

**RESPECT
RESPONSIBILITY
COMMITMENT**

RUTHERFORD TECHNOLOGY HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



2 nd April, 2015
Email: rutherford-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
www.rutherfordhs.nsw.edu.au
Telephone: 4932 5999
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<http://www.facebook.com/RutherfordTechnologyHighSchool>

DIARY DATES

2nd April - Last Day Term 1
3rd April - Good Friday
6th April - Easter Monday
7th April to 20th April - School Holidays
20th April - Staff Development Day
21st April - Students return
23rd April - Open Girls Soccer at Bolwarra Sports Complex
24th April - Zone Cross Country
28th April - Attendance BBQ
1st May - RTHS Athletics Carnival

The school calendar is updated as events are organized, therefore please continue to check our Website for updated information

OFFICE OPENING HOURS

Please be aware the office is open Monday to Friday between 8am and 4pm. Outside office hours a message may be left on the school answering machine.

Parents and caregivers are reminded an appointment is necessary before meeting with teachers as they have class, playground duty and other commitments during the school day.

UPGRADE REPORT

Stage 1 of the upgrade to the school will be handed back to the school on the 2nd April. This involves: The new car park, The administration block, Canteen covered area, Covered playing courts. This means parking will be significantly improved next term, and the new administration block will be operating for visitors. The uniform shop is also moving into the administration block and will operate there from the first Tuesday of Term 2. The work on the oval has begun, resulting in no access from the back of the school. Students will continue to arrive and leave via the gates at the front of the school.

Stage 2 will begin over the holidays with the demountables removed and the bottom car park taken over by the contractors. Whilst parking will be improved parents are reminded that the carpark is for staff only and to take note of the no parking signs and time zones when parking near the school.



SENIOR EXECUTIVE REPORT

National Assessment Program

In May this year, the National Assessment program will be carried out across Australia in the same week for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. The results of these tests will provide useful information for teachers and parents. In particular, they will help to inform teachers in their ongoing efforts to address the literacy and numeracy needs of their students across all subjects. Testing will take place over three days for all students in Years 7 and 9:

Tuesday 12th May - Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Writing.

Wednesday 13th May - Reading.

Thursday 14th May - Numeracy (Calculator and Non-calculator).

Friday 15th May - make-up day for students who have been absent and missed a test.

As well as the ongoing focus on literacy and numeracy, there will be a targeted focus with students in Years 7 and 9 in the lead up to the testing. Students have just completed the Trial NAPLAN testing. These results will be used by the school to target individual and group support.

Parent Teacher Evening

Parent Teacher Night Parent and Teacher interviews for all year groups was held on Wednesday 1st April in the School Library. The evening was an opportunity to touch base with the school to see how the transition to high school and senior school has progressed for years 7, 11 and 12 and how your yr 8, 9 or 10 child is working. If you were unable to attend this evening and wish an interview with your child's teachers please contact the school to make a time convenient to you and the teacher. There will be other Parent Teacher nights throughout the year. The bookings are conducted online – through the RTHS Student & Parent Portal.

Uniform

Please remember that as the weather becomes cooler only school uniform jumpers and jackets are acceptable at school. The vast majority of students are always in full uniform and the school takes great pride in this achievement. If you have any issues with obtaining uniform please contact the school for assistance.

School Contacts

This year is running smoothly, Year 7 students have settled in well and teachers are indicating that the rest of the school is settled and for the most part working well. Please remember that if your child has a problem or you need information please contact their Year Advisor through the school front office on Ph 49325999

Year 7 Advisor - Ms Thompson, PE Faculty

Year 8 Advisor - Mrs Basedow, Science Faculty

Year 9 Advisor - Mrs Wells, Science Faculty

Year 10 Advisor - Mr Buckie, ICT Faculty

Year 11 Advisor - Ms Thornton, Language Faculty

Year 12 Advisor - Mrs Clarke, CAPA Faculty

Focus on Reading

Regular reading is essential for students of all ages regardless of the child's current level or ability to read. The more a student reads, the better they become at reading and this also has a positive effect on a variety of literacy aspects such as their ability to comprehend what they are reading, their writing, their vocabulary and spelling. The following points can be helpful to engage your child in reading:

- ♦ One of the most important things a parent can do is model reading to their child. Children need to see their parents reading.
- ♦ Establish a routine where reading is done every night. Just 30 minutes every night can go a long way to improving your child's reading
- ♦ Choose a book that is interesting. If your child is interested in motorbikes, find a book about motorbikes or an autobiography about a famous motorcyclist.

This is just a guide and obviously not all of these methods will be appropriate for your child or their current level of reading, however some of these may be helpful particularly if your child is struggling with reading or if they have younger siblings at home it may assist them.

Attendance

In NSW parents are legally responsible for ensuring their children attend school regularly. This means all children of compulsory school-age are legally required to attend school. Compulsory school-age means between the ages of six and the minimum school leaving age. The minimum school leaving age requires all children complete Year 10 of secondary education and then participate in education, training or full-time employment until the age of seventeen. Attendance is recorded daily and a 'roll call' is conducted at 9.00am every morning. Rolls are legal documents and may be requested by courts to verify attendance of any student. At Rutherford High School, students are required to be at school before 9.00am for roll call – this includes students in Years 11. Class rolls are marked every lesson and discrepancies will be reported to Head Teachers for follow up.

Explaining Absences

Any absence, whether partial or whole day will be reported as 'unexplained' until an explanation is received. The explanation may be a letter to the roll call teacher, a FAX or phone call (as long as the reason and source of the information is documented, signed and dated by the person accepting the explanation).

- The Education Reform Act 1990 requires parents/caregivers to inform the school of the reason for any absence within 7 days. If this does not occur then the absence will be permanently recorded as 'unexplained'. The Act also instructs the school to assess the validity of the absence. Parents cannot give permission for their children to miss school unless there is sufficient justification. The School is expected to make a judgement on whether the reason is valid and this can only be done if the reason is supplied.
- If parents are aware that their child is going to be absent from school, please contact the school prior to the absence. Leave in excess of 12 days must have the approval of the Principal. Work may be organised through the Year Adviser. The Principal has the authority to issue an exemption from attendance, if the reason provided is considered to be valid.

Late to school

- Students who arrive after 9.00 am should report to the office. They will be recorded as a 'partial absence'. Late students will be issued with a late note—to be given to their classroom teacher. Students will be marked as unexplained unless a parent/caregiver a note is produced at the time of arrival.
- Unexplained repeated lateness may result in disciplinary action.
- All Years must attend roll call each day. There are no late starts for Years 11

Attendance at sport

- Sport time should not be seen as a time for appointments. Thursday is a regular school day. However, if an appointment is unavoidable at this time, an appointment card should accompany the note where possible. All sport half day passes are processed through the Admin office.
- Requests to come home without a specific justifiable reason will not be granted. It should be clear that parents/caregivers do not have the right to exempt their child from sport. The Principal alone has that power to grant exemptions in special circumstances.

Attendance, school reports and N award warnings

- The number of absences will be printed on a student's School Report. No changes will be made to absences on Official Rolls or School Reports unless it is an administrative error on the School's part.
- Regular attendance at school is essential if students are to maximise their potential. No Years are to leave the school grounds during the day (this includes lunch and recess) and in particular if students are in Years 11 or 12 and do not have a timetabled lesson, they are to be in the library, working quietly. Attendance in Years 9, 10, 11 and 12 must be above 90% for students to meet Course outcomes. Below these levels may result in 'N'warning letters for the course. Unsatisfactory attendance, less than 90% for Years 7 & 8, may result in students repeating that Year.

Attendance and Centrelink

- Centrelink will regularly ask clients proof of enrolment and attendance
- Rutherford Technology High School must complete a term report on all students accessing Abstudy. If attendance falls below an acceptable level, CENTRELINK will discontinue Abstudy payments.

Leaving school early

If students wish to leave early, they should:

- Apply for a half day pass before 9.00am at the Admin office, preferably the day before it is required.
- Half day passes will be picked up from the admin office when required.
Students will not be sent for during class time unless it's an emergency.

Simone Hughes
Deputy Principal



WELFARE REPORT

National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence

Our school registered to be part of the 2015 National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence, which was held nationwide on Friday, 20th March. The National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence (National Day of Action) is Australia's key anti-bullying event for schools. It's a day where school communities across Australia 'take a stand together' against bullying and violence.

Rutherford Technology High School is dedicated to creating supportive school environments, free from bullying, harassment and violence. By working together we are sending a clear message to young people that bullying and violence, in or outside of school, are not okay at any time.

We have a number of programs and initiatives in place to counter bullying. These include PBL lessons for all students in Years 7-10 and presentations for Year 7 and 8 students conducted by the Police Youth Liaison Officer. On Friday 21st March a whole school assembly was run by SRC students to promote the anti-bullying message. At this assembly all students were given a 'Bullying No Way' wrist band which they wore to demonstrate that they are committed to stamping out bullying at Rutherford High School.

The National Day of Action is an initiative of all Australian education ministers and is coordinated by the Safe and Supportive School Communities (SSSC) Working Group, with representatives from all Australian educational authorities.

The SSSC is also responsible for the Bullying. No Way! website which offers practical resources and information to help schools, parents and students counter bullying, harassment and violence.

<http://www.bullyingnoway.gov.au/>

National Youth Week

The second week of the school holidays is National Youth Week. During this week Maitland City Council will be running a number of events for young people. Activities include a 'Sun Street festival', 'Street Art Painting' workshops, 'Shred' skate competition, 'Swomp Stomp' community festival and the 'Sun Street Festival'. See the flyers at the end of the newsletter for further details.

Kris Turner (Years 8, 10, 12)

Blair Newham (Years 7, 9, 11)

Head Teachers Welfare (Relieving)

Attendance

The table below summarises student attendance for Term 1, giving a breakdown for each year group and gender. Congratulation to Year 7 for their excellent attendance this term, particularly our Year 7 girls who had an overall attendance rate of 93% for the term. Regular school attendance will help your child to achieve in later life, makes learning easier for your child and helps children build and maintain friendships with other children.

School Year	Boys	Girls	Overall
7	89%	93%	91%
8	88%	86%	87%
9	81%	84%	82%
10	86%	85%	85%
11	80%	73%	76%
12	85%	82%	84%

If your child is absent from school parents are legally required to notify the school, explaining the absence, within 7 days. This can be done in a number of ways:

Phone or email – If you know your child is going to be away from school please contact the school via phone (02 49325999) or email (rutherford-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au) to explain the absence.

Letter – on the day your child returns to school after an absence send a note explaining the absence. This note is to be handed in at the school Administration Office.

Reply to SMS - the school sends out an SMS message each day to notify parents that their child is absent. Please reply to the SMS stating if your child is sick or family business.

Please note – you can only reply to an SMS on the day it is sent as the SMS number is only active for that day.

Kris Turner

Head Teacher Welfare (Attendance)



DRAMA ENSEMBLE

After auditioning 35 very talented, unique and confident students over the past couple of weeks, I am pleased to announce the 12 members of the 2015 RTHS Drama Ensemble:

*Abby Collyer
Bellina Pannowitz
Melissa Travis*

*Ashley Fry
Luke Bell
Emily Westcott*

*Declan Johnson
Lachlan Dallen
Blake Wilkins-Everitt*

*Caitlyn McInnes
Jared Hughes
Joshua Witek.*

Congratulations and a massive thank you to all the students who auditioned.

Remember there is always next year.

On Friday 20th March the Drama Ensemble made their debut for 2015 by initiating a "Harmonious Circle" in the quad at lunch. The purpose of this circle was to stand as one for Harmony Day and National Day of action against Bullying. Within five minutes, the 12 ensemble members quickly grew to 50, then 100, then so many we lost count. As you can tell by the photos it was an amazing effort to see all these students volunteer to stand together as one.

Congratulations Rutherford Technology High School!

Alysha McCann
Drama Ensemble Coordinator



HSIE and the YR 10 RESEARCH ACTION PROJECT 'GREEN' TASK ASSIGNMENT

Year 10 HSIE students have been given a Research Action Project to be completed on the 27th March. During the assessment task, students were required to undertake fieldwork relating to an issue in Australian environments and this included the necessity to undertake their own primary research.

Sam Beckett and Laura Wade had identified litter in the playground as an area of concern. During a period 3, they were aghast at the amount of rubbish left lying along a walkway, even though there were garbage bins nearby. After taking photos, to use as a primary source, so they could analyse the types of rubbish left lying around, they decided to pick up the rubbish and put it in the nearby bins.

Not only were they disgusted by the fact that rubbish had been just thrown on the ground but they also decided to act upon it and clean up the area. This type of positive action is commendable.

Congratulations to Sam and Laura

CONSERVATORIUM OF MUSIC

The year 11 and 12 stage 6 Music classes are invited to attend a HSC day at The Conservatorium of Music on Friday May 8th. Information and notes from Mr Avery.

This is a highly valuable activity for music students to attend as it will take them through the written exam questions and the best ways to answer, performances that are then critiqued by HSC markers, composition and research viva voce classes are also options on the day.

Some year 10 music students will also be able to attend the seminars, at the discretion of their Music teacher.

Loretta Hornery
HT CAPA



RANZSE



Rotary Australia New Zealand Student Exchange

WHAT IS RANZSE?

The Rotary Australia and New Zealand Student Exchange (RANZSE) program is designed for 14-16 year old students to experience a true "exchange" with a family in New Zealand.

Students are partially sponsored by Rotary clubs and are supported and mentored during their time in New Zealand. They stay with their host family and attend school with their exchange student for a term. Australian students fly to New Zealand for term 2, 2016 and their New Zealand exchange comes back with them for term 3, staying with the family and attending school.

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR THIS 'ONCE IN A LIFETIME' EXPERIENCE IN 2016 ARE AVAILABLE NOW

Further information can be obtained by visiting the following website: <http://www.ranzse.org/> or

Rutherford Telarah Rotary Youth Director, Mr Michael Weatherall on 0419 415 199

A separate opportunity exists for two Year 8 students to attend a Rotary organised camp at Myuna Bay on 1st, 2nd, 3rd May. Students who attend this camp may intend to participate in the New Zealand exchange in 2016 but Rotary are happy to have students who just want to experience the 'Bunya' Camp with the Australian and New Zealand exchange students. It is hoped that the Bunya experience will encourage all students to understand and share more about the Rotary Youth programs on offer to schools and young people.

YEAR 11 REPORT

Having returned from a year of maternity leave there are many new faces and a lot of old face and a lot of very tall students (I don't remember them being so tall!). But as always it has been a pleasure seeing them all and see them growing into fine human beings. As Year 11 end their first term of their senior years I have to comment on how impressed I am with their level of maturity and commitment to their schooling. I especially enjoyed watching the Year 11 students involved in our Peer Support program with Year 7 and watching their enthusiasm and the level of caring they gave to their groups. Another proud moment was watching Jocelyn Ware, Jack Williams, Liam Faustini and Lara Butler lead our school at our Harmony Day assembly and the Year 11 students leading our school to stand up against bullying. Next term I am endeavouring to start the process of ordering jerseys as well as look into year excursions. As always if you have any concerns please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sarah Thornton

JAPANESE TRIP

In the upcoming school holidays myself and Mr Fean have the pleasure of taking 13 students and Mr Buckie, Mrs Wicks and Mrs Hughes to Japan. It is scary to think how quickly this trip has snuck up on us after a few postponements along the way. During the 12 day trip we will be staying in Tokyo, Hiroshima and Kyoto. Visiting places like the Golden Pavilion, Studio Ghibli Museum, Hiroshima Peace park, Himeji Castle, Tokyo Disneyland, Harajuku and temples galore. We will be sampling the fine cuisine of gyoza, okonomiyaki, yakisoba, sushi and ramen just to name a few. I would like to thank all the students, teachers and parents who have supported our fundraising efforts as well as the front office for putting up with the counting of all the fundraising money. We look forward on reporting back to you after the holidays!

Sarah Thornton



HOW MUCH SCIENCE CAN BE LEARNT WITHOUT PEN, PAPER & CLIPBOARD???

It was an early 7am start for these budding Year 10 scientists: Kianah Redman, Ava Fellowes, Jasmine Fohmsbee, Amy Brown, Jac Gardiner, Emma Woodbridge, Zarnie-Rose Clarke, Ellen Fleming, Troy Snoek, Tristan Johnson and Tim Hackett to pile into the school bus for the expedition to the Powerhouse Museum and then the University of Technology, Sydney.

At the Powerhouse, the students were exposed to the 'best of the best' HSC Design and Technology projects completed by 2014 students. Their major works and portfolios were placed on exhibit so that all students could see the level of expertise and dedication necessary for band 6 in this subject. Another exhibit showcased innovative products from entries in the 2014 Good Design Awards. But the best: was the visit to the 'Circus Factory'. Do you now that almost every circus based activity from juggling, twirling, tight rope walking, trapeze acts, the fairground carousel rely on Physics? So our Yr 10 students can discuss and give examples of centre of gravity, centripetal, centrifugal, torque and gravity forces and really know what they are talking about.

After a 10 minute walk the group arrive at the University of Technology (UTS), where they were privileged to be taken on a guided tour of the first year students microbiology lab, then to the 'Super Lab' where 200 students were doing a large variety of experiments. Then it was a quick tour to 'The Green Room' lecture theatre where plush seats, fold out tables, massive screen for the data projector seemed to make learning and concentration much easier. It was decided that RTHS needed one of those.

As our group left the front door of the university onto Broadway, a large, banner waving, chanting parade of demonstrators, circled by large numbers of police, security guards and mounted police swarmed around us. Part of university life is the passion and support for causes and there we were caught up in one!

A question posed when the students left the bus back at school: "When is the next adventure so we can learn more Science ?....."



REACH PROGRAM

During week 8, Year 10 students were involved in Reach program workshops. Rutherford Technology High School was the first school in the Hunter region to be involved in this program. The program aims to teach students resilience and positive thought processes towards others and themselves. Female and male students were separated and each workshop focused on social and personal issues that adolescents face in their day to day lives. Students were given the opportunity to discuss their feelings about themselves and about each other and to challenge these perceptions. This in turn created a powerful and inspiring reaction within the workshop, drawing both tears and laughter from the students involved. Students have future opportunities to become Reach leaders through other workshops the Reach Foundation has running. During the process of the workshops many of our students were inspired to put their names down for these workshops.



LANE SOUTHERN TUTORING

I am a first year psychology and physics student at the University of Newcastle. If you are looking for a high school tutor in the Rutherford or Aberglasslyn area, my rates are \$25 per hour, Tutoring sessions can be either 1 or 2 hours long.

I am capable to tutor in:

Year 9-10 Maths, and year 11 general 1 and 2maths.

Year 9-10 Science.

Year 11-12 Physics in the topics: ideas to implementation, space, motors and generators and medical physics (can tutor in the other topics just run it by me if needed).

Available times:

. Monday 5:00 pm – 9:00 pm

. Friday 3:30 pm – 7:00 pm

. Saturday 11:00 am – 6:00 pm

You can contact me at lanepsouthern@gmail.com

Or text me on 0421 203061



Rutherford Technology High School UNIFORM SHOP

PRICE LIST

ITEM	PRICE	SIZE	QTY	TOTAL INCL GST
Girls				
Jnr Blouse Sky	28.00			
Snr Blouse Lemon	28.00			
Jnr/Snr Girls Shorts	35.00			
Jnr Skirt	48.50			
Snr Skirt	48.50			
Bootleg slacks	39.00			
Boys				
Jnr/Snr Boys Shorts	35.00			
Jnr/Snr Trousers	39.00			
Unisex				
Fleecy Jacket	40.00			
Jnr Polo	29.00			
Snr Polo	29.00			
Elastic Waist Everyday Black Shorts	35.00			
Elastic Waist Everyday Black Long Pants	39.00			
Jumpers				
Jumper	72.00			
Sports				
Jacket	65.00			
Sports Shorts Std	25.00			
Trackpant	38.00			
Sports Polo	35.00			
Others				
Scarf	20.00			
Socks 5pr	20.00			

OPENING HOURS:

TUESDAY
THURSDAY

8:00am - 12:00noon
12:30pm - 4:30pm



SUN STREET FESTIVAL

17 APRIL 2015 // 4-10PM // 12-25 YEARS WELCOME
SUN STREET STUDIOS, HIGH ST MAITLAND
 TWO STAGES // LIVE LOCAL MUSIC // ART EXHIBITION
 YOUTH NIGHT MARKETS // DANCERS + PERFORMERS
 STREET ART WORKSHOPS AND STREET ART MURAL CELEBRATION
 DRUG AND ALCOHOL FREE EVENT // SCRATCH DJ WORKSHOPS
[FACEBOOK.COM/SUNSTREETFESTIVAL2015](https://www.facebook.com/sunstreetfestival2015)



COMMUNITY @TCOC

SHRED SK8 FESTIVAL

Thornton Skate Park

Saturday 11th April 2015 2-7pm

Rap & DJ Demos Ft MC Tunz1 & DJ KiDream

FREE BBQ Skate Clinic

Live Music All Ages

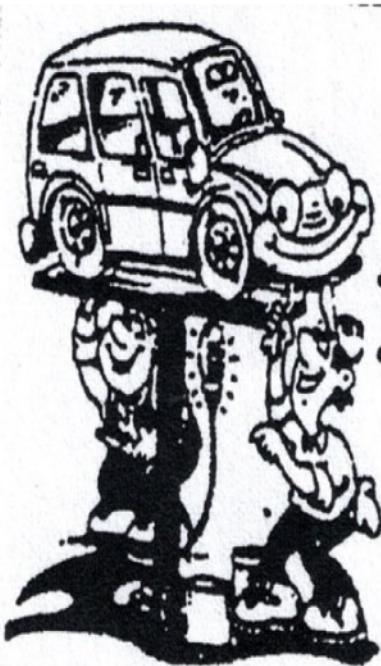
Street Skate Competition

Drug & Alcohol Free Event

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Rutherford Technology High School has launched its Official Facebook Page – just go to Facebook and look for “Rutherford Technology High School NSW Official Site” and click on “Like”.

We will be using the Facebook page to keep everyone informed about events at the school, important dates for your diary, and general information about the school.

Link: <http://www.facebook.com/RutherfordTechnologyHighSchool>



CANTEEN ROSTER 2015



21 April	K. Cresswell
22 April	Volunteer required
23 April	K. Hobbs
24 April	Volunteer required
27 April	Volunteer required
28 April	K Cresswell
29 April	Volunteer required
30 April	Volunteer required
1 May	Volunteer required



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