PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

At last week’s school assembly, it gave me great pleasure to announce Milann Henderson as the Forbes High School Dux for 2012. Milann gained an excellent ATAR and will on her return from a gap year travelling, continue her studies with medicine more than likely her chosen course. At this assembly Barrick Cowal Gold Mine also presented $2500 scholarships to Hannah Prow, Taylah Hemming and Milann to support them with their tertiary studies. This is a generous contribution that Barrick has made and their ongoing support moving forward is greatly appreciated by our school.

Whilst I have not previously commented upon HSC success for 2012, it is appropriate to remind all that students who apply themselves and take advantage of the tools that they develop here at Forbes High School do succeed and at last count, twenty five of our 2012 Year 12 cohort (55%) received first round University entry offers. This is a tremendous effort for a small rural high school and whilst there are many criteria that we use to measure success, this external device tells me that the school is indeed “punching above its weight”. Well done to the staff as well who continue to sustain high standards. I remain proud of their efforts and commitment in a time when directional change is placing a great strain on morale and focus.

It was a pleasure to witness the swimming carnival two weeks ago. The house spirit, participation and the dressing up in house colours by so many of our students and staff was indeed a memory that I will treasure. There is indeed a special chemistry between the staff and students at Forbes High School. This was further highlighted by the farewell given to Mr Duncan Sharpe who retired on Friday after 35 years of service to Forbes High School. He has been a huge asset to the school and will be missed by staff and students alike. It is estimated that throughout his career he has given assistance to over 3,000 students and Sharpie will be extremely difficult to replace.

I would like to welcome two staff appointed to Forbes High School over the summer vacation. Mr Apps replaces Gary Little in the Industrial Arts Department and Ms Cassilles replaces Fiona Isaacs in the Science faculty. I hope both of you find your experience here at Forbes High School a rewarding one. Indeed some of our students have already excelled. In January Taylah Hemming and Chelsea Turner were announced as recipients of Junior Citizen of the Year Awards for their contributions within the community. Last Saturday night at the Sports Awards announced at the Returned Services Club, Jessica Pascoe received the senior sportsperson of the year award, Nick Greenhalgh senior runner up sportspersons of the year, Darcie Morrison sports all-rounder and Isabelle Cowhan was announced as Junior sportsperson of the Year. The qualities that our students show in a number of settings can never be understated. Well done to you all.

Forbes High School operates a Homework Centre every Monday night between 6 and 9 pm. It is supervised by staff from the high school and parents are encouraged to recommend to children in Years 11 and 12 to take advantage of this free service. It will help give your child an edge in preparing for the rigours of the HSC. Parents are reminded that the first parent/teacher night for 2013 is scheduled for Tuesday March 26. School will then close on Good Friday and Easter Monday but reopen on Tuesday 2 April. Year 12 half yearly examinations will take place during weeks ten and eleven. First term will conclude on Friday April 12.

It is essential that the school has accurate records. As such I implore you to notify us if residential or contact details change. In certain circumstances the school may be required to make instant contact with parents or caregivers if an injury is sustained or an issue needs to be dealt with immediately. It can be frustrating to communicate effectively when these details on our files are not accurate.

DAVID HARRIS
**SWIMMING CARNIVAL**
Our annual swimming carnival was held on Friday February 22nd. This was a day carnival and enjoyed by all. Results were as follows:

**Age Champions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Girls</th>
<th>Boys</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12yrs Claire Maslin &amp; Melissa Taylor</td>
<td>Konnor Ryan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13yrs Fiona Beslich</td>
<td>Matthew Prow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14yrs Ellie Tomlinson</td>
<td>Issac Carlisle &amp; Tom Feeney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15yrs Grace Quigley</td>
<td>Harrison Callaghan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16yrs Bronte Haynes</td>
<td>Cameron Herbert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opens Darcie Morrison</td>
<td>Jordon Watts</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

At the end of the day the House Points were as follows:
1st place – Wiradjuri – 603 points
2nd place – Gamilaroi – 505 points
3rd place – Nguri – 356 points
4th place – Burrabunya

Congratulations to Wiradjuri on their convincing win.

Farewell Mr Sharpe
The swimming carnival proved an appropriate venue for Mr Sharpe to say farewell to his students by going in his last ever flop off and relay event.
**TRAVEL THE USA!**
Mr Harris (Jnr) along with Education World Travel and a small group of travellers from the school will be travelling to the USA in January of 2014 for a School Holiday Program and YOU are invited!

**WE WANT YOU**
The trip will see you visiting sites like Disneyland, Universal Studios, Knotts Berry Farm, San Francisco AND Hollywood - you will get to spend a week with an American Family and you get to go to an American School. We travel for 3 weeks in the Christmas School holidays and we will be back for the start of the new school year.

It is good value for money, but if you are interested in joining please contact Mr Harris (Jnr) on 6852 2666 ASAP as there are only two spots left.

**SYDNEY UNIVERSITY WORKSHOPS FOR YEARS 10, 11 AND 12**
Forbes High School has been developing a strong partnership with Sydney University over the last 18 months to the benefit of both staff and students. On March 5th and 6th students from Years 10, 11 and 12 had access to a series of workshops conducted by Sydney University staff. The purpose of these workshops was to allow our students to reflect on their current study habits and on their goals beyond high school, particularly tertiary studies.

Year 10 took part in sessions to assist them in developing effective study skills as they work towards completing stage 5 and moving into senior school. The Year 11 groups participated in workshops titled *Thinking Ahead* which clarified the process of applying for university and other post-school destinations as well as identifying different tertiary scholarships available. The focus of the Year 12 workshop was similar to that of Year 11 but the students had the opportunity to begin writing personal statements that accompany many different application processes.

At FHS we strive to prepare our students for the transition to work and tertiary studies. By participating in workshops such as these, students can develop the skills and understanding needed to achieve their best results and reach their goals for life after high school.

**EFTPOS AT FORBES HIGH**
EFTPOS has finally come to Forbes High. If paying school contributions, excursions etc you can now pay by EFTPOS at the front office. Reminder that electronic payment option is still available just remember to put the student name in the payment details please.

**STEWART HOUSE**
Stewart House envelopes will be distributed shortly, they are to be returned to school by 10th May, if people wish to enter more than once they can put $2 in another envelope with their name address and school on the envelope.

**FHS SUCCESS AT FORBES SPORTSPERSON OF THE YEAR AWARDS**
The Forbes Sportsperson of the Year Awards was held on Saturday 2nd March at the Forbes Services Memorial Club. Many of the Forbes High School students were nominated for awards for 2012 and were very successful taking out all but one of the major awards. Bronte Haynes, Laura Herbert, Melanie Cowhan and Haydon Bolam received Merit Awards and Isabelle Cowhan took home a school award as well as the Junior Sportsperson for 2012. The Phillip Adams Award was won by Hamish McIntosh and quite a few of our year eight girls including Maddison Cowan, Tasha Shaw, Ellie Tomlinson, Brooke Howarth, Tiana Huggard and Tahlia Nash were part of the Forbes Netball Representative team that won the Team Award. Dylan Robb and Sam Taylor were both recognised for their achievements in Swimming and Athletics. Darcie Morrison won the All Round Sportsperson Award for a second time and Nic Greenhalgh walked away with the Sportsperson of the Year Runner Up Trophy. The Sportsperson of the Year Award was also awarded to a Forbes High student with Jessica Pascoe a clear winner for 2012. Congratulations to all of these athletes and I hope you continue to excel in the sporting arena.

SCHOOL WEBSITE
The school website is constantly being updated with new photos, calendar dates and information. Visit forbes-h.school@det.nsw.gov.au to find photos and information about our wonderful school.
P&C MEETING REPORT
The next meeting of the P&C will be Tuesday 12th March at the Forbes Services Memorial Club commencing at 7.00pm. A Canteen Committee meeting will commence at 6.15pm prior to our regular meeting and AGM. There will be positions on the executive becoming vacant this year so please come along if you feel you have something to contribute to this hard working group.

EASTER RAFFLE
The Annual Easter Raffle tickets are now on sale with tickets just $2.00 each. The P&C rely on donations for the success of this raffle. It would be appreciated if every family could donate some Easter Eggs, Soft Toys, Baskets or Easter Sweets. All donations should be left at the school office by Friday 22nd March so that prizes can be organised. There will be book sellers prizes up for grabs so if you require extra books please collect them from the school office. All raffle tickets sold or unsold need to be returned to school by Wednesday 27th March as prizes winners will be announced on Thursday 28th March.

PINK STUMPS DAY
Friday 15th March, gold coin donation Pink Stumps Day supports Australian families experiencing breast cancer. McGrath Foundation has 81 McGrath breast cancer nurses working in communities helping support more than 19300 families experiencing breast cancer. Ice cream and raffle on the day. Ask the SRC for details. FULLY ENCLOSED SHOES REQUIRED, NO SINGLET TOPS OR SHORT SHORTS

NAIDOC WEEK 2013
NAIDOC week celebrations are held across Australia each July to celebrate the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. This year there are two competitions for school students with prizes, such as Xbox, iPod, iPad and digital cameras on offer for the creative writing and iPhone5, TV, Visa card and laptop for Essay writing.

Creative Writing - entry is open to all students in years 7-9. Write a Newspaper article about a specific NAIDOC event and explain the importance to the Indigenous Community.

Essay Writing - entry open to all student in years 10-12. Explain the diversity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultures and their histories in Australia. Analysing issues associated with social justice, reconciliation and disadvantage.

For more information see Mrs Russell, entries must be received by close of business on Friday 28th June in Sydney.

BARRICK GOLD SCHOLARSHIPS
Barrick Gold presented $2,500 Scholarships to three of our past yr 12 were awarded to Hannah Prow, Taylah Hemming and Milann Henderson. Hannah was here to accept her scholarship, Camille accepted on behalf of Milann and Jake accepted on behalf of Taylah.

Thank you
Forbes High School would like to acknowledge the on going support of our student programs from Woolworths Supermarket and Barrick Gold, Lake Cowal Mine. Without these partners many programs at Forbes High would not run.
Forbes High School
Correct Footwear

**UNACCEPTABLE**

- NOT, fully enclosed
- NOT, fully enclosed
- NOT, fully enclosed black leather– heel is open.

**ACCEPTABLE**

- Fully enclosed black

**GIRLS**

- FULLY enclosed black

**BOYS**

- FULLY enclosed black leather

**WEDNESDAY ONLY**

- Leather Cross

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Term 1 - Week 6

“Education for a Better Quality of Life”
FORBES PUBLIC SCHOOL EASTER FAIR
22 March 2013 at 5.30pm in the school grounds.
Easter Chocolates, Chocolate wheel, Crazy Hair, Plants, Handicrafts, Easter Hat Parade, Lucky Dips, Cake Stall, Mechanical Bull, Jumping Castle, BBQ, drinks, donuts, popcorn, slush puppies and fairy floss.

FORBES AND DISTRICT SOCCER
Forbes and District Soccer will be holding registration days on the following dates: Sat 9th March 11am – 2pm Sat 16th March 11am – 2pm. Botanical Gardens. For enquiries please contact David Hayward at daveohl@hotmail.com or 0434 611 669.

FORBES GOLF
Frank Spice Forbes Junior Classic Sunday 14th April 2013. Junior Boys and Girls U18 ($20) Colts and Fillies Event 18-21 ($20), 9 hole cadets ($10), BBQ lunch provided. Age groups may change depending on numbers U12, U14, U16 & U18. Entries close 9th April at 5.30pm. More info phone Anthony Gordon 0458 561 156 or Andrew Grierson 6852 4233.

FORBES MYGolf Camp 15th and 16th April, Individual and group skills coaching by Jack Newton (JNJG), Eddie Emerson, Bruce McLean, Sharon Nott, Michael Brindle. Enquiries Anthony Gordon 0458 561 156. Registrations close April 9.

NATIONAL RIDE2SCHOOL DAY
The seventh annual National Ride2School Day on Friday 22 March 2013. This initiative – where children, teachers and parents are encouraged to ride, walk, scoot or skate to school – will help promote the benefits of physical activity and active transport to the health and well being of our children. Please be part of this day.

HARMONY DAY
Harmony Day is celebrated on Thursday 21st March. Forbes Shire Council are hosting a shared dinner and local book launch of Forbes’ Many Stories One Australia on Thursday 21st March at the Forbes Youth and Community Centre, corner of Press and Battye Streets Forbes commencing at 6.30pm. Everyone is welcome to attend. There is no cost for the event and everyone is invited to bring along a traditional meal to share as well as their drinks for the evening. Nic and Tom Quigley will perform for guest’s enjoyment and students from Kristen’s Dance Studio will be sure to entertain. For more information please contact Anita Morrison on 0405364512.

FORBES JUNIOR RUGBY
Forbes Junior Rugby will be conducting Come & Try nights for new and current players. Held over 3 consecutive Friday nights, 8, 15 & 22 March, 5.30 - 7.00pm at Rugby Club. Players from U7 - U17 are welcome. Great opportunity for new & returning players to learn some skills & experience the game. Events are free of charge. BBQ & soft drinks will be available to purchase for players & families. For more information please contact Megan 0427 459 891

HOST FAMILIES NEEDED FOR FORBES ROTARY
Up to four host families are wanted for an inbound Danish youth exchange student. Lukas Lund is set to arrive in Forbes in January next year for a 12 month exchange. The Rotary Club of Forbes are seeking four families, preferably with high school aged children, to host Lukas. As part of the requirements, host families will need to accommodate Lukas for around three months and involve him in their family’s life. Access to and from school and to and from extra curricular activities is essential. The aim of the exchange is to allow Lukas to experience as much of Australian culture as possible. For more information on hosting inbound student Lukas, contact Leo Butler on 6851 2280 before March 31.

VOLUNTEER HOST FAMILIES
World Education Program (WEP) is inviting you to experience another culture in your own home by becoming a volunteer host family to an international student arriving in July 2013. Our students from Italy, Belgium, Finland, France, Switzerland, The Netherlands and South America are looking forward to experiencing life in Australia, making new friends and becoming a member of an Australian family soon.

Find out more! Getting to know your student before he or she arrives brings fun and joy to everyone involved. Take the next step and contact WEP today to receive a full information pack for your family.

Sylvia Kelly Manager – Inbound Exchange Programs Phone: 1300 884 733 Email: info@wep.org.au Online: http://www.wep.org.au