NUMERACY DOES ROCK!

Our Numeracy Rocks Project which started last year in Maths M4 and M5 classes in both Years 7 and 8 and continued into Year 9 this year, has had a huge impact on our NAPLAN Numeracy results in Year 9. We purchased two class sets of iPads and mathematics Apps with appropriate training for teachers and students with our aim being to reduce by half the number of students in the lowest two bands in the NAPLAN test this year – see graph below. And we did! Nearly all students participating in the project demonstrated higher than expected growth (from Year 7 – 9). Have a look at Mathsplat and Math Zombies to see what they were learning!

Please see the ad in this newsletter about this P&C fundraiser.

P&C together with student designers and helpers are about to start some school beautification projects. If you would like to plant, donate or help in any other way please contact Bec Lewis at school on 67767466.

HSC examinations started on Monday and we wish all Year 12 students good luck in the coming weeks and for the future.

Anne Matley - Principal

PARENTS OF YEAR 7 and 8
Going into years 8 & 9 2015

THE BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE (BYOD) PROGRAM AT AHS

An information evening exploring the School BYOD policy and device requirements will be held in the School Library on Tuesday 28th October from 5:30 till 6:30 PM. Parents will be shown how technology can be used in the classroom and the learning outcomes the BYOD program can address in an engaging and meaningful way.

Congratulations to Alex Cormack, Year 12, who recently won the bronze medal in Metal & Engineering at the National Worldskills competition in Perth.

Congratulations to the U15 Boys Basketball Team which has progressed through to the Final 16 in the state again this year.

I look forward to seeing you at Just Girls, in the auditorium on Saturday, 25th October, from 2-5pm.
Parent Community Liaison Officer Update

Parent Community Liaison Officer Update
All students, mothers, grandmothers, aunts, sisters and girlfriends are invited to attend our P&C fundraiser, “Just Girls” an afternoon of girl’s business from glamour to gizmos, 2pm-5pm in the school auditorium on Saturday 25th October.
Females of all ages are invited, the more we can get, the more funds we will raise for the P & C to improve our school. So please bring friends and family. We are also in need of helpers to contribute to making the afternoon a success and donations for raffle prizes, if you can help please let me know.

We are also moving forward quickly with our School Beautification Project, with the first focus areas chosen and a competition for students to design our new gardens about to begin. We will still need as many helpers as we can get to help with planting the gardens, so please if you can help let me know.

Do you visit our school website www.armidale-h.schools.nsw.edu.au?
Have you downloaded our Skoolbag phone app? Search in the app store for “Armidale High School – Skoolbag”
Have you “liked” the Armidale High School facebook page?
These are all great ways of keeping up to date with our school.

If you have any spare time to donate to the school or any ideas you would like to contribute towards improving our school, I would love to hear from you.
Rebecca Lewis
Email: Rebecca.lewis58@det.nsw.edu.au
Phone: 02 6776 7410
NAPLAN results

The NAPLAN results have been sent home with students. The same report format is used for every student in Australia.
Your child's school is your first point of contact for any questions about their NAPLAN report, including:

- if you do not receive a report
- for replacement reports (Please note: ACARA does not have access to individual student reports and cannot organise the reissue of lost student reports)
- if you want further information about your child's results

Copies of individual student's test papers are not available.

How is NAPLAN performance measured?

NAPLAN is not a pass or fail type test, and is designed to illustrate the range of student performance across the country. It is not expected that all students will be able to answer all questions correctly.
Individual student performance is shown on a national achievement scale for each test. The performance of individual students can be compared to the average performance of all students in Australia.
Information on individual student reports is available in the
ACARA has also developed a video available at
http://www.nap.edu.au/national-literacy-numeracy-assessment.htm (5 min 39 s) that explains how NAPLAN results are reported, including the individual student report.
More detailed information on the reporting of NAPLAN results is available at

Students of the Year 9 Industrial Technology Timber class, including students from the support unit, undertook a combined project making toys for the students of the Sandon Public School Support unit. Presentation took place at AHS support unit, followed by lunch for all the students involved.

JAPANESE STUDY TOUR 2014

Mrs Moore's biannual Japanese study tour is a tremendous opportunity for our students to enrich their language and cultural understandings and develop skills that will serve them very well for the rest of their lives.

Accompanying Mrs Moore and her students on tour last holidays gave me a very deep insight into the usefulness of this unique experience to enhance
classroom understandings about how language works in a truly immersive context but also see how language, history and culture intertwine. It was fascinating to see students responding with delight and confidence.

Managing money and important documents, meeting deadlines and navigating public transport systems, choosing food and managing possessions, handling money and working patiently and responsibly in teams are life-long skills. The world is now open to these students who have come to understand the possibilities that travel and new cultures offer.

There is no doubt that students are challenged intellectually, physically and emotionally when participating in a 17 day tour of a foreign country. But seeing how things work and how things are done in Japan gave our students opportunities to reflect on their own society in very thoughtful ways.

The home stay aspect of this tour was of particular value. All the students thought this experiences was an absolute highlight and many bonded very closely with families.

Mrs Moore is a passionate teacher. She loves her subject and the Japanese people; she also has great affection for her students. Study tours to foreign countries are immense organisational achievements; Mrs. Moore worked very hard to give her students the chance of a lifetime and they are vey grateful for everything she has done for them.

Greg Bugden
Accompanying teacher, Japan Study Tour 2014

SECONDARY TOUCH COMPETITION

Starting Thursday the 16th October at 5:10 at Rologas Fields
Boys and Girls Competition (Ages 13-16)
30 Minute Touchdown turnaround games
Cost $25 per player
Get a team together or come down next Thursday and we will put you in a team.
For more information contact Sharon Stuart on 0433198321.
**European Study Tour**

For Prospective Students of Ancient and Modern History, French and Year 10 History

Armidale High School is planning an overseas excursion for students of Ancient and Modern History, as well as French. Other interested parties may also be welcome. The trip is open to students who are currently in **Years 8, 9 and 10**. We will be off to Italy, France and Belgium in April 2016. The trip is being organised by Mrs Tammy Cameron and Mr David Partridge in the HSIE Faculty. This trip will be an invaluable opportunity to have your child experience their respective syllabi in real life and through the information provided by lecturers of tour guides, guest speakers and museums. Additionally, if your child will be studying French as a foreign language in Years 11 and 12 or have an interest in this area, this trip will be a valuable in-country experience.

If enough numbers are secured, it is planned for the trip attendees to experience ANZAC Day at Villers-Bretonneux at the conclusion of the tour. Payment plans will be organised when the minimum number of attendees is secured. If you would like to register your interest for the trip, please contact

Mrs Tammy Cameron – tamara.cameron@det.nsw.edu.au  
Mr David Partridge – david.partridge3@det.nsw.edu.au

See Tour details on last page.
Highlights of Ancient and Modern History

A study tour for Armidale High School

Dates: 13th-27th April, 2016
Price: $6,600 per person all inclusive*

* Based on a minimum of 15 paying participants in multi-share rooms. Price may change if exchange rates, airline fuel surcharges or number of participants change significantly.

- Airfares, taxes and fuel surcharges – included
- Comprehensive travel insurance – included
- Entrance fees to sites – included
- Tips to guides, restaurants and drivers – included

Academy Travel is an Australian company which designs and manages specialised, customised international tour programs for schools, universities, and private groups.

Tour highlights
- 15-day tour specifically designed for Ancient and Modern History students of Armidale High School, covering content related to the core studies of these HSC units.
- Discover the wonders of ancient Rome and visit Vatican City, the smallest country in the world.
- Travel to the Bay of Naples and visit the “Cities of Vesuvius”, Naples, Sorrento and the chance to climb to the summit of Mount Vesuvius (weather permitting).
- See the iconic landmarks of Paris.
- Explore the battlefields, memorials and museums of the Western Front in Belgium and northern France.
- Attend the Anzac Day dawn service at the Australian National Memorial, Villers-Bretonneux.

Itinerary
Breakfast and dinner are included daily.

Day 1: 13/4 Depart Sydney in the evening.
Day 2: 14/4 Arrive Rome. Transfer to the hotel and enjoy an orientation walk with your tour leader. Overnight Rome.
Day 3: 15/4 Classical Rome. Explore the Colosseum, Palatine Hill and Roman Forum with a local guide. In the afternoon, enjoy a walking tour of the iconic landmarks of the Eternal City, including the Pantheon and Trevi Fountain. Overnight Rome.
Day 5: 17/4 To the Bay of Naples. Coach transfer to the Bay of Naples and weather permitting hike to the top of Mount Vesuvius. Overnight Bay of Naples.
Day 6: 18/4 Herculaneum & Naples. Explore the ruins of the seaside town of Herculaneum with a local guide. Time for a pizza lunch in Naples and a guided visit to the National Archaeological Museum in Naples, a repository of artworks recovered from the ruins of the Vesuvian cities. Overnight Bay of Naples.
Day 7: 19/4 Pompeii - Full day in Pompeii exploring public and private buildings, evidence of the eruption, daily life and economic activity. Spend the evening in the stunning town of Sorrento. Overnight Bay of Naples.
Day 9: 21/4 Louvre & Latin Quarter - Morning guided visit to the Louvre. Stroll through the Latin Quarter and visit Notre Dame Catheradal. Overnight Paris.
Day 10: 22/4 To the Western Front. Private coach transfer to Belgium. Visit the Passchendaele Memorial Museum and walk through recreated WWI dugouts and trenches. Overnight West Flanders.
Day 11: 23/4 Flanders battlefields - Visit the battlefields, cemeteries, memorials and museums of the Western Front in Belgium. Participate in the wreath laying ceremony at the evening Last Post Ceremony at Menin Gate. Overnight Ypres.
Day 12: 24/4 To the Somme - Coach transfer to the Somme via Fromelles. Traverse the battlefields with a local guide, including Pozieres and Le Hamel. Overnight Somme.
Day 13: 25/4 Dawn Service and departure. Attend the Anzac Day dawn service at the Australian National Monument. After free time in the centre of Arrinnes, transfer to the airport for your flight home.
Day 14: 26/4 On flight.
Day 15: 27/4 Arrive Sydney in the morning.

Please note that itinerary may be modified to suit local conditions (weather, museum openings and closings etc.)