Get to Know Mr. Currie

Jessica Chuor and Anne Tran caught up with Mr. Currie and had a nice chat.

“Please introduce yourself.”
“Hello, I’m Mr. Currie, and I’m the new principal at Hurstville Boys High School. I’m originally from England, and I’ve been working in education for over 20 years. I’m excited to bring my experience and passion to this community.”

“What schools have you worked at?”
“I’ve worked at several schools in the past, including St. John’s Park High School, where I taught for 10 years. I’m looking forward to seeing how I can contribute to the success of the students here.”

“What are your first impressions of Hurstville Boys High?”
“I was really impressed by the dedication of the students and the staff. I’m looking forward to working with everyone to make sure our students are getting the best education possible.”

“What was your experience like in the UK?”
“It was a great experience. I was fortunate to have the opportunity to work in some of the best schools in the UK. It gave me a chance to learn from some of the best educators in the world.”

“My experience here will be different, but I’m excited to bring my knowledge and skills to support the students and staff.”

“Ah, we’re running out of time! Any last messages?”
“Just a reminder to everyone to keep working hard and to keep the school spirit strong. I’m looking forward to seeing all of you in the new year.”

The complete transcript of the interview can be found at: http://pastebin.com/5uR43Cvw
The Hoopra is Here!

This is the first issue of the Hoopra, Hurlstone’s up-and-coming student-run newsletter! Managed by the Prefects, we want to not only keep you updated with the school’s scoops, but also showcase student and staff made content, and acknowledge student achievement.

We encourage creative entries and your participation in future competitions! This first issue already features student content. Submissions can be sent to rollick prefects and can take the form of game, movie, or book reviews, articles on school events, stories, or even photos! Issues will be published fortnightly.

“Get your scoops from the Hoops!”

REVIEW: Flappy Bird

A cross between the classic flash game ‘Helicopter’ and that feeling you get when you stub your toe on the corner of the table, Flappy Bird is an examination of the suffering we will endure in order to get the largest number out of an arbitrary exercise (not unlike the HSC).

With only one input and one goal, the obligatory "how-hard-could-it-possibly-be?" is quickly answered with your inevitable death on the first obstacle (the first of many). The game is so straightforward, so cartoonish and simple, that the biggest motivation to improve is to not let yourself get beaten by an iPhone app. Quickly realised, however, is that in order to succeed in this game, pixel precision and an iron will are going to be your best friends.

There then comes the moment when the player realises that the game doesn’t have progressive difficulty; the bird doesn’t fly any faster the further you go and the pipes don’t get any more difficult to navigate. The challenge then becomes entirely mental; if you can get past 1 pipe you should be able to get past them all.

I found myself inadvertently critiquing my technique, recognising where my most common errors had been and trying to fix them. It was an exercise in introspection that would probably be very useful to apply to my school work, until I looked up and realised I’d been playing this stupid game for the last 7 hours, when I should’ve been doing English instead.

4/5 stars (one star taken away to be given back to me in the form of a mystery ATAR at the end of the year).

By Dominic Bui Viet

Valentine’s Day

Valentine’s Day is this Friday! Don’t fret if you haven’t ordered a rose yet as roses will be available for purchase during Recess and Lunch at Room 6 for $4 on the cay. Remember to check the Interact noticeboard for something special. We hope you enjoy your Valentine’s Day!

Swimming Carnival

As the highlight of Hurlstone’s summer calendar draws nearer, tension rises in anticipation of our school’s most beloved and ostentatious traditions. Whilst the event for a second year running will be removed from its spiritual home (the Hurlstone Pool), the Macquarie Fields pool located on 52 Fields Road, will once again set the stage for the annual fusion of swimming, sportsmanship, fancy-dress, music and dance culture. Blood will be shed, and tears will fall to the ground in pellets of pure ecstasy, as this colossal feat of unadulterated rivalry mercilessly leaves bystanders in a state of trance; yearning for more.

SC 2014 is coming 18th February.

Shoutouts

This part of the newsletter is dedicated to recognising student achievements, whether they be academic, sporting, extracurricular, or relating to leadership in nature.

As the year has just started, this section has yet to feature anyone! Keep an eye out as the year goes on!

Social

Due to some unforeseen circumstances last year (lure aren’t nice), the school’s annual social had to be postponed. For those who have not yet experienced the Hurlstone Social, it’s a fun night to be had with friends and great music from Hurlstone’s talented bands and DJs.

It has been put on the calendar for the 13th of March from 6PM to 10PM and any tickets already purchased last year will carry onto this year. Any students including year sevens wishing to purchase tickets can do so now at the cash register. The theme is ‘Fluorescent Adolescent’. See you there! - Sid

Games Corner

TRIVIA:

Who is taller, Mr Currie or Andrew Skiba (Yr 12)?

Editor-in-Chief: Rob Abergas