Deputy Newsletter

Year 10

The Year 10 Crossroads program is well underway. Many students have reported to us on how valuable the activities have been. Unfortunately the participation from this year’s Year 10 is not high. We therefore are encouraging students to come to school to participate in this valuable program. Teachers have spent hours preparing for an exciting yet purposeful program where there is a mixture of educational programs and fun activities. Students who are not at school are advised that they must fill out an attendance exemption form, obtainable from the office by emailing the office.

The Year 10 graduation assembly is scheduled at 9:00 on the 9th December.

Year 10 students have completed their selection of subjects for Year 112012. Any student who wishes to change their subjects may do so after a discussion with Ms Andre and/or Ms Hawkins, provided there is a note from their parents and that there are places available in the other subjects.

Year 8

The Year 8 camp was a great success and enjoyed by all. A big thank you to Ms Stern and Ms Cleary who organised the campers and the non campers, for the many hours they put in. They reported that the behaviour of the students was a credit to themselves and their school.

Year 8 students have completed their selection of electives for Year 9 2012. Any student who wishes to change these electives may do so after a discussion with Ms Andre, provided there is a note from the parents and that there are places available in the other electives.

Year 12

Many of our Year 12 students returned textbooks and donated their school uniform yesterday. If you have yet to do this please do so in the next few days as formal tickets can be collected from Ms Alonzo at the end of the clearance procedure. The formal will take place at the Four Points by Sheraton Ballroom on Monday 21st November at 7 pm. Students are reminded that the formal is an alcohol free party.

From the Deputy Principals’ desks

Hamper drive

We acknowledge that it takes grace to live close to a big school like ours with the volume of traffic and children every day. This year we would like to show appreciation to our neighbours from Rose Bay students, teachers and parents by giving them a small hamper. To make this happen we would appreciate donations of non perishable food suitable for hampers. The school SRC leaders will package these and give them out to our neighbours in the last few weeks of the year. Please send items to Ms Andre’s office.

Spring/Summer College Spruce Up

Some of the corners of our school are requiring a spruce up before the end of the year, and so we would appreciate any donations of unused or used paint in your garage. Please bring any donations of paint of any colour, paint brushes and drop sheets to Ms Andre’s office. We appreciate your help in this area.

Choking game

We have had a disturbing email from our police school liaison officer last week in regards to a choking game played by some children. Teachers have been informed about this and we would like parents to be aware that this is a game out there. Police has informed us that it is not advisable to talk about this with the children as this may arouse curiosity, leading to experimentation.

The choking game is also known as **pass-out game, space monkey, the fainting game, scarf game, space cowboy, California choke, the dream game, cloud nine, and purple hazing.**

It seems to be a new thing that some kids are trying, with some losing their life.  It's all over the internet and if you google 'choking game' you'll find a lot more information about this.

*Children who participate in the choking game may exhibit the following symptoms or behaviours:*

* *Marks or bruises on the neck*
* *Bloodshot eyes*
* *Wearing clothing that covers the neck, even in warm weather*
* *Confusion or disorientation after being alone for a period of time*
* *The presence of unusual items such as dog leashes, ropes, scarves, bungee cords, and belts*
* *Severe headaches, often frequent*
* *Secretive behavior, irritability, hostility*
* *Bleeding under the skin of the face and eyelids*

Please give the police or the deputy principals a call if you have any concerns.