

Secondary entry #15: Northlakes High School



NORTH TALK



FUTURE CHAMPIONS: Josh Glachan and Piper Nowland.

Picture: Corey Clark

Sport stars aim high for future goals

By **AYA BERJAWI** and **CRYSTAL RAYMOND**

TWO Northlakes High School students are making their mark on the Central Coast with their sporting talents.

Year 11 student Joshua Glachan, 17, is proving himself to be a talented all-rounder at sports. He has represented a variety of disciplines. Along with making the 2012 Australian under 16s Oz Tag team, Joshua has gained a place with the Central Coast Mariners Academy in the soccer (under 18s) team. He has also represented NSW for touch football and the Sydney North soccer team in 2013.

Year 7 student Piper Nowland has displayed her natural talents across many sport disciplines. The 13-year-old this year won age champion in athletics with a new high jump record, and represented the school at regional carnivals.

Netball is her true passion; Piper was successful in making the Wyong under 13s representative team which played at NSW State Championships in late June. Piper trains everyday for the sport she hopes will take her into a professional career.

PE teacher Mark Mansfield is full of praise for both students.

"Joshua and Piper have been great ambassadors for Northlakes High. Piper is a natural sports-woman and Joshua has proven himself to be a talented all-rounder who is now focusing on achieving his soccer dreams," he said.

Students earn spotlight

By **TAYLAH MOONEY**

STUDENTS from Northlakes High School have been showing their exceptional creative skills in a variety of ways in 2013.

Musical and dancing students have been given opportunities to showcase their talents.

Thirty-two dancing students have recently participated in Star Struck and a dance festival.

These events also called for singers and one student, Jacob Thomas, auditioned for lead singer and was successful.

The students performed at the dance festival in four separate groups through gruelling auditions. While the auditions were tough, Northlakes High School students stood out.

The dance ensemble also recently competed in the Gosford Performing Arts Challenge against dancers from other local schools. The team placed fourth overall.

Dance teacher Christina Koteczy, from Northlakes High School, worked tirelessly in assisting the dancers and regularly holds practice sessions for the students to continually improve.

"I was very impressed in the success we have had so far and we are currently already working on our pieces for next year," Ms Koteczy said.

Northlakes High School also has



CREATIVE: The year 9 Northlakes High dance group has been achieving success. Picture: Amy Basargin

some musical students who are achieving accolades. In particular, four students from year 10 – Cory Jones, Angel Danzante, Ben Saggus and Brandan Rondan – were selected to perform for the Central Coast Schools Showcase, held at Laycock

Street Theatre on August 20 over two shows. They performed *Smoke on the Water* by Deep Purple, together as a group.

The students also performed with several other year 10 music students in the Youth In Perform-

ing Arts (YIPA) concert series earlier this year.

Head teacher of Creative and Performing Arts, Leslie Brimbecom, said: "We are very proud of them. They are very hard-working students".



LEADERS: Mikayla Penny, Taylah Gillmer, Jamian Marsh, Kristen LePage and Taylor Eddy. Picture: Geri Wright

Bright future for indigenous kids

By **LAURA MCHALE**

THE success of the Central Coast Aboriginal Education Consultative Group (AECG) has inspired Northlakes High School to run a junior version of the project.

The Junior AECG was formed to assist indigenous students' academic progress and provide them with opportunities for a successful future.

The program was implemented by English teacher Selina Norris. The group is facilitated by Aboriginal leaders from within the student body.

The Junior AECG has led fund-raisers, including NAIDOC Day and Education Week celebrations.

In-school programs, including indigenous dance, art and didgeridoo playing, are also led under the

guidance of the group.

Junior AECG member Jack Wright said: "I think that the AECG is a great program for Aboriginal kids at Northlakes."

Ms Norris agrees: "The success of the group has been wonderful. Most importantly, the Junior AECG encourages indigenous students to seek guidance and advice about their future."

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