal to build a new eco-friendly and possibly self-sustaining double classroom using a modular construction method employing the latest cutting edge materials available. We are hopeful that if all goes well this building will also be in place by the end of semester one 2015.

The Big Band Special

The Big Band Special starring The Emma Pask Quartet, Kirrawee High School Stage Band with Special Guests The Hot Potato Band took place last Monday night to a packed audience in the school hall.

The audience on the night were knocked out by the overwhelmingly impressive musical abilities of our students, the sheer talent and professionalism of Emma Pask and her Quartet and the fun and musicality of The Hot Potato Band. On top of this the tap routines by musical theatre star Wayne Scott Kermond and his son Zan Kermond, known for his work as one of the “Tap Dogs” provided a new direction and flavour to this well established performance evening tradition.

The accolades have continued to roll in since the show for the work of our students, Kerri Lacey as Producer, Dane Laboyrie as Musical Director, Peter Reeve as Lighting and Sound Director and Ellie Moroney as General Band Support.

KHS Art Exhibition

The Visual Arts staff, led by Mili Veljanovski, put on another outstanding and impressive Art Exhibition in Week 8 this term. The scope and quality of the works impressed the many people that attended the exhibition and especially our School Education Director, Sue Crann who officially opened the exhibition. The sheer volume of work, filling our large hall, was a true credit to the Art staff and the students of KHS.

NSW Combined High Schools Sports Association Blues Awards

Three of our students were awarded a NSW Combined High Schools Sports Association Blue at a ceremony held at The Australian Technology Park last Friday afternoon. This individual award is the most prestigious in NSW school sport and is given to a student who has performed with distinction when representing NSWCHSSA.

Medals and citations were presented to:
Phillipa Cooper - Girls’ Water Polo,
Johnathan Rose - Cricket and Rhys Holden - Boys’ Water Polo
BOYS AND GIRLS 15 YEARS WATER POLO STATE FINALS

Our Boys and Girls 15 Years Water Polo teams are the 2015 State Champions following last week’s finals competition held at Raymond Terrace. All who watched our students compete were highly impressed by their skill levels and superior fitness. With many personal best performances over the course of the competition our students were given high praise for their ability to perform as a team, uncompromising focus towards each match and above all their sportsmanship.

SCHOOL SPECTACULAR

Shown on Channel 9 this year the Schools Spectacular was a glittering showcase of talent that resides in NSW Public Schools. Kirrawee High School students were again part of this production which took place over two nights.

The following students after audition were invited to be a part of the program:

Dana Alison | Jaclyn Bevan | Julian Bonser | Alana Brierley
Georgia Brouner | Melanie Cameron | Benjamin Clay | Brianna Coutts
Madeline Doyle | Emma Gobby | Elissa Golding | Jazz-Elle Heyward
Mariam John Soliman | Kaela Larkin | Joanie McElroy | Brittannie Northey
Lily Taylor | Shontelle Way | Talei Whitehouse |  

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

My best wishes to students, parents, staff and all in our community for a Merry Christmas and a safe holiday season. Farewell to our outgoing Year 12 students and their parents/guardians and the school looks forward to welcoming back our new and continuing students and their families to an exciting and opportunity filled year in 2015.

Bob Hollywood
Principal
EMMA PASK AND THE KIRRAWEE BIG BAND EVENING

On a hot December evening the Kirrawee community witnessed a fantastic celebration of music and talent. In the darkness an audience spotlight lit a lone trombonist who began an almost dreamtime call, answered by a saxophone, popping up in another section of the surprised audience. Adding another layer of rhythm from the side aisles were snare and bass drummers, who moved down in front of the stage, all players dancing to the beat, as they were finally joined by the sousaphone player, upstairs in the gallery. The sound of “Hot Potato” built to a crescendo, which brought open the curtains to reveal the Kirrawee Big Band, swinging to a funky version of the classic from Mary Poppins “Supercalafraja...”

As compere Wayne Scott Kermond observed the quality of music throughout the night was astounding. Each consecutive Kirrawee Band number featured talented players from Years 7-12, including some ex-Year 12 players, who stepped out of the band to take their moment in the spotlight. And when Emma Pask joined them on stage the audience anticipation and performance level kicked up another notch. Through a range of styles and tempo featured Kirrawee vocalists and musicians teamed with Emma to showcase the wonderful depth of Kirrawee talent. Even Emma’s own band featured Kirrawee class of 1998 drummer, Evan Mannell, now one of Sydney’s most in demand jazz drummers.

Emma herself, Kirrawee class of 1995, reminded us all of the inspiring teacher, Antony Gullick, who had been responsible for creating the tradition of these annual performance evenings, which fostered student talent and gave the unique opportunity of performing alongside professional musicians, like James Morrison, Don Burrows, Tommy Emmaneul, Ian Cooper, The Idea of North, Darren Percival and Emma Pask. Mr Hollywood, later in the show paid tribute to Mr Gullick’s significant contribution to Kirrawee High, during his time at the school. As Mr Gullick was currently in Cuba, the Principal presented his son Cameron with a school medal to honour Antony’s outstanding work with music. This recognition moment was made more moving by the spontaneous standing ovation given by the Kirrawee community audience.

Overall, it was a wonderful evening’s celebration of Kirrawee High’s musical talent, and all the students, staff and performers involved should be congratulated on making this event such a brilliant success.

Steve Smith
Deputy Principal - Curriculum
Congratulations to the following students in Years 7-10 who gained Mathematics Honour Roll status after their excellent results in the Yearly Examinations:

**2014 YEARLY EXAMINATIONS HONOUR ROLLS**
**YEARS 7 - 10**

### YEAR 7 MATHEMATICS

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<td>Lucy Slowgrove</td>
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<td>Abigail Wyllie</td>
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YEAR 7 MATHEMATICS EXCURSION

On a beautiful November day down at Audley in the Royal National Park, all Year 7 students embarked on an historic Mathematics excursion. Aligned with the new Australian Mathematics Curriculum, students participated in learning activities that focused on measurement, statistics, fractions, decimals, percentages, estimation, geometry and navigation.

The students were not only well behaved but also enthusiastically immersed themselves in the learning activities with a desire to understand the concepts being taught. Team Al-Jabr, Team Descartes, Team Infinity, Team Newton and Team Tetris are all to be congratulated for the manner in which they learnt on this day.

Excursions like this could not run without the support of the school as a whole. In particular, the Mathematics Faculty would like to thank the Year 7 Advisors, Ms Botros and Mr Olovich for joining us on the day, and Principal Hollywood and Deputy Principal Munsie for their help on the sausage sizzle lunch.

We look forward to running similar learning experiences in 2015.

Mr Mark Mitchell
Head Teacher Mathematics
**SCIENCE**

**Year 9 – ANSTO Fact or Fiction Day**

The overnight storms continued into the morning, and Mr Cook’s umbrella wasn’t large enough to keep all 50 keen young scientists dry. Thankfully, the kind and versatile educators at ANSTO had their minibus available to chauffeur us from school.

We arrived at the Entertainment Centre, excited and giddy. Not only did we get to miss out on Maths but we also got to watch movies for 90 minutes! We were welcomed with free yoyos and a periodic table. After taking our seats and trying the buttons of our hand held devices (which we later discovered would be used to vote our opinion on the movies) we had to decide. Were they fact? Were they fiction?

We began with a couple of surveys, conducted by “Doctor Who”. Once everyone was comfortable with the hand held devices they began showing snippets of movies. We were contemplating the truth of light sabres, intelligent metals, teleportation and time travel. We voted on whether it was fact, fiction or somewhere in between. We waited, as the results were calculated, eager to find out if we were right or wrong. Displayed on the screen was the percentage of votes. More often than not the majority was correct.

The ‘doctor’ then began to explain each answer.

We were lucky enough to have a student from our class, Aleisha Smith, come second out of all the schools and classes there. The new discoveries, the new technologies, all opened our minds to a whole new aspect of life. Things we thought unimaginable were becoming achievable through scientific research. There was so much we still didn’t know, therefore more to discover. After prizes were thrown into the crowd, we left the Entertainment Centre with new knowledge, light up yoyos and a new urge to discover and learn through science!

*By Narmeen Sherif*

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**TAS**

**VET Construction**

The Year 11 VET-Construction class completed a concrete pour during Term 4. Two separate slabs were laid on the day, a storeroom floor and an addition to the covered area near the entrance to the school were carried out.

This allowed the students to complete relevant competencies and obtain valuable experience in construction techniques.

Four cubic meters of concrete was wheel-barrowed and floated off to the formwork which the class had set out. After four hours of solid work a well earned BBQ was enjoyed by all.

*Mr Paul Elliott*

*Construction Teacher*

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*Kirrawee High School*  
*December 2014*
As Christmas is fast approaching the Food Technology classes have been immersing themselves in all things festive. Year 10 have completed their Celebrations module by making a decorated Christmas cake and Year 9 have been making shortbread treats.

Textiles
Year 12 Textiles class are looking forward to their trip to Melbourne early in Term One to participate in Textiles workshops and view the Jean Paul Gaultier exhibition currently showing in the National Gallery, Victoria. Students have also enjoyed a special workshop on textile techniques which included sun printing, devore paste embellishment and the use of transfer artist paper.

Year 12 Textiles students have also visited the Whitehouse Institute of Design exhibition and fashion parade. All these activities will help to inspire our Textiles students to design and create more outstanding projects for their major work.

Art Exhibition
Textiles students’ work, including the Year 12 Major Works were recently displayed at the School’s Art exhibition. Many people commented on the quality of the work and the exhibition itself. Congratulations to all the students, Mrs Clampett, Mrs Adlehoff and the Art staff who put together a great celebration of our students’ work.

Year 12 Hospitality and Construction
Construction and Hospitality students have ventured out into their respective industries to complete their final mandatory work placement this term. Work placement complements the students’ learning activities and gives them an authentic experience of the world of work. It has been pleasing to hear so many positive reports from the work place supervisors who could be prospective employers.

Donald Robinson Retirement Village
Hospitality students have assisted staff at Donald Robinson Retirement Village to serve the local residents at their 10th anniversary luncheon and Christmas luncheon. The students were praised on their skills and work effort which helped to make these important events successful. It is great to see students involved in such worthwhile community service projects. Congratulations to all involved.

Merry Christmas All
TAS staff would like to take this opportunity to wish all our school community a happy and safe Christmas break and look forward to supporting students in 2015.

Mr Robert Lawson
Head Teacher TAS
**VISUAL ART**

**VISUAL ARTS EXHIBITION 2014**

Thank you to all the people who attended the annual Visual Arts Exhibition in 2014. Your support was very much appreciated. In particular, we would like to thank our Regional Director, Sue Crann for officially opening the exhibition. It was a fabulous exhibition that displayed the individual and creative work of our Year 7 to Year 12 students.

This is our only opportunity to showcase our fabulous Year 12 HSC Body of Works. We’re very proud of our HSC artworks and we would like to congratulate our Year 12 students for working so hard all year to produce such imaginative and skilful work.

Many positive comments were made about our senior students’ work; the skill involved and the imagination employed to produce their artwork; which ranged from drawings, sculptures, paintings, digital photography, ceramics, printmaking, film, textile and fibre and collection of works.

We would like to congratulate Adam Sullivan, whose Body of Work was selected for the exhibition, Artrules. This exhibition highlights the excellent artworks produced by Year 12 students from the Sutherland and St. George regions. Artrules will be on display at Hazelhurst Regional Gallery from 13 December 2014 to 18 January 2015.

The work produced by our students from Year 11 to Year 7 was outstanding. Year 11 spent 2014 developing their skills in readiness for this Year’s HSC course by producing beautiful painting, drawing and printmaking work. Year 10 made creative steam punk sculptures and digital photographs. Year 9 impressed us with their beautiful ceramic work and digital photography based on the theme of coastal regions and a visit to Cockatoo Island. Year 7 and 8 excelled in the areas of ceramics, painting, drawing and sculpture; Year 8, in particular, made whimsical, sculptural birds of paradise, that made the exhibition very bright and colourful.

We would like to thank Ken Tucker once again for volunteering his time and expertise to paint an artwork during the exhibition night. This painting was donated to the Visual Arts department and raffled at the end of the night. It was interesting to see how Ken Tucker painted the image, working expressively with his materials and subject matter.

Many students were involved in putting up the exhibition; taking artworks down to the hall; sticking up artworks; carrying display boards; helping with refreshments; and generally ensuring that we had the exhibition ready to open by Tuesday, 25 November. Thank you to all of the students involved in making sure this exhibition was a success and in particular our entertainment for the night provided by Max Thomsett, Shaan Patel and Megan Cant.

All the hard work dedicated to setting up the exhibition by the Visual Arts staff was also very much appreciated. Without their time, labour and expert displaying skills there would not have been an exhibition. Thank you to Mrs Falconer, Mr Middleton Mrs Barclay and Mrs Williamson for being such enthusiastic Visual Arts teachers.

**Mrs. M. Veljanovski**
**Head Teacher Visual Arts and Music**

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**Sue Crann - Regional Director with (L-R)**
Neil Middleton, Mili Veljanovski and Bob Hollywood

**Jordan Baker - HSC Works**
Maxamillion

**Lena Mihailovic - Hybrid**
2014 is just about over and Kirrawee High Students have been saving some of their best till last. There’s still plenty happening. Check it out below.

**NSW CHS WATERPOLO CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Congratulations to Jessica Lerve (Year 10), Madi Reynolds, Kim Keane (Year 9) and Taylah Macauliffe (Year 8) who were part of the Sydney East Girls team, winning their 3rd consecutive CHS State Championship in Wagga Wagga.

The girls went through the round matches in 2nd spot, after only being defeated by Hunter in a close game 3-1. The team then dominated their semi final 12-5 against Sydney North to reach the final. It was a tight match, the game was even at half-time 3-3 until Sydney East produced a big 3rd quarter to take control of the match and hang on for a 7-5 win.

In the past 18 Years, Sydney East have won the title 16 times, with Hunter winning the championships in 2010 and 2011.

**SYDNEY EAST U/13 NETBALL CENTRAL VENUE DAY**

Congratulations to the U/13 Girls Netball team who made the semi finals of the Syndey East Central Venue Finals. The girls were narrowly defeated by Randiwick Girls High in a close encounter.

A big thank you to Emma Gobby and Georgia Thompson for umpiring the day.

**SUTHERLAND SHIRE INDOOR HOCKEY**

Congratulations to the Senior Boys Hockey team who won the Sutherland Shire Schools Indoor Hockey Competition on Wednesday 26 November. The boys dominated the competition, winning the final 6-1.

Well done to the Senior Girls who finished runners up, defeated by Danebank in the final 3-1.

A big thank you to Mrs Baxter for her continued support in ensuring Kirrawee teams have been a part of the competition for the past 26 Years. This has involved many hours after school. KHS Sport is indebted to the tireless service of Mrs Baxter over these past Years.

**KHS BOYS CRICKET - THE BAGGY BLUES**

In the space of just 15 days, the Kirrawee High School cricket program has suffered 3 semi-final defeats in November. Whilst it is still an achievement to make it to the semi-finals, it is a sharp reminder not to take our recent NSW State Championship and Davidson Shield success for granted.

On November 11, our Open Boys team were knocked out of the Davidson Shield by Sydney Boys High School after reaching the Sydney East semi-final. In a disappointing effort with both bat and ball, the baggy blues were restricted to just 9/95 off our 40 overs with Tom Zuber and Liam Parnell offering the only real resistance. Sydney Boys passed our total with 8 overs to spare and our defence of the Davidson Shield was over.

On November 17, the Open Boys welcomed back our Year 12 players in the NSW All-Schools semi final against Knox Grammar. The baggy blues set an imposing total of 5/208 off the 50 overs, with Daniel Fallins (113) and Jonathan Rose (56*) putting on an incredible 3rd wicket partnership off 166. Daniel’s 113 was his maiden century in any form of cricket and it was something special that it was scored in his final game for Kirrawee High School. He scored it in 121 balls and featured ten boundaries and three 6’s. Jonathan Rose’s knock was a controlled innings and one final memory in a glittering school career.

Despite needing a run a ball for the last 16 overs, Knox Grammar slowly but surely chipped away at the total and scored boundaries at key moments.
In the 100th over of the match, the baggy blues were defeated and we bid farewell to a golden generation of Year 11 and 12 cricketers: Harrison Chapman (2013 captain), Daniel Fallins, Jonathan Rose, Angus Dibley, Abhijeet Mangipudi, Joshua Campbell, Lachlan Hess (2014 captain), Justin Hess, James Hoy and Liam Parnell. All of these boys were outstanding representatives of their school and should be immensely proud of their achievements as a team just as their school is proud of them.

Finally, on November 26, the Junior Boys T20 squad lost their regional semi-final against Caringbah Selective High School. After going through the competition, the baggy blues started well in the field, bowling out Caringbah for just 95.

Unfortunately, our batting innings never got going and we were bundled out for just 49.

A big thank you to Mr Dixon, Mr Reeve and Mr Williamson who were able to take the boys during the T20 games during a busy assessment period at school.

Despite these disappointing semi-final results, we do have a talented generation of cricketers coming through in Years 7-10. We must use these results as motivation to return to Bathurst in 2016, taking nothing for granted.

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**KHS Sport on Social Media – Facebook and Instagram**

Keep up to date with all the latest Kirrawee High School Sport news on Facebook and now on Instagram. Photos will be posted from KHS sport events on the news feed when they occur.

News and information about what’s happening with KHS sport will be posted daily on the “KHS Sport” Facebook page so make sure you follow this page to receive all information.

For up to date information, results, photos and more, like “KHS Sport” on Facebook or search @khssport on Instagram:
SPORT continued

**SYDNEY EAST REGIONAL U/15 WATERPOLO FINALS**

**Boys** - KHS 14 *def* Cronulla HS 6  
**Girls** - KHS 9 *def* Port Hacking HS 3

Both teams qualified for the NSW CHS Knockout Final 8 Series in Raymond Terrace.

**BOYS AND GIRLS 15 YEARS WATER POLO STATE FINALS**  

**Day One**

Leaving school on Sunday afternoon we travelled north following a more scenic route than the traditional one. Arriving at Nelson Bay the teams settled in to their cabins and got a good night’s sleep. An early start and first game for the girls saw us win over Tuggerah Lakes after a shaky start. The boys managed a draw with what would be their adversaries in the final. The draw initiated what would be a race to secure a more solid and potentially easier Semi. Both teams managed good wins in their next two games providing an excellent preparation for the finals. Following a very hot day at the pool the teams walked into town for a meal and back for chill-out time at the caravan park.

**Day Two**

First semi match against Alstonville for the girls saw the senior members of the team really lead through what again was a shaky start. The score did not reflect this torrid match. The boys played Warners Bay in a physical match that saw minor injuries to our senior players.

Finals time saw the girls play last year’s nemesis, Lambton High. Within minutes the girls were down by two goals and searching for reasons why - *enter Jess Lerve*. With words of advice and positive suggestions from Jess the girls were able to steady and go goal-for-goal. The leaders within the team pulled out all stops in defence and created a formidable attack to pull away for the win.

The boys lined up against Balgowlah Boys High in what was a no-holds barred tussle, marred by gouging, grabbing and real aggression. The level of action was typical of boys’ finals, as was the standard of refereeing. The boys led by Coach Andrew Condos played strongly and their fitness and all around ability ensured that Kirrawee stayed in front.

Over-all it was a most pleasant trip, all the students - led by Andrew Condos and Jess Lerve represented the school in the finest manner earning a lot of kudos from the teachers and other campers at the park. The teamwork displayed by both teams was outstanding and was the difference. Our fitness also was a crucial factor and enabled the players to place enormous pressure on our opponents. Keelan Milinkovic was awarded the MVP for the boys for the second year running and it is our belief that Maddi Reynolds was very unlucky to miss out on the girl’s award.

**Mr Short, Mr Porter and Mrs McKenzie-Hicks**

I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Thank you for all your support throughout 2014 and look forward to a successful 2015 and beyond for the KHS Sports Program.

**UPCOMING SPORT DATES:**

**2015 KHS Swimming Carnival**  
Monday 2 February 2015 at Caringbah Leisure Centre

**Mr Mitchell Scott - Sports Coordinator**

MERRY CHRISTMAS  
THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT
In 2013 Kirrawee High established itself as a White Ribbon school. This year saw students across the whole school engaged in activities and discussions which highlighted the importance of stopping violence against women. One of our senior school leaders, Eamon Roffe, spoke to the students in Years 7-10 about the philosophy behind the program and how it fits in with the school’s core values. Kirrawee High students were asked to consider the question; what is respect? It was wonderful to hear the students discuss their ideas and to acknowledge that there are many ways to earn respect and to build respectful relationships.

This year students were invited to take part in a writing competition. The word “respect” or some reference to the theme “respect” had to be evident in their construction of either a poem or narrative. Students created mature, empathetic and insightful works which highlighted their awareness of the role social justice plays, not just within our school, but also on an international level.

The winners in each division were:

**Junior Division** - Ruby Hartley and Jake McGarrigle (Year 8)
**Intermediate Division** - Hannah Espie-Avatin (Year 9)

**“COMMITTED TO KNIT”**

The school has extended its social justice program, with the introduction of a lunch time knitting group aptly named “Committed to knit”. Around 25 students have volunteered to knit for the charity organisation “Wrap with Love”. The students are knitting blanket squares which will be sown together to make blankets. These colourful, warm blankets will be given to those in need both here in Australia and to those oversees.

The group would like to extend a huge thank you to Mrs Ruth Morris who has devoted hours of her time to teaching students to knit and also correcting our many mistakes. Whilst it is a very social event each week, students have demonstrated a strong affinity for charity work which we look forward to building on in the year to come.

A sample of the wonderful knitting being created by Kirrawee High School students.

Melissa Kenehan
Head Teacher Welfare
**Premier’s Reading Challenge**

Each Year Kirrawee High School students are invited to compete in the PRC. This Year a record number of 392 students registered with 305 completing the challenge. The challenge consisted of participants reading twenty books, fifteen off the PRC list and five personal choice over a period of seven months.

The challenge is aimed at improving the students’ reading and comprehension skills while broadening their knowledge of the wider world.

A huge congratulation to all students who completed the challenge. We hope students in the years to come will live up to your shining example.

**State Library Visit**

On Thursday 23 October, 30 students from Year 12 attended an excursion to the State Library of NSW, eager to gain an advantage with their research and study skills.

The program for HSC students included an orientation tour of the State Reference Library explaining their services and resources. There was also a presentation showing how to make the most of their catalogue and how to find articles in journals and newspapers.

All the attending students are now members of the State Library and have access to their services and collections, including online databases. The students were very positive about the visit and left the library empowered to tackle their research and studies.

*Mrs Cathy Barden*  
Librarian

**Debating**

The Year 8 debating has had great success throughout the Year. In the Premier’s Debating Challenge, we debated against many different schools, eventually progressing to the semi-finals. Despite an erratic adjudicator, we had a really great day and the debate against Sydney Boys High was of a very high standard. We all improved greatly throughout the Year and have developed many skills; confidence, public speaking and quick thought processing skills.

We had a lot of fun but also faced a lot of difficulty, with not laughing in the middle of the debates, (we’re working on it). We received great feedback from all adjudicators and learned more about debating this year.

Our team was fortunate enough to receive some very helpful feedback, in particular from Michaela Bassford, who came and talked to us before the semi-finals (something we learnt from her is that laughing is unforgiveable).

It was a fun experience and we all developed valuable skills and have become better debaters. We would like to thank Ms Barden and Mrs Alston for organising all of our debates.

We recommend everyone to get involved in debating - if you want to challenge yourself, as well as have fun!

*By the Year 8 Debating Team: Sophie Q, Charlotte H, Charlotte K and Mackenzie B*

**SRC Update**

Mr Cook and Miss Stanborough have now stepped in to mentor the new SRC group as Mr Middleton begins his journey with the upcoming Year 7 cohort. Since moving from Art to Science, we have been a busy group.

**SRC Training Day at Kareela Golf Club**

Our early morning session was about breaking the ice and developing our trust and comfort with each other. We started off with some energising games and shared our thoughts on what the SRC meant to each of us. We realised we had a common goal and understanding; the SRC should represent the opinions of all students and help make the school a better place.

After some refreshing snacks, the senior students led us through the proposed roles for members of the new SRC. We were asked to think about our strengths and skills by reflecting on past experiences in life. This would help us to decide which roles would suit us best and what we would ultimately be responsible for in the SRC. We pencilled in some dates for sporting events, fundraisers and wellbeing days throughout 2014 and 2015.

Our Principal Mr Bob Hollywood, and Deputy Principal, Mr Greg Munsie must have smelled the steaks cooking from Kirrawee. We welcomed them to join us for lunch, but little did they know the steaks weren’t the only things to be grilled that day.

After our meal, the students shared our plans and questioned the executives on procedures and limitations of the SRC. Their experience and opinions were welcomed by all and will greatly help us to succeed with our goals as a group. We look forward to the next 12 months and hope that our council can help ensure a vibrant, supportive and fun environment for our peers at Kirrawee High School.
**AROUND OUR SCHOOL continued**

**Put a Smile on Your Dial**

With the traditional events mapped out on the calendar, we decided that there was time for a small event to introduce ourselves to our peers and ensure they know who is representing their voice in the school.

We wanted our first event to set the focus for this year and decided it should be about promoting student wellbeing at Kirrawee High School.

The event would be called “Put a smile on your dial”, which represented the simple yet important goal for the day. We would take advantage of Marcus’ Costco membership and buy enough Chupa Chups for every student and staff in the school, and play feel-good music at lunchtime.

The day was a great success, with plenty of smiles seen singing and dancing throughout the playgrounds.

The SRC would like to thank all teachers who participated in helping us put a smile on the dial of our fellow Kirrawee High students.

**From the Year 7 Advisor**

The Year 7 students had a great start to High School, always keen to implement the school’s moto “Measure by Achievement”, by leading by example and bringing out the best in each other.

It was wonderful to host the parents and guardians at school for morning tea and to observe some of our lessons earlier on this year, followed by Parent/Teacher interviews and other school events where we meet the students’ carers. At Kirrawee High School we always aim at maintaining a strong link between school and home to provide the best care for our students.

As a Year group, we participated in programs that assisted in developing our academic, social and organisational skills. The programs included: Peer Support, Study Skills and Early Birds. We also participated in the Swimming Carnival, Athletics Carnival, Gala Day, Cross Country and sports competitions. In addition to musical concerts, dance performances, drama activities, French and Japanese cultural immersion activities, incursions and excursions organised by our supportive Year 7 teachers. Not to forget the Year 7 Hand-Ball tournament that was held in Term 2. Our tournament participants showcased their skills and outstanding leadership, as this became an ongoing way to unite the group through the consistent games during recess and lunch time. Many teachers thoroughly enjoy watching and participating in the game.

We worked on giving back to our community by participating in “Red Shield”. We wanted to make a difference by organising UNICEF day for children and assisted 400 less fortunate students in Asia to own exercises books. We also participated in Harmony Day, White Ribbon Day and Multicultural Day.

One of the highlights for our group was the Year 7 Camp that was held from on September 8 - 10, 2014 at the Royal National Park. The indoor and outdoor activities targeted team work, leadership skills and unity. It was a memorable experience for the students and the teachers, as we worked together to complete activities and challenges. Below is an insightful encounter of the camp by one of our students.

This year has been filled with many events and we will be ending the school year with a picnic lunch. We congratulate Year 7 on their achievements and we look forward to many more amazing events and accomplishments. As Year Advisors, we aim at catering for the individual needs of each student and providing them with the best possible experience at school. The well-being of your child is our first priority and it is our pleasure to be part of the dynamic welfare team at KHS.

Ms Marian Botros

Year 7 Advisor
UNICEF Day for Children
On Tuesday 21 October 2014, Kirrawee High School’s Year 7 were able to raise $211 for UNICEF and help children in less fortunate countries have over 400 exercise books to use, write in and learn from.

It is an amazing feeling knowing that what we have donated will help children learn so many different subjects! Thank you to every child who donated to help these students. You made a big difference to people who aren’t as lucky as you!

Blake Anderson 7P

Year 7 Camp
Year 7 Camp was an amazing experience for everyone involved as not only was it fun, we got to learn new skills and meet new friends. Some of the activities we did included: fishing, sailing, orienteering, indoor climbing, billy-carts, amazing race challenge, dragon boating and night water slide. We also had a bingo night and a movie night, not to forget the awesome gift bags that each of the students received. All of the activities were great fun and involved team work and co-operation.

My favourite activity was the Amazing Race Challenge as we had to work together as a group to work out how to complete different challenges and find the clues. Two of the best challenges included archery and the pool. At archery one member of our group had to hit the bullseye in order for us to move to the next challenge and surprisingly we got it very quickly. In the pool one member had to jump in and find our next clue with the help of their fellow team members guiding them. Once we had finished the Amazing Race Challenge, we were rewarded with a bag of lollies which were gone in about 5 seconds!

I think it is very important that Year 7 has a school camp as you become closer with your friends, challenge yourself to do things you never thought you would, meet new people, try new foods and learn skills that you can use in your everyday life such as leadership. Overall the activities were terrific, the food was delicious and we grew closer as a year group.

On behalf all of Year 7, I would like to thank Ms Botros for organising the camp and all of the teachers who gave up their own time to take us, Ms Carter, Ms Clampett, Mr Hunt, Ms McKensie-Hicks, Mr Munsie, Mr Olovich and Mr Simpson.

Chelsea Tasker 7I
2015 Peer Support Leadership Training Camp

The annual Year 10 Peer Support Leadership Training Camp was run at the Anglican Youthworks conference facility, Deer Park, situated on the banks of the beautiful Port Hacking River within the pristine environment of the Royal National Park. This is a very popular camp and this year we ran with a record 158 students attending.

The camp ran over two nights and three days, and the staff at Youthworks were fantastic hosts and set really challenging activities for our students, taking them well out of their comfort zone on the newly constructed “Skyweb” High Ropes course and abseiling. We also participated in some slightly competitive (ahem!! Mr Munsie) archery, canoeing (oops, I capsized into that beautiful river) and a spectacular night time water slide on the first evening, wearing as many glow-sticks as we could wrap around our wrists and ankles.

The second night of the camp was one of great celebration. Miss Stanborough and student Reece Akari both celebrated their birthdays with us, along with a 160 voice choir singing to them over cake. We enjoyed sophisticated yet casual dinner music courtesy of the very talented Year 10 musicians Max and Zoe, followed by some exciting and highly spirited rounds of Bingo called by our resident Bingo caller Mr “clickety-click” Cox. Students won lots of chocolate to take back to their rooms and were heartily sick of the stuff by the end of the night. Throughout the evening, students and teachers participated in a very funny and entertaining Talent Quest. A rather odd fellow who fancies himself as some kind of variety entertainer attempted to M.C. the whole evening, the teachers performed a very serious and rather highbrow original song,

Mr Cook demonstrated why he is a much more successful Science teacher than he is stand-up comedian and Mr Olovich crooned his best Frank Sinatra. Mr Cox gave treated us to his favourite monologue and Mr Munsie entertained us with a great yarn. Of course, the teachers were always going to be out-shone by the numerous, amazingly gifted and overly talented Kirrawee students who performed all variety of musical delights. This night was a highlight of the camp.

Throughout the whole camp, students also received valuable leadership training to become future Peer Support Leaders to the in-coming Year 7 in 2015.

I would firstly like to thank the Year 10 students who conducted themselves with the utmost sincerity, good cheer and enthusiasm throughout the camp. It really was a joy to take such a positive and optimistic group away. Everyone, including the Youthworks staff commented on what a positive (and often vocal) group this year’s Year 10 are. We all left the camp on quite a high as a result of their great spirit.

I would also like to thank the hard work, time, dedication and effort of the following teachers who worked to make the camp such an enriching pastoral care experience for the students; Mr Munsie, Mr Hunt, Mr Cox, Miss Salis, Miss Davies, Miss Stanborough, Mr Cook, Mr Olovich, Ms Fellas, Mrs Kenehan, Mrs Farmer, Mr Wang and Mr Lawson. Thanks for all your support and enthusiasm during the camp.

Mr Middleton
Peer Support Co-ordinator

From Left to Right: Miss Salis, Miss Davies, Miss Stanborough, Ms Fellas, Mr Munsie, Mr Cox, Mr Cook, Mr Olovich, Mr Hunt and Mr Middleton
DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD AT KIRRRAWEE HIGH SCHOOL

During 2014 we have seen the commencement of the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme at Kirrawee High School. The Duke of Edinburgh Award offers students achievement of a highly regarded and internationally recognised award outside of the academic arena. While undertaking the award, students acquire skills in team-work, leadership, resilience, community service, physical recreation and outdoor adventure. The award is offered at three levels; Bronze, Silver and Gold, and plays a positive role in the school’s broader student welfare program. As the program is in its infancy at Kirrawee High, we currently run Bronze level for mostly years 9 and 10.

During term 4 this year, approximately 30 students from Kirrawee High School completed their Bronze Level Training Expedition. To accommodate students’ timetables and schedules, we ran the same expedition on two separate weekends, utilising the services of Sydney Coast Walks as our guide. Our friends at Caringbah High School offered our students cheap hire of backpacks, tents and cooking stoves and even sent along two of their students currently completing their Bronze Award who needed to make up their missed walks earlier in the year. Kirrawee and Caringbah High students hit it off wonderfully during the walk and bonds were established across the two schools.

The 2014 Bronze Training Expedition was conducted in the Royal National Park. Students walked from Heathcote Station to Uloola Falls via Karloole Pools, up to Waterfall and into the Heathcote National Park, setting up camp at Kingfisher Pools. The second day was spent traversing the Bawarowang Track that runs the length of the more remote mountain ranges on the western side of the Heathcote National Park keeping to the high ridges. This is a fairly rugged and challenging track and the students handled the rugged terrain with good cheer and optimism.

I would like to personally thank the staff who gave up their weekends to participate in and supervise both walks; Mrs Farmer, Mr Hunt and Miss Maroney, Deputy Principal Mr Munsie for his assistance in helping to establish the award in the school, and Mr Hollywood for ultimately giving us the go ahead to run the award.

Mr Middleton
Duke of Edinburgh Award Co-ordinator

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### Ice-creams:
Variety of flavours by Peters Ice creams including Heaven, Drumsticks, Maxibon, Paddle Pop, Frosty Fruit, Milo cups and more at $RRP

### Confectionary:
A wide variety will be available at $RRP

### Cakes:
Variety of cakes including Carrot cake, banana bread, muffins, and more. All items are individually wrapped for hygiene reasons

### Health Bars:
Variety of health bars will be available at $RRP

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**A & D Kallimanis Catering are happy to vary the menu on the recommendations and suggestions of the school management team.**
The advertisements below are paid for by individuals and companies and as such are not to be taken as an endorsement by the school.

# Program and Course Schedule 2015

## Relating as Stepfamilies
3-session program specifically for couples either in a stepfamily or considering forming one.

- **Date:** Monday nights, 16 February to 2 March 2015
- **Time:** 6.30pm to 9.00pm
- **Cost:** $150 per couple

## Parents not Partners
6-session program for separated parents who are in conflict over children. Focused on helping you manage conflict with the other parent to bring positive outcomes for your children.

- **Date:** Monday nights, 9 February to 16 March 2015
- **Time:** 6.30pm to 9.00pm
- **Cost:** $150 per couple

## Seasons for Growth
8-session program to help young people (6 to 12 years) to understand and express experiences of significant change, loss and grief.

- **Date:** Monday afternoon, 9 February to 30 March 2015
- **Time:** 4.00pm to 5.00pm
- **Cost:** $50 per child (includes booklet and afternoon tea)

## Building Bridges
This program, for 8-12 year olds, discusses how bridges connect families that are living in two separate places. When parents separate, children often live in two homes and they need to find ways to build their own bridge between the two homes.

- **Date:** 10 February 2015
- **Time:** 4.00pm to 6.00pm
- **Cost:** Free

## Building Connections through Play
This program an attachment base program, aiming to improve father-child and mother-child relationships through encouragement of responsiveness to child’s cues. As it is an individual program, it can run at a time, convenient for father or mother, child and facilitator between 9am and 5pm, Monday to Friday. There is no charge for this program.

**Bookings essential. Please call 8522 4450**

383 Port Hacking Road South, Caringbah NSW 2229

[www.interrelate.org.au](http://www.interrelate.org.au)

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Kirrawee High School

December 2014
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**MUSIC LESSONS**

For the past 30 years Engadine Music Education Centre has provided music tuition in the local area. Our experienced teachers tailor lessons to suit each individual, from beginners to adults, for pleasure or exam preparation.

Tuition is available for all popular instruments (all styles), as well as specialist vocal coaches who develop voice, presentation & song writing skills.

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“Specialist dental care for ALL children and teenagers”

As a mother of two Dr. Hadi believes in a “Friendly, caring & gentle environment”

😊 Orthodontic treatment
• braces at competitive prices, easy payment plan, latest technology, faster working & fewer appointments
• expanders & early intervention appliances
😊 Laser technology for dental treatment & bleaching
😊 White fillings & white crowns
😊 Preventative care and early detection of decay
😊 Sedation, ‘happy gas’ & general anaesthesia available
😊 Emergencies and new patients welcome
😊 Ground level, parking at front
😊 Our patients enjoy DVD entertainment whilst being treated

**SYDNEY SUTHERLAND**

**TALE COURSE FOR WOMEN!**

The Career Education & Employment for Women course at Gymea Tafe is a course for women who wish to refresh their skills to re-enter the workforce or do further study.

Classes run 3 days per week in school hours beginning 9th February. Subjects include: Computing, Workplace Writing, Resumes, Interview Skills, First Aid and more.

Information session:
Gymea College Building A, Room AG18, The Kingsway Gymea
• 10 am Tuesday 20th January 2015

Enquiries: Phone 9710 5136