From the Principal

Old Boys’ Site Launch
The pictures in this newsletter tell the story of a successful launch. It was pleasing to see Old Boys in attendance as fathers, teachers, sons and students as well as our visitors, Bruce Notley-Smith, Police Minister, Mike Gallacher and Tourism Minister, George Sours. As well as our most recent Old Boys, we had representatives from every cohort in attendance, the “Old Boys of the Future”. P&C President Mr Nasser Attia, who has two sons at school and one who left in 2013 to become an old boy, is our official “Grand Old Boy”. He assured me that the title made him feel young!

Throw Down Fireworks
Recently, some students have brought to school small throw down fireworks, known as “Pop pops”. School is not the place for these items. If you are aware that your son has these items, please discuss with him why they should not be brought to school. Our main concerns are: the distraction and disturbance they cause, the risk of injury, and the fact that school is not the place for these items.

I thank you in advance for your support in this.

School Planning 2015 - 2017
Schools develop plans for three year cycles. The planning process includes consideration of school resourcing priorities, the school’s curriculum needs, technology needs and other priorities to support and enhance student learning.

In forthcoming P&C meetings, I will be inviting parent involvement in the planning process for 2015-2017. If you are interested, I encourage you to come along to P&C meetings to share your thoughts and ideas on the school’s direction.

Seeking Unfair Advantage in Assessment Tasks
Recently, the School Executive identified an issue that is emerging with some senior students (Year 10 onwards) who are arriving at school late on the day of an assessment task. There is the perception that some of these students may be trying to gain an advantage with last minute preparation that comes at the cost of attending normal lessons.

I will be speaking to all students in Years 10, 11 and 12 and writing to parents of students in these years outlining a change to the school’s Assessment Policy to address this matter.

The school strives to ensure that all students have equal opportunity to demonstrate their skills and understanding in assessment tasks. The perception of an unfair advantage is not something that we would want to encourage, and so the changes, to be implemented from Term 2, are necessary.

W Duncombe
Principal

Coming Events for Term 1

Friday 28 March
Ancient History Trip to Greece & Italy

Monday 21 April
Visual Arts Excursion - Biennale Exhibition – Museum of Contemporary Art & Cockatoo Island

Tuesday 03 April
Interschool Chess Challenge – JJ Cahill Memorial High School - Rosebery

Wednesday 09 April

Friday 11 April
Last Day of Term 1

Randwick Boys’ High School Year 7 & 8 Families - Welcome BBQ
The BBQ has been cancelled due to poor weather. When an alternate date has been made you will be notified.

P&C Committee
Old Boys’ Site Launch
LETTER TO PARENTS

In May 2014 the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be completed by students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. NAPLAN has the support of all State and Territory Education Ministers and will assess the literacy and numeracy skills of students across Australian schools.

The results of the tests will provide important information to schools about what each student can do, and will be used to support teaching and learning programs. Parents will receive a report indicating their child’s level of achievement. Each student’s level of achievement will be reported against the national minimum standard.

Background information (student name, gender, date of birth, language background and Aboriginality) will be collected as part of the National Assessment Program. This information is treated confidentially and held securely to ensure that every student’s right to privacy is maintained.

The NAPLAN tests will be conducted from 13 - 15 May 2014.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TUESDAY 13 MAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY 14 MAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY 15 MAY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Language Conventions (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar)</td>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>Numeracy (Number, Algebra, function and pattern; Chance and data; Measurement and Space)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In the Numeracy tests students do not require any measuring tools such as rulers or protractors. In Years 7 and 9 there will be two Numeracy tests: one where a calculator is allowed and one where calculators are not to be used. For the calculator test, the student should use the calculator that they currently use at school.

In 2014, as in previous years, the Writing task will be a single 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.

Wherever possible, schools will organise for individual students who are absent at the time of testing to complete missed tests at another time during testing week. Individual students are not permitted to sit tests after Friday 16 May 2014.

Students may be considered for exemption from the tests if:
- they are newly arrived in Australia (less than one year before the test) and with a language background other than English, or
- they have significant intellectual disability and/or significant co-existing conditions which severely limit their capacity to participate in the tests.

All other students are expected to participate in the tests. Disability adjustments which reflect the student’s normal level of support in the classroom may be provided. Large print, Braille, coloured paper versions and electronic tests are available to meet the needs of individual students.

Access to disability adjustment or exemption from the tests must be discussed with the school Principal and a parent or carer consent form must be signed. Students may be withdrawn from NAPLAN by their parent or carer. This is a matter for consideration by parents in consultation with the Principal. If you wish to withdraw your child from the tests, a parent or carer consent form must be signed.

Please make an appointment with the Principal of the school your child attends if you would like to discuss your child’s participation in NAPLAN. Additional information about NAPLAN can be found at www.nap.edu.au/NAPLAN/Parent_Carer_support/index.html.

Wayne Duncombe - Principal

Year 7 Camp

Year 7 camp kicked off on the 19th March 2014. Everyone who was going waited on the basketball court for the teachers to call out their names. After we had our names checked, we jumped on a bus to head to Wyee. When we arrived at Wyee we unpacked our bags and went to the meeting hall to be briefed about the rules of the cabins and then went to Morisset to do our first activity.

After lunch, the first thing my group did was a low tight-rope activity which was quite fun, then we had dinner in the dining hall. We had spaghetti bolognaisne. After dinner we went to play ‘Capture the Flag’ on a big, green, grassy hill but my team lost 2-1. Then we went to play a game called ‘Commando’. In ‘Commando’ it was the kids against the teachers. The teachers had to shine a torch on a person in our group then the whole team would have to go back to the base and get a lid cap (those were our lives). The objective for the kids was to capture the hostages (they were people that were being kept in a hidden location deep within the bush).

The next day we woke up at 7:00am got dressed and got ready for the day. First we had breakfast then we went to an activity called ‘Multi-climb’. In that activity we had to trust our friends because they had to pull us up with ropes while we were climbing up a 10 metre telephone pole. After ‘Multi-climb’ we went to lunch and we had hotdogs then we went to the next activity and I was so full I nearly threw up looking at the activity. This activity was called ‘High-ropes’, ‘High-ropes’ were steel cables connected to a telephone pole and we walked across the steel cables whilst going through obstacles. Then we went to ‘Mud World’. ‘Mud World’ was an obstacle course with lots of mud, we had to help our mates through the obstacles because it was a team-work activity.
One of the obstacles was a small three-storey building. In that obstacle we had to lift people up through a hatch to get to the next storey. At the end of the building we went down a big slide into a mud pool. After that we didn’t smell too good and were all muddy, so we went to the showers, got dressed and had dinner and headed back to our cabins. Out night-time activity was a series of challenges and it was really fun.

The next morning we woke up at 6.30am, got dressed, packed our bags and loaded them on the truck. We went to Morisset as soon as everyone was ready to go, so we could have breakfast. Our first activity was ‘Super-drop’. ‘Super-drop’ was an activity where we got into a full body harness and a helmet, then we walked up some stairs and waited for the leader to hook us up to a small thing that looked like a crane. After we got hooked, we stepped off an edge and dropped 10 metres. Once we had finished that activity we went on to the next, which was called ‘Leap-of-faith’. ‘Leap-of-faith’ is another climbing activity but when you got to the top you had to stand on top of the pole and jump off and try to grab a trapeze bar and hold onto it until you want to let go. It was really challenging but most of us were able to overcome our fears.

Camp was a fun and new experience for most of the kids that went and if we went again next year I would definitely go.

Michael Love & Elijah Tahau - 7R
A caring and committed staff.

**Don’t’ miss out!**

**We are now taking orders for**

**BLAZERS**

**Special Offer - only $110.00**

If you would like to order a blazer with a logo, the Uniform Shop now has a selection of sizes that you can try on. It will take two to three weeks to make them.

We have an extraordinarily great deal on these. Our 2012 price was $150 - $180. They are NOW available for $110.

If you would like to order a blazer, check your size with the Uniform Shop next Thursday, then pay $110 and give your size details to the front office.

**Orders close Friday 4 April 2014**

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**2013**

**RBHS Year Book**

**Only $15**

Limited copies available from the RBHS front office

This high quality publication focuses on presenting life at RBHS in colourful photos. It provides a fascinating insight into the diversity of experiences offered to RBHS students.

It features students cooking, camping, dancing, fine dining at a French restaurant, kayaking, trekking in the wild, scoring tries and hitting sixes. They are wearing armour, relaxing in a tropical rainforest, making furniture, programming robots, rock climbing and much more.

Also included are photos of each student’s year, and photos of the Student Representative Council, Prefects, ‘The Show’ group and Hakka group.
“E-Contact List – what is it? The way to stay in touch!”

The School Parent E-Network Contact List exists for each of the class years at Randwick Boys’ High School and is an email service coordinated by a school parent representative and member of the P&C (Parents & Citizens).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 7/2014</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rbhs2019@gmail.com">rbhs2019@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>2019 = your son’s Year 12 at RBHS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 8/2014</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rbhs2018@gmail.com">rbhs2018@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>2018 = your son’s Year 12 at RBHS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 9/2014</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rbhs2017@gmail.com">rbhs2017@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>2017 = your son’s Year 12 at RBHS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 10/2014</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rbhs2016@gmail.com">rbhs2016@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>2016 = your son’s Year 12 at RBHS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The network advises of events (social & business) at the school and provides opportunities for parents to get together to discuss matters of interest in relation to their sons as they progress through High School. It’s a great way to be involved and to provide mutual support.

Joining the School Parent E-Network also makes it easier to:

- Receive regular updates from the P&C (Parents & Citizens).
- Have the opportunity to give feedback on issues canvassed by P&C.
- Raise any issues of concern that you may have.
- Make suggestions for social or information events of interest to families.

Parents/carers are invited to complete and hand in the response slip below to the School Admin Office. You can also update your details this way if you are already on the Parent Network Contact List. Note that email addresses are only used within the network and are not shared outside the network.

Please register me for the RBHS Parents’ E-Network Contact List

Student’s Name .......................................................... & my son is in one of the following (please circle one): Year 7 ; Year 8 ; Year 9 ; Year 10

Parent/Carer Name/s........................................................................................................

Parent/Carer Email/s........................................................................................................

Parent/Carer Mobile/s........................................................................................................