**Principal’s Report**

Congratulations to our representatives in the zone cross-country. The feedback is our students ran very well with some placing highly on the track. Our school debating team is currently coming first in the inter-school debating competition after beating Goulburn High School last Friday. A great result and I am confident that there will be many more to follow.

NAPLAN testing has now finished after a very busy week. Many thanks to all involved in supporting the efficient running of those tests. Years 9 and 10 Half-Yearly Examinations start this week with Years 7 and 8 hot on their heels. Please make sure that students are studying hard at home for these examinations and that they see their teachers if they are unsure about an area of study.

I have just concluded the year 12 interviews working with Mrs Needham and Mr Walker. I was so impressed by the calibre of student at Crookwell High School and the range of goals and ambitions they have for their future. This is a very stressful time for Year 12 students as the pressure and reality of their HSC examinations and of their post school lives begins to hit home. Please keep a close eye on your Year 12 child for any changes in behaviour or mood. Please feel free to ring the school if you have any concerns or questions.

This is my last week at Crookwell High School as Mr Hudson returns on Thursday 21st May. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time here and feel privileged to have had the opportunity to be part of your wonderful school. A big thank you to Mrs Robinson and all the staff, students and community members who supported me and made me feel so welcome. I will certainly look back at my short time here with fond memories.

**Vero Joseph**  
Relieving Principal

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**Hot Chocolate**  
**Mondays are back.....**

Hot chocolates will be available from the canteen in the first half of lunch each Monday for $3.
**Deputy Principal’s Report**

This Friday is National Walking Safely to School day, and although this is a primary school initiative it is a timely reminder that walking to school is a great way to exercise and have a healthy lifestyle. However, students are reminded that when walking to and from school that they must ensure that they are doing so in a safe manner. Walking on footpaths and being sure to watch for traffic is essential. The cold weather is upon us and students are certainly encouraged to dress for the weather however students are reminded that hoodies are not part of school uniform. School jumpers are available for purchase through the uniform shop.

This term we have had a large numbers of students receive faculty awards including Bronze and Silver awards. Excitingly, this week has also seen me award my first Deputy Principal awards, so congratulations to Max Fairbank for his outstanding encouragement of participation in sport and to Ellis O’Brien for his excellent assistance at the Athletics Carnival.

Anna Robinson  
Acting Deputy Principal

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**“Testing Times Ahead”**

In the next few weeks students in Years 7 to 10 are sitting examinations and other assessment tasks. Students have been given details of when and what they are going to be tested on and should have already planned their revision schedule. There are many ways that students can ensure that they perform to the best of their ability. A lot of the advice we give to science students is also applicable to other subjects.

First of all make sure that your notes are up to date and work is complete. Check that any worksheets are done in full and stick them in your work books in the correct order. It is a good idea to work with another student to check that you both have all of the material covered. Once that is done, start to go through each topic in order and organise some time for revision.

Each topic has a list of key words: make sure you know what each means. If any are unfamiliar, read through your notes. If you are still unsure—ask your teacher next lesson. Making a glossary—short definitions of terms is a good idea. For each topic you should have a list of outcomes you should have achieved. Check off those you are confident about and then work on the ones which are causing difficulty. Again, raise any problems with your teacher in good time. Just before you go into an exam is not a good idea!

Once you have a good overview of the topic, start making a summary. This should cover the main points and help you understand and recall the work. You should be able to get a good summary on a couple of A4 pages.

Another good strategy is to work with another student and ask each other questions from your work books, swapping places. This helps two students at once.

Finally, don’t forget the basics. Make sure you know the time and location of any assessment. Sort out your pencil case to have all of the equipment you need. Check that your calculator is working. You will not be able to borrow equipment from other students in formal examinations. Listen to the teacher’s instructions and carefully read the directions on the examination paper. Draw diagrams with pencil and a ruler and label in blue/black pen.

Peter Gribben – Head Teacher Science and Agriculture

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**Special Religious Education Arrangements for Year 8, Year 9 and Year 11, 2015**

Students in Year 8, Year 9 and Year 11 will have the opportunity to attend Special Religious Education seminars at school conducted by our local clergy and lay ministers. Seminars for Year 8, Year 9 and Year 11 will take place on Wednesdays during Term 2, commencing Week 7 on Wednesday, 3rd June 2015. The final Special Religious Education seminar will take place in Week 2 of Term 3. Each seminar will be one hour in length.

Parents are advised that it is not compulsory for students to attend Special Religious Education lessons or seminars at school. Those parents of Year 8, Year 9 and Year 11 students who choose to withdraw their son/daughter from Special Religious Education should advise the school by way of a signed letter from you as a parent, otherwise it will be assumed that your son/daughter will be attending Special Religious Education and placed in a group in accordance with the information on school enrolment records. Thank you to those parents who have already notified the school by this means.

Alternate arrangements and educational activities will be put in place for those students not attending Special Religious Education. They will be able to work on assignments, complete homework or read a text. They will not continue with regular classroom work.

Please note that there will be a Roman Catholic group for each year as well as two mixed groups catering for other denominations. Students have been asked to check the Special Religious Education lists (which have been published on the canteen noticeboard) for accuracy. I would ask parents to advise the school of any changes to the information we may have in regard to your son/daughter’s religious affiliation so that we can assemble our groups accurately in accordance with your wishes.

Mr Peter Stephens  
Scripture Co-ordinator

Mr Vero Joseph  
Relieving Principal