Pirates of Penzance

Our first Gilbert and Sullivan production was 75 years ago. Last week, our students performed Pirates of Penzance, to sold out houses every night. A wonderful performance. See inside for our theatre critic’s review...

Aviva’s Premier’s Award

Aviva Kidd, one of four Northcote High School students to achieve an ENTER over 99 in 2008, is the recipient of the Premier’s Award for National Politics. Although she commenced the study as an extra subject to complete her timetable, she excelled and completed the year with an outstanding result. Aviva says “In the beginning I found Politics a challenging humanities subject, but as I continued to unpick the course and discover how Australian government works, I realized its relevance to everyone’s lives.” Aviva also studied Mandarin Chinese, English language, Literature, Revolutions History and University Extension History of Art. Aviva is also a published author, having written her first novel, Emaniel’s Eye, while in Year 9.

“Paul Gilby, my Politics teacher, was also the author the text we were using. His knowledge was vast, but I especially like the fact that he was always able to expand on our class discussions and incorporate current and global issues. I just can’t thank Paul Gilby and all my teachers enough. They were so helpful, even the ones who didn’t teach me.”

And what’s ahead for Aviva? This year she is taking a GAP year, hoping to teach English in China soon. She is also working on another novel before taking up first year Art (media and communications) at the University of Melbourne.
Pirates of Penzance—A Review

After last year’s heartbreaking departure of Northcote High’s leading thespian, Mr. Alex Madden, curiosity was raised as to whom would lead this year’s production. Who would accept the responsibility of directing the next production when expectations were none other than sky high? And so it may have come as a surprise to many when the ever calm, mild mannered Mr Peter Lewis stepped in, announcing not only that he was directing the play, but also that it was to be a Gilbert and Sullivan musical!! Looming behind him was the outstanding production team of Ms Jen McIntyre and Mr Simon Lasslett, and the amazing technical support of Mr Roger Rassool and his team.

It was obvious after many long and draining hours of dedication and commitment the change of course and hard work had paid off. Full house audiences were in luck, and witnessed an array of astounding talent that our Northcote high students have to offer, and the Pirates of Penzance was a complete success. Special mention to Ms Rassool leading the band so gracefully. The leading roles required singing dancing and elocution skills. Caitlin Sullivan shone as Mabel, the audience gasping with delight as she sang “Poor Wandering One.” Charles Cornwallis played young Frederic superbly, bringing the right touches of humour and pathos to the role. The pirate king was played by the talented Alexei Ymer Welsby. Rowan Watson performed the central role of the Major General with great skills and aplomb, while Laura Pearce, Carmen Petty and Tim Dobson all sang wonderfully in the strong roles of Ruth (Carmen and Laura alternatively) and the Sergeant of Police. Mason Shaube, Sibon Curulli-Mailard and Tylah Burton showed off great solo singing skills in their supporting roles. The Chorus of Pirates, Policemen and Maidens fulfilled their roles very well.

At the end of the performance I interviewed many cast members. They probably all share Alexei’s view that “For me, the stage is where I truly come alive!” Thanks to all concerned for the great performances and another milestone in NHS theatre history.

NHS Newsletter Theatre critic Ms Nikki Marakis

Dante Alighieri Italian Poetry Comp. – NHS in the finals!

Congratulations to Year 10 students Gianni Madafferi and Antonella Martucci as well as Mina Gorman in Year 9 who have succeeded in reaching the Recitation Finals of this year’s Italian Poetry competition held in June at Melbourne University.

Our students were acknowledged for their excellent efforts as they competed against hundreds of participants throughout the state.

The Recitation Finals will now be held on Friday August 7.
Well done!

Ms Adele Fattore
Year 10 Coordinator

Yr 10, 2010 Information Evening, July 28

Tuesday July 28th
Parents are reminded that the Year 10 Information Evening will be held on Tuesday July 28th, in the school Library at 7.30 pm for all current Year 9 students and their parents.

Faculty Coordinators and subject teachers will be available to answer any questions regarding the Year 10 Curriculum. This will be held in the GCC from 6.30 pm – 7.15pm.

Letters will be sent home with students in week 1 of Term 3. Please complete the reply slip and return it to the school.

The general structure of the Year 10 Program, the course selection process, career advice and pathway options will be outlined during the evening and students will receive their Course Selection Information packs.

It is a very important date on the school calendar for our Year 9 students and we look forward to seeing all our students and their parents at the evening.

Soula Bennett Head of Middle Years, Jocelyn Hill Head of Senior Years
The school’s policy regarding assessment and reporting

Northcote High School has a Work Required Assessment policy for years 7 to 10. This means that:

- Each student must submit all set work to receive a “satisfactory” for each subject’s end of semester report.
- Each subject has determined a number of work requirements that cover the areas of study done in that subject.
- Even if only one piece of work for one work requirement is not submitted or completed, it may result in a ‘Not Satisfactory’ for the related work requirement and for the subject for the semester.

In addition particular pieces of work will be graded for level of achievement

All students should have received a work program and list of due date from their teachers by Friday 24th July.

Important dates for semester two 2009

**Year 7, 8 & 9**

End of semester / formal assessment period date - Friday November 27th.

All student work for the semester must be submitted by this date.

**Year 10**

End of semester / formal assessment period date – Friday November 6th.

All student work for the semester must be submitted by this date.

Year 10 examination period from Wednesday November 11th till Tuesday November 17th

Year 10 Work Experience

Year 10 students successfully ventured into the world of employment during the last week of Term 2, (Mon 22/6 to Fri 26/6). This was the culmination of a very busy Semester 1 for students who completed their MIPs Plans and formal Occupational Health & Safety certificates during their Pathways and Physical Education (PEP) classes. Many students took the opportunity to organize their placements early, and secured some very interesting work environments. Locations varied across Melbourne, with students rising early in order to catch public transport or grab a lift with a willing parent to the other side of town. Placements occurred with employers from the health, retail, academic, hospitality and legal areas. One of the most pleasing aspects has been the overwhelmingly positive feedback received from both employers and students. Overall employers were impressed with our students’ initiative, communication skills and maturity.

While many students gained valuable insights into aspects of their preferred careers, the harsh reality of rising at 6.30am to start at 8:45am and finish at 4:45pm before battling the tram ride home with the rest of the CBD made the prospect of the next 2 ½ years at NHS very appealing!

*Ms H. Anderton*

Careers and Pathways Leader

Year 12 English: A Man for All Seasons

Thursday 23rd saw 80 students from Year 12 English (and their teachers) head off on a cold and wintry to the Union Theatre at Melbourne University to see the Complete Works Theatre Company’s 2009 production of ‘A Man For All Seasons.’ Our students were presented with a highly entertaining performance, especially from the Common Man and the King. The costumes, music and stage sets were all fantastic and help bring the play to life. This is the third year our students have seen this production and it has been very popular with both students and staff.
Da Shen’s Sports Bag

Year 7 Boys Badminton team leads the way

Term 3 began with our 3 winning District Boys Badminton teams heading off to the Zone finals. Our Year 7 Boys had put in hours of training and led by team captains Sam Hodder of 7D and Emmanuol Marakis of 7B were confident of success. Alas, they had a narrow loss to Thomas-town SC in their first game and thought their chances were lost. Fighting on they had strong wins over University HS and Viewbank SC. Out of the blue Viewbank beat Thomastown SC meaning percentage calculations were needed. With calculators required we came out winners by 3 points. Our students learnt it is best to never to give up and strive to win as many points as possible in all of your games. Congratulations to the whole team who now play off at the elite State level. Our other 4 players were Patrick Richardson 7I, Luke Marco-Rawlings 7A, Jesse Jones 7D and Kieran Rickard of 7F.

Our Intermediate boys led by Baris Kilic 10A and Jason Kha of 10H have been training the Gym down and had a narrow 2nd placing to Melbourne Boy’s High. Our Year 8 Boys also played well to finish 3rd.

Six of our students; Tily Kiefel-Johnson 7, Ben McDonald 7, Laura Veneables 8, Ruby Foley 8, Jude Kattan 8 and Bronwyn Humphrys 12 participated last Friday at the State Cross country. Bronwyn had the highest finish of 17th in a time of 12.01 for 3000 metres. With up to 150 students in each race all of our runners did very well to make this elite level. Today our Year 9/10 Girls and Year 7/8 Boys are playing Zone netball at the State Netball Centre. We have many Zone and State finals coming up in the next few weeks in Football and Soccer which we will keep the school community up to date with.

Da Shen (Craig Price)
Girls On The Go! Term 2

Term 2 saw the first running of a Year 8 Girls Group: Girls On The Go. The group run by Emily Graham (school nurse) and Bronwyn Tindall (social worker) was highly successful. There were 15 girls from across the Year 8 cohort who participated in the program on a weekly basis. The girls challenged themselves physically with some of the activities like indoor rock climbing, yoga and taekwondo. They especially enjoyed the make over session provided by The Body Shop from Northland Shopping Centre.

A notable mention was Gracie Potts’ natural abilities when it came to the rock climbing session.

All of the girls should be commended on their willingness to participate in all activities (even lawn bowls), and their ability to come together as a group. Well Done!

Contact Ms McIntyre in the GCC to find out how to register or email ttw09melbs@gmail.com. You MUST register individually to be a part of this event as it is an attempt at the world record for Largest Simultaneous Dance. That means people in cities all over the world will be doing this at the SAME TIME!

This event is open to any age group so tell your friends, parents, cousins…anyone!

There will be rehearsals held in September/October. You will need to attend at least one rehearsal.

Thrill The World

an annual worldwide simultaneous
dance of “Thriller”
for world records and charity.

A Tribute to Michael Jackson since 2006.

www.thrilltheworld.com

October 25th 2009
Time: 11.30am

You can be part of it!
Even if you have two left feet!

Learn The Dance with the FREE online videos
www.thrilltheworld.com/learn/videos

Stall Holders Wanted
Come and join us for the first Deutsche Schule Melbourne car boot sale! Come along to find a bargain, buy a sausage and have some fun!

Stall Fee is $20

Date: Saturday 1st August
Time: 9:00am
Where: Deutsche Schule Melbourne
96 Balnaby Street, North Fitzroy (corner of Holdom Street)

Contact: Caroline Turner
Phone: 0411 444 809
E-mail: caroline@burnleystyle.com.au
NHS Debating Round 4 Report

Another big night out for Northcote High School debaters with some complex issues to debate such as the merits of lowering the voting age to 16 at C Grade or building a desalination plant at B Grade. Speaking to Year 11 student Jordan Cole, after their win at B, I asked him how he had managed to put together a case for desalination plants in just 60 minutes without access to the internet and he said that he had “covered the subject in detail in Year 8 English with Ms Cummins.” Three years later this material was there ready for him and his team to use to win the night. Well done.

On the night NHS did well with 6 wins from 10 debates. ROUND FIVE is coming up on 30/7. This will being the season to an end for 2009. This will be followed by the finals. The first of which is the knock-out final will be held at NHS on August 19th. At present NHS has a number of teams who are undefeated. Good luck to these (and all our teams) as we enter the home stretch. Thanks again to Ms Wilson, Ms Couttie, Ms Butera and all our wonderful parents.

Gronya’s great success in New Zealand

As reported in our last newsletter, Gronya Somerville of Year 8 has achieved great success as a member of the Australian National Badminton Squad. Last week Gronya won singles and doubles in South Island championships in New Zealand. She went on to win the Girls and Mixed doubles on the North Island. The school congratulates this wonderful young Australian sportswoman on her success.

Steph’s Gold Duke of Edinburgh’s Medal

Last Week, Steph Moncur, the School Captain of 2008, was awarded the Gold Duke of Edinburgh’s Award at Parliament House by Mr James Merlino, Minister for Sport, Recreation and Youth Affairs. Steph is photographed at right with Chairman, Mr Bob Prewett.

The school congratulates Steph on this wonderful achievement.