Dear Parents/Caregivers & Students

HSIE Report

Term 1 has been a very productive time for both students and staff. This year we have spent a great deal of time creating challenging assessments tasks, in particular for Stage 5 students. Changes relating to the delivery of the Stage 5 HSIE courses involved years 9 & 10 students attending an inservice in the school cottage where the course coordinator delivered an information session to students. This ensured that all students were on the same page and gave them the opportunity to see previous samples of student work giving them an insight as to what a Grade A to Grade E looks like. It also encouraged students to question, discuss and think in terms of their own time management, research skills, the implications of plagiarism and the importance of a bibliography. Students were encouraged to submit a draft of their research, to which teachers provided feedback advising students on how to improve their grades.

Throughout the whole process, there was a high level of transparency in terms of student time management, critical thinking, presentation of their final work and encouragement for students to become independent learners. Staff stressed the importance of literacy in all assessment tasks and have implemented the ALARM (A Learning And Responsive Matrix) and SEAL (Statement, Explanation, Analysis, Link) programs to produce effective, quality paragraphs. This year we have decided to assign a mark of 10% for bookwork to demonstrate student’s individual work in class. This mark requires the student to complete all classwork in legible handwriting and ensure that handouts are pasted into their books. This is a very achievable 10% that all students should and can achieve.

Year 10’s History course has started with the Vietnam War and the requirement of this task is to investigate for and against, Australia’s involvement. The outcome of this were some amazing responses, which demonstrated student’s abilities to think critically. Year 10 is currently in the midst of the next assessment task, which is based on the changing rights and freedoms of Aboriginal people. Students are required to answer questions and produce an email to send to a friend outlining what they have learnt about Aboriginal peoples human rights during the time of protection and assimilation.

Year 9 Geography are studying Australian landscapes and their task was to choose one of four options, related to an Australian landform. These included an annotated report, a formal report or creating a graphic organiser. Each option is weighted differently and the purpose of this is to encourage students to reflect on their learning and take ownership of their choice. We are hoping this will encourage students to strive to achieve their best results.

Year 7 Geography has been developing their geographical skills and Year 8 have been very busy learning about medieval society and famous people and events.

Year 12 have just completed their half yearly exams and teachers have provided enormous feedback on how students can improve their results.

At this point, I would also like to remind students of Society & Culture and Aboriginal Studies that their major projects are due in approximately 10 weeks.
Our 2013 year 12 students produced amazing results in the following course:

- Aboriginal Studies
- Business Studies
- Legal Studies
- Society & Culture
- Geography
- Modern History
- Ancient History
- Retail

These subjects all achieved a range of band 5’s & band 6’s.

From these results the HSIE staff carried out a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) analysis as to why there was such great success and the reasons as to why some students did not achieve their goals. The main contributing factor to students not achieving their goal was poor attendance. Continuity in their learning at school is paramount to success.

Advice for year 12 is access the Board of Studies website for past papers and to access the HSC online website.

A student’s reflection of their schooling from Megan Steele:

“I never thought in my wildest dreams I would end up where I am, especially not five years ago where to me going to school was a choice, not mandatory. Vincentia was the beginning I guess, of my school life. None of my other schools compared to the experience I got at Vincentia High”.

The HSIE staff has also been promoting social ethics to the entire school at assembly. Friday, 21st March marked the ‘National Day of Action Against Bullying & Violence’. Sadly, much of today’s bullying is conducted online. Local counselors report that around 60-70% of their client appointments relate to cyber-bullying via Facebook. Facebook is a great means to stay in contact with our wider community if used in the right way. However, late last year a major change to privacy settings made it easier for this bullying to take place. Without making new changes to your privacy settings it is possible for anyone to do a ‘Graph Search’ of your local area which will bring up every Facebook profile. To find out more information to protect your profile of unwanted attention from potential bullies or other shady characters go to the following site:


Our focus for term 2 is the completion of the ‘NSW National Curriculum’ for year 7 & 9 Histories. We are also encouraging parents to complete feedback sheets relating to their child’s progress in learning.

The HSIE staff wish all students and families a very happy and safe Easter and we look forward to a productive Term 2.

S Corbett
Head Teacher HSIE

What’s happening at VHS

Tuesday 08/04/2014
- SRC Leadership Day Berry Sport & Recreation Centre
- SLR Day Hike Pigeon House Mountain, Morton National Park
- Boat Snorkeling Marine & Aquaculture Jervis Bay
- AC Aspire Day Year 10

Wednesday 09/04/2014
- Years 7 & 9 Vaccinations
- Indigenous Rangers at Jamberoo Park

Thursday 10/04/2014
- Cross Country

Friday 11/04/2014
- Last Day Term 1

Monday 28/04/2014
- First Day Term 2 Staff Development Day School Staff only

Tuesday 29/04/2014
- Second Day Term 2 all students attend school
A Thank You letter…

As a parent of a recently enrolled student, I recently travelled with students and teachers to the All Schools Triathlon held in Penrith Lakes and I am writing to say how impressed I was by the Vincentia High School students and teachers.

As a school we did not win too many events but on sportsmanship and enthusiasm we did win several Gold Medals. What was a delightful day was marked by the fine support given by our students to all the participants. Unlike other schools our students clapped and cheered every Vinnie’s runner as they crossed the finish line. It did not matter where they came our cohort was there barracking for them. I also witnessed examples of caring concern by students and teachers for those that found the event physically and emotionally draining. It made me feel proud to be part of the Vincentia High School Community. Part of this pride was added to by the way teachers and students made sure our area was left clean of litter before leaving. Well done!

Pat Thompson

28th March 2014

Dear Steve

I would like to thank you for the support VHS has given to council during the consultation stage of the proposed local skate park for the Bay & Basin area.

In particular I would like to mention that Alison Taylor has been very important and instrumental in making sure that students from VHS were aware of and able to have their say in this matter, that concerns them.

Most importantly I would like to let you know how lovely the students from VHS were that participated in the local skate park tour and consultation process, to help identify what elements would be best liked by young people in the proposed park.

The students, Jerome and Zac, were very polite and a pleasure to interact with on this matter. They gave great insight into the needs of skaters in the area. They were both very helpful and appropriate towards the younger students, from Sanctuary Point Public school, who also participated in the day. The boys manners were above reproach, they opened car doors for others, carried bags and generally were a pleasure to be around. These students conducted themselves and represented VHS to the highest standard possible.

Thank you again for your support and I look forward to continuing to work with your school community.

Donna Corbyn
Youth Development Officer
Shoalhaven City Council
Shoalhaven City Piped Band performed at Vincentia High School

Vincentia High student **Shauna McKenzie** danced to the tunes played by Shoalhaven City Piped Band as they performed at the school assembly today, April 1st.

Students Volunteer at Husky Triathlon

Elite Energy, organisers of the Husky Triathlon presented a cheque for $3,650 to Vincentia High School today. The donation is for recognition of the 90 student volunteers from Year 12, VHS Triathlon Club and the Sport Life & Recreation class who put in an outstanding effort to support this Community event.

Natalie Hooper and Jared Quist were presented with certificates of appreciation from Elite Energy.
Diana thanks the Vincentia High Community for making her so very welcome!

Diana is a newly enrolled student at Vincentia High school. She has moved to Australia because of the Civil War in her home town of Damascus in Syria. Diana speaks very little English and wanted to thank the school community for making her so welcome and to help the students understand why she has left her homeland.

Ms Dahlia Abdel-Aziz assisted Diana in delivering an emotional presentation, in the form of a slide-show of photos, and information about Syria at the school assembly. It certainly left everyone with a lot to think about.

A link to the slide-show will be uploaded to the school website.
Vincentia High School has a facebook page
Like us on facebook to receive regular updates and information

Yr 7 Camp has been Postponed

Unfortunately, due to inclement weather conditions, the year 7 camp has had to be postponed until Term 4.

The 2014 NAPLAN tests
13th - 15th, May, 2014

TUESDAY 13 MAY
Language Conventions (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar)
Writing

WEDNESDAY 14 MAY
Reading

THURSDAY 15 MAY
Numeracy (Number, Algebra, function and pattern; Chance and data; Measurement and Space)

FRIDAY 16 MAY
CATCH-UP individual students who were absent at the time of testing to complete missed tests

NUMERACY TEST:
• Measuring tools such as rulers or protractors are not required.
• For the calculator test, the student should use the calculator that they currently use at school.

WRITING TASK:
Common task for all students. The 2014 Writing test will require students to respond to either a persuasive or narrative writing prompt, however, the genre of the prompt will not be disclosed prior to the test period.
Vincentia High School  
Photos 2014

Date: Wednesday 7th May, 2014  
(Term 2, Week 2)

The photo envelopes will be sent home with the student in the last week of this term.

The envelopes need to be filled out and the correct money placed inside and returned to the photo people on the day. No change will be given.

All students must be in full school uniform on the day.
Celebrating our school spirit!

The values of Vincentia High School are

Respect, Responsibility
& Personal Best

Tickets have been donated to the school by Integrity Real Estate in recognition of our school values.

This weeks recipients are:

Lily Orchard Y12
hard working and readily assists fellow students with their assessment tasks

CHRIS HARDING Y9
making good choices and displaying positive behaviours and commitment to given tasks in both the classroom and external learning environments

Molly McLennan Y8
for being a good community citizen who takes pride in the school environment

These values can be shown in many ways within the school community.
It is these actions of our students we, as a school, are proud of and wish to acknowledge. Each week a student/s from the school, in any year, will receive a FREE movie ticket to the Huskisson Theatre as recognition of their VHS spirit.

Congratulations to our winners!
VINCENTIA HIGH SCHOOL P&C PARENT WORKSHOPS 2014

You’re Invited…!!!

Vincentia High School, Parent & Citizen Association and Bay & Basin Community Resources are proud to present a series of Parent Workshops designed to *Engage, Enthrall and Enlighten* the life and times of teenagers, adolescent psychology and the trials of moving through high school to life and beyond…

We will be meeting in the VHS Library at 6pm for a 6.15pm start and finishing at approximately 7.30pm. Interested parents and carers are invited to stay for the P&C Meeting where you can have your say and become more involved with our school community. Join us for light refreshments and a stimulating time…

Meeting 3: 22 May           How the Mind Works
Meeting 4: 26 June          Rites of Passage
Meeting 5: 24 July          Post School Options
Meeting 6: 28 August        Resiliency
Meeting 7: 30 October       Life Skills, safe partying, drugs & drinking
Meeting 8: 27 November      Christmas Party

For more information phone: 4441 6766

Mr Fotis Loupos or Mrs Alison Taylor
Sunday the 6th April 2014, will see the South Coast Branch of the Disabled Surfers Association running its 13th annual ‘Hands On Day’ at GERROA Beach with everyone checking in between 9 - 9.30am.

We meet at Emery Park first turn-off to the right over the Crooked River if travelling north.

Cost is free to everyone helping: carers, volunteer helpers and members with the cost being $10 for participants. The day includes a fully supervised surf experience followed by a BBQ lunch and prizes for great deeds. The surfing takes place in only waist-depth water and only on broken waves, usually riding tandem with a helper on the back of the board.

Wetsuits, rash-vests and flotation devices are provided on the day and everyone is assured of a great day.

Any word of mouth, emails or phone calls re Gerroa would be appreciated. For more information please contact secretary Ian Picton on 0421601222 or Jim Bradley on 0458759999 or check out the web on www.disabledsurfers.org
2014 Community Support Services EXPO

Come along and find out about the wide range of support and community services in the Bay & Basin

Thursday 29 May 9:30-11:30 am
in the Sanctuary Point Public School hall
41 Ildewild Avenue, Sanctuary Point

This is a community event where Bay & Basin residents can find out about the variety of services available including children, teen and elderly services, Aboriginal, family, disability, mental health and wellbeing. Plus lots more!

GUEST SPEAKER
Local teen, Grace Kennedy will speak about her recent Sydney to Hobart adventure and the challenges associated with being a disabled yachtsperson.

Mark your diary so you don’t miss out on this great community event!
For further information contact Vicki on 4443 0546
Francis Ryan Reserve
Local Youth Park
Community Meeting

Where: Skate Park Precinct, Francis Ryan Reserve
When: 3.30 – 5.30pm, Thursday 3rd April

Council staff will be available to discuss draft design/concept plans of the Francis Ryan Reserve Local Youth Park.

For more information Contact Council’s Youth Development Officer – 4429 3418
NATIONAL YOUTH WEEK
OUR VOICE OUR IMPACT
4-13 April 2014
WWW.YOUTHWEEK.COM

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

Radio Skits
4th - 13th April - Community Service Announcements, airing on Local Community and Commercial radio stations during youth week - Drug & alcohol free event - Contact Sam 4422 1988

“Youth Business” Aboriginal Youth Engagement Strategy & Shoalhaven Youth Week 2014 Launch
Sunday 6th April - Shoalhaven Entertainment Centre, Gallery Function Room - Invitation only - Drug & alcohol free event - Contact Donna 4429 3418

Sexting/Bullying Information Forums
Tuesday 8th April - Nowra High School & Shoalhaven High School - Drug & alcohol free event - Contact Donna 4429 3418

Local Bay & Basin Area Community Youth Awards
Tuesday 8th April, 6pm - 8pm - Drug & alcohol free event - Contact Karen 4443 9244

Sexting/Bullying Information Forums
Wednesday 9th April - Vincentia High School & Ulladulla High School - Drug & alcohol free event - Contact Donna 4429 3418

Nowra Youth Protocol Launch
Thursday 10th April, 7am - 4pm - Stocklands Shopping Centre - Drug & alcohol free event - Contact Julie 4421 8110

Writing/Art workshop
Thursday 10th April, 1pm - 5pm - Ulladulla Youth Centre - Drug & alcohol free event - Contact Helen or Dean 4454 1761

Free Community Event
Saturday 12th April, 10am - 3pm - Ulladulla Highway Christian Church Grounds - Youth service provider information stalls, Mobile laser & aqua skirmish, Youth talent exhibitions, Inflatable jumping castle, Inflatable velcro wall, Live bands, Youth entertainment, Spray on tattoos, Badge making, Food, Giveaways, Police Crime Prevention van - Drug & alcohol free event - Contact Donna 4429 3418

Partners — Ulladulla Youth Centre, Access Community Group — Youth Connections, Local Area Command Police, Bay & Basin Community Resources, Stocklands Nowra, Shoalhaven Suicide Prevention & Awareness Network
JOIN THE CAN DO MOVEMENT

Sussex Inlet
SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB

INFORMATION EVENING

FIND OUT ABOUT
NIPPERS | PADDLE AND SWIM GROUP
BRONZE MEDALLION TRAINING

@ THE CLUBHOUSE, END OF PACIFICANA DR
FRIDAY 4TH APRIL - 6PM START WITH TOUR OF CLUB FACILITIES
BRING A PICNIC DINNER | COFFEE - TEA - SOFT DRINKS AVAILABLE

ALL WELCOME - BRING YOUR FAMILY - NEIGHBOURS - FRIENDS
FOR MORE INFO VISIT: WWW.SUSSEXINLETSLSC.COM.AU | FACEBOOK | OR CALL: 0421 727 700