

ISSUE 1 2023



HURLSTONE'S STUDENT NEWSLETTER

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A WARM INTRODUCTION FROM THE EDITORS

WRITTEN BY MUSA KHATTAK

The Hoopra was an initiative that first emerged in 2014 as a student run newsletter made by students, for students. After running for four issues, it would seemingly disappear.... Until now!

With the support of Deputy Principal Ms R. Ross, the Prefect Extracurricular Liaisons (Musa Khattak and Adrian Nguyen) have brought back The Hoopra in a new and improved format! Our purpose is to create a sense of community and spirit within Hurlstone.

Creating a publication of this scale and distributing it takes effort and hard work. This issue of The Hoopra would not have been possible without the generous contributions of Michelle Tran and Olivia Wright of year 10 in designing and compiling. We'd also like to extend our thanks to the valuable contributions by many students and staff members across the school.

PREFECT UPDATE

WRITTEN BY LYN DUONG

The SLT is the student leadership body that represents students interests and voice at the highest level, made up of Year 12 students elected by the rest of the school.

This year, we've decided to base our initiatives around the theme of Spirit - raising school spirit and increasing student involvement in the large variety of exciting and unique opportunities that we have to offer at Hurlstone (such as our extracurricular groups, which are displayed on the Prefect noticeboard as well as their meeting times).

Thus, we started off with some multicultural spirit by hosting the Lunar New Year Assembly featuring a dance segment from the SLT boys to the popular Vietnamese pop song "See Tình" by Hoang Thuy Linh as well as a Bollywood Dance from the Year 12 cohort. Students had the opportunity to engage in a 'Heads or Tails' trivia game themed around the Lunar New Year as well as general fun facts about the school and our rich history.

The SLT also performed the Hurlstone war cry (in case you didn't know we had one!).



Bonus spirit points if you learn the words!

Hurlstone, Hurlstone, yes we are,

Cheer-o-woka, cheer-o-woka ego yah,

Anthropothoguy, Kings of Hurlstone,

Warrah, warrah, yah yah yah,

Cheer for the hoopra, hoopra, hoopra,

Tap-a-go-YAH!

Like the Lunar New Year Assembly, we're looking forward to bringing the school more exciting and spirit-lifting events to: a school wide Chess Tournament and a BBQ fundraiser held on Friday 30th of March. So stay tuned with our Instagram @hahsprefects and get excited for our upcoming events for the rest of the year!

Wishing you all an exciting term,
Your 2023 Student Leadership Team :)

TEACHER INTERVIEWS

MS CASTLE - PRINCIPAL

1. How would you describe yourself in three words?

Creative, Compassionate, Positive

2. How has your time been at Hurlstone?

It is a privilege to lead such a unique school. I love coming to work every day and supporting students, staff and community to continue to reach their potential.

3. What are your favourite books?

So many!!!! I love reading a wide variety of books, any educational research, design, art, culture, sustainable food systems, children's story books, picture books and biographies.

I am currently reading *The Overstory* by Richard Powers.

Otherwise, I love *The Hobbit*, *Lord of the Rings - Fellowship of the Ring*, *The Two Towers*, and *The Return of the King* by JRR Tolkien; *Luke's Way of Looking* by Nadia Wheatly, and *The Red Tree* by Sean Tan.



Alice in Wonderland by Lewis Carroll is my ultimate favorite childhood story book and I have a large collection of editions. My collection started when my mother gave me her childhood copy which she was awarded as a book prize in primary school and is inscribed by her teacher and dated 16.4.1947.

4. What is your favourite school subject here at Hurlstone and why?

All of the faculty subjects at Hurlstone are amazing, it is hard to choose one as a favourite.

'I think what makes us so unique as Hurlstonians is our Agricultural heritage.'

The Art and Science of Agriculture intrigues me. My core belief is that all subjects should not be studied as a silo, we should really unpack how we learn in a transdisciplinary manner.

TEACHER INTERVIEWS

MS CASTLE - CONTINUED

Our world needs creative problem solvers to research how we can cleverly and respectfully utilise our natural resources to support all people on our planet to live healthy and productive lives. This includes respecting all ecosystems and learning from experiences over time to create brighter futures.

An example of how creativity, science, art, design, computing, bioengineering architecture can be seen in the work of Associate Professor Neri Oxman. She proposed developing a material ecology with holistic products, characterised by property gradients and multi-functionality, placing humanity in harmony with nature, in contrast to assembly lines and "a world made of parts"

If you wish to see a brief introduction to her work there is a series on Netflix called *Abstract by Design* where bio architecture is explored through MIT Media Lab and there are teams of people currently working on a project with Hybrid living materials.

5. For our new year 7s, what is your advice to them for the coming years of high school?

Live your own passionate purposeful life. Respect yourself and those around you, be kind, curious and mindful. Always take time to thank those who help you along your journey and strive for your personal best at all times.



TEACHER INTERVIEWS

MR RYAN - ENGLISH HEAD TEACHER

1. How would you describe yourself in three words?

Usually quite sane.

2. How has your time been at Hurlstone?

My time? Sometimes my time has seemed to be quite seasonal. Calm and gentle, like Summer moving to Autumn then to Winter and returning to Spring again. But at times everything is in motion, rather like oscillating atoms. Hang on ... time AT Hurlstone! Quite delightful.

3. What are your favourite books?

There are so many books (we're talking novels, poetry and "literature" are we not?) that I love. Favourites change with time, with the mood I'm in and the experiences that I have. Right now, I'm loving Frank O'Hara and Thomas Pynchon, but these are re-reads. I am looking forward to reading the latest Andrew Sean Greer. It is sitting on my big pile of books (it's not a case of tsundoku, really it isn't) and I'm planning to read it as a treat, sometime in the next few weeks, without any other reading distractions.



And Annie Ernaux (she won the Nobel for Literature last year) is enormously enjoyable but quite unsettling, at times. Now as for specific books ... maybe get back to me on that one and I'll give you my list of the books that I think everyone should read.

Most certainly I believe that reading is central to who we are and that there are novels (and other literary works, films and such) that every capable and ambitious young person should have read (or seen ...) at some point, as part of their broader education. And in case you think it's all about literature ... loving books and literature is no reason to ignore the development of our knowledge of science, mathematics, economics, the creative arts in all their forms ...

TEACHER INTERVIEWS

MR RYAN - CONTINUED

4. What is your favourite school subject here at Hurlstone and why?

English. Do you really need me to say more?

5. For our new year 7s, what is your advice to them for the coming years of high school?

Follow your bliss. Something wonderful is waiting for you but it may not be what you have planned.

MS ROSS - DEPUTY PRINCIPAL



1. How would you describe yourself in three words?

Honestly no idea! One moment - let me consult the Brains Trust on this one... creative, kind and committed.

2. How has your time been at Hurlstone?

Great! I first came to Hurlstone in 2011 as an English teacher and went on to relieve as Head Teacher Teaching and Learning for a few years before I took up other opportunities within the Department of Education at the end of 2016, so I spent a big part of my early teaching career here. In returning to Hurlstone halfway through 2021 as Deputy Principal I found that while many things had changed, the sense of community and the uniqueness of this place had remained - it was a bit of a homecoming. There's no place like Hurlstone.

3. What are your favourite books?

Lately I've been reading a lot of short fiction from Ted Chiang, a science fiction writer who wrote the short story that the film *Arrival* was based on - he's a brilliant storyteller. One of my other longstanding favourites is *Midnight's Children* by Salman Rushdie - such an intoxicating read and a beautifully crafted book. I have a big pile of books on my bedside table waiting to be read.

MS ROSS - CONTINUED

4. What is your favourite school subject here at Hurlstone and why?

Wow, that's a tough one! Students at Hurlstone really are so lucky to be able to study such a wide array of subjects that cater for their diverse abilities and interests, including the opportunity to learn about Agriculture and access other courses via distance education and TAFE.

But if I have to choose one... even though I was once a HSIE teacher, English is the subject I love to teach the most. English Extension 1 in particular is such a great subject for expanding our repertoire of texts and looking at how human beings represent and make sense of their experiences through literature, film, drama, poetry and more.

It's like a university course in terms of academic rigour and the way we approach the course conceptually, but it's also really fun and I love being witness to that moment when students' brains explode a little because they have learned something totally new.

5. For our new year 7s, what is your advice to them for the coming years of high school?

Be kind to yourself. It takes time to make new friends, develop a routine and get acclimatised to a new school setting - but this will come, so be patient. You belong here and you matter - you are never alone. If you have a problem, there are lots of support people around who can help you work out a solution, so don't be afraid to ask for help.

Make the most of the opportunities available to you here by joining a student group, getting to know the staff and other students, participating in sports, the arts, and learning about life on the farm - just give it a go! Make sure you learn the words to the School Song and the Hurlstone War Cry - although you may never really know what a "Cheer-o-Woka" is or what "Anthrophothoguy" means.

Adopt a growth mindset. Work hard and do your best every day, but you are here to learn and to grow, so it's okay if you don't get it all straight away. You don't have to come first place to be a success.

Enjoy the next six years of high school!

TEACHER INTERVIEWS

MR AJAM - HSIE FACULTY



1. How would you describe yourself in three words?

Friendly , Confident, Smiley

2. How has your time been at Hurlstone?

I loved my first week at Hurlstone. The staff and students have been so welcoming and made me feel at home. I feel like I have been here forever!

3. What are your favourite books?

- The *Harry Potter* series
- *The Alchemist*
- *The Silent Patient*

4. What is your favourite school subject here at Hurlstone and why?

I love all the HSIE subjects, but I am also keen to visit some Agriculture classes and maybe get my hands dirty.

5. For our new year 7s, what is your advice to them for the coming years of high school?

Make sure to get organised, use your planners as high school is quite different from primary school. Have fun, make new friends and get to know your teachers. Get involved in extracurricular activities.

Which teacher interview would you like to see in our next issue?

Make sure to let us know through our email: hahsunion@gmail.com

HURLSTONE LIFE

What is the purpose of this section?

Hurlstone Life will serve as a catalogue of various student submissions recieved throughout the term. This can include opinion pieces, creative works, reviews and discursive pieces.

HOOPRA: BEHIND THE SCENES

Musa Khattak

Late last year, the intention for releasing the student newsletter that you are reading right now was set. The initial brainstorm was done with all the sections chosen.

Ms Ross, one of our Deputy Principals,, volunteered to facilitate our Editorial meetings and provided guidance as to how to approach the process of producing this publication. She set up a Microsoft Teams site for our editors and soon we had a large volume of student submissions and teacher interviews to collate for our first issue!

By Week 8 of Term 1, we enlisted the help of SRC members to kickstart the actual designing of the newsletter. This whole newsletter was compiled in a shared Canva document, something which has had its advantages and disadvantages.

The advantage was the ease with which everything could be designed, such as the front cover page.

However, the main challenge with Canva, is the lack of proper document continuity in terms of formatting, margins and spacing. However, like a piece of handcrafted furniture, it is these inconsistencies and slight imperfections that makes our first issue unique!

The plan going forward into the next issue is to find a better program to collaboratively design this newsletter or find ways to work around the limitations of Canva.

Regardless, it's been quite a journey bringing this newsletter to your hands/screen today and I hope you enjoy this issue.

Would you like to see your own piece shared in the upcoming issue?

Flip to the back page to get more details on student submissions!

STUDY TIPS WITH MR MACKINDER

Study. A simple word that has the capacity to ruin weekends and fill your average Hurlstonian with equal parts dread, boredom and guilt. Most students are not effective at studying (hence the hatred of it).

This dislike is for many reasons but primarily it's due to this term "study" being a vague cover all for general schoolwork outside of school. Does study mean doing homework? Preparing for an assessment? Reading ahead of class content? Or simply going over what a student learnt in class that day. The simple answer is study is all of these- but not all at once.

This leads me to the first of THREE tips I'm going to share with you to be more effective at studying.

Tip ONE- Know your purpose

When studying it is important to know what you want to achieve. Having a clear ACHIEVEABLE goal is paramount to study success. If you have no goal to complete, then your study never ends. If you never reach an end point, there is then no achievement. No achievement means that study then takes on this never-ending dystopian level of drudgery that most students despise.

If you know your goal, you then have a tangible end point for that study session. Some examples of meaningful study goals could be.

Today I will:

Read two chapters of my English novel

or

Research FIVE useful websites for my HSIE assessment

or

Revise the slides we covered in Science today

Knowing what you want to "study" and stopping after you achieve that leads to a feeling of success. Succeeding makes you feel good about what you are doing, and you will then be encouraged to continue that activity. The goal is to connect study to success rather than the never-ending cycle of work. This leads to tip two.

STUDY TIPS WITH MR MACKINDER

Tip TWO- Plan ahead

This one is hard. Most adults struggle with mapping out their work in a measured and balanced way. We all leave things to the last minute, night before etc. We all know it's bad but we still do it (me included- although I'm much better now than when I was younger). This is another reason study is often connected to feeling overworked, stressed and guilty. It's because we all let our work pile up to disastrous levels meaning that to get it done we often have four or five things we need to study for each night rather than one or two. Looking ahead and PRIORITISING your study is a vital step.

Knowing when your assessment tasks are due and studying accordingly in a balanced way helps keep you focussed and motivated. It also is important to be honest with yourself and identify the days you can and can't study. Avoid trying to study when you also have work and tutoring commitments on that day. Focus on the days when your afternoons and evenings are yours to plan around. Tip Three builds upon this idea

Tip THREE- Set a limit

This step is important to maintain a consistent level of study across a whole year. I often say to HSC student that Year 12 is a marathon, not a sprint and I think that is true for study in general. Students often try to exaggerate their hours spent studying but ultimately extended timeframes on the same activity start to become less and less effective as time goes on.

TWO hours after school is about the maximum I would suggest to students each evening (to be honest Junior students wouldn't need to do that much). This timeframe INCLUDES any tutoring you may do (e.g. after school you have English Tutor for an hour then you have a max of one effective hour of study left in you).

You may be thinking- Mackinder that is nowhere near enough!!! While I'll admit that during examination periods students will be studying more than that however, for your day to day the two hours of focussed study is ample.

STUDY TIPS WITH MR MACKINDER

Putting it all together!

So, let's put the tips into practice in a theoretical year 10 student's weekly timetable. Remember we want to

1. Have a goal
2. Plan ahead
3. Set a limit

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
School 8:40am to 3:05pm Maths Tutoring TWO Hours 5:00pm- 7:00pm	School 8:40am to 3:05pm Received notification of a Maths Test in 2 Weeks Read English Novel for One Hour and completed chapter summaries for ONE hour (English HW) 4:00pm- 6:00pm	School 8:40am to 2:05pm ONE hour finishing Science work I missed in class 5:00pm to 6:00pm ONE hour finishing PE HW due tomorrow 8:00pm to 9:00pm	School 8:40am to 3:05pm English Tutoring ONE Hour 4:00pm to 5:00pm ONE Hour practicing Maths problems for Assessment Task 8:00pm to 9:00pm	School 8:40am to 3:05pm TWO Hours working on Art Project due Next Week Thursday- aim to complete artist biography 4:00pm to 6:00pm	Language School for TWO hours 10:00am to 12:00pm	ONE Hour on Art Project- Complete reference list and edit work 11:00am to 12:00pm One HOUR on Maths Tutor HW due for Monday 2:00pm to 3:00pm

Notice this student has a goal, has planned ahead and has set a workable time limit for themselves. These three tips in conjunction lead to effective and attainable study practice.

Would you like to see a similar deep dive on another topic by a teacher?

Make sure to let us know through our **email:**
hahsunion@gmail.com

SCHOOL CAPTAIN'S ADVICE

Stage 4:

Your first years are some of the best times to join an extracurricular group! So many groups have opportunities to grow within them such as orchestra and cadets so starting at the beginning of your high school life really takes advantage of your time here at Hurlstone. Don't be intimidated by the older students! Actually, we think that seeing older students at the extracurriculars is ANOTHER opportunity in and of itself; so many of the senior students are eager to give advice and offer guidance so talk to us! One final thing: don't worry if you join and feel like a little fish in a big pond, we all felt that way at one point and it really does get better as you grow :)

Stage 5:

Year 9 and 10!! Is it starting to feel real? Our best piece of advice to you is take every single opportunity in front of you. Sometimes it won't be as good as you expect, but in both of our experiences it's normally the complete opposite. Excursions like leadership conferences, discovery days and competitions - do them all!!

Check out the Careers Hub, normally there are a bunch of programs and competitions that you might be eligible for. Another BIG BIG thing is keep a lookout for extracurricular volunteer and leadership opportunities (especially exec applications in Term 2/3). AND, one more thing, don't be discouraged by rejection - it's something that EVERYBODY faces and know that the next opportunity is just around the corner if you keep looking for it :)

Stage 6:

To Year 11, this isn't directly extracurricular related but DO NOT BURN OUT. This year definitely matters, think of it as the foundation for Year 12 content but at the same time do not go full out - save some energy for Year 12! Take breaks (this could be contributing to an extracurricular group/hobby), spend time with others and look after yourself. GET THAT SLEEP!! And remember it's never too late to join an extracurricular, find a leadership position or make a difference :)

To Year 12, guys this is our first time going through Year 12 too. We don't know what advice to give. Maybe someone can help us with managing our time better too.

EXTRA CURRICULAR UPDATES

RURAL YOUTH

Would you like to build your skills in teamwork, clear communication, self-confidence, leadership, organisation, public speaking, management and observation? Then Come to Rural Youth! We learn about the care of the school livestock, exhibit them at shows such as the Sydney Royal Easter show, enter competitions to do with agriculture, and more.

If you are interested in developing your soft skills, building a great resume, animals, agriculture, science, and/or just want to hang out after school with the animals and like-minded students, come along to one of our meetings on **Mondays and/or Tuesdays after school from 3 pm until 4 pm.**

Contact teacher: Ms T. Robertson

When: 3pm – 4pm Mondays
and/or Tuesdays

Where: We meet out the front of the library, then go over to the school farm, so bring leather shoes!

ENVIRO



Who are we?

Our goal is to help the school become more environmentally aware! We do so through fun activities such as trivia, jeopardy, fundraisers and even crafting! Join us in **room 32 every Friday recess** if you want to learn about the environment and have fun!

Who is in the Environment Committee?

President: Adrian Nguyen (Year 12)

Vice President: Kloe Rose Lemmon (Year 11)

Senior Greens: Adam Dakash (Year 12)

Junior Greens: Ethan Pham (Year 12)

Senior Publicity: Sally Tran (Year 12)

Junior Publicity: Charlie-May Hough (Year 10)

Senior Sustainability Manager:

Lavinia Tan (Year 12)

Junior Sustainability Manager: Kate Kwan (Year 12)

Senior Secretary: Ramisa Islam (Year 11)

Junior Secretary: Danya Albadran (Year 11)

EXTRA CURRICULAR UPDATES



What have we done?

The Environment Committee has had a rich history of events and projects. Our most recent one is the Indigenous Garden, a beautiful garden with only native plants! This project was an arduous journey that had taken over 2 years to complete, but it's finally here in the donut quad!

Another very successful event we've done is the in-school Clean Up Australia Day. We, and any volunteers, go around the school picking up rubbish and having a good time! It's surprising how much rubbish is hidden around our school!

Just remember to join our **meetings every Friday Recess in Room 32!** Hope to see you there!

Contact teacher: Mr S. To

When: Every Friday Recess

Where: Room 32

MS teams: mphwscp



Photo: 2021 Clean Up Australia Day

H YOUTH



Opening young minds to the world of medicine in all forms to promote the different dimensions of health and wellbeing as individuals and members of our wider community.

Hi Hurlstonians!

Hurlstone H. Youth is a student-run organisation striving to improve health and wellbeing within school and the wider community. Our executive body hosts **meetings every Tuesday recess in Room 32**, where we raise awareness of ongoing events on the NSW Health calendar, such as World Pneumonia Day and Lung Cancer awareness month.

EXTRA CURRICULAR UPDATES

As a collaborative team, we ensure that all our members are given opportunities to volunteer and that meetings are informatively engaging - with interactive activities such as weekly trivia and fun facts. Particularly, for February's Heart Health month, we made heart origami to promote heart disease awareness, prevention and research. Examples of our previous fundraising campaigns include "Jeans for Genes Day" where we raised over \$650 from donations and our Christmas gift drive initiative which enabled us to donate toys to sick children at The Children's Hospital at Westmead.

Our team aims to continue these successes through many exciting, upcoming events in 2023.

Early Term 3, we will also be opening applications and interviews for the 2023-2024 executive body and we encourage any students from Year 8 -Year 11 to apply! Once again, everybody is invited to come to **our meetings - Room 32, Tuesday Recess!**

H. Youth Executive Body: Annabel, Tara, Derrick, Louis, Ashlea, Suzanne, Ashlee



SRC

WRITTEN BY KRYSTAL AND NATALIE

Term 1 - some would say the coming of the new year brings another endeavour of gruelling challenges, while others welcome the year with open arms. And for the SRC Team, we roll into our final term as your '22/'23 student body.

EXTRA CURRICULAR UPDATES

Meet the team: a wonderful group of comingled grades and cultures intertwined into the team that you know as your SRC, but the team known to us as 36 hardworking individuals. As elected representatives, we aim to be the voice of the students.



Our role as SRC members is quite the journey, a feat of multiple learning curves, but as we begin to reach the end of our time in this group of SRC, we hope to see both familiar and new faces in our next cohort !!!

EXECUTIVES			
Natalie Ryan	Krystal Truong	Ariq Hassan	Saavan Baba
SRC MEMBERS			
YEAR 8	YEAR 9	YEAR 10	YEAR 11
Vijay Vo	Aditya Kashid	Shreyan Addanki	Rafsan Rayan
Cindy Nguyen	Siddharth Dhembre	Zarif Ahmmed	Vincent Tran
Malisa Seng	Jenny Choy	Jim Ma	Queenie Pham
Kevin Quach	Madiha Khan	Eric Stathis	Addreta Rahman
Alex Misitano	Dillon Vu	Samuel Zhang	Ian Cao
Safiya Khan	Sahil Hossain	Olivia Wright	Vashni Ravikumar
Maymunah Tehzeeb	Abrar Zaman	Michelle Tran	Dua Siddiqui
Lian Biswas	Jade Tellis	Jasmin Khau	Danya Seneviratne

Our role is one of many responsibilities, but we hope that across the course of our (almost year), we have been able to create change in the school community.

From the events we ran last year - dodgeball competitions, bake sales, pancake stalls, soccer competitions, lunchtime events, jump rope for heart, talent quests, spirit week and multicultural day, we hope that we've contributed to the thriving and spirited culture unique to Hurlstone and its students.

Continue to look out for more events happening in Term 1! The SRC never stop on the grind



HOPE TO SEE YOU AT OUR NEXT
EVENTS SOON :DDD
NATALIE AND KRYSTAL

EXTRA CURRICULAR UPDATES

EMPOWER



In case you don't know us: EMPOWER is an extracurricular group dedicated to ensuring Hurlstone maintains a sense of inclusivity and equality for everyone!

We aim to provide support and break down any barriers in order to provide a safe place for all students.

Aside from raising awareness on global issues, EMPOWER also does a lot around school!

So far we have:

- Organised multiple mufti days and videos for International Men's day and International Women Day, along with fundraising for many charities
- Organised a Purple Accessory Day to celebrate 'Women in STEM'
- Organised an assembly to raise awareness for White Ribbon Day and fundraised money for the White Ribbon Foundation
- Worked to bring free sanitary products for the female bathrooms throughout the school
- Organised a International Youth Day Throwback Food Store to fundraise for UNICEF



EXTRA CURRICULAR UPDATES



Our amazing 2022-2023 Empower team

Supervising teacher: Ms Benyamin

President: Trish Vo

Vice President: Sophia Nguyen

Director: Kiran Kaur

Executives: Marcus Lanch, Tanisha

Tahsin, Channary Ung, Shahana

Elangovan, Justina Vinnish, Amisha

Sharma, Zarrin Khan, Reva Dubey



We have many exciting events coming up including an International Women's day morning tea in March so keep an eye out for all the updates on our instagram @hahsempower!

We currently have meetings **every Monday at recess in Room 9** where we have group discussions and members are invited to participate in loads of fun activities in accordance with our upcoming events.

Make sure to join our teams with the code 62g5j2k !!

EPIC

EPIC - Entertaining and Performing arts Integrated Community - is back for 2023, and is excited to bring you more exciting, engaging and memorable initiatives this year.

As EPIC, our aim is to not only create a stage for students gifted in CAPA, but to acknowledge the efforts and dedication they spend to perfect their arts.



This year, our executive body includes:

From Year 11 - Saliha Tasnim, Addreeta Rahman, Trish Vo, Veronica Lwin - & from Year 10 - Caitlyn Nguyen, Eden Hart, Nathan Luu, Olivia Wright.

Meetings are held every Monday during lunch, exclusively for the EPIC Directors

EXTRA CURRICULAR UPDATES

Everyone is welcome to suggest ideas for future initiatives by contacting our **Instagram** ([@epic.hahs](#)) or Gmail (epichahs@gmail.com).

This year, our EPIC Directors have already started being immensely busy to bring you CAPAPN; Creative and Performing Arts Presentation Night. As the name suggests, CAPAPN is the presentation ceremony that acknowledges the hard work put in by Creative and Performing Arts students. CAPAPN will be open to CAPA students, their parents, and later the greater school community - and the night will consist of an Art Gallery, and an Award Ceremony that will be integrated with performance from our Music students.

We are currently preparing more initiatives that we can't wait to announce and hope that we can be of service for Hurlstone A.H.S. this year as your directors.



ORCHESTRA

We're the Pops Orchestra as Hurlstone!

We have a group of talented young musicians across all grades, at all levels, playing their instruments to:

- Lead school events (CAPAPN, music night, assemblies)
- Perform school musicals
- Go on tours
- Participate in workshops with other schools

Orchestra is fun, collaborative and a great way to build skills in and out of music. We encourage everyone currently playing an instrument or interested in learning to speak to our supervising teachers Mr Jonothan Lam or Ms Wuhrer in the music rooms.

EXTRA CURRICULAR UPDATES

Alternatively, our orchestra leaders, Adwait Khanal, Kamran Kumar, Mayowa Oyekan, and Sophia Nguyen are happy to help start and guide your journey within the Orchestra.

Come join us in our **musical endeavors at rehearsals in the dance studio every week on Wednesday 2:30PM after school!**



INTERACT

Hurlstone Interact is Rotary International's service club for young people from year 7 to year 12. We work in conjunction with Ingleburn Rotary to fundraise for local and international charities. Members of Interact: develop leadership skills & personal integrity, organise fundraisers for a range of organisations, and educate themselves & spread awareness on social justice issues.

The main events that we organise are, Valentine's Day, the Biggest Morning Tea, Pride Month and The World's Greatest Shave!



EXTRA CURRICULAR UPDATES

INTERACT (CONTINUED)



Our meeting times are **Wednesday Recess at the Dance Studio.**

Our exec body consists of Seniors:
Joyce Tang, Elayne Hyunh, Lyn Duong, Minh Ha, Ilona Hossain, Kalea Lee,
And Juniors: Queenie Pham, Taanvi Raman, Vashni Ravikumar, Rose Colville, Danya Senevirante, Nidhi Parkale,



CADETS

What do these 3 things have in common?

1. Tightly laced boots
2. Obsessively polished brass embellishments
3. Mud

The answer is that all of the above items elicit either joy or nostalgia from every past and current member of the Australian Army Cadets. Let us explain...



EXTRA CURRICULAR UPDATES

The AAC is the largest youth organisation in Australia, a government-funded program aimed at developing the character of 13–18 year olds from all over the country. It allows adolescents to experience living outdoors, challenge themselves with exclusive skills, and develop discipline in a supportive setting (even if members wish to pursue careers outside of the Australian Defence Force!)

Established in 1907, Hurlstone Agricultural High School Army Cadet Unit (HAHSACU) is open to students across the school. The group has fostered the leadership skills and peer relationships of many Hurlstonians.

Past Events

The Annual Field Exercise, or AFX, is held each year and is open to all cadets from across NSW. In AFX 2022, HAHSACU got the opportunity to participate in a live shoot at a firing range, visit the Australian Army School of Infantry, and participate in a range of field training and activities including navigation, potted sports, and team challenges.

HAHSACU also takes part in ANZAC Dawn and Day Services, as well as on Remembrance Day, to pay our respects to the community and its people.



Meeting Times:

Thursday Evenings 1530–1830

Execs:

COYADJT (Company Adjutant) -
Isabelle Sun

CSM (Company Sergeant Major) -
Siddharth Sali

TRGO (Training Officer) - Rylan Le



EXTRA CURRICULAR UPDATES

LIT CLUB

Hi! We're Hurlstone's Literature Club, or simply - LIT.

A club for all types of people and all types of literature- that includes music, books, movies, video games or even..., fanfiction (if that's your kinda thing).

Being the only junior-run extracurricular club in the school, you won't find a club better than us- from free tea at every meeting & occasional baked goods, to kahoots & funny presentations, hilariously heated debates, the best karaoke sessions known to mankind, and an **actual** sense of humor, we've got something for everybody.

You'll feel our presence around the school, from posters to iconic muftis (we're talking things like Book Week and Halloween), we're a newly established group that's just aiming to make things **actually fun** fun.



In fact, let's go through a couple FAQ's:

Is this English 2.0? Our meetings are as far from English lessons as you could get.

Do you read Shakespeare here?

Absolutely not, the English Faculty exists for a reason.

Free tea? Yes, bring a friend to enjoy it with!

Do you run events? Of course- is this even a question? We're in the midst of organizing some fun events so stay tuned!

Are you funny? For the sake of our egos, I'd like to think so.

But seriously, give us a go, you won't be mad. (No money-back guarantee though.*)

*For legal purposes, this was a joke.

We're completely free, just a group of highschoolers trying to have some fun.

Come join! I promise we're notttt a serious bunch.

See you every Friday lunch, Room 21.

For any questions, details, and future updates — check out our links!

Instagram: @lit_hahs

Discord: linked in our instagram bio!

EXTRA CURRICULAR UPDATES

CHESS PARTY

Hi Hurlstonians !

We are proud to announce the reinstatement of the long-awaited Hurlstone Chess Party, a refined and intellectually stimulating haven for connoisseurs of the game of kings. Grounded in strategy, rationale and philosophy, the club invites all to hone their skills in the crucible of competition.

At the Hurlstone Chess Party, we believe that chess is not merely a game, but rather a way of life. Our members are constantly on the pursuit for distinction, both on and off the board. We also strive to embody the principles of sportsmanship, integrity and respect for our opponents, who are inspired by the time-transcending wisdom and beauty of the art.



The club's facilities are second to none, featuring state-of-the-art library chess sets, chess timers and a sophisticated atmosphere that manifests the grandeur and beauty of the game. Furthermore, the club will strive to coordinate a range of activities and lectures by prestigious grandmasters (the club executive team).

The Hurlstone Chess Party is more than just a club - it is a community of talented students who share a passion for creativity and intellectual exploration, and we invite you to join us on this journey of artistry. Experience the thrill of victory and the joy of pure abstract stimulation.

EXTRA CURRICULAR UPDATES

HAHS Chess Party executive

President - An Nguyen

Vice President - Lucas Luong

Creative Director - Vinh Tran

Strategic Advisor - Korn

Kasemchainan

Publicity Manager - Ryan Stokes



**Are you interested in
something but it's not a group
yet?**

Make sure to let us know:

hahsunion@gmail.com

SPORTS

Hi everyone! Ever wonder what House Captains REALLY do and what the badge means!

As House Captains, we aim to promote participation and sporting achievements here at HAHS!

We have been doing so every lunchtime by lending a range of sports equipment from the PDHPE staff room to students. We are pleased to say it has been a success so far, with plenty of students borrowing tennis rackets, soccer balls, frisbees, and more! We hope to see this trend continue Hurlstone!

We recently promoted and hosted novelty events at the 2023 School Swimming Carnival, which we collectively label a success. Students of all grades were getting involved in various activities like Sponge Toss, Super Soaker and the waterpark, enjoying themselves and relaxing with friends!

HOUSE CAPTAIN REPORT

We would like to present to you today the first 'Sports Report' by the House Captains. **It has come to our attention that so many sensational sporting achievements have not been widely recognised around the school.**

This is why we as house captains have come up with the 'Sports Report' where we will celebrate the schools sporting success and achievements.

It has been a busy term for sports at Hurlstone with heaps of success but also upsets. Earlier this term the boys open soccer team also known as the Heifers took an unlucky loss to John Edmondson HS- (5-0) - that cut their season short. The coaches award goes to Jordan Joseph in year 11 for his consistent skillful play.

Ahhh on to the wins, the Opens boys volleyball team coached by MS Cheng cruised through to the next round taking a 3-0 Win over Picnic Point HS the coaches award goes to Nicholas Lim YR 12 for his damaging spikes and towering blocks. We wish the boys the best of luck as they take on Fairfield HS in Round 2. Also on the volleyball team, Kai Young from year 10 was selected on the SSW regional team where he played in the New South Wales Combined High Schools tournament with his team came third.

HOUSE CAPTAINS REPORT CONT.

The Girls Open Netball team led by Ms Klappas took a 15-10 win over an aggressive Eagle Vale HS side. The team stayed calm, cool minded and professional. The coaches award goes to Katie McDonald YR10 for her resilience and sharp shooting. Goodluck to the team in the next round as they take on Sarah Redfern.

The Open girls touch team coached by Mr Coombes took an early unlucky loss to East Hills Girl HS, the coaches award goes to Rekki Roberts YR 9 for her quick learning and coachability. The open boys touch team cruised through the opening rounds taking comfortable wins over Casula HS and Macquarie Fields HS, they will face Leumeah HS in the quarter finals of the regional comp later this term. The coaches award goes to Leon Ngo YR12 who scored 7 tries over the 2 games.

Alrighty ladies and gents. I want all of you to imagine the year 1975. Hurlstone Agricultural High School's First XI cricket side has won the regional grand final. Now let's come back to a time much closer to us, 2022. In the 47 years between that win, how many times do you reckon hurlstone won the comp?

The answer is zero. My peers, that is no longer the case. Representing HAHS in the Alan Davidson Shield, THE TEAM HAVE DONE IT! The Hurlstone side began its journey last year in late Term 3/Early 4 - beating Picton High School by 4 wickets, Casula High School by 10 wickets and then their biggest challenge - rivals Picnic Point High School.

Having already lost the Regional Final to Picnic Point multiple times, Mr Faulds was accustomed to the games feeling like one of the West Tigers games he watches on the telly. But the boys - against literally all odds - took a 1 wicket win, and secured a historic Hurlstone regionals victory.

Onto NSW level and in unfamiliar surroundings, the cricket team travelled to Cronulla to defeat Wooloware High School by 4 wickets. Marking Hurlstone Cricket's first victory at state level since Fauldsy was still in high school. This was followed by a home game at Ingleburn, where the team defeated Warilla High School by 3 wickets to be placed Top 4 in NSW, with Mr Wilson Snr and his Year 9 PE class watching on. Unfortunately, the campaign has come to an end as Hurlstone went down to Corowa High in the State Semi-Final - what turned out to be a very close game - this Tuesday.

HOUSE CAPTAINS REPORT CONT.

There has been terrific support for the boys' campaign from their coach Mr Singh, Mr Faulds and Mr Wilson Snr and the school is very proud of their representation of the Hurlstone pride. The team went 5-0 with 2 of those 5 wins coming at state level.

We don't have anything to present just yet - we will next term.

Ending up Top 4 in NSW I will name the playing squad -

- Captain: Balraj Mander - Year 12,
- Vice Captain: Arnav Thatte - Year 12
- Aryan BJ - Year 12
- Yash Deshmukh - Year 10
- Bennett Kattakayam - Year 10
- Rishab Luthra - Year 10
- Krish Shinde - Year 12
- Kanav Kaushik - Year 12
- Ramkiran Palakkal - Year 12
- Rumeth Fonseka - Year 12
- Namish Bassi - Year 11
- Praneel Kavuri - Year 11
- Ayden Hossen - Year 10
- Shreyas Gaonkar - Year 10
- Advik - Year 10
- Aaron Vinoy - Year 10
- Eric Stathis - Year 10

Special shoutout to the team photographer Scott Ho - who took some fantastic photos in every game for the team - which we will be distributing through our instagram @hahshousecaptains

From your **HOUSE CAPTAINS: Balraj and Leon**

BOARDING SCHOOL UPDATE

Mathew Ierano

The boarding school has made some recent developments with 4 new boarder students being introduced this year, giving the boarding school a total count of 30 students. This is one of the first years in a while in which the number of boarding students remained steady and we are hoping that this trend will continue.

Alfred Tan

As the Hurlstone Boarder Captain, I have had the privilege of witnessing the formation of the Boarder Council over the past term. The initiative was designed to promote the voices of boarders across all grades, and to give boarders a greater say in the decisions that affect our everyday lives.

Composed of boarders from different grades, each member contributes with their own unique perspective and experiences. Through regular meetings the council gathers feedback and suggestions to relay our opinions to duty staff and school executives.

The nominees for this year's Boarder Council have recently handed in their applications and voting for new members took place on Monday 27 March. With a fresh batch of representatives, the Boarder Council will be able to begin promoting the voices of boarders and advocating for improvements that will benefit the boarder community.

Looking ahead, the Boarder Council will undoubtedly play a vital role in the future of the boarding school. Through collaboration between students and staff, the council will be an important asset in maintaining a positive and supportive boarding experience for all.

Alfred Tan

Boarder Captain



STUDENT SUBMISSIONS

HOW TO SUBMIT

Student submissions are a great way to have your own work featured in the Hoopra and to also diversify and improve the Hoopra. For all the details on submitting your work to us, please scan the QR Code on the right to view our submission guidelines.



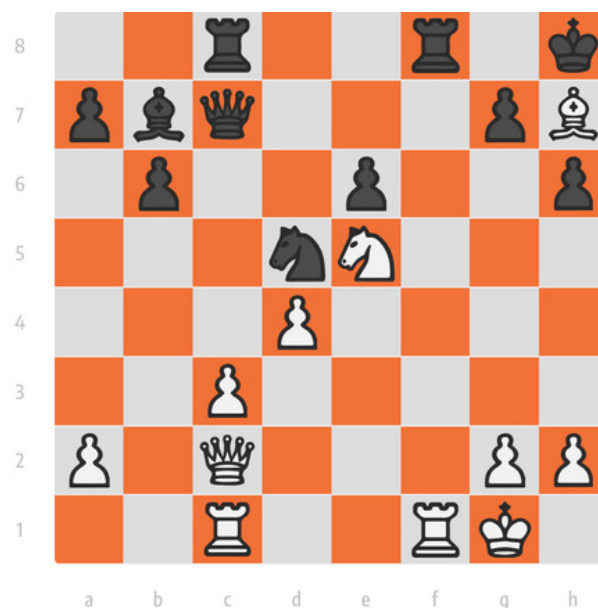
THIS ISSUE'S PUZZLES

Puzzle solutions will be released in the next issue.

RIDDLES

Walk on the living, they don't even mumble. Walk on the dead, they mutter and grumble. What are they?

A man is driving along a road when he sees three doors. There is a silver one, a wooden one and a golden one. Which door does he open first?



MATE IN THREE: White to move

CLOSING REMARKS

We would like to thank you, the reader, for taking the time to read this newsletter and catch up on student events. This publication would not exist without its readers and the contributions of Hurlstone students and staff members.