Castle Hill Public School

NEWSLETTER

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Webpage: www.castlehill-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

July 30, 2014

Castle Towers Education Week Performances
Congratulations and well done to all students, teachers and parents involved in the organisation and delivery of the magnificent performances at Education week @ The Towers. We had 146 students performing on Monday morning between 10-11am. The students sounded and looked great. The smiles on the student’s faces as they performed was wonderful. For many of the groups this was an opportunity for their first public performance. The African drumming group captivated the audience with their rhythmic sounds and the audience remained through until the spectacular School Band concluded our performance set.

Thank you to all the dedicated staff who help train and co-ordinate the various groups. It was not only a great opportunity for our students to perform but it was an excellent showcase of the talented Castle Hill Public School students and teachers. Well done to all - I was very proud to stand as part of the Castle Hill community.

Athletics Carnival
What a wonderful day for our athletics carnival! Once again our students performed to their best and participated with enthusiasm and sportsmanship. The winning house was Waratah, followed by Banksia, Bluegum and Wattle - well done!

Thank you to our parent helpers. Your support helped make the day run smoothly. We cannot run an effective carnival without your support. Thank you also to the Year 5 team who organised such a successful carnival!

Our age champions received their trophies at the carnival and the runners up (who were announced once back at school) will be presented with their certificates at next Monday’s assembly. The names of all these students will appear in next week’s newsletter.

Grandparents / Open Day
We have had a very positive week with our community and today highlighted the value of home and school working together. Our Open Day / Grandparents Day celebrated not only our wonderful public school and public education but also the value of parents working together with the school to maximise a positive learning environment for all.
As I moved through classrooms it was delightful to see proud students showing their parents / grandparents around their room and showing their work. Our students shine when they can share their learning with their family. I know, as a working parent, it can be very difficult to take time from work to visit your child’s school – thank you to those families who were able to organise time to visit with us today. We value your commitment to the school as much as your children do.

The Castle Hill Café – run by our parent community was once again a success. Wonderful scones and a very welcoming café atmosphere. Thank you to the parents who have worked very hard behind the scenes to ensure the café ran smoothly. Whilst sitting in the café enjoying our recess break we were entertained by K-2 choir, the bands, a Korean fan dance and the Year 3 recorder group.

Students and families once again enjoyed the Castle Hill Art Show in the school hall. The display of colour and diversity of artwork was great. Well done to all students!

**Student and Parent Safety Reminder**

Safety around roads has unfortunately featured in the media over the last few days after another child fatality. Road safety around our school and our students / children is the responsibility of us all as a school community. I would like to remind all parents that we are responsible for keeping our children safe. Staff and parents frequently report the unsafe behaviour of some of our community members especially in the QIC carpark. Please read the vital safety messages below and REINFORCE these with your children. We do not want to see any of our students, your children, be hurt or killed when travelling to or from school.

- Students must use footpaths – not walking on roads.
- Only cross at lights and wait for the green walk signal. Parents set a good example for your children.
- **Children must** hold an adult hand when walking in the QIC car park and crossing roads.
- Balls should be in school bags or a carry bag. Do not walk along bouncing a ball.

- Mrs Megan Gibbons, Acting Principal

**What's in your child’s bag today?**

- **Notes Home**: K-6 Book Week Note
  - Year 6 Year Book Letter

**Mini Merit Awards**

**Bronze Awards**

| Mikaela (3G) |

**Silver Awards**

| Daniel (5S) and Flora (5E) |

Congratulations to our fabulous students who have earned seven mini merits.

**Term 3 Week 2** - Will be announced at week 4 Assembly.

**Rainbow**: Sharon (KA), Kiana (KA), Declan (KG), Annissa (KJ), Daniel (KP), Janice (1N) 2 sets, Aiden (1N), Toby (1N), Luca (2A), Avalene (2C), Elena (2G) 2 sets, Pratham (2G), Aditya (2R), Adam (2R), Maverick (2R), Aidan (2R), Skyla (3/2L), Maddison-Jane (3A), Aarya (3A), Cherise (3G), Allegra (3G), James (3G), Giuliano (3G), Kevin (3G), Flora (5E), Aisha Barr (5S), Reubens (5S) 2 sets, Patrick (5S),
Divesh (5S), Joshua (5S), Michelle (5S) 5 sets, Tiana (5W), Erin (6/5G) 5 sets, Aroosh (6/5G) 2 sets, Alex (6D).

**English:** Jacinta (KK), Megan (KK), Hardy (KM), Katrina (KP), Kirralee (1G), Joshua (2R), Maddison-Jayne (3A), Giuliano (3G), Divesh (5S), Phoebe (6/5G).

**Maths:** Megan (KK), Thomas (2R), Alex (4P), Lakshi (5/4C), Divesh (5S), Michelle (5S).

**Creative Arts:** Andrew (2R), Chloe (4P).

**PD/H/PE:** Hardy (KM), Kirralee (1G), Elyssa (1M), Alex (1M), Janice (1N), Toby (1N), Alexander (1N), Scarlett (1N), Giuliano (3G), Alex (4P), Nathan (4S), Flora (5E), Patrick (5S), Daniel (5S), Chris (5S), Daniel (5W), Phoebe (6/5G).

**Science & Technology:** Pragyee (1G), Joshua (2R), Ruby (3/2L), James (3G), Michelle (5S).

**HSIE:** Zara (3G), Daniel (5S), Michelle (5S), Patrick (5S).

**Citizenship:** Olivia (1M), Phoebe (6/5G).

**Thank You**

To the parents who assisted in putting up and taking down the annual Art Show, I thank you. It is no simple task to have all the wonderful art from the students set up without the partnership and support of our wonderful community. Thank you 😊.

- Ms Denise Lockrey, Deputy Principal

**SPORT PHOTOS**

Sport photos for 2014 will be taken on Thursday August 14, 2014. All students will need to wear their school sports uniform and bring their sport team uniform to change into. Students in Wakakirri and Korean Fan Dance will also have their photo taken in full costume. These students will be able to change at recess. Students in the African Drummer group will have their photo taken too.

**PREMIER’S READING CHALLENGE**

The Premier’s Reading Challenge is finishing in a few weeks. This is the time to get reading to ensure you complete the challenge BEFORE August 22, 2014 and have all your books registered on your online reading log.

Congratulations to the students from 1M for successfully completing this year’s challenge; Iman, Zarik, Lily, Jaeden, Alexander, Bailey, Malakai, Evan, Kaiya, Charlie, Olivia, Nicola, Elouise, Hari, Raina, Tabitha, Liam, Catherine, Elyssa, Chanel and Akira.

**LESTER**

Lester has come back from his European trip with Ravin and Harin where he visited schools in Europe, caught up with ex Castle Hill PS students in Switzerland and did lots of sightseeing. He is now back home waiting for his next adventure. If you would like to take him on your next holiday, please write a letter of request.

- Mrs Julianne Smith, Relieving Deputy Principal

**Kindergarten News**

Stars of the week for this week are Raymond C in KSapphire, Amy in KMoonstone, Charlotte in KGarnet, Raymond Z in KAmber, and Ananya in KPlatinum.

Please return your child’s red note folder each Thursday. Home readers are now changed every day. Please record and sign the home reader card every night.

Family words for this week in class are: ax, ix and ox.

Sight words for this week in class are: back, been, came, down, from, into, just, like, made, much, over, them, this, well, went and when. These are known as the orange sight words.

- From the Kindergarten Teachers
PSSA Sport Venues – August 1, 2014 – All buses leave school at 12.35pm and return by 3pm.

AFL – Memorial Avenue, Kellyville
Soccer – Bernie Mullane Sport Complex
Netball – Kellyville Netball Courts, Commercial Road
Newcombe Ball – Sherwood Ridge Public School

PARENTING IDEAS – Michael Grose

Have a look at the website - www.parentingideas.com.au  This week's topic

"Helping kids make sense of the MH 17 air disaster"

Reports of the recent shooting down of Flight MH17 over Ukraine air space has saturated newspapers, television and the Internet for the last week. The events were shocking and many of the images shown on our television screens have been quite confronting. Worldwide outrage has been the result.

But what about the impact of the event and the subsequent media coverage on children and young people?

As adults we all want our children to live carefree lives and keep them from the pain and even horror of such tragedies and natural disasters. In reality we can't do this.

So what is a parent, teacher, or other caring adult to do when such events fill the airwaves and the consciousness of society? Here are some ideas:

1. Reassure children that they are safe. The consistency of the images can be frightening for young children who don’t understand the notion of distance and have difficulty distinguishing between reality and fiction. Let them know that while this event is indeed happening it will not affect them directly.

2. Explain what happened. Sounds obvious but it’s important not to simply assume that children and young people understand what’s happened. Be calm and stick the facts, using a map to show older children where it happened.

3. Be available. Let kids know that it is okay to talk about the unpleasant events. Listen to what they think and feel. By listening, you can find out if they have misunderstandings, and you can learn more about the support that they need. You do not need to explain more than they are ready to hear, but be willing to answer their questions.

4. Help children process what they see and hear, particularly through television. Children are good observers but can be poor interpreters of events that are out of their level of understanding.

5. Support children’s concerns for others. They may have genuine concerns for the suffering that will occur and they may need an outlet for those concerns. It is heartwarming to see this empathy in children for the concerns of others.

6. Let them explore feelings beyond fear. Many children may feel sad or even angry with these events so let them express the full range of emotions.

7. Avoid keeping the television on all the time. The visual nature of the media means that images are repeated over and over, which can be both distressing to some and desensitizing to others.

8. Be aware of your own actions. Children will take their cues from you and if they see you focusing on it in an unhealthy way then they will focus on it too. Let them know that it is happening but it should not dominate their lives.

Children's worlds can be affected in ways that we can't even conceive of so adults need to be both sensitive to children's needs and mindful of what they say and how they act in front of children.

In difficult times, it is worth remembering what adults and children need most are each other.
Wakakirri Can Donations
We need empty yellow and orange soft drink cans to make a prop for Wakakirri. If you have empty Fanta, Solo or Lift cans could you please rinse them out and send them to Miss Williams.

- Natalie Williams
  Wakakirri Coordinator

Entertainment Books 2014 – Still available from the school office
These books are great value and offer hundreds of discounts to local eateries and attractions. This year you have a choice between the traditional book or a digital membership. We have limited stock of traditional books, so be early:
  - Sydney Greater West (The old Parramatta Book) $65
  - Sydney/Sydney North $70
To collect your book, please go to the school office with your payment or you can order online. Please make cheques payable to “Castle Hill Public School Community Club”.

- Simone Pedler 0438 809 993 or lstcp@internode.on.net

School Community Club (SCC)
A reminder that the next SCC meeting is on August 5, 2014 at 9:15am in the school staffroom.

- Rebecca O’Shea, President
  0400 479 639; rebeccaoshea@iinet.net.au

Uniform Shop News
Dr Shoe will be at the school on Monday September 1, 8.30am - 9.30am
Uniform Shop Half Year Dinner
When- August 7
Where- Full Moon Thai - Castle Hill
Time- 7.00pm
RSVP- to Simone by August 31
If you would like to come, please give Simone $20 deposit as your commitment to attend. It should be a fun night so please come along.

This year you are able to order online through Flexischools. Please go to www.flexischools.com.au where you can place your orders, which will be delivered to the classroom. Parents are advised that Flexischool orders will be signed for by the child. Loss of orders will be the responsibility of child and their parents.

- Simone Pedler, Uniform Shop Manager
  Ph:0438 809 993 or simone.pedler@det.nsw.edu.au

Canteen News

<table>
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<th>URGENT REQUEST</th>
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<td>Due to work commitments we now need volunteers on the following days:</td>
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<tr>
<td>1st Tuesday (1 person)</td>
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<td>2nd Friday (2 people)</td>
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<td>3rd Thursday (2 people)</td>
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<td>4th Friday (1 person)</td>
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If you have a few hours to spare on these days, please ring Kylee, Tanya or Robyn on 9634 4306.

A reminder to the mums who help on canteen. If you are unable to do your rostered day on the canteen, could you please try and organise a substitute. If you can’t find anyone, please let Kylee, Tanya or Robyn know on 9634 4306 so they can organise someone. Thank you.
Canteen Roster

Thursday July 31  
Danielle Fox, Mel Fryer, Patrice Zirh
Friday August 1  
Katherine Watson, Cheryl Power, Abby Sun, Fiona Hansen
Monday August 4  
Himali Perera, Bec Pignat
Tuesday August 5  
Tanya Strachen
Wednesday August 6  
Susie Campbell, Tanja Hoerzer, Kelly Yoo
Thursday August 7  
Pilar Betanzos, Marzia Rahmati, Bhavisha Solanki

-Carol Coyle

Community News

Whizz Kids Workshops

The University of Technology Sydney (UTS) are hosting a series of enrichment workshops on 25th & 26th October. Workshops are designed for capable Year 3-6 students. Workshops are held across Literacy, Numeracy, Science, HSIE and Creative Arts subjects. Each session is designed to enhance problem solving and creative thinking in a hands-on, interactive environment. Workshops are presented by qualified Gifted and Talented teachers.

Further information and enrolment details can be found at www.inspirationeducation.com.au

Girls, Boys & Mixed Oztag

Oztag is the fastest growing junior sport in the Hills District with over 150 teams playing in 2013.

When: Friday afternoons from 12 September, 2014 at Crestwood Oval

Cost: $75 including team shirt. Oz Tag shorts $25

Ages: 5 to 16. Boys, Girls and Mixed Team registrations and Individual Registrations accepted. Boys and Girls Representative teams from Under 8’s.

Registration Dates:
Friday 8th August, 2014 4pm to 7pm at Crestwood Oval.
Thursday 14th August, 2014 4pm to 7pm at Crestwood Oval.

Further information:
Contact Leon on 0402 784 908 or visit the website www.baulkhamhillsoztag.com.au

Summer Sports

FUTSAL • NETBALL

FUTSAL
FIFA 5-a-side • Small Court
More touches on the ball
More control • More skill
Girls • Boys
Ladies • Men • Mixed
Over 30s • Over 40s
PLUS morning business camp
MINIS Come & Try Day
7 or 12 Aug
4-5pm 6yrs • 5-6pm 8yrs
Team Regos 5-22 Aug

NETBALL
Full size courts
2 x 20min halves
JUNIORS
7yrs-13yrs Thu • Fri
LADIES
Daytime—Wed, Thu
Night—Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu
MIXED
Nights—Tue, Thu, Fri
Team Regos 5-22 Aug

Hornsby District Softball

COME AND TRY DAY
Sunday 10th August 2014
10:00am – 1:00pm
Oakleigh Park, Thornleigh
Females all ages
Teeball from age 5 years for girls & boys
SUMMER SEASON SEPTEMBER TO MARCH 2014
www.hornsby.softball.org.au
Friendship volunteers needed
Do you have an hour a week to be a mate? Compeer friendship volunteers provide social support to people in their local community who are isolated because of difficulties with their mental health. Go for a walk, visit a local museum or catch up for a cuppa. Your friendship can make a big difference to your new friend's self-esteem and quality of life, and help reduce the stigma and isolation associated with mental illness. Training and ongoing support is provided. Volunteers aged 25 - 75 currently needed. Contact Emma on 9568 0283 or Compeer.WesternSydney@vinnies.org.au or visit the website www.compeer.org.au for more information.

Interrelate Bella Vista
Parenting & Relationship Programs

Ideas for Parenting Teens PLUS Skills & Practice
$25 / $55 concession per person – Tuesdays 2 & 16 September 6:30 – 8:30pm
2 x 2 hour sessions that will assist parents to:
- Understand what is normal and appropriate behaviour
- Reduce the anxiety inherent in raising teenage children
- Develop skills to communicate and negotiate with teenagers
- Extended practical component

Positive Parenting
$25 / $55 concession per person – Monday 1 September 6 – 9pm
A 3 hour seminar that will assist parents of children aged 3 – 8 years old to:
- Know and acknowledge each child as an individual
- Understand the power of focusing on what children are doing well
- Deal with what children do that is not working for themselves or others

The Challenge of Disciplining Your Child
$25 / $55 concession per person – Monday 8 Sept 6 – 9pm; Monday 26 Nov 6 – 9pm
A 3 hour seminar that will assist parents of children aged 7 – 12 years old to:
- Understand what positive discipline means and how to set clear boundaries that children respect and learn to appreciate
- Use conflict as a tool to improve relationships
- Use tips and hints on different discipline techniques

Creating Positive Relationships (for couples)
$50 / $100 concession per couple – Monday 13 September 6 – 9pm
A 3 hour seminar that will assist couples to:
- Have a renewed understanding & learn new ways to show love
- Improve their communication
- Recognise and understand each other’s needs in the relationship
- Get practical ideas for expressing love & keeping their relationship healthy

Ideas for Parenting Teens
$25 / $55 concession per person – Monday 1 December 6 – 9 pm
A 3 hour seminar that will assist parents of teenagers to:
- Understand what is normal and appropriate behaviour
- Reduce the anxiety inherent in raising teenage children
- Develop skills to communicate and negotiate with teenagers

Phone 8882 7850
Bookings essential

www.interrelate.org.au
1300 736 966
## Term Overview as at July 30, 2014

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<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Jul 28</td>
<td>Education Week – Castle Towers performances from 10am No K-6 Assembly ICAS English</td>
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<td>Jul 29</td>
<td>Education Week 3-6 Athletics Carnival @ AH Whaling Reserve</td>
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<td>Jul 30</td>
<td>Education Week – Open Day / Grandparents’ Day + Café – 9.30am K-2 Tabloid Sports Carnival</td>
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<td>Jul 31</td>
<td>Education Week SiSA</td>
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<td>Aug 1</td>
<td>Education Week PSSA</td>
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<td>Aug 4</td>
<td>K-6 Assembly – 2pm Debate against North Rocks</td>
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<td>Aug 5</td>
<td>SCC meeting – 9.15am Yr 3-6 Athletics carnival back-up date</td>
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<td>Aug 6</td>
<td>Yr 3 local history walk excursion</td>
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<td>Aug 7</td>
<td>SiSA</td>
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<td>Aug 8</td>
<td>School ball games carnival 9-11am</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Aug 11</td>
<td>K-6 Assembly – 2pm</td>
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<td>Aug 12</td>
<td>ICAS Maths</td>
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<td>Aug 13</td>
<td>Band evening – 6.30pm P&amp;C meeting – 7.30pm</td>
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<td>Aug 14</td>
<td>SiSA</td>
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<td>Aug 15</td>
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<td>Aug 16</td>
<td>SRC Discos</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Aug 18</td>
<td>Zone track carnival – Blacktown Athletic Park</td>
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<td>Aug 19</td>
<td>K-2 Book Week incursion</td>
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<td>Aug 20</td>
<td>Book Week Parade – 9.10am</td>
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<td>Aug 22</td>
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<td>Aug 25</td>
<td>K-6 Assembly – 2pm Wakakirri heats</td>
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<td>Aug 26</td>
<td>SiSA</td>
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<td>Aug 27</td>
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<td>Aug 28</td>
<td>Wakakirri Heats – 12.00pm</td>
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<td>Aug 29</td>
<td>No PSSA</td>
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<td>Sept 1</td>
<td>NO K-6 Assembly NO K-6 Assembly</td>
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<td>Sept 2</td>
<td>SCC meeting – 9.15am Soccer Gala Day ShowCase – Stage 2 5.30pm</td>
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<td>Sept 3</td>
<td>Yr 6 Gift to the School event ShowCase – Stage 1 5.30pm</td>
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<td>Sept 4</td>
<td>Yrs 3 to 6 Father’s Day stall – 8.30am – 2pm SiSA</td>
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<td>Sept 5</td>
<td>Yrs K to 2 Father’s Day stall – 8.30am – 2pm No PSSA</td>
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<td>Sept 8</td>
<td>Yr 1 Virtual Excursions NO K-6 Assembly</td>
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<td>Sept 9</td>
<td>Yr 1 Virtual Excursions ShowCase – Stage 3 5.30pm</td>
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<td>Sept 10</td>
<td>Kindergarten Virtual Excursions ShowCase – Early Stage 1 5.30pm P&amp;C meeting – 7.30pm</td>
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<td>Sept 11</td>
<td>SiSA New enrolment tour – 2pm</td>
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<td>Sept 12</td>
<td>Summer PSSA [round 6]</td>
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<td>Sept 15</td>
<td>K-6 Assembly – 2pm Hols</td>
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<td>Sept 16</td>
<td>Silver afternoon tea – 2.30pm</td>
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<td>Sept 17</td>
<td>Gold lunch – 12.15pm</td>
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<td>Sept 18</td>
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<td>Sept 19</td>
<td>PSSA [round 7]</td>
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