

# KEMPSEY HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



PO Box 3268 West Kempsey NSW 2440

Phone 65 626166 Fax 65628570

Email [kempsey-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:kempsey-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

Website: [www.kempsey-h.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.kempsey-h.schools.nsw.edu.au)

Issue 10, Term 4 2013

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## New School Leaders



The class of 2013 have graduated from Kempsey High School and a new group of student leaders have taken up their duties. The student leadership team comprises Thomas Bryon, Sarah Mitchell (Captains), Sam Harwood, Claudia McGarry (Vice Captains), Courtney Davison and Tykea Dunn (Prefects).

A second group of student leaders comprising the boy and girl captain for each house was elected by students just before the end of Term 4.

**Years 7-11 Presentation Night: KHS Hall  
Monday 9<sup>th</sup>. December 2013 6pm for 6.30pm**

## ***December Calendar***

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup>. Year 10 Dive Course SWR  
& Thursday 5<sup>th</sup>.

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup>. Targeted Sports Program  
& Friday 6<sup>th</sup>. Boot Camp

Friday 6<sup>th</sup>. Year 7 & 8 Reward Lunch

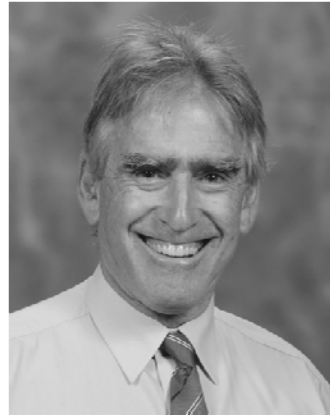
Monday 9<sup>th</sup>. Years 7-11 Presentation  
Night. Hall 6pm

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup>. Big Banana Rewards Day

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup>. Year 10 Marine Studies  
& Friday 13<sup>th</sup>. Excursion to Hat Head.

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> Last Day for students.

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup>. School Development Days  
& Friday 20<sup>th</sup>. for staff only.



**Welcome  
from the  
Principal:**

**Mick Eller**

On Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup>. December 2013 we welcome Year 6 students for their last Transition Day. Kempsey High School will be becoming quite familiar to you now and this is how we want it to be. You will quickly settle in and make new friends. You are the Class of 2019 – graduating in six years time in what seems a long way off. It will all happen far too quickly however. My advice is to take every opportunity that is presented to you – become fully involved in your new school.

I want to extend a warm welcome to parents and caregivers. I hope that our partnership will grow in mutual respect and friendship as we work together to raise your sons and daughters.

I want the school to do everything we can to make the next six years as fulfilling as they can be for your child. Please don't hesitate to phone, email or call in if I can do anything to help you.

## **TERM 4 REWARD DAY**

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup>. December**

**Coffs Harbour Big Banana**

**8.30am depart KHS**

**3.15pm return KHS**

**Permission notes due Fri. 6<sup>th</sup>. Dec**

**Cost \$14 payable on the day**

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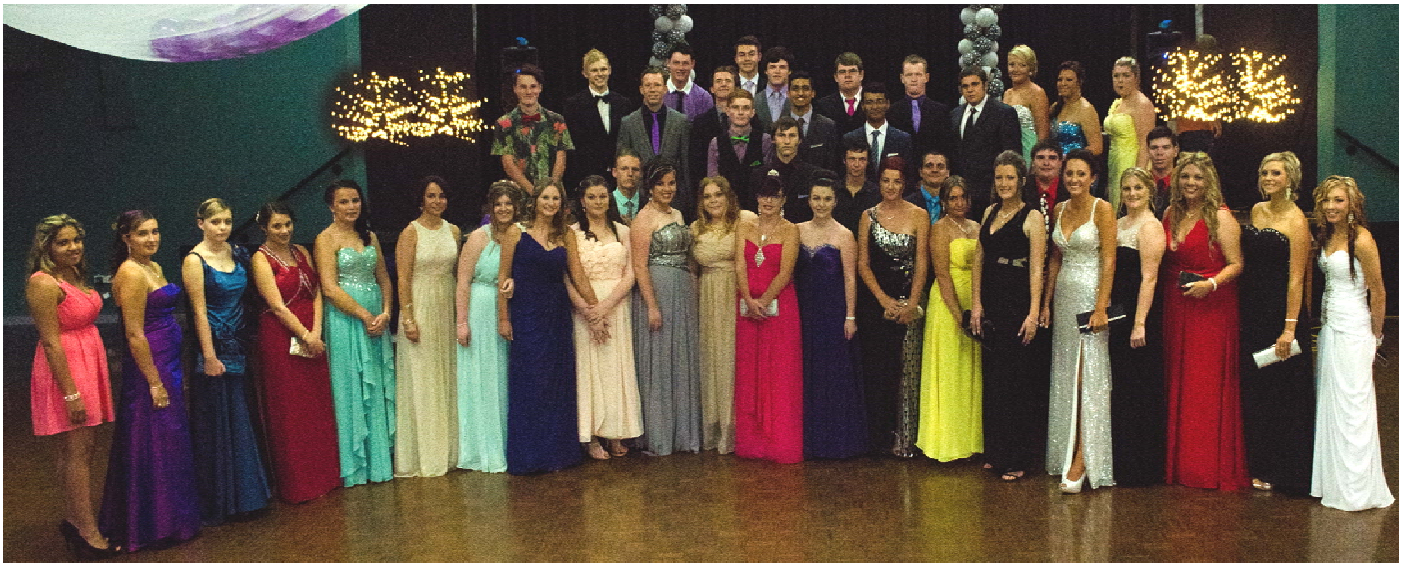
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## Year 12 Graduation



Year 12's diverse talents were illustrated at this year's Year 12 Formal when 42 of the 50 Year 12 graduates were presented with awards. This was just one of the highlights of a great night celebrating the Class of 2013. A large number of parents and grandparents saw the presentation of tertiary education scholarships worth a total of \$21,000. During the evening Dawar Malik and Rebecca Shackleton presented a cheque for \$400 to Ian Watson - the results of Year 12's fundraising for Stewart House, a residential school for country kids that relies on donations from the public schools in NSW.

Earlier in the term, parents, grandparents, community representatives and Elders assembled to celebrate the graduation of Aboriginal students (photo below).



# Sally McGrady Memorial Athletics Camp



Talha Awan, Britney Brown, Blake Clayton, Margaret Drew, Tashauna Donovan, Brodie Mayhew, Kourtney Veenstra and Jarrod Witheridge recently attended the Sally McGrady Memorial Athletics Camp at Scotts Head. The camp is a 3 night/4 day Athletics Australia program. The camp was run by Richie Donovan, a Gumbaynggirr Aboriginal Elder who started the camp 8 years ago as a means of social inclusion through track and field. Richie's philosophy on the camp is that 'sport should be celebrated by all, as a group, not in isolation'. This opportunity has allowed students to access coaching from Olympic standard coaches and to participate in life skills workshops (drug & alcohol education, appropriate social media usage, nutrition and cultural activities).

Our students were supported and mentored over the weekend by Australian representative athletes Benn Harradine (2010 Delhi Commonwealth Games - Gold Medallist – Discus) and Mark Taylor (2006 Commonwealth Games representative – High Jump) who are both inspirational speakers and role models for young athletes.

The weekend was finalised with a dinner and presentation night with the Gumbaynggirr elders. This involved a traditional smoking ceremony, language lessons, followed by a great performance from the Gumbaynggirr elders' choir.

Students from Kempsey High School thoroughly enjoyed the camp and were commented on for their outstanding behaviour and high level of skill. As a result, Kempsey High School has been invited to attend again next year.





Earlier in the term ten Kempey High School students accompanied by Mr Hensley made the long trek to the Indigenous Games held at Goodooga.

On the forward and return journeys the group stayed overnight at Gunnedah PCYC. All the students got to appreciate the vast distances, the dryness and the landscape of western NSW.

Our students joined with students from Mudgee, Lightning Ridge, Brewarrina, Bourke and Goodooga in a full day of Indigenous Games.





# Unibound

Forty Year 7 students have recently returned from an excursion to Southern Cross University, Coffs Harbour campus as part of the Unibound outreach program. The program aims to demystify university and to encourage and support the interests and aspirations of secondary school students.

Students improved their understanding of university and developed the idea that higher education was an option for their future. They received information about pathways to university, student support services and career/study options.

The students thoroughly enjoyed the day and were praised by the university staff for having outstanding behaviour and interest in the program. The Year 7 students will meet again with Southern Cross University staff next year when the Uni staff and students come to Kempsey High School to deliver a follow up presentation.



## Learning Express Tuition

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# Australian Mathematics Competition

Sponsored by the Commonwealth Bank

Kempsey High School entered nearly 80 of our best students into this year's Australian Mathematics Competition. All participating students received a certificate and 27 received awards.

An outstanding result was achieved by Emma Schlenert who received a Distinction (top 15% of NSW students in Year 8 who entered the competition). Well done Emma!

We also congratulate the following nine students: Anna Thornton (Year 7); Jack Powick, Jarrod Smith and Zeke Walker (Year 8); Michael Bednarz and Kacey Jackson (Year 9); Liam Crawford (Year 11); and Sally Evill and Zubair Awan (Year 12) who received a Credit (top 50% of NSW students in their year in the competition).

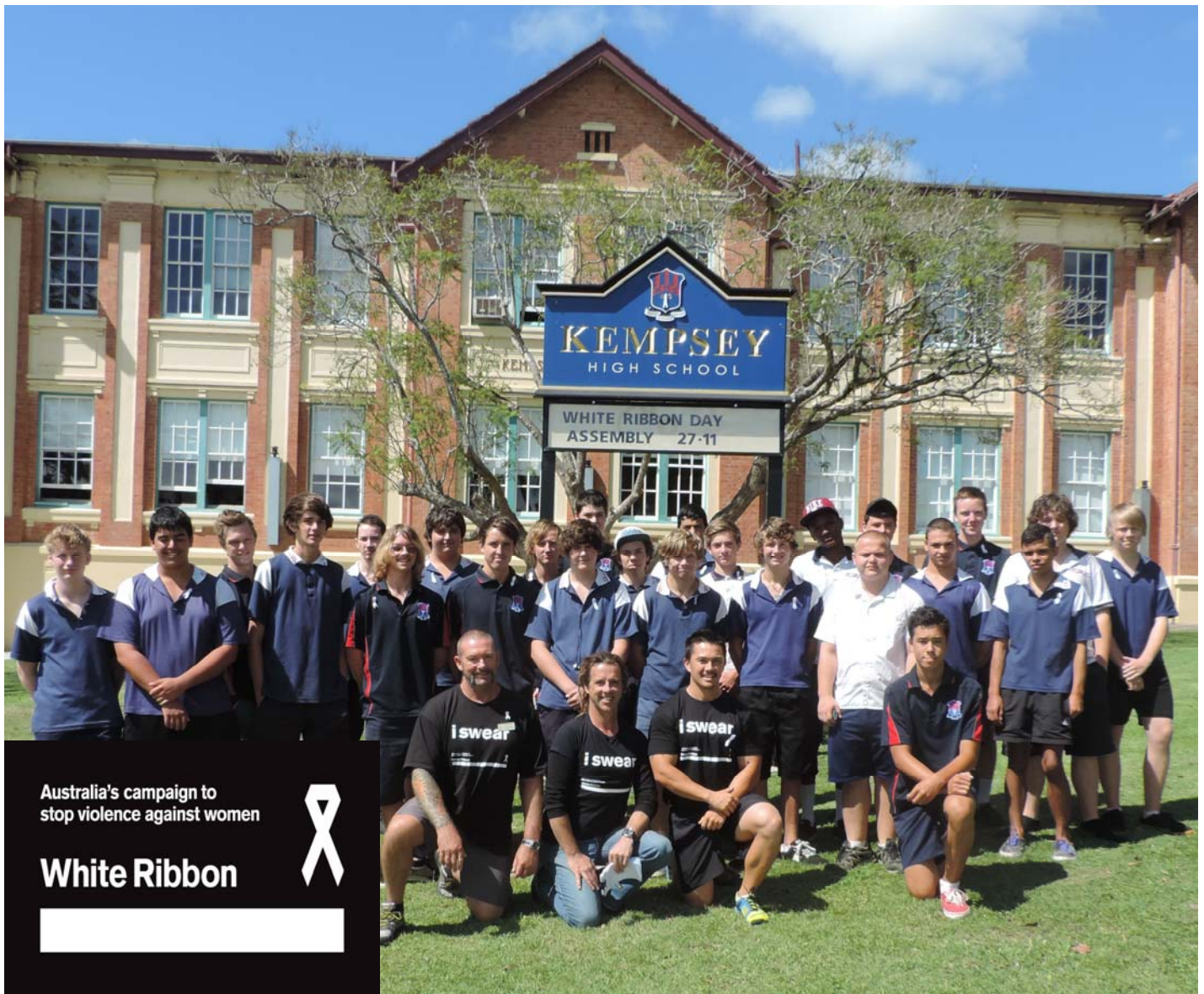
Seventeen students received a Proficiency Certificate. These certificates are awarded to those students who achieved a pre-set score but did not get a Credit (or higher) certificate.



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# White Ribbon Day



Kempsey High School hosted a White Ribbon Day assembly last week. The White Ribbon Day campaign is the world's largest movement of men and boys working to end men's violence against women and girls and to promote gender equity, healthy relationships and a new vision of masculinity. White Ribbon Australia, as part of this global movement, aims to create an Australian society in which all women can live in safety, free from violence and abuse.

In front of the assembled school, Year 10 male students and male staff took a stand against violence towards women, taking an oath shared with 95,000 other men throughout Australia. ***'I swear never to commit, excuse or remain silent about violence against women. This is my oath.'***

Male students and staff wore a white ribbon to symbolise their pledge. The strength of the White Ribbon campaign at Kempsey High School has been contributed to by the Year 10 PDHPE unit – 'Unconditional love' a healthy relationships and domestic violence focused unit and the 'Love Bites' program which is presented by the Kempsey Domestic Violence team. Kempsey Family Support Services, Kempsey Women's Refuge and Kempsey Neighbourhood Centre representatives were also in attendance to help support this important cause.