Until fifteen weeks ago I never thought very much about agricultural education. I did not actively negate its importance or avoid it, it just never entered my consciousness. Since taking over the helm as the Principal of Hurlstone this situation has changed dramatically.

During my time here I have become mired in the issues surrounding the agricultural industry and been fascinated by how these concepts find expression in both the lives of our students and in my world beyond the school.

The realisation of the importance of this sector has both shocked and delighted me. It has shocked me as, even though I could never be described as naive, there was a large part of our community and its underlying infrastructure of which I was ignorant. I knew it existed but, as a city dwelling consumer, the lives lying behind the produce only hit my radar at times of crisis – of flood and drought and mortgage stress. I am ashamed to say that even though the agricultural sector contributed so much to my life on a daily basis that it was distant and obscure.

On the other hand this realisation has been a delight as I have spent the last fifteen weeks reveling in what I have learnt. Education is a passionate pursuit for me and the development of both myself and others is what drives and maintains that passion. The students and staff at Hurlstone have taught me so much about the necessity of agriculture and the ways in which it permeates every facet of our existence that I look forward to learning anew each day.

This learning has found expression through many manifestations. One of the first learning experiences was to engage with the students of Rural Youth. They tried to convince me to trim dairy cattle but I could not bring myself to risk any of their hard work and preparation on my inexperienced hand. These interactions have carried on through discussions regarding all matters agricultural.

The students have incessantly educated me and this found no purer form than at the shows I have attended. I have been amazed how the students work together as a team, put the animals needs before their own and are committed to showing both the school and their knowledge in the best light possible. The amount of time, effort and sheer determination that is required from the students echoes the commitment of the agricultural sector and these experiences prepare them for its rigours.

I would be remiss when discussing the shows if I did not mention the teachers who have been fonts of knowledge and who have helped me to not look like a complete idiot and the parents who have taken me under their wings and tenderly guided me through the finer points of preparation, judging, parading and of show etiquette. They have ensured that I was given tutelage in all I needed to know. It is because of their input that I understand the difference in what to look for in dairy and beef cattle, how important eye contact is for paraders and how to spot a forty litre udder.

It is due to these influences over the last term that I was able to proudly represent Hurlstone at the first Agricultural Education Working Group meeting last week and that I was able to contribute constructively to formulating a plan for Agricultural Education into the future. Even though I am still unashamedly urban in my experience and educationally come from the sphere of the humanities, I feel that I was able to make valid points. All of these contributions were due to the education I have received from the Hurlstone community.
That is why I think that it is imperative that the whole school; teachers, parents and students promote and commit to the school’s Country Fair. When this event was first mentioned to me I did not understand its value, now I fully comprehend its worth. The Country Fair is our opportunity to bring concepts such as “farm, fibre, food” and “paddock to plate” to the attention of the wider public and to ensure that their understanding of agriculture’s place in the fabric of Australian society is not as spurious as mine once was.

I know that, as the newly appointed substantive Principal of Hurlstone Agricultural High School, I will be there on 30 August helping as much as I can to spread what I have learned. I ask all members of the school to also make this commitment and contact the organisers of Country Fair to let them know that you will volunteer and lend a hand because raising awareness of agriculture and its importance to both our world and our future is the responsibility of every member of the Hurlstone community. I know 30 August seems a long way off, but it is imperative that we commit to the Country fair as there is a lot to be organised, many things to do and a plethora of knowledge to share.

Daryl Currie, Principal

FROM THE DEPUTIES’ DESKS

Parent Teacher Meet and Greet

On Thursday May 15 2014, Hurlstone will be hosting a meet and greet session for our parents and guardians of year 8, year 9 and year 10 students. The evening will be from 4PM to 6PM.

BYOD

The HAHS BYOD program is now up and running. Students are reminded to return their student agreement form to the front office prior to using their device at school. Please contact MR Craig for more information.

Twitter

Hurlstone now has a twitter account, which will keep you up-to-date with events and notifications regarding our school. You can follow us at http://twitter.com/hurlstoneahs

iPhone App

We are trialling an iPhone app which will allow you to receive alerts, news and newsletters on your iPhone. We would encourage you to download and trial the app over the next two weeks until 31 May 2014. The app can be downloaded here: http://bit.ly/hahsapp

If this form of communication is supported by the parent community, we will be able to also communicate with android devices.


Rob Craig, Relieving Deputy Principal

Making ag connections at Hurlstone

Hurlstone Agricultural High School is a specialist school for agriculture and primary industries. For five consecutive years, Hurlstone Agricultural High School has been acknowledged as a specialist school for agriculture and primary industries, situated in the University of Sydney, sponsored by Grain Research and Development Corporation and Dairy Australia. The school is located in an area of Sydney where agriculture is a major part of the economy. The school offers a comprehensive program of agriculture and primary industries, supported by a strong and active agriculture department.

The agriculture department at Hurlstone Agricultural High School is one of the largest in Australia, with a strong emphasis on practical skills and hands-on experience. The school offers a wide range of curriculum areas, including feeding, breeding, grazing, cropping, and livestock management. The school also has a strong tradition of agricultural shows and competitions, with students regularly representing the school in national and international competitions.

The agriculture department is supported by a team of dedicated teachers and support staff, who work closely with the school’s students to ensure they receive the best possible education. The school also has a strong relationship with local farmers and agricultural organizations, which provides students with valuable work experience and opportunities to participate in community service projects.

The agriculture department at Hurlstone Agricultural High School is committed to providing students with a high-quality education in agriculture and primary industries, preparing them for a successful career in the field.
Welcome back to term two, a very busy term ahead for our students as they negotiate assessment tasks and exams.

**Boarder Council News**

Congratulations to our newly elected Boarder Council for 2014.

**Year 12** Jenny Nguyen and Cameron Scott

**Year 11** Brianna Barry, Jack Bush, Caitlin Cavanagh and Harry Morse-Evans

**Year 10** Nick Betteridge-Spooner, Daniella Stewart, Amy Wu, Fergus Ryan & Vivian Zhao

**Year 9** Mollie Collins, Georgina Kingston, Darcy Ryan, Matt Gregory and Will Bailey

**Year 8** Lizzie Cowden, Izabella Fletcher, Annie Paton, and Finn Wallace

**Year 7** Ainsley Baron, Tegan Colless and Tamara Robertson

The first meeting was held in the newly re-furbished common space Wednesday May 7th. I will look forward to sharing their initiatives with the community in future newsletters.

**Website update**

I am currently updating the boarder parent welfare section on the Hurlstone Agricultural High School website, so please take a look under the section heading “Our Community” I will also be uploading a “Beyond Boarders” newsletter as an addition to the Boarding School section on the school website soon, it will include the archive of past newsletters. Please continue to send ideas and suggestions about what you would like to see on our Boarder page to assist the communication process, via email to Christine.castle3@det.nsw.edu.au

You can also follow us on twitter @HurlstoneAHS or through the web address www.twitter.com/hurlstoneAHS

I have created a calendar of events which can be accessed through the Boarder Parent Welfare Information section under the section heading “Our Community”, this will be regularly updated with the latest information.

**International Visit**

Ni hao,(hello) and welcome to the students and teachers from the Dong Nan International School in Guangzhou, China who are staying with our boarding community until May 30th. Our Boarders were given some Chinese phrases and words to help make the communication process easier, I would like to thank Fran Campbell for organising this information for our boarding students. During the tour, planned recreation and social events will be taking place and these dates have been placed on our newly created boarder calendar.

**Dubbo Boarding School Expo**

Daryl Currie and I will be attending the Boarding School Expo in Dubbo on the 16th and 17th of May, please feel free to come in and say hello if you are in the area. Boarder Captain Gabby Sherring is organising for some boarding students to come along and meet parents and students from the area who are considering their options for boarding school. We are all looking to the event and thank Robyn Sherring for assisting the accompanying students with their accommodation.

**Project Development**

There are many projects in the pipeline for our boarding school environment but one project is nearly completed, that is the re-design of the common space and the adjoining games room. The students have been enjoying the space, where they can sit, read, play music, play games and collaborate on homework and assignments.

Mrs C Castle
Deputy Principal, Boarding School
Monday 2nd June - Day 3
Yr 12 Shoe Horn Sonata, Figtree Theatre
Yr 8DAI4 Technology Mandatory Task 1 Assessment
Yr 8DAI 1, 2, 3 & 4 Technology Mandatory Task 2 Examination

Tuesday 3rd June - Day 4
School Photo Day
8RY7 Technology Mandatory Task 1 & 2
8RY 5 & 6 Technology Mandatory Task 2 Examination
Yr 7 Shakespeare on Trial

Wednesday 4th June - Day 5a
ICAS Science
Musical Rehearsal

Thursday 5th June - Day 6
Yr 8 Subject Selection Day
Yr 12 Mathematics Extension 2 Task 3
Yr 12 Physics Task 3 Assessment

Friday 6th June - Day 1
Closed Weekend
Yr 8 English Task 3 Assessment

**Royal Easter Show**

Our Rural Youth Team have continued to achieve great results at this year’s Royal Easter Show. Congratulations to the students and staff who have worked throughout the year to gain the results listed below.

**State Champion Parader (under 25)**
Matthew Gregory

**Fruit and Vegetable Judging State Final**
4th Jamie Whybrow
5th Jack Bush

**Class 100 Heifer 6-8 months**
3rd – Hurlstone Missy Moo lead by Tamara Robertson

**Class 101 Heifer 9-12 months**
6th – Hurlstone Magical Norma lead by Scott Essam
10th – Hurlstone My Valentine Norma lead by Zoe Hall

**Class 102 Heifer 12-16 months**
1st – Hurlstone Laura Gwyn lead by Sarah Ludington

**Class 105 Junior Champion**
Honourable Mention – Hurlstone Laura Gwyn lead by Sarah Ludington

**Class 108 Pen of Three under 2 years**
2nd – Magical, Majors and My Valentine lead by Scott Essam, Caitlin Cavanagh and Zoe Hall

**Class 109 Dry Cow 2-3 years**
3rd – Hurlstone Kondle Twilight lead by Ethan Anderson

**Class 111 Cow 2.5-3 years in milk**
2nd – Hurlstone Kerrie Solax lead by Daniella Stewart

**Class 113 Intermediate Champion**
Honourable Mention - Hurlstone Kerrie Solax lead by Daniella Stewart

**Class 116 Three Females under 3 years**
1st - Kerrie, Kondle and Laura lead by Daniella Stewart, Ethan Anderson and Sarah Ludington

**Class 117 Dry cow over 3 years**
2nd - Hurlstone Jean Solax lead by Matthew Gregory

**Class 118 Highest Total kgs fat plus protein**
Hurlstone Jean Solax

**Class 130 Five Females Any Age**
4th - Kerrie, Kondle, Laura, Magical and Majors lead by Daniella Stewart, Ethan Anderson, Sarah Ludington, Caitlin Cavanagh and Scott Essam

**Best Maintained Ayrshire Team Over Five Head** - Hurlstone Agricultural High School

**Best Maintained Dairy Team Over Five Head** - Hurlstone Agricultural High School

**Novice Alpaca Parader Competition**
1st – Ethan Anderson
2nd – Caitlin Cavanagh
3rd – Daniella Stewart

**State Dairy Judging Final**
6th – Jamie Whybrow

**Beef**
Violet Hills Buddy - 4th in the Heavy weight School Steer class and steer won a Bronze Medallion for his Carcase. Paraded by Sarah Nesbitt
Horace - High Commended Heavey Weight Steer. Paraded by Kristine Woodlands
Hugo - 4th Heavy Weight Steer and steer won a Silver Medallion for his Carcase. Paraded by Teagan Colless
Hank -Paraded by Sarah Nesbitt

**Sarah Nesbitt - Highly Commended in Beef School Paraders**

**Dairy**
1st - Dairy paraders 17 to 19 years, Sarah Nesbitt
Showmanship award - from the semex youth challenge, winning Trophy and leather halter, Sarah Nesbitt
7th - Semex Youth Challenge Team
5th - Youth Class 16 to 18 mths, parading “Nimerald Govenor Brownlady” from the Nimerald Jersey Stud, Patrick Buckley
**CALENDAR**

Term 2  
Week 7  

**Monday 9th June**  
Public Holiday - Queen’s Birthday  

**Tuesday 10th June - Day 2**  
Yr 7 Agriculture Task 1 Assessment  
Yr 12 Chemistry Task 3 Assessment  
Yr 12 Ancient History Task 3 Assessment  

**Wednesday 11th June - Day 3a**  
Yr 7 Agriculture Task 1 Assessment  
Yr 11 General Mathematics Task 2 Ass.  
Yr 11 Mathematics Task 2 Assessment  
Yr 11 PDHPE Task 3 Assessment  
Yr 12 Ancient History Task 3 Assessment  

**Thursday 12th June - Day 4**  
Yr 7 Agriculture Task 1 Assessment  
Yr 12 Modern History Task 3 Assessment  
Yr 12 Ancient History Task 3 Assessment  
Regional Cross Country  

**Friday 13th June - Day 5**  
Boarding School Expo - Wagga Wagga  
Yr 7 Agriculture Task 1 Assessment  
Yr 11 Mathematics Extension 1 Unit  
Task 2 Assessment  
Yr 12 Biology Task 3 Assessment  
Yr 12 Ancient History Task 3 Assessment  
Yr 12 PDHPE Task 3 Assessment  

**EVENTS**

**John Edmondson Memorial Club**  
On Sunday 13th April, Ms Christine Castle, Ms Yelena Vercoe and I, travelled to the John Edmondson Memorial Club to celebrate the 60th Anniversary of its opening. A book was written about the history of the club which also included information about John Edmondson, an Old Boy from Hurlstone who was the Victoria Cross recipient from World War 2. The club commissioned Mike Davis to write the book and it was launched on the 13th April. We were honoured to meet a descendant of John Edmondson, Mr Ken Peacock. We also got to meet several other Old Boys from Hurlstone, including the De Meyrick family. The school received several copies of the book which are housed in the library, archives and also the front foyer.  

**HAHS Anzac Service**  
On the 11th April 2014 Hurlstone had its annual Anzac service held in the school COLA. We were honoured to have Mr Allan Osmond who donated $2800 for the restoration of the school Anzac Cairn. The writing was being eroded away and the cairn was covered in lichen and moss. Mr Osmond paid for a new stone to be made by a local stonemason and the cairn was cleaned. Mr Osmond was proud of the way the cairn turned out and he especially enjoyed the Anzac service which also coincided with his 84th birthday. He was proud of the way the students presented themselves on the day and enjoyed the fuss they bestowed on him. Sadly Mr Allan Osmond passed away on Saturday 26th April. He passed peacefully in his sleep. It was unexpected and Hurlstone will miss this Old Boy who attended every function for the Hurlstone Alumni.  
Ms Johanna Leglise, HAHS Archivist  

**NEWS**

**School Photos**  
School Photo Day is scheduled for Tuesday 3rd June. Photo order envelopes will be distributed a week before. Please note that photo orders can be made online with the receipt number recorded on the envelope and submitted to the photo company on the day.  
All students are expected to be well groomed and dressed in their full school winter uniform. This includes a blazer for the seniors and a school jumper for the juniors. School shoes should also be polished.  

**Day School Payments**  
Day School Invoice payments can be made online from our website. Visit www.hurlstone.com.au and click on the ‘Pay Online’ button on the left. Pay Online Instructions can be found under the ‘Download’ button.
**CALENDAR**

**Term 2**

**Week 8**

**Monday 16th June - Day 6**
Yr 10 English Task 3 Assessment
Yr 12 Legal Studies Task 3 Assessment

**Tuesday 17th June - Day 1**

**Wednesday 18th June - Day 2b**
Yr 12 Business Studies Task 3 Assessment
Musical Rehearsal

**Thursday 19th June - Day 3**
PDHPE Outdoor Rec Camp
Yr 12 English Advanced Task 3 Assess.
Chemistry Competition
Yr 8 & 9 Slam Poetry
Yr 10 Subject Selection Evening

**Friday 20th June - Day 4**
PDHPE Outdoor Rec Camp
International Food Stall
Yr 7 & 9 Vaccinations
Yr 9 Japanese Task 6 Assessment
Yr 11 Legal Studies Task 3 Assessment
Yr 12 History Extension Task 1 Assess.

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**EVENTS**

**Philip Garside Memorial Public Speaking Competition**
This competition is held each year by Hurlstone in memory of former student Philip James Garside 1959 – 1977 who died tragically in a canoeing accident. This year prepared speeches on a wide variety of topics were presented by twenty one Year 9 speakers from Sydney South West schools. The adjudicators, Mrs Smith and Mrs Sander agreed that the speeches were entertaining and thought provoking. The impromptu topic for all speakers was ‘celebration’ as this competition serves to celebrate not only the life of Philip, but also the proficiency of students who express their ideas with conviction. This seems a fitting tribute as those who knew Philip considered him a leader amongst leaders. As an academic, sportsman, speaker and community leader, Philip excelled. This year Hurlstone was represented commendably by Parnika Mopa and Amy Stone but the winner on the day was Hannah Trethewy from Elderslie High School.

**Europe Tour in 2016**
Planning has begun for the 2016 Europe tour and information will be forwarded to the current Year 9 and 10 students later this term. The 15 day Pompeii, Herculanum, Rome, Paris & the Western Front senior study tour has been pencilled in for Jan 2-16 2016. Parents are welcome to accompany their children and an expression of interest list will be made to determine if we have the required 20 participates to form a Hurlstone only travel group. An information meeting in early Term 3 will be held with Academy Travel. For further information please email me yelena.vercoe@det.nsw.edu.au

**Student Representative Council**
On Friday 21st of March, we inducted our Student Representative Council. As the name of this team suggests, these are the students who have been elected and are willing to represent the students of Hurlstone Agricultural High School. In 2013 we were fortunate to have an active team that revitalised the SRC and made an effective contribution to the school. SRC representatives are selected for their leadership qualities to enhance the Hurlstone Agricultural community, focussing on the needs of the student body. We congratulate all of our 2014 SRC representatives today.
Below are special guest Mr Greg Prior, Principal Mr Currie, SRC Coordinator Mr Seblani and the 2014 SRC executive team.
**Term 2**
**Week 9**

**Monday 23rd June - Day 5**
Zone Athletics Carnival
Yr 11 Studies of Religion I I Unit Task 2 Assessment
Yr 12 Senior Science Task 3 Assessment

**Tuesday 24th June - Day 6**
Zone Athletics Carnival
Yr 11 English (Advanced) Task 2 Assess.
Yr 11 English (Standard) Task 2 Assess.
Yr 12 Economics Task 3 Assessment

**Wednesday 25th June - Day 1b**
PDHPE Outdoor Rec Camp #2
Musical Rehearsal

**Thursday 26th June - Day 2**
PDHPE Outdoor Rec Camp #2
Science & Engineering Challenge
Yr 11 Modern History Task 3 Assessment
Yr 12 English Advanced Task 4 Assess.
Yr 12 English Standard Task 4 Assessment
Yr 12 PDHPE Task 4 Assessment

**Friday 27th June - Day 3**
PDHPE Outdoor Rec Camp #2
Yr 7 PDHPE Task 1 Assessment
Yr 8 PDHPE Task 1 Assessment
Yr 9 PDHPE Task 1 Assessment
Yr 11 Computing Applications Task 2 Ass.
Yr 11 PDHPE Task 3 Assessment
Last Day of Term 2

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**SPORT**

**Beach Touch**
After one cancellation due to weather, On Friday April 4th, Mr Yates & Mr Wilson accompanied 4 Hurlstone teams to the schools Beach touch pro tour event at Maroubra Beach. After a late departure time, the teams arrived at Maroubra, just in time for the junior girls to run onto the field for their first game. All of our teams found it hard to adapt to sand running and rule modifications not found in normal touch, but all teams found their A game during the second round and went on to score some convincing wins and some amazing tries.

Special mention must be made of our Junior boys & girls teams who achieved some strong results, despite only having 6 players each. Our Junior boys, led by Darcy Ryan, losing a tough semi final to eventual winners Barrenjoey High, and the junior girls, led by Emma Hannigan, finishing with a silver medal in a close final to Kambala 9-6.

Our senior teams found themselves up against some tough opposition. Our senior girls played valiantly all day, led by Claire Canham. Matt Wajzer’s senior boys continually improved throughout the day and lost a close quarter final to Sylvania High. All teams played with good sports ethics and can only improve for the next tournament in term 4!

**Athletics**

Results from the school athletics carnival held at Campbelltown Athletics Centre on Tuesday 29th April.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place</th>
<th>School</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Farrer</td>
<td>1009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Wentworth</td>
<td>941</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>Lachlan</td>
<td>789</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>Macarthur</td>
<td>762</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Age champions from the carnival:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Boys</th>
<th>Girls</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12yrs</td>
<td>Benjamin Nguyen</td>
<td>Tamara Robertson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13yrs</td>
<td>Hubert Zhang</td>
<td>Angela Pidgeon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14yrs</td>
<td>James Wu</td>
<td>Cailyn Loveday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15yrs</td>
<td>Alec Nguyen</td>
<td>Polly Donoghue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16yrs</td>
<td>Dennis Tran</td>
<td>Iris Firat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17yrs</td>
<td>Mathew Wajzer</td>
<td>Alicia Peachey</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Good luck to all students who have qualified for the Zone carnival which is to be held at Campbelltown in the last week of this term.