FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK

SAYONARA - Last week our students were very excited to host students and staff from Inami and Yoshie Junior High Schools. The Japanese students had been practising songs and dances which they performed at two assemblies as well as the Sayonara party. Thanks to all families who were able to take billets and a very big thank you to Mrs Deb Moore who organises this visit every year. Some students are very excited about visiting Japan next year in September.

Congratulations to the following students who have been selected in the North west Athletics Team: Elise Hay, Jayden Smith, Kieran Smith, Matur Maluach, Mel Brash, Natasha Favotto and Ryan Shaw.

Congratulations also to Brendan Thomas, a member of NW Gym, who won first place in CHS Division D Artistic Gymnastics.

Congratulations to Nic Kelly who has been selected in the Talent Development Project - a NSW DEC program for talented singers. We look forward to seeing him in Schools Spectacular along with other students from AHS who are either dancing or singing.

Come along to our MADness (music, art, drama) nights on Monday 2nd and Tuesdays 3rd September in the auditorium to see Nic, along with other performers and artists. HSC artworks will be on public exhibition and there will be different performances each night. Please take the opportunity to congratulate drama teacher, Ms Penny McCue who has won a Regional Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Those who have already installed our Skoolbag App will know that there are two Parent/Teacher Interview nights on Thursday 29th August and Wednesday 4th September. Both nights will be held in the Auditorium and appointments can be made with teachers who will be available from 3.45pm – 7pm.

Anne Matley
Principal

The school will very shortly implement the Vivo Miles Rewards solution, which is proven to engage and motivate students to perform to the best of their ability. This initiative is very closely aligned with Positive Behaviour for Learning at AHS and reinforces the core values of Pride, Respect and Responsibility.

Vivo Miles is a web-based system that rewards students for positive behaviour both inside and outside the classroom. It encourages students to save their reward points and then redeem them in an on-line shop, or donate them to charity.

Vivo Miles works for the whole school. It will help us to improve our attendance rates, academic performance and enrich behaviour and well-being throughout our school and to the benefit of every student.

Students will be issued with a membership number and have the ability to log on to the Vivo Rewards site and see for themselves what they have been rewarded for, by whom and for how many points. Parents will also have the capacity to log into a parent page and see how their young person is going, how many points they have earned and what positive behaviours they are displaying.

Keep an eye out on the SkoolBag app and mail outs for further details of this very exciting initiative.

Carolyn Lupton
Deputy Principal
Year 10 Science

Pictured left to right: Callam Godwin, Sajad Hussain and Andrew McMillan. The boys used Andrew’s model in their class presentation about the rotation and revolutions of the Sun, Earth and Moon. Andrew constructed the model himself.

P&C COLUMN
Area representative on P&C State Council

Anyone interested in nominating as a regional representative on the P&C Council is invited to contact the P&C through Armidale High School. The Council meets to discuss and develop policy which is to the benefit of the hundreds of thousands of students who attend NSW public schools.

There are four weekend meetings planned for next year. Meetings are held in the Sydney metropolitan area and reimbursement is available.

The second Annual Bush Dance

A great time was had by all last year and this year’s bush dance promises to be even bigger and better!

Please support this P&C fundraiser which comes to us thanks to the Waldorf Salad Band and a number of gifted chefs!

Next P&C Meeting

Tuesday 17th September 2013
7.00 pm
Armidale City Bowling Club
All welcome
Jindabyne 2013

Forty one Year 11 students and 3 teachers embarked on the annual excursion to Jindabyne Sport and Recreation Centre and Blue Cow Mountain. Students readily attacked the steep learning curve, to learn the skills needed to ski or snowboard. By Friday, the majority of students had conquered the blue runs.

Japanese Visit

Last week we were very fortunate to be visited by 10 students from Inami and Yoshie Junior High Schools. Students and supervisors from Nanto City (Toyama, Japan) visit AHS every year and we also visit them every 2 years. The visit this year was extremely successful with many tears on departure - by both sides. Students studying Japanese had
firsthand experience learning about Japanese culture in our classes, such as origami and calligraphy, which was enjoyed thoroughly by all. Our whole school community were also entertained at assemblies by our guests with songs and dances. We are now very excited to visit Nanto City next September on our school trip.

I would sincerely like to thank our wonderful host families and in particular the students who looked after our Japanese students every day. Bridget (Year 10), Reid, Ben S, Sarah H, Nicola (Year 9), Adam H, Sarah M, Riya, and Georgie (Year 8) - DOOMO ARIGATOU *(^o^)*

Mrs Moore

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**The Duke of Edinburgh Award**

The Duke of Ed is an enriching program inviting young people aged 14-25 to participate in a number of activities over a set length of time. Participants design their own unique program centered around their interests and passions, and is entirely voluntary.

There are four sections at Bronze and Silver level and five at Gold.

With assistance from adult Leaders, participants select and set objectives in each of the following areas:

- Volunteering: undertaking service to individuals or the community.
- Physical: improving in an area of sport, dance or fitness activities.
- Skills: developing practical and social skills and personal interests.
- Expedition: planning, training for and completion of an adventurous journey.

If you are interested in the exciting adventure please see Mr Laffan, Mrs Garvey or Mr Channon