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Bayala - Term 1 Week 10 2025

'Bayala'



Welcome to our Newsletter 'Bayala'.

'Bayala' is a Darug word meaning yarnning or conversation.

Our Vision

"Building a caring and safe learning environment where great teaching supports and inspires all students to grow, develop and succeed."

Upcoming Events

Term 2 2025

- Staff Development Days - Monday 28 and Tuesday 29 April 2025
- All Students Start - Wednesday 30 April 2025
- Parent Interviews - Tuesday 13 May 2025
- Macquarie Zone Cross Country - Tuesday 20 May 2025
- Athletics Carnival - Thursday 22 May 2025
- Macquarie Zone Athletics - Thursday 5 and Friday 6 June 2025
- Year 10 Vaccinations - Friday 13 June 2025
- Year 12 Trial Examinations - Wednesday 25 June - Friday 4 July 2025
- Sydney West Cross Country - Thursday 26 June

Principal's Update

As we reach the end of Term 1, I would like to take a moment to reflect on what has been a truly vibrant and productive term for our students. It has been a busy period filled with remarkable achievements and enriching experiences, and I couldn't be prouder of our school community. Below is a list of some of the key events and achievements:

- This term, our students embraced the spirit of inclusivity and diversity during Harmony Day, celebrating our multicultural community with enthusiasm and respect.
- Congratulations to the students involved in Pulse at Netball Central, Ken Rosewall Arena – your creativity and behaviour is a credit to HHS.
- Our Year 9 and 7 students showcased their skills and resilience during NAPLAN, and we commend their efforts as they participated in this important assessment.
- The Court Visit for our Legal Studies students was an eye-opening excursion that provided them with invaluable insights into the legal system, further enhancing their learning experience.

- Leadership activities were in full swing this term, allowing our future leaders to develop their skills and take initiative.
- The International Women's Day Breakfast was a wonderful event that fostered conversations about empowerment and equality, inspiring our students to strive for greatness.
- Many of our students represented our school in the CHS try-outs, demonstrating not only their sporting talents but also their dedication and sportsmanship.
- Our Swimming Carnival and upcoming Cross-Country Carnival are fantastic opportunities for our students to showcase their athletic abilities and teamwork.
- The Kari Mentoring program has continued to thrive, providing students with guidance and support.
- The Dharag Dhalang language program has provided meaningful connections and support.
- Our Celebration Assembly was a highlight, recognising the achievements of students across various areas.
- The Year 7 Camp was an exciting adventure, fostering friendships and creating lasting memories for our newest students.
- The Love Bites program for Year 9 students was another important initiative, addressing respectful relationships and promoting understanding.
- We also had a successful Open Night, where prospective families were able to experience our vibrant learning environment, and the Year 7 Meet the Teacher night provided an opportunity for parents to engage with our dedicated staff.
- The Positive Paws program has occurred this term, promoting social and emotional well-being among our students.
- Our weekly mentoring sessions focused on goal setting have empowered students to take charge of their learning and personal development.

Staffing Updates

I would like to welcome Mr Zheng who has been appointed to HHS on a permanent basis in the Maths Faculty. Mr Zheng joins our school with extensive knowledge of the maths curriculum for Year 7-12, including extension Maths.

Mr Shaw will be leaving us at the end of this term to take up a position at another school. We are continuing the process of recruiting a permanent TAS staff member.

Winter Uniform

We take great pride in our school uniform, which serves as a symbol of our identity and community

spirit. Wearing the uniform not only fosters a sense of belonging among students but also promotes equality and reduces distractions, allowing everyone to focus on their learning. It reflects our values of respect and responsibility, encouraging students to take pride in their appearance and represent our school. I would like to thank our families for supporting our uniform policy and remind everyone of the importance of adhering to the guidelines, as it strengthens our school community and enhances the overall learning environment. The link to information about the Winter Uniform is : <https://hawkesbury-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/about-our-school/uniform.html>

Assessment Booklets

Familiarity with our assessment booklets is crucial for both students and parents, as these documents provide essential information about the learning expectations and assessment tasks for each subject. Located on our school website <https://hawkesbury-h.schools.nsw.gov.au/learning-at-our-school/assessment-and-reporting.html>, the assessment booklets outline the criteria, timelines, and guidelines that help students understand what is required for their success. By reviewing these booklets, you can better support your child in managing their time and preparing for assessments effectively. We encourage all parents and students to take the time to explore these resources, as they play a vital role in fostering a collaborative approach to learning and ensuring that everyone is well-informed about the academic journey ahead. Your engagement with the assessment process is invaluable in helping our students achieve their best.

As we head into the holidays, I encourage everyone to take this time to rest and recharge. I am excited to see what the next term will bring and look forward to more achievements and celebrations.

Thank you for your continued support of our school community.

Wishing you all a wonderful break!

Mrs Nicole Martirena

Ceasation of Schoolzine

We will no longer be using the Schoolzine platform from next Monday 7 April, 2025. For any student absences, please advise the school through one of the below methods:

- Phone the school office the morning of the absence and provide a reason for the absence

- Email the school at hawkesbury-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au and provide a reason for the absence
- Reply to the absence text message on the same day and provide a reason for the absence

Leadership in Action

Hawkesbury High School Captains Paige Barlow and Jack Roberts attended the Parliament of New South Wales Secondary Schools Student Leadership Program at NSW Parliament House recently. Our school captains received leadership advice from a range of Members of Parliament, including Hawkesbury MP Robyn Preston, networked with other student leaders, witnessed Question Time in the Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council, and visited Government House, where they spoke with Her Excellency, The Honourable Margaret Beazley AC QC, Governor of New South Wales.



Celebration Assembly

There was a lot to celebrate at our first celebration assembly for the Term on 4 March 2025. Congratulations to all award recipients!



Inspiring Extraordinary Feats

Hawkesbury High School's Senior Leadership Team and Student Representative Council (SRC) attended the Halogen National Young Leaders Day conference at the International Convention

Centre Sydney in Darling Harbour on Monday 24 March 2025. Students were mentored in applying leadership qualities, such as bravery, self-belief, self-discipline, honesty, compassion, respect and loyalty, to inspire and achieve extraordinary feats. Guest speakers included Catherine Laga'aia, who will star as Moana in the live-action adaptation of the famous Disney film in 2026, along with Australia's most decorated Olympian, Emma McKeon, 2024 NSW Young Australian of the Year, Nikhil Autar, and the Premier of NSW, the Honourable Chris Minns MP.



Swimming Carnival

The school's swimming carnival was held on Thursday 27 February 2025 at Richmond Swim Centre. Approximately 150 students attended on a very warm, sunny day.

The following students were Age Champions

Age Boys / Girls

12 - Riley / Amelia

13 - Lachlan / Lily

14 - Joel / Scarlett

15 - Lucas / June

16 - Noah / Taya

17 - Nash / Amy

Charlotte, June, Heath, Brodie, Chloe, Joel, Taya, Georgia, Lachlan, Vivien, Lily, Amelia, Kitiona, Pou, Alison, Isabella and Ellie represented the school at the Macquarie Zone Swimming Championships at Blacktown on Monday 10 March 2025.

Results from the Zone Swimming Championships

Lachlan finished 3rd in 12 years Boys Age Championship

June finished 4th in 15 years Girls Age Championship

The Girls 16 years 4x100m Freestyle Relay team finished 2nd



skateboard designs, students are now applying their artistry to bring their creations to life using acrylic paints and Posca Markers.



Legal Studies Court Excursion

HSC Legal Studies students visited Sydney's Downing Centre Local and District Court, the largest court in the Southern Hemisphere. Students met with Magistrate Bartley and observed a number of court cases in action to gain a deeper understanding of the application of law and justice.



Pulse Alive

Students from Hawkesbury High represented our school at the Pulse Alive concert. Pulse Alive is a large-scale, statewide performing arts event for NSW public school students, showcasing their talents in music, dance and drama. Well done to all of our amazingly talented students!



Year 10 Visual Arts

Shoutout to Year 10 Visual Arts for their captivating Street-art inspired skateboards! Having spent early Term 1 researching a range of street artists, designing their own graffiti signatures and sketching their own



International Women's Day

Happy International Women's Day Saturday 8 March 2025! We celebrate the incredible achievements of women around the world and recognise the vital role they play in our communities. At our school, we are especially grateful for our talented female staff and students, whose hard work, dedication, and unique perspectives enrich our learning environment every day.

On Monday 10 March, female students and staff were invited to attend the 2025 International Women's Day morning tea. Students and staff were able to enjoy sweet treats, music, a photo booth and a visit from Mel from The Women's Cottage. Everyone had a great time celebrating the amazing women we have in our school community!

Thank you to **Sciberras Fresh Fruit &**

Vegetables - Freemans Reach for their fruit box donation!

Thank you to Mel from The Women's Cottage for visiting and giving students vital information about resources available in the Hawkesbury Area.

Let's continue to support and empower one another, fostering a culture of equality and respect for all. Here's to strong women — may we know them, may we be them, and may we support them!

Female students from Years 9, 11 and 12 attended an International Women's Day celebration in Windsor. Joined by other local high school students, our girls enjoyed an incredible and powerful day of empowerment through movement and belly dancing, arts and crafts, face painting and animal therapy. Thank you to all businesses and organisations who made the event such a special day.



Drew Update

Drew had the best time helping students get their school photos taken. He has adjusted well to having everyone back from the holidays and loves all the pets he gets.



Environmental Report

Clean Up Australia Day 2025

More than 22 million Aussies have participated in Clean Up Australia activities and events over the past

three decades. On Friday 28 February, Hawkesbury High celebrated 35 years of Clean Up Australia Day – our school event focused on reducing litter. Some of our fantastic students across all years helped clear any missed rubbish after break times. What amazing school spirit on a hot and humid day. Check out the photos for a special surprise that was rehomed successfully!



Environment Team

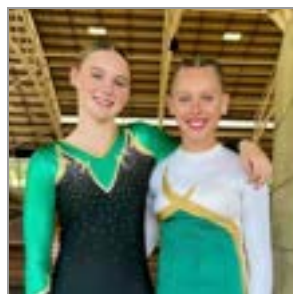
Mrs Rose is looking for students who would like to be involved in some special activities this year including involvement in the Hawkesbury Nepean Landcare School Wetland Challenge 2025, Earth Hour, Endangered Species Day, Landcare Team and Science Week. The goal is to understand the unique flora and fauna on site at Hawkesbury High School and improve the school environment for years to come – any interested students from years 7 to 12 can speak to Mrs Rose in the Science staffroom.

Upcoming Events: Bilpin Environmental Day
Saturday 10 May 2025

Looking for fun in the school holidays – check out the flier for the Bilpin Environmental Day.



proudly by placing in their respective grades and receiving scores that place them well for future competition and selection in the World Equestrian Games in coming years. Congratulations girls on a fantastic result.



Macquarie Cup Netball Tournament

On Friday 7 March, our Open Girl's Netball team competed in the Macquarie Cup Netball Tournament. After some tough and close games early on in the day, the girls went on to string together several convincing wins. Congratulations to Olivia and Amy of year 11 who were successful in gaining selection into the Macquarie Zone team who will compete at the Sydney West Carnival.

Sports Stars

Rugby League

Madison has been selected to represent South Sydney Rabbitohs in the NSW Metro Lisa Fioala U17s Rugby League side for 2025! Whether she's tearing it up at dummy half or in the second row, Madison's just stoked for the opportunity. We're so proud!



Vaulting Competition

Two students represented Australia at the Great Southern CVI Vaulting Competition held at the Sydney International Equestrian Centre on Thursday 20 February. Kallie and Holly each completed two rounds of competition in front of Judges from Argentina, Ireland, Australia and the Netherlands. Both students represented Australia



STAR class students are true team players

All students in STAR class have settled well into Term One. Throughout the term they have gained confidence and have begun to show their personalities. While some students have found some of the learning challenging the teaching and support staff have encouraged and supported them to persevere when things become tricky.

All students are learning to cooperate and to communicate appropriately with their peers.

Additionally, STAR class students have been working on establishing a kitchen garden to grow vegetables and herbs. We are currently planting our autumn crop of Heirloom Spring onions, romaine lettuce and carrots. We have joined Costa's Grow it local program. The program provides tips, videos and advise about how to successfully grow your own food. We hope to produce a meal from out produce during Term 2.

On Friday 28 March, STAR class students were lucky to have a special visitor. Jonathan Wade volunteered his time to give STAR students the opportunity to try their hand at playing a musical instrument.

One of our STAR students has written an article about this below.

A Musical Treat for STAR Class

Last Friday, STAR class students were in for a delightful surprise during their Music session. They had the privilege of welcoming special guest Jonathan Wade, who generously volunteered his time to share the magic of musical instruments with them.

With an array of instruments at their fingertips, students eagerly embraced the chance to explore new sounds, rhythms, and melodies. Some tried their hand at strumming a guitar, while others discovered the joy of playing a keyboard. The room buzzed with excitement as students experimented, learned, and gained confidence in their musical abilities.

Jonathan's visit was not just about playing instruments—it was an inspiring lesson in creativity and self-expression. His passion for music shone through, encouraging students to embrace music.

A huge thank you to Jonathan Wade for his kindness and generosity in sharing his love for music with STAR class. We look forward to more wonderful musical experiences in the future!

Finally, as we come to the end of the term, I would like to express my delight in teaching

STAR class. They are a wonderful bunch of students with much to give and learn.

Mrs Michelle Willick



7C Engaged and Inspired

7C students have been busy collaborating in the Integrated Curriculum class to further develop their literacy skills of reading and inference. Enjoying working together in the sunshine and fresh air, students discussed a range of Polynesian Mythology texts. By gaining a better understanding and appreciation of the richness of other cultures and histories, the next generation of respectful and responsible global citizens are being shaped.



Year 10 Agriculture in Action

Our Agricultural students started preparing their winter vegetable harvest. Applying their rich horticultural knowledge and skills, students removed weeds, prepared the soil and planted a carefully curated selection of seeds including peas, beans and carrots.



Science

Term 1 has been an exciting time in Science with students studying the human body, natural disasters, ecosystems as well as working scientifically to plan, perform and report on a student research project. As we move into next term, our year 9 and 10's will be exploring physics through applications in electricity as well as car design and motion.

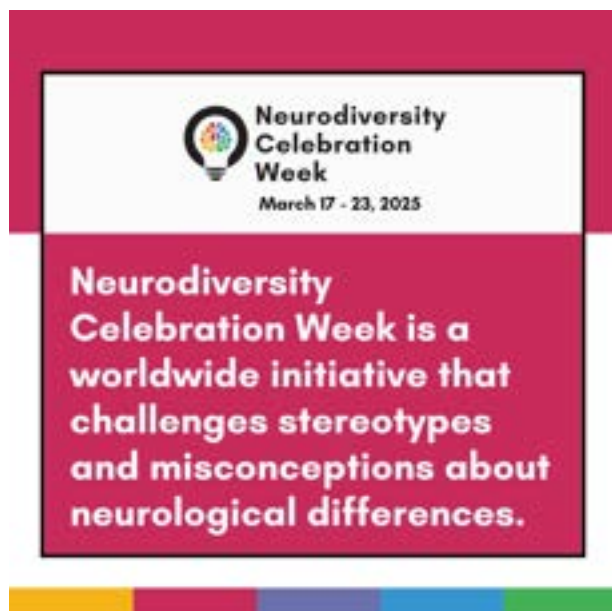
Looking for something to do in the holidays to extend your Term 1 Science learning? Check out the twilight guided tours at Windsor Downs, Castlereagh and Agnes Banks - booking through the NPWS website <https://www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/things-to-do/kids-tours-greater-sydney>

Harmony Day

Hawkesbury High celebrated Harmony Day on Friday 21 March, recognising our diversity and the bringing together of Australians from all different backgrounds. The day focused on inclusiveness, respect and a sense of belonging for everyone. Students and staff enjoyed some amazing activities during this event.

Neurodiversity Celebration Week March 17-23

Neurodiversity Celebration Week is a worldwide initiative that challenges stereotypes and misconceptions about neurological differences. It aims to transform how neurodivergent individuals are perceived and supported by providing schools, universities, organisations, and others around the world with the opportunity to recognise the many skills and talents of neurodivergent individuals, while creating more inclusive and equitable cultures that celebrate differences and empower every individual. Hawkesbury High proudly celebrates Neurodivergent Celebration Week by honouring the unique strengths and perspectives of all our students, fostering inclusion, understanding, and support for neurodiversity!



Australian Red Cross at Richmond Park

Time to give blood and change lives? 1 in 3 people in Richmond will need blood, and they need people like you to give it. We're rolling into town 13 to 16 January. Don't forget to pre-book your spot at Lifeblood.com.au, on our app or on 13 14 95.



Youth Week - Silent Disco

Youth week is coming up and Glossodia Community Centre is hosting an event on the Wednesday 16 April for young people in the community 12+



Macquarie Towns School Holiday Activities

School Holiday Art & Craft Workshop Program

Easter Holidays, 2025

Monday 14th April

10am - 12noon Draw Cartoons

1pm - 3pm Make Bunny Puppets

Tuesday 15th April

10 am - 12noon Make Easter Dragon

1pm - 3pm Decorate Easter Treasure Boxes

Wednesday 16th April

10 am - 12noon Draw Easter Bunnies & Chickens
1pm - 3pm Make Little Clay Bunnies

Thursday 17th April

10am - 12noon Paint Easter Theme Rocks

1pm - 3pm Make Easter Cards

Friday 18th April - Public Holiday

Monday 21st April - Public Holiday

Tuesday 22nd April

10am-12noon Make Mini Fun Food

1pm - 3pm Acrylic Pouring

Wednesday 23rd April

10am-12noon Paint a Landscape

1pm-3pm Tie Dye a T-Shirt (BYO Shirt)

Thursday 24th April

10am - 12noon Make Fairy Garden Ornaments

1pm - 3pm Make Magic Lanterns

Friday 25th April - Public Holiday

Cost: \$15 per 2hr workshop; everything supplied.

Venue: Richmond Art Supplies,

Shop 1, 328 Windsor St, Richmond

Bookings Essential: phone Deidre 0412 979731

MTAS After School Art Classes for Term 2, 2025 also
Now Enrolling.

For more information go to www.mtas.com.au