From the Principal

Grand finals week
This week is grand finals week, with five teams competing in zone grand finals. Two things struck me as I shared with the assembly our best wishes for those teams. The first was the range of sports in which we are represented: volleyball, futsal – indoor soccer (two teams), cricket and water polo. The second was the depth of sporting talent we have in these teams, including two Year 7 boys who are so skilled they have been invited to participate in teams of older boys in the competition.

Win or lose, these young men have already achieved excellence in their sport. They carry with them the school’s best wishes. I’m writing this before the games, so I will be looking forward to learning of the results this afternoon.

Zone Swimming this Friday
After a very successful swimming carnival, the squad for the zone competition has been selected. They will compete on Friday against other excellent swimmers from our sporting zone. I know they will bring themselves, their families and our school great credit.

We look forward to some impressive results and some great champions going through to represent NSW at the State level. Watch out for some future Olympians in this group!

New Syllabuses in 2014 – What’s happening now?
Many parents will have heard of the new Australian Curriculum which the Commonwealth Government has developed. The idea of this curriculum is to provide a national standard in education. Up until now, each state has developed its own curriculum and any parents who have transferred from interstate will understand that education systems vary considerably.

NSW has always asserted that its curriculum is more demanding that the national curriculum. To accommodate the demands of the national curriculum, the Board of Studies has worked with education professionals to develop new syllabuses. While these will contain national curriculum, they will also contain more, to preserve the high level of rigour in NSW curriculum.

Syllabuses in English, Mathematics, Science and History will be introduced in 2014 in Years 7 and 9 and in Years 8 and 10 in 2015. To prepare for the new syllabuses, NSW Department of Education and Communities schools are undertaking extensive training. Some of this is occurring during School Development Days (including an additional day on April 30 this year) and out of hours, but quite a lot will involve teachers attending training during school time.

This may result in some occasions where substitute teachers replace a teacher who is attending training. We always aim to cover all classes. Teachers on training do leave work for their classes to complete, so I expect that while there will be some disruption, it will be minimal while teachers undertake this important training to deliver new and exciting syllabuses from 2014.
**Meet the Teachers**

Our annual “Meet the Teachers” evening, last night was well supported, with large numbers of parents coming to meet their sons’ teachers for 2013. Year 7 Adviser, Ms Ford was very much in demand, as was expected.

I was very proud of the large number of parents who passed on positive comments about the school, their sons’ teachers and how much their sons were enjoying school. Some parents also raised issues about which they wanted me to be aware. We cannot simply accept the bouquets while ignoring the brickbats, and where I am unable to provide an immediate answer, I will follow up the discussion and provide an answer.

Congratulations to Ms Harold for the organisation of the evening and thanks to all teachers who gave their time to attend. It makes a very long day, but being able to talk with parents about their sons’ education is enormously rewarding and I know teachers value that opportunity.

W Duncombe
Principal

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**2013 DER-NSW Parent Survey**

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We seek your views on the NSW one-to-one laptop program.

A formal evaluation of the program is being undertaken by the New South Wales Department of Education and Training in collaboration with the University of Wollongong. It is an effort to determine how the DER-NSW program may impact on learning and teaching education across the state. The evaluation has taken place over 4 years.

Please go to the link below and complete the 2013 survey. It won’t take you too long.


To access the link please enter it into the long address bar at the top of the page of your internet browser (not into a search engine such as Google) and press enter or go – this will take you to the survey.

Individuals cannot be identified in the data.


Thank you.
Principal

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**2012 – 13 SUMMER GRAND FINALS**

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**BEST AND FAIREST**

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<tr>
<td>Waterpolo</td>
<td>Jake ROWLANDS</td>
<td>Year 8</td>
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SUMMER GRAND FINALS

This year we had five teams make it through to the Grand Finals in the Summer North West Metropolitan Zone Competition.

These were the mighty 15A’s and B’s Oztag, 1st Grade Volleyball, Under 15’s Cricket and Under 14’s Waterpolo. All of the boys in these teams played extremely hard games in their finals, showing fantastic commitment in representing their school. However, the two teams who took out their premierships were the Waterpolo and Cricket boys.

Fantastic effort from our two winning teams AND those who were Finalists.

I had the pleasure of seeing most of the Finals yesterday and I know how hard these games were!

Our 15A’s Oztag players showed great determination to claw their way back from a 3 try deficit to score 3 tries in the second half to level their game. This meant that the game went to extra time and heartbreakingly, Epping scored the 1st try in a Golden Goal situation to take out the match.

Our 15B’s also fought their way back from a deficit to almost win their game as well. I would like to applaud both teams for the excellent spirit that they displayed in pushing themselves to get back into these games. Hard luck guys, but well played! I would like to acknowledge the efforts of Mr George and Mr Bladwell in coaching our excellent bunch of Oztag players this year.

Our extremely committed 1st Grade Volleyball boys also suffered heart break at the hands of their old adversaries, Homebush, to get knocked out in their 3rd set Finals playoff match. The players in this team have greatly enhanced their skills over the past two years through sheer hard work, training several days a week and even on the holidays! This team is a great credit to our school. Thank you to their committed coach and manager Mr Nguyen and Ms Leadbetter for inspiring the boys.

Now, I would like to acknowledge our winners. Mr Dimopoulos has written an article about his Under 15s team’s fantastic win in the 3rd Grade Cricket competition. Our team had boys as young as Year 7 playing against Homebush players who were a lot older than us, which makes our victory even sweeter. Thanks to you, Mr Dimop, for your guidance and for all of the long hours umpiring the boys this year.

Our 14 Years Waterpolo players also played a great game yesterday against their big opponents, Epping, to become 2013 Premiers. I think this may be the first Waterpolo premiership that our school has won while competing in the North West Metropolitan Zone, so the boys have made a little bit of history! Since this was our first year of Waterpolo since 2007 this victory is a credit to the boys and to their fantastic coach and mentor, Mr Semaan.

And so, the Summer season ends. I want to send out a huge thanks to all of the boys who represented their school in Grade sport this summer and to their teachers and parents. To the staff involved, thank you for your hours training and mentoring the boys and for your time spent on the long bus trips north! Sport at our school could not function without the dedication of our students and staff. As a thank you, I invite all of the boys and their teachers, who played Summer Grade sport to a barbie on this Tuesday at lunchtime. Thanks and Up the Wicks!

From Ms Mould

Randwick 15’s Cricket Wins Third Grade Grand Final

In a Grand Final that was decided in the second last over of the match, Randwick Boys’ 15’s Cricket team bowled out Homebush boys to win the match. Our team posted a score of 9 for 131 after 30 overs, leaving Homebush needing 132 runs to win. The performance of the whole team in the field was outstanding, conceding 118 runs for 10 wickets, to win the match in the 29th over, in a nail bitting finish. Both teams played the game with great sportsmanship and an intense competitive spirit, in a thrilling match.

The outstanding performance with the bat was Nivek Tanner, who finished with the figures of 49 runs not out. He kept his nerve when often things looked grim and wickets were falling around him. Nivek was well supported by many other team mates including Will Ng-Fawcett who scored 17 runs, the second highest score.

In the field all our bowlers produced a great performance, making runs hard to come by with a steady fall of wickets. The team as a whole excelled in the field taking some great catches, making very few mistakes and keeping the pressure on the batsmen. The outstanding bowling performances were: Jasper Smith with 3 wickets, taking the wicket of their best batsman, who had scored 45 runs; Aaron Tee’s with 2 wickets; and Will Ng-Fawcett with two wickets. A special mention must be made of two outstanding Year 7 cricketers who joined our team in 2013, Supriyo Barua and Nivek Tanner. Their bowling was outstanding, taking on boys who were many years older than them and showing them how it’s done. Both have a great future in cricket at Randwick Boys.

The victory was even sweeter in the knowledge that the 15’s team played in the3rd grade competition often against older opposition.

Congratulations to the whole team on a great performance in their grand final game and an outstanding cricket season.
SPORT AFTERNOON – 27 February 2013

Randwick Boys’ High School

YEAR 7 FAMILIES

Welcome BBQ and Friendly Soccer Game

6:00 – 7:30pm Thursday 21st March at the school in front of the Admin block - near the playing fields.

- Come along and get to know the families that your son will be at school with until 2019. All family members welcome.
- Join in the Kids vs Parents soccer game!
- FREE Sausage sizzle (Halal & Vegetarian Sausages available) & soft drinks

For catering purposes, please RSVP letting us know how many people from your family will attend.

Email Sally on pearley@optusnet.com.au or text a message to 0418 113 942 by Monday 18th March.