

HOLSWORTHY HIGH SCHOOL

Website: http://www.holsworthy-h.schools.nsw.edu.au Email: holsworthy-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

February 2013



2013 is well and truly underway. The organizational issues surrounding the commencement of the New Year are complete and I am pleased to report our recent audit found the school to be extremely well run and completing all responsibilities. I would like to thank all the staff for their diligence and attention to detail.

We are often visited by last year's students and we have asked about how they are going. I am pleased to find that, of the 63 we tracked down 27 are going to university, 17 are off to TAFE, five are undertaking study in private colleges and 7 have apprenticeships. This is an outstanding result for the students and the school.

However school goes on and classes are in full swing. At Holsworthy we are always looking for ways to improve our performance, however, after over forty years in the job I am aware that the main ingredient for optimal learning is the relationship between the teacher and the student. It is well established, almost taken for granted that pupils who like their teachers are more likely to do well academically. The relationship between pupils and their secondary school teachers is of critical importance.

This is especially important for our new students who have come in from primary school. Those who struggle with the transition from primary to secondary school are more at risk of failing to take advantage of the opportunities on opportunities offered at our school.

The students' views of a subject area, specifically the way this is taught, are strongly linked to their feelings about the teacher. Students value teachers who can connect with their world view. They particularly appreciate it when teachers make learning interesting, understand and enjoy them as teenagers, and have a sense of humour. Most students aged between 13 and 14 say they like many of their teachers and feel cared for by them despite the fact that they often have fewer opportunities to build the kind of close relationships they had with their teachers at primary school due to the compartmentalisation of subject areas and the school timetable. A good start to secondary school is essential. When transitions don't go well, the impact on the most vulnerable students may well be reflected in their future achievement, employment prospects and wellbeing.

I am pleased to note that the transition this year has been successful and the Year 7 students are already a real part of our family.

John Frew

OUR SCHOOL - COMMITTED TO QUALITY AND EXPECTING THE BEST FROM EVERY STUDENT

Deputy Grew's Report Years 7, 9 and 11

The school year continues to progress quickly for the students and staff at Holsworthy High School. As we enter the second half of Term 1 a number of challenges arise for the students. The Year 7 students feel more accustomed to their new environment and the Year 11 students come to the realisation that the work and effort requirement increases from Year 10.

Regarding assessment in particular, all Year 9, 10 and 11 students should have received their assessment booklets by email on the 15.2.13. These are important documents and outline assessment requirements for each subject. They also contain information regarding late submission of assessment items and the relative loading of components towards the student's semester and end of year grade. Students in Year 12 received their assessment booklets by email in early Term 4 of 2012. If, for any reason, your child has not had access to these documents they should approach their Year Advisor or myself for a hard copy.

For all students, but particularly Year 11 students, the challenges associated with assessment completion are varied. With the onset of ROSA, and the new requirement for the school to allocate grades for Year 11 students, the students face a new level of transparency in their results. Further, the grades attained in Years 10 and 11 will appear on the students HSC Testamur when they complete Year 12. This is a new addition to the Board of Studies result allocation. It also enables, employers, TAFE and Universities to reflect on a student's pattern of performance over years 10 to 12. I have discussed these issues with all students from Years 9 to 11 and encourage you to visit <u>http://</u> <u>www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/rosa/parents</u> <u>-employers.html</u> for more information on these matters.

Regardless of the year your child is in, or the nature of the assessment schedule, some simple things promote student success and school enjoyment. Organisation, effort and commitment enable students to reach their potential. Each semester the school reports on both your child's academic progress and their progress towards Student Responsibilities. While the grades may indicate ability levels, it is the students that score well on the Student Responsibilities that are being the best that they can be. I would ask you to be mindful of this when reports are issued at the end of Term 2 and Term 4.

Finally, after several hours of travel and less sleep than we are accustomed to, a group of Year 9 students participated in some activities at Western Plains Zoo in Dubbo. These students, who were recognised for strong scores in their student responsibilities in Year 8, were excited and thrilled to see some behind the scenes action at the zoo. I am always excited to see students communicating and socialising in a mature and friendly manner. Congratulations to these students on a great display. I would also like to thank those students that participated in our 6 into 7 transition night on 4.3.13. Both student groups were a credit to the school and themselves.

Mr. Timothy Grew Deputy Principal (Relieving)

Deputy Fry's Report

Years 8,10 and 12

The year has started in its usual busy fashion. Our new Year 7 students by all accounts are settling well into the school. The new extension class has been going really well and the students and teachers are both enjoying the new challenges.

We have had to up-grade part of one of our kitchens to include two commercial hospitality bays. Over the holidays we have refurbished them with stainless steel and they are just about completed. It was necessary to do, to maintain out VET accreditation and be able to teach Hospitality to Years 11 and 12 in the school. The PHPDE staff has moved into their upgraded staffroom with a bit more space. We have also been making improvements to the grounds. Fixing tables and seating around the playgrounds. The Construction class has been concreting slabs for the tables and they have done a great job.

Year 8 are settling in well and we are looking to build on their experiences from last year. In Year 10 students are now in their ROSA years and must be mindful to complete all work and be sure their attendance does not drop below 85%. Students must bring a note to school if absent for any reason and where students are away for more than three days parents should let us know the reason. The results of their Year 10 are placed on the ROSA Certificate and when the student leaves school in Year 12 they receive the ROSA Testamur.

Year 12 are focusing on their HSC, they should be studying and revising 2 hours a night, we are now almost half way through their HSC Year and they have exams coming up in three and half weeks time.

Just a reminder that the Year 12 and Year 7 parent teacher night is on Monday 25th March in week 8.

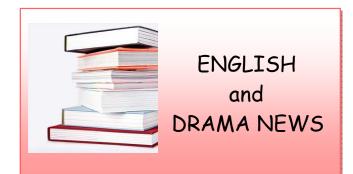
Student Assistance

The Department of Education and Community provide \$2,000 dollars to our school to assist students whose parents are experiencing financial difficulties. This money is only for items that are directly associated with the students learning.

As you are aware this money is extremely limited. I understand that a lot of our families struggle to make ends meet but for our older students the availability of other support funding can be used. These are programs such as the as Youth Allowance Scheme.

However, if or when financial difficulties are a problem do not hesitate to contact the school. All information provided is confidential.





Book Review

Raw By Scott Monk

Raw, a fast paced, action filled novel written by Scott Monk follows the life of sixteen-year-old delinquent Brett Dalton as he stays at The Farm—a rehabilitation institute. Caught red-handed for Breaking and Entering, it's either The Farm or jail.

Brett has a tough exterior and a hardened, angry way of seeing the world and is always ready to use his fists. Life at The Farm for Brett is anything but imprisoning. In fact, it simply is a farm—no guards, no gates and no camera's—there's nothing else to it.

The authority figure is Sam—a stereotypical old stockman who operates The Farm with his wife Mary. Throughout Brett's 3 month stay at Mungindi, Sam breaks down Brett's barriers and forces him to see the consequences of his actions—which are both good and bad.

With the introduction of Josh, a stablehand, Brett is given a way to see Sam as something other than a warden; as a friend through Josh's eyes. But not everything at The Farm goes so smoothly for Brett, and with the entrance of a ring leader and his thugs, things begin to go downhill for Brett.

Tyson—a big, intimidating Pacific Islander, quickly becomes the novels' antagonist. "We do have some new raw meat"., says Tyson towards Brett, singling him out as his new victim.

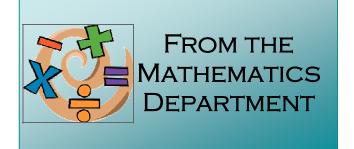
Further along in the novel, and after Brett has run away only to return defeated, things finally start looking up. Caitlyn Douglas—a smart, witty, beautiful girl makes an appearance in Brett's life, capturing his interest. Over the remainder of Brett's stay, he finds himself falling for Caitlyn, only to be heartbroken in the end when he finds himself unable to understand her feelings.

At the conclusion of the novel, we find Brett in trouble with the law again, and being sent back to the magistrate for a further sentencing. Despite this grim outcome, Brett has learnt many valuable qualities that will help him later in life.

So what is my opinion on this book, and the themes Scott Monk presents?

Well, *Raw* has been presented very realistically. By using Brett as a figurehead that represents what modern day teenagers face and the troubles they come across throughout their life, *Raw* is a very relatable novel aimed at people in our age group.

Written by Eden Foley-White and Kiara Miller Year 10 English



Welcome all to 2013. We hope that the holidays were both enjoyable and relaxing. This appears to be a fabulous year for us all with the continuation of many of the Mathematics initiatives.

As we welcome Year 7 to our school we would like to introduce parents to the Maths Lab initiative as outlined below. In short it allows students to enjoy mathematical contexts outside the regular curriculum.

Our after school tuition – Maths Boost - has already started and again students are taking up this opportunity on Wednesday afternoons to improve their skills in Mathematics with free tuition.

The Mathematics Staff for 2013 are as follows:

- G. Pavone A. Abhilash
- S. Wiles C. Tan
- E. Osborne R. Rao



Math Lab is a Year 7 initiative to address the following:

- Introduce students in Year 7 to the many aspects of Mathematics found in diverse contexts
- Make Mathematics more fun and hence
 engaging
- To steer away (for one period) from regular class work and make the students look forward to diverse concepts in the subject
- Introduce skills such as 'Thinking Mathematically' and 'Problem Solving'

Math Boost Math Boost

- The concept here is to provide professional and free **Mathematics tutoring** to students at HHS
- Target students will be Years 7-10 and at all levels.
- It will run for approximately 1 hour between 3.00pm and 4.00pm on Wednesday afternoons in the Mathematics Block and will be staffed by at least two Mathematics teachers.
- It is expected that students will come prepared with questions and/or concepts they are having problems with

MONTHLY QUIZ

Can you answer the following questions?

- 1. Which month has 28 days?
- 2. What occurs twice in a week, once in a year and never in a day?
- A palindrome is a number, word, phrase, verse, or sentence that reads the same backward or forward. Some examples are: WORDS: noon, dad, race-car, level, madam

PHRASE: "a toyota", "never odd or even"

SENTENCE: Was it a bat I saw?

How many more palindromic words, phrases or sentences can you come up with?

(SOLUTIONS NEXT WEEK)

VISUAL ART

Year 12 Digital Imaging

Excursion to Rookwood Cemetery

On a very hot and muggy Monday 25th February, the Year 12 photographers Tneal Gray, Bianca Wighton, Petal Camero Natasha McLoughlin, and Mrs Papac travelled to Lidcombe to take photographs at the historic Rookwood cemetery. The necropolis (city of the dead) is the largest one of its kind in the southern hemisphere. It has 1 million internments, many marked with fine examples of statuesque sculpture and informative headstones with moving inscriptions.

The landscape is planted with century plus aged Bunya pines and date palms, towering palm trees and many varieties of old fashioned roses amongst the brambles and overgrown shrubbery.

The scenery of laneways, serpentine canals, terracotta urns and elaborate funerary statues lends itself to photography. We enjoyed a very peaceful and contemplative wander amongst the graves , down the pathways and inside the various gazebos and rest pavilions.

Some of our photos are attached for your appreciation and enjoyment.

Mrs Susan Papac (Visual Arts and Digital Imaging Stage 6 teacher)



A group of avid HHS photographers regarding their next composition.



The long hot path to the cool and shady rest house.



Petal found a cherub.



Angel coloured in Photoshop by Tneal.



The funerary statues were numerous and varied in exquisite carving and decoration.



Petal creates a stylishly framed silhouette.

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NEWSWORTHY



Our angel Tneal.

Another image by Tneal using Photoshop.

NEW SMS number

SMS Messaging for Attendance

If you would like to let us know about a student absence in advance the school has an SMS system.

Please text **0439 565 045** with the name of the student and the reason for the absence.

When replying to any school SMS

please include the first name of the student who is absent or late. The system does not recognise abbreviations so please text the student's first name in <u>full</u>eg. Thomas instead of Tom

Many thanks for supporting the SMS system. If you have any concerns or problems call the office on 98252888.

Mr Osborne Head Teacher Admin

Below is a lovely thankyou letter Holsworthy High School Volunteering Team received from the residents of Hammondville Homes for Activity Day last year.

13.2.13 Dear Tracey On behalf of myself and the other residents who joined me for that lovely surprise morning tea, and the lovely gifts that the girls and boys gave to us. Their conversations when we sat around the tables was great, and showed that beside being good mannered, they also had an interest in elderly people. We hope they all did well in their exams. We hope we have the pleasure of their company again, especially the cow or was it a panda! Sincerely Norma Glarke

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Defence Transition Mentor March 2013

Well we are in full swing of term 1 and before we know it we will be eating Easter eggs. I am pleased to see that the year 7 students have settled into their classes and have made some great friendship groups. Later this term the year 7 Defence students will be having their free pizza lunch where they get to invite one 'civi' student to share lunch with them. Listen out at year assembly for the date.

Enclosed in the Newsworthy is a thank you email from Private Hoskin who has just received their Christmas Care package in Afghanistan from our Volunteering Team. We sent 55 packages over at Christmas time and poor PTE Hoskin has just received theirs. (see separate article)

Whilst I am speaking of letters of thanks, we also received a lovely hand written letter from an elderly resident from Hammondville Homes. Norma Clark was delighted to spend time with the team on activities day last December and sent us a beautiful hand written letter (see separate article) Whilst the Volunteer Team does not expect any thanks for their actions, it is always lovely to be recognised for the generosity. Our first activity for the year is Clean Up Australia Day on Monday 04 Mar 13. The team are giving up their own time to beautify our school grounds. Thanks guys. Remember that free breakfast hosted by Junction Works is available every Friday morning to all students on the Learning Centre balcony. Ensure that you pop up and get

your breakky before you need to go to roll call. Breakfast is between 8.00am and 8.30am. Breakfast does not consist of Red Bull or 'V'.

Defence Community Organisation (DCO) has information for parents that can be obtained from <u>www.defence.gov.au/dco</u> In this section of their website, it describes the support mechanisms that parents of ADF members can access.

Until next time, keep well and study hard year 12 for your half yearly exams. Ms Maria Leetham Defence Transition Mentor maria.leetham@det.nsw.edu.au

From: Alexander Hoskin Sent: Wednesday, February 27, 2013 8:02 PM To: School, Holsworthy-h Subject: Christmas Care Package

Thank you very much for your christmas care package.

I apologise for the late reply but I have only just received your package.

It is greatly appreciated and it made my day, thanks for the support. I hope you had an amazing Christmas and have a fantastic 2013.

Many Thanks PTE A HOSKIN

HOMEWORK CLUB

The Holsworthy High School Homework Club is a new program starting this term. The Homework Club allows students to access school resources and assistance from teachers which they would otherwise not have the opportunity to work with. Attending the Homework Club will allow students to develop their skills and knowledge in any areas they are requiring assistance with:

- Homework
- Assessment tasks
- Research Skills

Homework Club is held in the Library on Tuesday, starting immediately after school until 4.00pm. It is supervised by different teachers each week, thus allowing assistance across various subject areas. Teachers will provide individual support where possible.

If your child is interested in taking advantage of this great opportunity, they can see the library or Learning Centre for information and to collect a permission note. The note can be returned to Mr Lukins or Mrs Condell as soon as possible.

We look forward to your child's involvement in the Homework Club and hope they find it beneficial to their studies. Please feel free to call with any questions.

Mr C. Lukins & Mrs G. Condell

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NEWSWORTHY



health direct AUSTRALIA - providing expert health advice 24 hours a day to NSW residents - Tel. 1800 022 222

YEAR ADVISORS



Mr Wiles Yr7



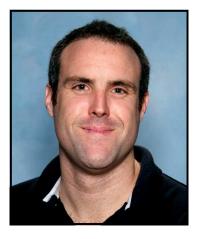
Ms Condell Yr 9



Ms Brown Yr11



Ms Van de Pol Yr7



Mr Lukins Yr 9



Ms Pardalis Yr 11



Mr Fernandez Yr8



Mr Spyroulias Yr 10



Mr Papac Yr 11

High school

Helping with homework

You can:

- help your child with assignments, but don't do the work for them as this doesn't help your child to learn
- + let the school know of any family situation that may interfere with home work
- chat to your child's teacher if your child is finding homework too hard
- help your child to have a regular time each day to do their homework
- help your child manage their time when they have lots of assignments at the same time
- help your child research information on the internet by directing them to useful sites, such as

www.tale.edu.au

 encourage children to re-read their writing to check for spelling and punctuation.

Sometimes it's easier to find ways to improve writing when it's read aloud. Encourage and praise all of your child's efforts.

More information at: <u>www.schools.nsw.edu.au/media/</u> <u>downloads/gotoschool/ttsy7.pdf</u>



It has been an excellent start to the year for our Year 7 students. There have been many opportunities to join groups and participate in the programs here at Holsworthy High School. We stress to students to listen carefully to announcements during assemblies as this is where notification of many school sports and activities are given. The swimming carnival held in February was an excellent opportunity for Year 7 to get involved in school and it was very pleasing to see Year 7 well represented in events.

There are a few events which I would like to advise:

- School immunisation program (Year 7) 13th March, 18th June, 8th November.
- School photos are on Friday 15th March.
- Surf skills beach day on Friday 22nd March.
- Parent Teacher evening Monday 25th March.
- National Assessment Program (NAPLAN) 14th – 16th May
- Year 7 Camp Term 2 (information and permission notes to be issued soon)

Just a quick note about uniform. We have been pleased with the uniform of Year 7 students, however, there have been a few who have been wearing shoes which are not entirely black in colour (including the sides of the sole and the laces). We ask that this is considered in future purchases.

Finally, we would like to thank our students for giving up their own time to help out with the recent Year 6 Information Evening. Your presence on the evening was very appreciated. Hope the pizza was good!

Best wishes, Ms Van de Pol and Mr Wiles (Year 7 advisors)



Reminder

The Year 9 Laptop Parent Information Evening will be held on April 8 2013 in the hall from 6.00pm to 7.00pm



Mr Amerikanos and myself hope that all Year 11 have settled into the year well and have finalised all subject changes. We have noticed many of you really planning and organising you lives by using your diaries and in general, keeping on top of all of your commitments. We ask that you all make sure that you use your roll call time effectively to plan your days and organise your commitments so as to not fall behind.

I have been very impressed with those students that have taken up distance education, TVET or SBAT Tafe courses. Your conduct in the Learning Centre has been excellent. You have been prepared to learn and shown great maturity.

At present we are in the middle of organising our 2014 Jerseys. We will be showcases designs in the near future and having fittings here at the school. We ask students to make sure that their \$50.00 for this term (layby system for 2014 yr 12 events \$300 in total) is to be paid a.s.a.p. since deposits will be required by the end of term for the Jerseys.

Also at present we are working on our term 1 2013 'Cultural Experience' (day out). Sir and I have a few ideas, but please let us know if you have any ideas. Finally the uniform has been fantastic! Except for a very small minority all of you have started the year and continued to wear the entire uniform. Well-done. Year 11, stay focused, make good choices and continue to work hard. I promise the rewards will come.

Go for gold! Ms Brown and the 2012 Miss Australia winner Mr Amerikanos



Year 12

Welcome back Year 12 to your final year at school here at Holsworthy High. What a fast paced and busy term this has been already!

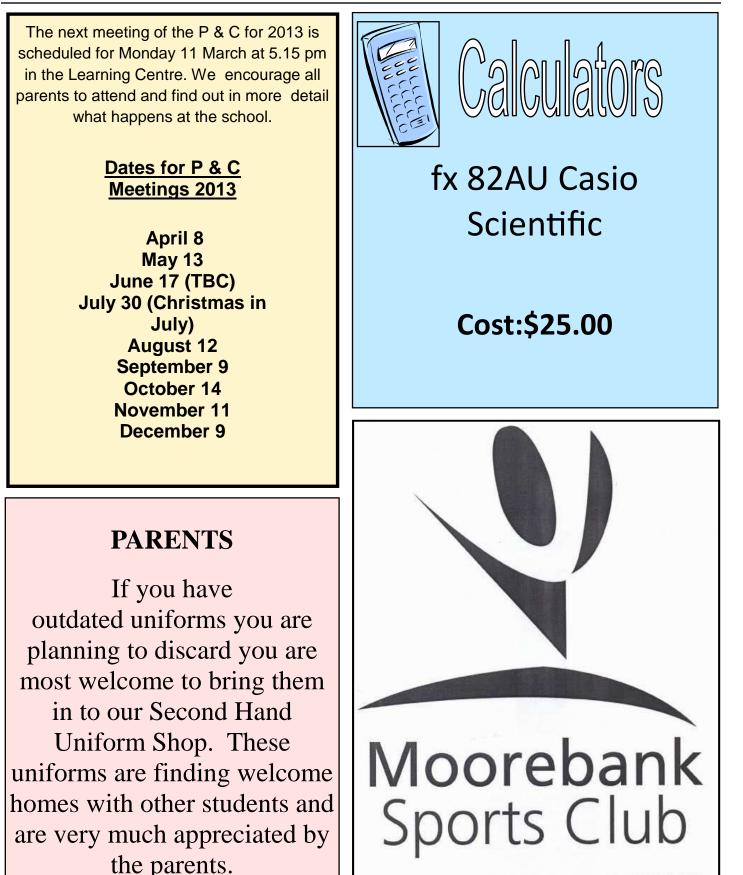
Our formal venue has been booked at Dockside. Darling Harbour with the date being 26th November! That will be the highlight of the year when we will all celebrate together your graduation. A note will be sent home informing everyone about the cost of the Formal and the deposit that will need to be paid by the end of this term. However before we can all relax there is much to de done as studying should be your main focus and priority in preparing for the HSC. This term will end with Half Yearly Exams, which means at this point you should all be revising notes every night for each subject area and increasing your study hour to achieve your maximum results in order to be successful. This time next year many of you will be at University, TAFE, College or in the workforce so let's hope you are setting the right foundations to achieve your future goals. It is never too late to change your current study habits to achieve your true potential as it is through determination and perseverance that one achieves success. So remember the decisions you make today will affect your future choices tomorrow.

Not all Year 12 students attended the Swimming Carnival which was disappointing as this was a day filled with fun memories that many of you have now missed out on. On a positive note our fundraiser Barbeque was a great success. Our Valentine's Day fundraiser was also a great success with the selling of roses. We also have more fundraising events lined up for Year 12 which will need everyone to participate in and support as a way of bringing down the cost of the Formal and intended Year book for Year 12 students.

Finally it is great to see students participating in different extracurricular activities like Debating, Soccer and Futsal as we like to see our cohort actively participate in representing our school in the wider community. We look forward to seeing them achieve success. Another initiative that necessitates everyone's participation is the decorating of the Learning Centre with a favourite quote and picture from each Year 12 student. This is intended to give ownership of the Learning Centre to Year 12 while they are in their final year and using the space as their personalised study space. A ceremony will take place at the end of the year when students will take down their photos as their last goodbye to the school. Everyone needs to bring their quote and photo by next Monday, 11 March so we can decorate the Learning Centre pronto by our cohort and get this initiative up and running. Let us put a positive stamp of our year group in the Learning Centre and leave a legacy of positive role modelling for the rest of the school to look up to in the years to come.

Lastly, everyone needs to stay positive, study hard and maximise your true potential over the next few months in preparing for the HSC. As Ralph Waldo Emerson once said, "Nothing great was achieved without enthusiasm."

Ms Pardalis and Mr Papac – Yr 12 Advisers



HOLSWORTHY HIGH WOULD LIKE TO THANK MOOREBANK SPORTS CLUB FOR SUPPORTING THE HOLSWORTHY COMMUNITY OF SCHOOLS



The staff carpark is for the use of staff and delivery vehicles only and <u>NOT</u> for use by parents unless on official school business.

Dropping off and picking up children at school is <u>NOT</u> official school business.

Please obey all parking restrictions outside the school grounds as the area is patrolled on a regular basis and infringement notices are issued.



School Zone Penalties Effective 1 July 2012

* The values are doubled during designated holiday/long weekend periods.

Offence	Minimum Fine	Minimum Loss of Demerit Points
Stop on or near:		
 A pedestrian crossing 	\$397	2
 A children's crossing 	\$397	2
 Any marked foot crossing 	\$397	2
Double park	\$298	2
Park on a footpath or stop across a driveway	\$165	2
Make an illegal U-turn	\$298	3
Exceed 40km/h in a school zone in a light vehicle: • 10 km/h and under • Over 10 km/h • Over 20 km/h • Over 30 km/h • Over 45 km/hr	\$173 \$313 \$521 \$1,008 \$2,296	2* 4* 5* 6* 7*
Use a mobile phone while driving	\$397	4
Fail to give way to a pedestrian	\$496	4
Reverse unsafely	\$232	3
Park within 3 metres of double barrier lines	\$232	0



The minimum penalty for disobeying 'No Parking' is \$165 and 2 demerit points. You may only stop here for 2 minutes and stay within 3 metres of your vehicle.



The minimum penalty for parking in a 'Bus Zone' is \$298 and 2 demerit points. You can not stop here at all.



The minimum penalty for disobeying 'No Stopping' is \$298 and 2 demerit points. You can not stop here at all. Parking on nature strips is also illegal.

HAVE YOU RECEIVED THE SCHOOLKIDS BONUS?

Do you know about the Schoolkids Bonus? It is a new cash payment to help eligible families and students with the costs of primary and secondary school studies. Around 1.2 million families have already benefitted from the first wave of payments in January 2013 - have you?

If you receive a family or income support payment, including Family Tax Benefit Part A, you could be eligible to receive \$410 a year for each primary student and \$820 a year for each secondary student, with half paid in January and half paid in July.

The Schoolkids Bonus replaces the Education Tax Refund (ETR) and is a much simpler system. You no longer need to collect receipts and payments are made automatically so you don't have to wait months to make a claim via your tax return. Unlike the ETR you can choose how you use the payment to best support your children's education – whether it be school books, stationery, uniforms, school fees, or excursions.

Check your eligibility by visiting australia.gov.au/schoolkidsbonus and if you think you might have missed out on the January payment, contact Centrelink – either in

Please ensure Student and Family information is up to date.

100% recycled paper

goods

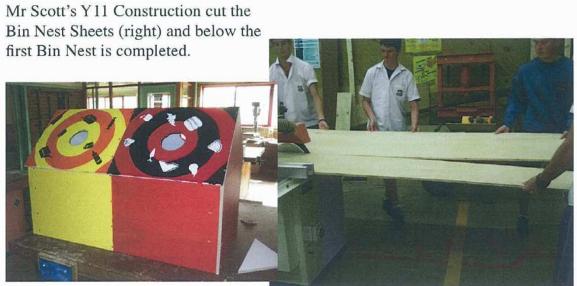
Corner Heathcote Rd and Agnes Lane, Holsworthy next to St Christopher's Church. Email: support@scrapltd.com.au Web: www.scrapltd.com.au

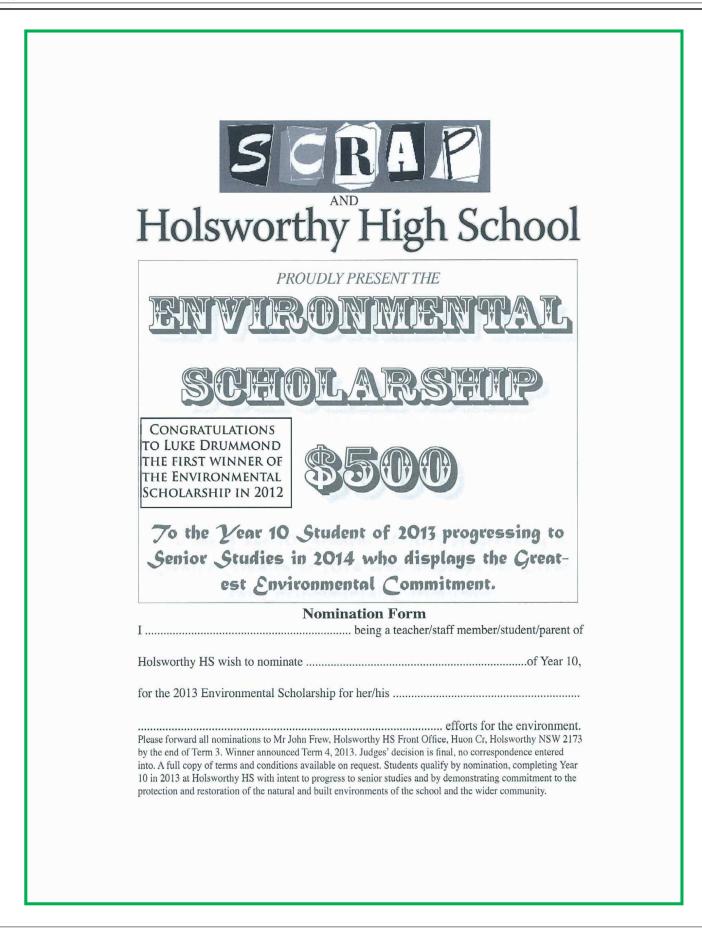
> Ph: 9825 1062 Call Peter on 0400 982 516 for obligation free quotes and advice

worm farms, worms & compost systems, worm casting & liquid, garden beds, seeds

2013 Highlight - \$2,500 Teachers Environment Fund - HHS Bin Nest Project SCRAP is assisting HHS to reduce litter and waste to landfill with an innovative-Bin Nest system to enclose existing open bins and source separate FOOD from PACKAGING. It is hoped this will reduce waste to landfill by up to 70%!

NEW WAYS OF living sustainably









DATES TO REMEMBER - 2012



Monday March 11 Wednesday March 13 Friday March 15 Monday 18 March Friday March 22 Monday March 25 Friday March 29 P & C Meeting All Year 7 and Year 9 boys vaccinations School photos Regional Swimming Carnival School photos catchup day Yrs 7+12 Parent Teacher Night Good Friday

Reminder: Students need to arrive at school by 8:40am for roll call each day.