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The Weekly Newsletter of Sydney Boys High School

Vol 26 No 27 5 September 2025

From the Principal High Talent

Congratulations to Gurushan Thanabalasingam (8S) who won the Menzies Institute Speech Competition in the Years 7/8 category. His prize was \$500 and a trip to Melbourne to deliver his speech before historians at an annual conference at the University of Melbourne. Well done indeed, Guru! Well done to Charlie Xue (7T) who finished 4th in the Slopestyle Ski Division 6 at the 2025 Australian Interschools Snowsports championships held at Mt Buller. A great result!



In the recent Youth Photographic Awards, Boris Zhang (12E), was awarded Highly Commended and a \$150 prize for his work entitled The Uniform. Congratulations, Boris! In the Short Film section, Jiekai Miao (10E) won Highly Commended and \$200 for his group project 5AM. Well done! At the recent 2025 National Chinese Eisteddfod, High students had success. Group Category: 16-18 age contest (Years 11 + 10) - 1st place. Year 11: Max Gao, Timothy Wang, Roy Zhang, Johnathon Zhou, Aolin Tang, Diming Wu, Nicklas Li, Zhenyu Wang, Year 10: Daniel Zhu, Yuhai Wang, Tom Ye, Terence Wang and Ethan Hu. In the 13-15 age contest (Year 8) - 2nd place. Jonathan Xu, Lucas Zhou, Brishen Xue, Harold Jiang, Kellan Zhang, Will Meng, Joey Zhou, Andy Gao, Evan Ma, Marcus Chen, Futeng Zhou, Isaac Hu,

Morgan Yao. In the Individual Category: 1st place: Tony Zhou (8F), Ricky Luo (10R), Nicklas Li (10F); 1st place non-native speaker: Macallister Giles (10F); and 3rd place: Zihan Chi (9T), Morgan Yao (8E). Congratulations to all High participants and thank you so much Willa Zhang for giving up so many of her lunch times to train our boys!

Well done to the 37 volunteers who gave up their Sunday mornings to serve on the SBHS/SGHS water station for the *Sydney Marathon*. Everyone worked tirelessly from 0600 and impressed the organisers with their service and demeanour during the morning. A special mention goes to Leo Wang (11S) for his sensitive and compassionate management of an elderly runner in distress. An impressive and caring action, Leo!

Parents & Citizens Association Centenary

Last Friday, we celebrated 100 years of the P & C's service to the students and staff of High. There were >60 guests for a special breakfast. Joanna Chan and the Prefects coordinated and presented the food. MC John Prorellis introduced speakers, the cutting of the cake, the group photo by Jenni May and Lynnea Stewart, and the distribution of the celebratory badged coffee mugs to guest as a memento of the achievement. My speech to the gathering is reprinted below:

'Thank you all so much for joining us here in the Great Hall this morning. The purpose of our celebration today is to recognise and honour the century of service to High by members of the Parents & Citizens Association, a vital contributor to our students' education since June 11, 1925. The original Constitution welcomed 'all persons interested in the welfare of the School.' The P & C was designed to support High with leadership, financial help and countless volunteer hours. It explicitly prohibited exercising any control over Teaching Staff or interference with the management of the school. Its objectives were to assist the school with 'requirements... not provided by the Education Department! And so, the P & C has done so well, for 100 years. Its biggest role is to manage the successful parent-run Canteen, which contributes >\$65 pa to school projects. It assists with Sport, Student Welfare and Prizes for students. Since 1985 it has been involved with the SHSOBU in the management of all of the school's non-Department

assets – physical, financial and legal – these days through its Board representation within Sydney High School Foundation Ltd. It has been a constitutional member of the Sydney Boys High School Council, since 1995.

Above all the P & C Association, for me, has been about dedicated good people selflessly devoting their time for a worthy cause. Helping public education to thrive is a noble endeavour. The P & C and Old Boys have been there for the long haul and helped to make a good school great. Longevity of service has been the Association's hallmark. In its first 20 years it had some members like O.W. Earl who served as Treasurer for 14 years. In my time Presidents such as Dennis Briggs, Paul Girdler, Shane Brown, Julie Connolly and Ian Sweeting, provided great support to the school. Ron Trent was P & C President in 2018 and has been on the School Council even longer. Thank you to Tania Kirkland and Andrew Hybler for their recent leadership efforts.

Much has been accomplished in the last 25 years, building on the achievements of the previous 75. I want to acknowledge the thousands of parents and students who have volunteered their time to help park cars on our site – an activity run by the P & C since the 1980s. In my custodianship, P & C support groups and more recently Incorporated Associations, have been the primary beneficiaries of the large sums of monies raised. The P & C assists the school with cash grants for projects; it provides morning teas and catering services at school functions; it manages the operations of the parent-run canteen; and it provides annual prizes for our boys.

Thank you to Joanna Chan, staff and Prefects who prepared our breakfast this morning. I congratulate and celebrate all members of the Sydney Boys High School Parents & Citizens Association for 100 years of wonderful support to High. I say thank you also on behalf of the cohorts of gifted boys who were the beneficiaries of your generosity and community spirit.



Wear It Purple

Last Friday we celebrated *Wear It Purple Day*. This year's theme 'bold voices, bright futures' is designed to empower LGBTQIA+ youth to have big dreams and to pursue them boldly. Since 2010 this special day has celebrated rainbow youth and raised awareness of issues faced by LGBTQIA+ people. At the same time, *Wear It Purple Day* has a broader appeal as it speaks to the social need for inclusivity for all and acceptance of difference generally. High boys need always to be mindful of respectful relationships with everyone, honouring the uniqueness of our human experience.

Dr K A Jaggar Principal

The Entertainment Book

The Entertainment Book is on sale at Sydney High, raising funds for the school.



This is available in digital format only for our school.



For those yet to experience the benefits of The Entertainment Book, it is offered in a digital form using their easy-to-use app so that:

- ✓ You do not need to carry around a book.
- ✓ You get access to it almost immediately just download - The Entertainment Book app.
- ✓ You can easily see on a map all the eligible restaurants and activities (e.g. cinemas) around your current location or in a specific area.
- You can easily look up if the restaurant you are currently eating in has a discount before paying the cheque.
- ✓ You can share it amongst a few people with access on up to FIVE devices to use any time they are out.
- Memberships are now valid for 12 months from date of activation.
- ✓ You can monitor how much use you are getting out of it to easily see your savings.

There are two different region options, with 20% of all sales going to the school!

As a Father's Day bonus, for a limited time all purchases will receive a free upgrade to the Multi-City membership - a saving of \$50!

The cost is a standard Single City membership for \$70!

Furthermore, a bonus \$30 Visa gift card will be issued.

Only one or two nights out throughout the year will currently recoup the initial cost.

So, if you are interested in helping the school while making some big savings, use the following link to order your copy:

https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/2h19779

Jamie Kay Deputy Principal



RoboCup Soccer

Hamzah Ahmed, Joshua Campbell, Ray Chen, and Jasper Zheng recently competed in the RoboCup Junior NSW competition in the Open Soccer division. It is the first time our school has entered into this division of RoboCup.

The team designed and built two autonomous wheeled robots to compete on a miniature soccer field. Over the past year, they developed custom electronics, including designing printed circuit boards, and manufactured 3D-printed and laser-cut components in the school Makerspace. Their robots were the only ones in the competition equipped with both a kicker and a dribbler. These are specialised mechanisms that allow for precise control of the ball.

Although time constraints prevented the full integration of all components into a single coherent system, the team is continuing their work and aims to achieve even stronger results in next year's competition. The team was awarded the Judges' Encouragement Award for their willingness to try to implement a complex solution and for their ongoing dedication to the project.

Hamzah Ahmed 11E





Ordering - Sport Photos

To order individual, cohort, sport and co-curricular photos please go to

https://www.melbastudios.com.au/

Select "SCHOOLS"
Use password "HIGH"

https://bit.ly/SBHS2025



Photo Coordinator Kurt Rich

School Absence

STUDENT ABSENCE

If your son is absent from school, please email absences@sbhs.nsw.edu.au to explain the absence.

STUDENT LATE ARRIVAL

If your son is going to be late for school, please ensure that he scans in on arrival outside the main office.

The scanner will generate a late slip that can be presented to the teacher on arrival to class.

EARLY LEAVE

Students must bring a note that has been signed by **both** a **parent AND** a **Deputy Principal** to the office **BEFORE** 8.55am.

The note must contain the student's name, ID number, roll class, date, time of departure and reason for leave.

The student then returns to the office at the stated time and collects an early leave pass.

Please note: Early leave requests sent via email or telephone will **not** be accepted. It is the student's responsibility to bring the note and submit with signatures before 8.55am Monday to Thursday and 9.25am Friday.

2025 National Chinese Eisteddfod

On 23 August, Sydney Boys competed in the National Chinese Eisteddfod at Western Sydney University across various age groups, contending with the top language schools across the country. The Eisteddfod was aimed at individuals and groups wishing to express themselves through both modern and traditional, renowned Chinese poetry.

The boys began their preparations at the start of term 2, dedicating weekly lunchtime rehearsals to poetry recitation and expressive delivery. In the end, the boys achieved beyond outstanding results on the day across both individual and group categories.

Individual Category

Honourable mentions go to the following boys who have accomplished marvellous results for the school:

13-15 age group: **Tony Zhou (8F) - 1**st, **Ricky Luo (10R) - 1**st, Zihan Chi (9T) - 3rd, Morgan Yao (8E) - 3rd, Harold Jiang (8M) - 4th, Brishen Xue - (8R) 4th, William Wang (9T) - 4th

10-12 age group: Alex Wang (7R) - 4th

13-16 non-native: Macallister Giles (10F) - 1st

16-18 senior group: Nicklas Li (10F) - 1st

Group Category

In the group contests, Sydney Boys also placed themselves on the podium. The Year 8 group placed **2**nd, while the senior boys, comprising both Year 11 and Year 10 students, won **1**st place for their synchronised and moving performance in the 16 - 18 age category.

Senior Team

Year 11: Max Gao, Timothy Wang, Roy Zhang, Johnathon Zhou, Aolin Tang, Diming Wu, Nicklas Li, Zhenyu Wang.

Year 10: Daniel Zhu, Yuhai Wang, Tom Ye, Terence Wang, Ethon Hu.

Year 8 Team

Jonathan Xu, Lucas Zhou, Brishen Xue, Harold Jiang, Kellan Zhang, Will Meng, Joey Zhou, Andy Gao, Evan Ma, Marcus Chen, Futeng Zhou, Isaac Hu, Morgan Yao.

These excellent results are a testament to the boys' hard work, perseverance, and passion for Chinese language and culture. Congratulations to all participants for their dedication and for proudly representing the school on the national stage.

- Ryan Wu (11T)

Congratulations to our trophy winners and all the boys who have participated in the NCE this year. These pleasing results are the outcome of three months of consistent lunchtime training. I would also like to thank Ms Willa Zhang for organising this opportunity and providing the training that enabled our boys to showcase their talent.

Mr T Zheng Head Teacher Languages





16-18 1st prize



Harold Jiang 3rd

Ricky Luo 1st



Macallister Giles - Non-native 1st place



Nichlas Li - 1st 16-18 age



Ricky Luo 1st Zihan Chi 3rd

William Wang 4th 13-15 individual



Tony Zhou 1st Morgan Yao 3rd,

Brishen Xue 4th





NEW Music Group - Indian Music Ensemble

The Indian Music Ensemble directed by Advaith Ilavajhala (OB 2024) had their first rehearsal on Friday afternoon in the Governors Centre. We welcome all interested students to come along and have a listen at 4pm in the GC green room. Current instruments in the ensemble include tabla, mridangam, harmonium and voice.



P&C Centennial Breakfast

Our wonderful Junior and Senior String Quartets (comprising of students from years 7-10) played beautifully last Friday at the P&C breakfast morning, with approximately 100 parents in attendance. Both ensembles had an extended rehearsal on Tuesday morning to put together a program of musical repertoire for guests to enjoy.

Manly Jazz Festival





Sydney Boys High Senior Stage Band have been selected to perform at the Manly Jazz Festival this year. The band will have a 45min set on *Sunday the 21st of September at 12pm on the Jazz Stars of the Future Stage*. The Jazz ensemble featuring Marley Masya on keys, James Carmichael on trumpet, Andrew Dong on tenor sax, Ayhen Haque on bass and Bach Nguyen on drum kit will also perform some charts in the set. We have renowned jazz trumpeter Bob Coassin directing the Senior Stage and up and coming jazz tenor player Justin Yeo working with the Jazz Group. We welcome you to enjoy a weekend of high energy performances featuring some of our talented young musicians.

2027 European Music Tour

An exciting music tour is underway with plans to travel to Prague, Salzburg and Vienna. The tour will be open to orchestral instrumental players with a limit of 40 students. We will have our first information evening on the Thursday in week 10 (25th September) at 6:30pm in the Senior library where further details will be provided and expressions of interest taken. Please let the music staff know if you are unable to make the evening and interested in the tour.

Music Ensembles

All music ensembles are back and busy preparing for the end of year music concert in the Governors Centre on Saturday 6th of December. This year we will bringing back our Jazz in the Courtyard concert on Sunday 7th of December, where families and friends can bring along a picnic and enjoy some wonderful music by our jazz ensembles on the lawn.

Our guitar Ensemble Director and music tutor Aaron Flower is raising funds for the Leukaemia foundation this month, with a goal of \$3000 in memory of musician Chris O'Dea.

Please support this wonderful cause if you are able to. Link to donate is below.

https://fundraise.leukaemia.org.au/fundraisers/aaronflower



2025 Music Ensemble Schedule

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
(Before School)	(Before School)	(Before School)	(Before School)	(Before School)
Intermediate	Senior Concert	Symphonic Strings		Marching Band
Concert Band	Band	Ensemble		GH/MPW
7.30am – 8.30am	7.30am – 8.30am	7.45am – 8.45am		Scheduled Sessions
Governors Centre	Governors Centre	Room 204		Term 1
Guitar		Senior Stage	Symphony	Chamber Choir
Ensemble		Band	Orchestra	Ensemble
7.45am – 8.45am		7.45am – 8.45am	7.45am – 8.45am	8.00am – 9.00am
Room 201		Room 201	Room 201	Room 201
Philharmonic	Junior & Senior	Junior Stage	Intermediate Stage	
Strings Ensemble	String Quartet	Band	Band	
7.45am – 8.45am	7.45am – 8.45am	7.45am – 8.45am	7.45am – 8.45am	
Room 101	Room 101	Room 101	Room 101	
(After School)	(After School)	(After School)	(After School)	(After School)
Guitar Ensemble				Jazz Ensemble
3.15pm – 4.15pm				3.15pm – 4.15pm
Room 201				Room 201
				Percussion Ensemble
				3.30pm – 4.30pm
				Governors Centre
				Auditorium
				Indian Music
				Ensemble
				4.00pm – 5.00pm
				Governors Centre
				Green Room

Suzanna Lim Music Teacher





SBHS WEIGHTS ROOM



SBHS Weightlifting Update

On Sunday 31 August, Year 12 Student Alex Shao competed in the NSW Weightlifting State Championships. He competed in the Junior and u23 M94 Category. He was able to secure a 98kg Snatch and 128kg Clean & Jerk, Totalling 226kg. This earnt him 1st place in the Juniors and 2nd in the u23. He performed well, especially considering that he just finished his HSC trials.

Kurt Rich Head Strength and Conditioning Coach

Congratulations!





Application for Exemption from Attendance

Dear Parent/Guardian

Student Leave for 5 days or more needs to be submitted directly to the School Principal.

The Application for exemption from attendance: 99 days or less - including participation in elite arts, elite sports and entertainment industry can be downloaded from the parent portal, alternatively your son can collect the extended leave form from the school office.

Please note: Electronically submitted forms will not be accepted

The School Principal needs to authorise and sign the document.

Lost Property

LOST PROPERTY

Please label all items clearly with a first and last name to enable identification.

It is the responsibility of students to claim their lost property from the **McDonald Wing Office** during recess.

Parents are NOT permitted to collect lost property on their son's behalf.

Items are cleared every fortnight and will not be

available for collection after then.

McDonald Wing Office Staff





Week 2 Summary - GPS Athletics Season

In this short and intense program, coaches are challenged to deliver training that provides enough stimulus to drive performance gains without overloading athletes. Week 2 is the peak training week. In Week 3, athletes are trialled in their summer sport during sport time — Seniors on Wednesday and Thursday from 1-3pm. To ensure athletes can perform at their best in athletics, these are the only summer sport sessions they are required to attend until the athletics season concludes.

Athletes are encouraged to look after their bodies with greater intent. Key tips include: eating regularly — starting with breakfast and ensuring a snack is available after training — staying hydrated throughout the day and stretching consistently. Many boys reporting injuries are simply experiencing tight muscles, which can be managed with proper recovery practices.

Top 3 Results from Invitational #2 Opens

Nestor Chan - 2nd 3000m - 9:31.23

17's

Lachlan Leung - 1st Long Jump - 6.33 Oliver Buikema - 2nd Long Jump - 6 Roger He (16's) - 3rd Long Jump - 5.99 Oliver Buikema - 1st High Jump - 1.75

16's

Tim Chen - 3rd 100m - 11.72 Rohan Chan - 3rd 200m - 24.2 Billy Stenning - 1st Shot Put - 11.76

15's

Mekaeel Khan - 3rd 100m - 11.77 Lloyd Zeng - 2nd 100m Hurdles 14.9 Jake Hybler - 1st 800m - 2:11.51 Mekaeel Khan - 1st Long Jump - 5.94 Mekaeel Khan - 2nd High Jump - 1.7 Arjit Grewal - 3rd Shot Put - 11.76 Nelson Ta, Mekaeel Khan, Sayyan Doke & Lloyd Zeng - 2nd 4x100m - 47.32

14's

Tom Yang - 1st 100m - 12.19 Tom Yang - 2nd 200m - 25.26 Heshel Kariyawasam - 1st Long Jump - 5.1 Cloud Wang - 3rd Long Jump – 4.54 Heshel Kariyawasam - 2nd High Jump – 1.7 Cloud Wang - 3rd High Jump – 1.65 James Wong, Tom Yu, Ilya Tsoutsman & Eytan Goh -1st 4x100m - 49.65

13's

Harry Wu – 3rd 100m – 12.67 N Isaacs – 3rd 200m – 27.06 Leon Park – 3rd Shot Put – 10.46 Liam Rajab, Noah Isaacs, Nathan Koh & Harry Wu – 2rd 4x100m 51.97

Alex Ruhfus Y10 on his way to win the u16 200m at Invitational #1



Best ways to stay informed:

Training, where & when – Clipboard
Saturday Invitationals – <u>Athletics</u>
Summary of Results & Publications – High notes & <u>SBHS Athletics</u>

Results – <u>2025 SBHS Athletics Results</u> Videos and photos - @performathigh (Instagram)

MIC Athletics Kurt Rich



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SYDNEY BOYS HIGH SCHOOL

The Phillip Day Memorial Scholarship Closing Date: **28 November 2025**



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