

APPLECROSS

Senior High School **SCHOOL BULLETIN**

Edition 04 - May 2014

From the Principal

It is a tremendous honour and privilege to have been appointed to the role of Principal at Applecross SHS. During my first couple of weeks at Applecross I have been very impressed by the warm welcome I have received from staff, students and parents and the real sense of commitment to the school that clearly exists.

I have been a teacher and school administrator for over 34 years, having commenced my career as a teacher at Applecross SHS in 1979. I have recently been principal at Rossmoyne SHS for the past 6 months and before that was principal of Woodvale Secondary College for eight years.

I have been fortunate to have worked in a wide variety of both metropolitan and country schools. Having also worked in or visited a number of highly effective schools in the UK, USA, Canada, China and Japan, I believe that I have a good understanding of what makes an excellent school.

I have lived in the local area for the past 15 years and both my sons attended Applecross SHS. I would like to think that I bring a parents as well as an educator's perspective to the role of principal.

My aspiration is to make Applecross SHS the very best school that it can be and I am excited by the potential benefits to be gained from the new buildings and the state of the art facilities that are currently under construction. However, the quality of the buildings and other facilities are not what makes a great school. For a school to be really excellent, it must have the right culture and ethos shared by all members of the school community.

As we approach the end of the current three-year Business Plan, I hope to engage the school community in a conversation about what type of school and type of educational experience we aspire to for our current students and those in the future. This will be an important component of the process of developing a new plan that will chart a course for the school over the next five years (2015-19). At this stage I am attempting to learn about the school structures, processes and culture as quickly as possible. I will be visiting most classes and talking to every member of staff over the next few weeks.

I look forward to meeting members of the school community over the next few months.

Paul Leech
Principal



Principal Paul Leech

News from the Languages Learning Area

French Assistant

Applecross Senior High was selected as the host school for French Assistant M. Jerome Muller for 2014. Jerome comes from a small town near Strasbourg in the north east of France. Bienvenue à Applecross, Jerome! We will share

Jerome with Leeming Senior High and West Leeming primary school.

Please make Jerome welcome.

Susette Rose

Head of Languages Learning Area



ANAPHYLAXIS UPDATE

At the beginning of term you would have received some information from the school regarding anaphylaxis. The school policy can also be found on the school website www.applecross.wa.edu.au in the Policies tab.

In an effort to raise community awareness, the Community Nurse and Program Managers have spoken about this medical condition at the recent year assemblies. Many students have friends

who have this condition and it is important that we are all aware of our responsibilities. Teachers at Applecross SHS have also received training in how to respond to an anaphylaxis occurrence at the first staff meeting for the year.

As previously mentioned the most common allergens in school aged children are peanuts, eggs, tree nuts (e.g. cashews), cow's milk, fish and shellfish, wheat, soy, sesame and certain insect stings (particularly bee stings). 1 in 20 children suffer from food allergies and 1 in 50 is allergic to peanuts.

It is possible to reduce the risk factors within the school environment with your assistance. You are encouraged to avoid sending nuts or peanuts to school. In particular peanut butter, hazelnut spread (Nutella), certain muesli bars, chocolate bars and biscuits containing nuts.

The most important factor in preventing an anaphylactic reaction is to avoid exposure to the trigger. We can all play a part in being aware of these issues.

We appreciate the cooperation of all parents, students and staff in creating a safe and healthy school environment.

Applecross P & C News

The P&C wish to extend a big thank you to Cre Millar (Canteen Manager), Peter Samson and all the canteen volunteers for their commitment and hard to work in the operation of the canteen. The profit generated from the canteen is given to the P&C and Cre has provided the P&C with a cheque for \$22,426 – a very impressive amount – many thanks Cre!

The P&C also wish to say thank you and farewell to Kathleen O'Donaghue as she leaves her role as P&C secretary to take up a role with the Special Arts Group. Her input during 2013

was very much appreciated and I know that Special Arts are fortunate to have her join their group.

The P&C would like to welcome our new secretary – Ms Ana-Maria Bernedo – it is great to have you on board.

The P&C meet at 7.30pm on the third Monday of every month. All parents are welcome – so please come along to hear what is happening and to share any ideas that you may have. Our focus is to work alongside the school to ensure that all children at Applecross benefit from the P&C contributions.

Angela Parsons
P&C President 2014

Big Day for Year 10's

Wednesday 14 May was a very big day for the Year 10 students. During the day normal classes for Periods 3, 4 and 5 were suspended so the students could attend their second Personal Best Program. The focus of these sessions was on the upcoming selection of subjects for Year 11 and 12, which will occur in the last three weeks of this term. Students attended each of three sessions, each with a different focus. One session was conducted by students from Curtin University's Student Edge program, focussing on "Save, Earn and Learn". In this the students went online to research possible pathways for their future. Another session was concerned with student study habits and how these can be improved to maximise performance across the board. School staff ran the final session which focused on career pathways and the subjects needed to

be studied to achieve this. Students who are unsure of their future careers were guided to look at the strengths in their current studies, along with their interests, to suggest future career paths. Some students took to opportunity to discuss TAFE options as well as the Flexible Learning Program.

An information evening for students and parents will be conducted on Tuesday 17 June from 6.30pm. Further information relating to this will be sent to parents.

In the evening, 160 students and nine staff set sail from Mend Street jetty on the MV Captain Cook, for a three hour journey down the Swan River to Fremantle. The students enjoyed the early evening views, as well as spending time on the dance floor, showing off their latest moves. Ms Koios also demonstrated that she was "Happy", by busting some serious moves! The highlight of the evening as usual was the stop at the East Street, East Fremantle

to take on precious cargo – 64 pizzas! The students, knowing the drill, were lined up in an orderly fashion, to collect their dinner. Luckily for some there were extras. The students had a great time socialising away from the school environment and some time spent conversing with the staff.

Four Year 10 girls also received notification that they have been accepted into Edith Cowan University's HOT program in the July or September school holidays. This is a 4-day Hands on Training course for potential nursing students. The girls will get the opportunity to get practical experience in some of the tasks that nurses would usually undertake in a controlled university environment. We congratulate Alivia Guy, Samantha Thomas, Umali Koralegedara and Kamakshi Khetia on gaining these competitive places.

Jan Michell
Year 10 Coordinator



Education Assistants Classroom Management Conference 29 April 2014

It has been a busy first few weeks at Applecross SHS with opening up our services and expertise to the community. As part of the Applecross Learning Support network all Education Assistants in the network (our contributing Primary schools and us) were invited to attend a day of professional learning together hosted in our new Library at Applecross SHS. It was a specially written course/ version of Classroom Management Strategies, a program that a majority of teaching staff have worked through over the past years, that aims to get EAs and teachers sharing approaches and language to develop positive and

safe classrooms for our students. The participants had a great networking experience as they could establish relationships with other and share the successes and challenges of their work. Many remarked that it helped their confidence to deal with behavioural issues in class, and that they were rejuvenated in their role. We hope to re convene at a later stage to complete the course and be certified. Working together with the Primary schools is a focus for us at Applecross SHS and we appreciate the support our Primary School counterparts give us in transition, special needs and in our enrolment process... as a whole community we aim for a seamless process from Primary school to High school and look forward to continuing our work as a network.

Emma Walker
Deputy Principal Years 7 - 9

Earn while you learn!

Congratulations to Year 11 student Joshua Zagari, who has secured a 2-year School Based Traineeship with Reece Plumbing. Josh will complete a Certificate II in Transport and Warehousing while working at the Reece Fremantle Store. As a student in the Applecross SHS Flexi Learning Program, Joshua attends school Monday to Wednesday and works at Reece on Thursday and Friday in addition to Saturday mornings.

This national program, which is also promoted and supported by State and Commonwealth Governments, provides the opportunity for students to combine their studies with part time work at local Reece stores.

What's in it for you

- On the job training
- A head start on your career
- Preparation for the workforce
- Developing skills
- Credits towards your Year 12 WACE certificate.
- Above award Training Wage

Reece has over 450 stores nationally and are currently looking for Year 10 and 11 students to undertake School – based Traineeships in Transport and Logistics/Warehousing at a local store.

Students can commence this program in either Years 10 or 11 and continues through to Year 12.

Reece also have a philosophy of promoting staff from within the organisation. By demonstrating initiative, ability, integrity and willingness to learn, employees are given the opportunity to enjoy a range of different roles, more responsibility and greater rewards. Many of the Reece Regional Managers started off their careers in plumbing counter sales, so there is a great career path waiting for Josh.

Julie Reed
Workplace Learning Coordinator



Josh Zagari at Reece Plumbing



CAUCASIAN CHALK CIRCLE

Listen now to the story of Applecross Senior High School's production of THE CAUCASIAN CHALK CIRCLE...

Somewhere between the temporary relocation of our Drama classroom, and the growing excitement of our pending refurbished space, we found the inspiration to put on a show. But amongst the ruins of our former school and the promising grandeur of the new, what play could we choose that encapsulated this pivotal moment in our school's history? It became clear that, THE CAUCASIAN CHALK CIRCLE, a play that advocates the merging of the old with the new whilst promoting compassion and optimism during a time of reconstruction, was a perfect fit.

The story of Grusha unfolds after the Governor of Grusinia is overthrown and Natella Abashvilli abandons the heir to the throne, Michael, to save herself. Grusha rescues the noble child and undertakes a perilous journey through the mountains. One arranged marriage later, and a meeting with Azdak the judge sees the events culminate in a courtroom where the two women have to prove who the rightful mother of the child is!

Auditions were held late last year with the then Year 11 Drama students, to begin piecing together our Year 12 acting ensemble. This was no easy task! With, songs to be written, composed and choreographed, and over 50 roles to fill, it became clear that we had to expand our horizons, so an upper school production it became! Our team of directors was ready to attack the play. Collaboration was the most effective approach to the task and our Drama space was once again home to rehearsals, (yes the dreaded Sunday mornings) singing



Caucasian Chalk Circle 2

workshops, stagecraft and many hours of energetic engagement in a complex piece of Epic Theatre.

Stage? Stage! We had to build a stage, and with our much beloved Brad Reid's shift interstate we found ourselves at a loss. We stumbled upon the hidden talents of Grant King, who helped to bring our rustic dream to life, with many castor wheels bought, and many pallets



Caucasian Chalk Circle 4

sourced... the space was created. Backstage work is demanding and the Year 10 Stagecraft class proved to be a dedicated group, continuing the tradition of outstanding commitment to the show, 'crafting' costumes, props, scenery and puppets for the production.

The production is now a week behind us and we are still reflecting on the amazing experience it provided for students to extend themselves, share their talent, connect with others and develop an appreciation of how dynamic theatre is and the joy it provides to the cast, crew and audience.

Thanks must go to the students, the many staff, parents and friends who attended the show and demonstrated that they love good theatre!

We look forward to seeing you in 2015 in our new performance space with another dazzling production.

Daniel Jonkov
Emily Van Eijnhoven
Angela Zaknich Teacher-in-Charge Drama

Don't forget to get your shot!

Year 8 Students have had their 1st HPV vaccine at school. Vaccinations can cause some anxiety in some students but their maturity and behaviour was outstanding during this process. They should be very proud of themselves and their caring and kindness to others was also noteworthy.

For Year 8 students who are taking part in the National Human Papillomavirus

(HPV) Vaccination Program, a reminder that the second dose is scheduled for next term on Thursday, 24 July.

The school-based vaccination program is being provided to protect males and females against a range of cancers and disease caused by Human Papillomavirus (HPV).

The vaccine is given as three injections over a period of six months by qualified immunisation providers. It is important to complete the full course – all three doses – for the best protection.

Eligible children who miss a dose may be able to receive the free HPV vaccine through their GP or community health clinic.

Parents and guardians should note GPs that don't bulk bill may choose to charge a consultation fee.

For more information about the National HPV Vaccination Program including an animation on how the vaccine works in the body visit australia.gov.au/hpv



Message from Charlie's Corner (Year 9)

It was very encouraging to see so many parents and students at the Year 9 Parent Information Night on Monday, 5 May. The support for the school ethos of Personal Best was really exemplified by the interest shown by all those present.

Thanks to Emma Walker (Deputy Principal Years 7 - 9) and Jenny Casserly (Program Manager Years 7 - 9) for the information they passed on regarding planning for future educational opportunities to the Year 9 student cohort of 2014. Clearly, with the changes occurring for graduation (namely the introduction of OLNA – Online Literacy and Numeracy Assessment see, link

attached http://www.scsa.wa.edu.au/Senior_Secondary/OLNA), students need to be adequately organised in their approach to their studies.

The development of a systematic home study program now will help the students create the opportunities they desire for future academic progress. In my experience as a teacher I have witnessed the frustrations students encounter when certain pathways are closed to them. This can often be avoided by developing good study habits in their early years of high school. By setting time aside to review the skills and knowledge learnt in class, students

can be assured that these good habits of study will make the journey through Upper School that much easier. As the old adage says “It is no good shutting the barn door after the horse has bolted”.

Clearly the message of the night was received when we saw the Year 9 students prepared and trying their best in the recent NAPLAN testing of Week 3. Keep it up guys! It really makes me proud to be your Year Coordinator every time I see you so engaged in the programs we have at Applecross Senior High School.

Adam Coppard
Year 9 Coordinator

Which Bank?

The Technology and Enterprise Department recently welcomed the Commonwealth Bank Foundation to deliver their free, financial education StartSmart workshops to select Year 10 and 11 Flexi and VET Business students. Delivered in our new Auditorium to students by a facilitator, StartSmart changes the way young people learn about money. By making money management interactive, engaging and fun, our students

were equipped with the confidence and competence they need to make smart decisions about money.

Our school has proudly joined the Commonwealth Bank Foundations in its mission to improve the financial literacy of Australia's young people. Overall, the program proved to be a highly beneficial experience for students and was thoroughly enjoyed by all. For more information on the program and each of the workshops we encourage you to visit www.startsmart.com.au.



StartSmart



Start Smart Commonwealth Bank.

Year 8 River Cruise – the night of nights!

On the 31 March 2014, the Year 8 River cruise took place and it was awesome. The music was really good to dance to and the DJ had great taste in music! The view from the outside of the boat was beautiful and it was a good place to cool down after dancing for hours to the latest artists. We stopped halfway through the cruise to get pizza that went really fast, everyone looked so happy eating a huge slice of meat feast on the front deck. Mr Cornish, Ms Walker and Mr Pope are some of the BEST dancers that we have ever seen, busting their ancient dance moves on the floor. Overall it was an amazing night and all the Year 8s enjoyed themselves heaps. Can't wait until next year!

Natalie and Anita
Year 8 students



Running Around In Circles

While the cast were rehearsing for the Applecross Senior High School's 2014 production of *The Caucasian Chalk Circle*, eight Year 10 students were given the opportunity to manage backstage. Our roles included prop management, costuming, and hair and make-up. Luckily we had all of Term 1 to organise costume, prop, hair and makeup designs.

We came in during the school holidays, where we fun watching the actors rehearse their production. It was great to see the play we had read Week 2 come to life. Once we gained a better understanding of the play visually, we used the rest of our time getting ourselves prepared for the whirlwind adventure ahead. There were many costumes to sew, shirts to iron and we only had a week until opening night!

On Monday 28 April we 'bumped' into the Nexus Theatre at Murdoch University, My heart was beating so fast, I could hardly breathe! I was so excited. This was a very hectic but rewarding experience, with boxes flying everywhere and props ending up in all the wrong places. After we banded together as a team, we managed to create some order amongst the chaos, setting up our hair and makeup stations as well as our props table. Little did we know this was the calm before the storm!

Opening night seemed to come sooner than anticipated. The atmosphere amongst the backstage crew can only be described as excited, teamed with a whole lot of stress. Our main focus was on getting the cast on stage, with their hair done and a full face of makeup and sparkles. During the show we stood ready in the wings for numerous quick costume and make up changes, some of which we had a time-frame of less than thirty seconds! We had to work collaboratively with the Year 11 and 12 actors to ensure we pulled this off efficiently. I am extremely proud of our efforts.

On Friday 2 May we had our closing night. After our previous two performances, the backstage crew had finally found their feet, and had the nuts and bolts of the show working like a well-oiled machine. It was extremely sad to say goodbye to the show, not only for the cast but also for us as the crew.

This experience has taught us to help each other and to work together. We had the opportunity to meet a lot more upper school students, while learning the ropes of a backstage crew. We would like to thank, Mrs Zaknich and Mr Jonkov for giving us the opportunity. It is one that we will never forget!

Anjali Bhogal
Year 10 student (Stagecraft)

New additions to the Student Services Team

This term we welcome two new Chaplains to the Student Services Team. Bronwen Speedie has worked previously as a School Chaplain in the Primary sector and also as International Student Coordinator in both the Secondary and Tertiary sectors. She will be at Applecross each Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Ivan Arthur comes to us from South Africa and has had extensive international experience

assisting in community education programs in a variety of developing countries. Ivan will be at Applecross each Monday, Tuesday and Thursday.

Finally, Ms Emma Walker has taken on the Deputy Principal's role for Years 7 - 9. Mrs Jenny Casserly will be the Years 7 - 9 Program Manager and will continue to work closely with Ms Walker to continue

the many programs that have been initiated by the Student Services team. Mrs Casserly has been teaching English at Applecross for the past term and comes to us with experience in National Partnership programs, rural teaching, student services and Career Development.

Jenny Casserly
Program Manager Years 7 - 9

Stephanie Wilson (former student)

It was wonderful to see a large page story involving one of our former students, in the Sunday Times May 4 edition.

Stephanie Wilson is now a human rights worker in the United States. She was a student at Applecross from 1998 to 2002.

We love to hear news about previous students and appreciate information being sent to the school.

Glenys Campbell
Principal



World Challenge Film Night

On the last Thursday night of Term One, a team of students and teachers who participated in the Sri Lanka World Challenge in December 2013, held a fundraiser movie night at Applecross SHS. The movie was a full-length documentary of the epic trip. This was a good time to look back on our trip, which involved a most intense trek, renovating a monastery, seeing the sights and experiencing the culture of Sri Lanka and helping many people who are less fortunate than we are.

All the students, their families and friends were invited and great food was brought in for the night, and shared around before the viewing. The documentary was shown in the new auditorium, creating an enhanced experience. The documentary altogether was amazing and all the World Challenge participants relived the many still vivid

memories. Matt Docherty spent many hours creating the documentary and members of the film club were a great help to him.

A range of heightened emotions were relived throughout the documentary and many laughs were had as well. It was a good thing we had eaten before, because after the close ups of the blood sucking leeches encountered on the trek in Sri Lanka I'm not sure anyone would have still had their appetite.

Over \$250 was raised on the night and this will be going to charities and people in need in Sri Lanka. Many thanks to Matt Docherty, Cheryl Grosse, the World Challenge participants as well as family and friends, for making this great night, with a great cause, possible. The students will treasure their Sri Lankan experience in the years to come.

Joshua Raich
Year 11 student

Anzac Day Commemorative Service

With Anzac Day falling during the holidays, the final day of last term saw Applecross lower school students participating in our Commemorative Service. This was auspicious timing since Year 9 and 10 students had just completed extensive term-long studies into past Australian conflicts. The ceremony was managed by the Year 10 Society and Environment Academic Extension Class, all of whom performed their roles with care and precision.

Veterans representing the Applecross RSL and Fremantle Army Museum were in attendance. Their presence was a powerful reminder to staff and students alike of past sacrifices made on our behalf. We also thank our special guest, Dr Dennis Jensen MHR, for his inspiring words.

All our guests were struck by the exemplary behaviour of the entire

student body, remarking after the service on the respect that everyone had shown to this solemn occasion. This ceremony showed Applecross students at their best, leaving a positive impression of the student body and of young people generally. All present are to be commended for this.

This year special recognition was made of the contribution of Indigenous soldiers to the Anzac legacy and of the ongoing sacrifices by troops currently on deployment. The service also included personal touches, such as Blake Rose's haunting interpretation of *Where Have All the Flowers Gone* and stories of our students' direct family connections to past conflicts.

I thank all the students who so ably and generously contributed to the success of the ceremony, in particular the contributions of the choir, Service Cadets who performed the wreath

laying and our three buglers organized by Mr Stapleton. Thanks also go to Mr Wilding whose audio expertise provided support to all the readers and performers.

Ray Dickson
Society and Environment Teacher



Holly Emslie opens the Service



Year 10 Applecross Students Visit the Fremantle Army Museum

Late in Term 1, Year 10 students had the opportunity to visit the Fremantle Army Museum as part of their studies on World War II in the Australian Curriculum. While there are many books written on this subject and there are many sources on the internet, student understanding was enhanced by going and seeing artefacts with their own eyes. The visit wasn't just restricted to the World War II Gallery at the museum as students also had an opportunity to look at exhibits from other conflicts such as World War I, Korea, Vietnam and from Australia's more recent peacekeeping operations. I know that students appreciated Mr Lloyd's efforts in organising this opportunity for them.

While on the subject of history, teachers have been encouraging students to enter various History Competitions. The 2015 Premier's ANZAC Tour will take 32 Western Australian secondary students to Gallipoli for the Centenary of ANZAC. The Simpson Prize is also available for Year 9 and 10 students. The National History Challenge is another competition students can enter to improve their history skills and win prizes. Students need to see their Society and Environment teacher and ask to be added to the Society and Environment Competitions Page on Connect. They can then access all the details and the site also contains hints and strategies for researching and writing about history.

Brad Snell
Society and Environment Teacher



Jake James, Nick Sowattanaskul, Jimmy Lee and Anthony D'Angelo

Public Schools Unite For Accounting & Finance!

In the spirit of co-operation and collaboration, Applecross, Leeming and Rossmoyne Senior High School students studying Stage 3 Accounting & Finance spent the first two mornings of their April holidays at a combined schools workshop held at Rossmoyne, to prepare for impending exams.

This inaugural event was organised by Accounting & Finance teachers Fran van Oyen, Gabby Raggio and Teresa Boccardo who were very pleased with the response. A majority of students from each school took the opportunity to participate in the workshops. Ms Raggio ran the workshops (she has run similar after-school programs in previous years), ably supported by Ms van Oyen and Ms Boccardo. Students were provided with revision worksheets for each of the topics, which Ms Raggio worked through, providing valuable hints and tips to take into the exam. Fully worked solutions were made available online. Light refreshments were provided as an incentive to stay focussed!

The development of the revision program has evolved due to the strong collaborative partnership between the three teachers. They originally worked together at Applecross, and have maintained a professional network, through weekly meetings. They regularly consult on matters

relating to Accounting & Finance, as well as other Business Education curriculum issues. This connection between the three teachers has earned them the respect of the Institute of Chartered Accountants, who have often invited their input into matters relating to Accounting & Finance at a high school level.

Based on the success of this event, it is hoped that similar events will take place in the future.

Fran Van Oyen
Teacher in Charge Business and Information Technology



Combined School Workshop

Thank you

Thank you to the following people without whose work the very successful production of *Caucasian Chalk Circle* would not have been possible.

Angela Zaknich for running the whole show

Dan Jonkov for absolutely everything

Emily Van Eijndhoven for original music and direction

Susette Rose for costuming

Jodine McBride front of house

Christine Mackay poster design

Kenece Halton ECU student for backstage assistance

We look forward to what next year's Dama production.

Rex Lilleyman

Deputy Principal Years 10 – 12

French Exchange 2014

Surprisingly, it was a tough decision to accept the opportunity to go to France, but I'm so glad I did. I was nervous, as I knew nobody who was going. Leading up to the 5th of April, I was counting down the days, but I still had no idea what to expect. I had heard from my exchange student, Constance, and we knew the schedule, but it was an experience I had never imagined.

Nineteen students and two French teachers Mme Spooner and Mr Pope, left Perth airport at 4:30pm on 5 April. It was a long way to go but we were all excited. We finally arrived in Charles de Gaulle airport after almost 24 hours of travelling. Constance and her dad came to pick me up from the airport in the morning. We drove to their home in a small village quite a distance from Amiens. Constance showed me around their beautiful house. I unpacked my clothes and gave them their presents. They were all very thrilled with their gifts, especially her little sister, Capucine, who loved her koala. That afternoon we went ice-skating with Ned and Benoît. It was fun, but exhausting.

The first week we spent our days at the school and on excursions. We visited sites of Amiens, to Lille, and remembrance tourism. All the activities

were enjoyable but I especially liked visiting Lille. Every morning, we took the train to school and it took us about an hour. Some mornings we had to leave very early to arrive at the school. I found it interesting that each class went for a different amount of time and school started and finished at a different time everyday. On the Friday of the first week, nine French and nine Australian students went to bowling and laser tag. It was fun and one of the highlights of the trip. When we played laser tag, we had a team of French and a Team of Australians. The Australians won by more than 22,000 points!

On the weekend, we went to the beach with Ned and Benoît. We drove there with Benoît's family, the drive taking about two hours. We ate lunch and played footy, soccer and dodge ball on the sand. After that we went to see a kite festival at another beach. It was very interesting to see the different types of kites and kite flying competitions. The next day we went to the church to sell Easter eggs to raise money for a local school. Later in the day Ned and Benoît came to Constance's house and we went across the road to play tennis, soccer and basketball. We then walked to the front of their house to see a potato farm. There was machinery, tractors and storage for potatoes, however

they farmed the potatoes outside of the town. Constance's dad then took us in the back of his truck around the farming area outside of the town where we saw some deer and other farms.

In the second week of our stay in France, we spent three days at school, one day touring the Baie de Somme and one day at Parc Asterix. Parc Asterix was great fun and another one of the highlights of the trip for me. We stayed in a group of about twelve and went on all the major rides. Riding the biggest rollercoaster, Oz Iris, was the most fun. On the last night, we had a farewell evening and we had to present our thank you speeches. I was very nervous, but I managed to say it all reasonably well. The next morning, we went to the train station in Amiens and left for Paris.

After arriving in Paris, we went to the various place we were staying, then to Rue de Rivoli to go shopping. It was so much fun and there were some great shops. The following day we visited the Eifel Tower, another highlight for me, Notre Dame and the Champs Elysée. We stayed out for dinner and then caught the Metro back. On the Monday, we went to the Louvre. Our group was planning to go to the Musée D'orsay but it closes on Mondays. We decided to revisit the Louvre. We then went out for dinner to celebrate our last night in France.

Rachael McMahon

Year 9 student



French Exchange 2014 – An Experience to Remember

When I first arrived in France, along with many others I presume, I was very nervous to even attempt to talk and felt really unsure about basically everything. The first day I was still taking everything in. I was exhausted from the long plane flight and the time difference didn't make it any easier. Despite the fact I was so tired for the first two or three days, I do recall noticing many things that were different. From the moment I stepped outside the airport, I noticed an excessive amount of kissing! Instead of a friendly hug or hearty handshake, it was "mwah, mwah" to each cheek. I had thought prior to being in Amiens that the whole kissing thing in France was just a joke- how wrong I was!

Despite the over-the-top smoking everywhere, I was very satisfied with my stay in the Brico Household. I got along with my host family like a house on fire. Sophie spoke a little English and so did Laurine. Laurine's little brother Alexandre and her Father, spoke no English at all. The pressure was on me to communicate as best I could.. I found it relatively easy to get along with Alexandre, as he was quite young and found the whole concept of an Australian staying in his house very exciting. He always asked me how my day was, wanted hugs and kisses and wanted to play outside with me. He even devised a game with me, on the swings, in their backyard, a spin on the

well-known game "hello, goodbye". The game was essentially the same, although instead of speaking in English we spoke in French: "bonjour, au revoir!"



French Exchange

In terms of going to school, it was pretty much what I had expected; school is school after all. In science and history classes the student didn't talk at all or learn through group work, it was purely just note taking. This made it pretty difficult to feel involved in the classroom, mainly because of the language barrier. Other than the English class, my favourite subject was one of Laurine's electives: a perfume-making course.

Although I enjoyed almost all of my experiences in Amiens and in Paris, my favourite day was driving around the town of Touquet with my host family. It is a smallish town about an hour and a half drive from Amiens. That was the day that Laurine and I actually started to bond, and it honestly felt like I had

another sister! We visited a beach which had amazing cliffs and instead of sand the beach was covered in pebbles and stones. We also went to a cute little French café, recommended by Laurine's "grande-mere". I had mussels in a cream and leek sauce, with bread and a café crème-brulee for dessert. It was delicious! Speaking of food, a big highlight for me on the trip was experiencing eating foie gras. When I first heard Franck (my host dad) pronounce it, I thought it sounded super fancy and delicate. As Sophie wasn't convinced that I understood what foie gras actually was (and she was right), she translated it for me; "fatty duck liver". How appetizing...Although the English translation didn't exactly sell the dish well, I ate the foie gras accompanied by crispy toast and caramelised apples and it was just 'parfait'; in fact, it is now my favourite entrée of all time!

Overall, this experience was one in a million, ten out of ten amazing! Had I not taken this opportunity, the chances were slim that I would have ever experienced a 'French party'; watched Lisa Simpson speaking French on TV; visited the Cathedral of Amiens, or even sat in a classroom and not understood anything.

Jane Lewi
Year 10 student

Australian Schools National Triathlon Championships

Oliver Stenning travelled to Bendigo during the last week of term to compete at the Australian Schools National Triathlon Championships representing Applecross SHS and WA. In the Intermediate boys event (Years 10 and 11), Oliver finished in 9th place overall. The following day he raced in the Intermediate boys triathlon relay for the WA team where the boys finished in second place, picking up the silver medal behind Queensland.

Congratulations Oliver!



Oliver Stenning Year 11

Dates to Remember 2014

Semester 1		
	Students	Teachers
Term 2	Tuesday 29 April - Friday 4 July	Monday 28 April – Friday 4 July
Break	Saturday 5 July - Sunday 20 July	Saturday 5 July – Sunday 20 July

Semester 2		
	Students	Teachers
Term 3	Tuesday 22 July - Friday 26 September	Monday 21 July - Friday 26 September
Break	Saturday 27 September - Sunday 12 October	Saturday 27 September - Sunday 12 October
Term 4	Tuesday 14 October - Thursday 18 December	Monday 13 October - Friday 19 December

School Development Days 2014

Monday	July 21
Friday	August 22
Monday	October 13
Friday	December 19

Public Holidays 2014

Monday	June 2	Western Australia Day
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Parent Events		
Monday	June 16	P&C Meeting 7.30pm
Wednesday	June 11	Year 5 Parent Night 6.45pm

Examinations		
Monday - Friday	May 26 – June 6	

Work Experience		
Tuesday - Friday	June 3 – June 6	

Applecross SHS P&C Association

The Applecross SHS P&C Association plays an active role in ensuring our children have access to a range of resources and facilities. Together with the school we are constantly reviewing the needs of our students.

Whilst the government provides funding, this only covers the costs of the school and not the replacement or refurbishment of facilities.

The P&C funding for this this year will provide:

- Upper school after school revision programs
- Turf for the pool area
- Upkeep of the pool
- Library resources
- Environment sustainability program

These are only a few of the 2014 P&C funded items. The money for these comes from the P&C contribution that parents make at the start of the year, the profit from the canteen and a commission from the uniform shop.

Between now and the completion of the building project, there will be items that will not be covered in the project's scope and budget, such as additional shade structures and outdoor equipment. The P&C together with the Principal will identify key areas where the funds will have the greatest impact.

For this to happen, we need your support. The P&C invites parents, grandparents and the wider community to make a voluntary contribution to our Tax Deductible Building Fund. Donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

Our target is \$60,000 over 3 years. This is equivalent to less than \$50 per year for each family.

As we head towards the end of the financial year, now may be the time to consider a donation that will benefit your child/children and is a tax deduction for you come 30 June. Attached to this bulletin is a Building Fund donation form, please consider filling it in and returning it to the Finance Office.

As parents we know there are lots of ways we can improve our children's learning environment, but in order for your ideas to be discussed, we need to hear them first. To do this, we invite you to come along to our regular meetings. The meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of every month in term time in the staff room upstairs in the old H block. Your input at P&C will also go towards ensuring the needs of a broad section of the school community are considered.

Thank you for your generous support and donation.

