ENJOY THE HOLIDAYS

Parents and students are reminded that there are two School Development Days at the beginning of next term, on Mon and Tues, 29th and 30th April – the additional day being for professional learning for staff on the new Australian Curriculum to be phased in next year.

All students return on Wednesday, 1st May, which will be our School Athletics Carnival all day on the oval.

Our first night of Parent/Teacher Interviews was held last night in the Library. Interviews with teachers can also be made for next Tuesday, 9th April, from 3.45 – 6.30pm. All students have been given booking sheets to take home.

Congratulations to all certificate awardees at this week’s Formal Assembly. It was great to see so many successful applications for Bronze Awards and we were all thoroughly entertained by the usual high standard of music and drama performances.

Our school ANZAC Service will be held at the end of next week. Students have also been encouraged to participate in the town march representing AHS and wearing full school uniform, on ANZAC Day (Thurs 25th April) if they are able. All school groups gather in the K-Mart carpark at 10.20am and the march is only a few blocks finishing at Civic Park at 11am, where a short service takes place. There is always a collection for Legacy during the ceremony and students are asked to bring a coin donation.

I would like to wish everyone a safe and refreshing holiday and look forward to seeing all students on Wednesday 1st May, at the Carnival.

Anne Matley
Principal

Year 12 Society and Culture

Armidale High School was fortunate to have a visit from Mrs Juliana Nkrumah and Dr Virginia Mapedzahama. Mrs Nkrumah is a mother of three from Quakers Hill and was made a Member of the Order of Australia for her significant service to the community, particularly the welfare of women and refugees. Mrs Nkrumah currently works for the NSW Police Force as the Multicultural Community Liaison Officer program coordinator. Dr Mapedzahama is a post-doctoral Fellow at the University of New England where she is lecturing first year Sociology students and continuing her research. She completed a thesis that conducted a cross-cultural comparative analysis of women’s work/life negotiations in Adelaide and in Harare. Her research interests are in women and work, African feminisms and post-colonial feminisms. The ladies spoke with our international students from the perspective of mothers who are working hard to provide opportunities for a good education for their kids. They also came to the Year 12 Society and Culture class. They spoke about the concept of 'difference'. It was a very interesting and inspiring talk. The class was very privileged to have such significant personalities and researchers visit the classroom.
Drama News

Cameron Willis, Dylan Dell and Jordan O'Donohue make it look easy, but this improvisation activity varying alliances and status between characters creates brain ache, requiring great concentration.

Sound and Fury, visiting from the U.S. to perform at the Adelaide Fringe and Perth Festivals, stopped over at Kentucky for a break from performing. While here, Richard Maritzer, Patrick Hercamp and Ryan Adam Wells provided AHS students with a workshop on improvisational techniques. These workshops have become an annual event over the past five years at Armidale High. Our students felt privileged and were inspired by this talented American theatrical troupe. For more photos see: https://edit.pws.det.nsw.edu.au/web/armidale-high-school/gallery/sound-and-fury

P & C Update

Sincere thanks to stalwarts Sue Fisher (President, pictured at this year’s Antique Fair) and Mark Keogh (Treasurer) who have given over 25 years between them to our P&C!

2013 Office Bearers are:
President: Elizabeth O’Hara
Vice Presidents: Leigh McLennan
Carolyn Lupton
Minutes Secretary: Fay Paris
Treasurer: Anne Ceapa
Delegate to Regional Conference: Richard Single

We’d love to hear from any one with even the slightest inkling to take on the role of Correspondence Secretary: let us know or simply come to the next P&C Meeting:

Tuesday 21st May
Armidale City Bowling Club
7.00 pm

Remember that it’s not too late to give a gonski as the Federal and State Education Ministers discuss this opportunity to create fairer distribution of Federal Government money: go to www.igiveagonski.com.au

Stop Press: You may have noticed a report in the Sydney Morning Herald on the 4/04/2013 (‘Gonski deadlock…’):

‘State schools would receive $390 million less in federal funding next year than last year if the government fails to put in place the Gonski reforms, analysis shows.’

‘Prime Minister Julia Gillard is negotiating with the states before a meeting on April 19…However, some states are reluctant to sign up…

A message to the Premier and Education Minister might help them decide to ‘giveagonski’ too.
North West Sport

Congratulations to the following students who have recently gained selection in North West Teams.

Girls Open Soccer - Grace Beissel, Bridie Simpson  
Boys Open Soccer - Cal MacGregor  
Boys U15 Rugby League - Phillip Quinlan  
Girls Open Hockey - Katrina Rekunow, Tahlia Rekunow, Brittany Parker  
Boys Open Hockey - Alex Brown

From the Archives

Past students Joan Gates, Robyn Chidley and Judy Toser pictured with the 2013 Armidale High School Captains, Olivia Grzazek and Angus Gallagher, beneath the clock.

Students returning to Armidale High School over the years have asked, ‘Where’s the clock’, sometimes not too fondly, even with a measure of guilt.

The clock was donated by Rex Chidley who was a member of the Leaving Classes of 1952 and 1953 and is a replacement for the one which was originally in the Old Assembly Hall outside the Deputy’s office. It was where naughty students stood in silence under the vigilant eye of a prefect. Joan Gates recalls that wearing white, rather than regulation fawn, socks was sufficient infringement of the rules to incur the punishment.

‘The Old Hall has great memories for ex-students. Every wet Wednesday saw dancing here, and the whole school fitted in even though the Hall was smaller as it was lined with big trophy cabinets,’ she said.

Armidale High on the World Stage

Armidale High School is one of eight Australian schools to be teamed with a school in America in a program sponsored by the Education Minister, Peter Garrett, and his American counterparts. Rebecca Smith, an Agriculture teacher at Armidale High who has long been involved in Regional Land care says that the choice of AHS for the honour owes much to our history of involvement with environmental concerns.

‘The establishment of the Wetlands area by Pam Oxley and her team, and, more recently, the Environment Group with Amanda Garvey stood us in good-stead’, she said.

Teachers from around Australia were identified by their local Environmental organisations and were selected based on their demonstrated commitment and enthusiasm for environmental education.

‘We have been paired with Queen Anne’s Senior High School in Maryland which has a climatic zone similar to ours in many ways. Over the ten weeks of the program, students will investigate many issues associated with the Armidale urban water cycle and will look at ways of improving water quality and sustainable water consumption. Our students will also be involved in a global forum discussing water issues and sharing knowledge with schools around Australia and the USA.”
Mrs Smith has been impressed with the number of students prepared to devote time to the project. ‘The level of understanding displayed by students, and their interest in meeting our partner school before presenting our findings in Canberra, has been overwhelming.’

Students on the [www.USAus-h2o.org](http://www.USAus-h2o.org) website for the first time.

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**PBL thought of the week**

“Respect your efforts, respect yourself. Self-respect leads to self-discipline. When you have both firmly under your belt, that’s real power.”

*Clint Eastwood*

**Pride   Respect   Responsibility**

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Photos from the UNE Science Challenge attended by 9CR